



# GOODNEWSletter

*Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout Europe*



## JANUARY 2018

### Have you made a New Year's resolution?

Did you make it till midnight on New Year's Eve? Maybe it's not important to you to observe this tradition. But, people around the world wait with eager anticipation for the stroke of midnight on December 31<sup>st</sup> to welcome in the New Year. Party hats and horns, confetti and streamers, balloons and fireworks, are all part of the celebration. Then at midnight, everyone shouts "Happy New Year!"

Have you given much thought to what you are saying when you wish someone a "Happy New Year?" Is it your HOPE that their New Year will be a good one? Is it merely a wish you are making on their behalf? "I hope you win the lottery." or, "I hope you don't get laid off."

Let's face it. Isn't looking into the future nothing more than a "hope and a prayer"? After all, we can't see into the future. We don't know what's going to happen or how things will go in our life? Will we lose our job or get a promotion? Will our business prosper or will we go bankrupt? Will we be blessed with good health or face sickness? Will we see the blessed arrival of a baby or face the loss of someone we love? For most the future is seen as a blank slate that has yet to be written. They ask, 'How can anyone know or be certain that the New Year will be a happy one?'

The truth is that one can know. The truth is that the greeting "Happy New Year" when used for a child of God is not an optimistic wish but something we know will be true. It is a prediction that will become reality. We can say this because it is based on the word and promise of God.

When Jesus came into this world, he did not simply come so we could celebrate his birth. He came to suffer and die. Through that suffering and death, Jesus defeated Satan and freed us from his power. By his resurrection, he assured us that death and the grave can no longer imprison us. By being punished for our sins, he assures us that our sins cannot condemn us. In other words, there is nothing yet to be done to secure our happiness for the future.

While we live on this earth, things may not always be easy. Before we are taken to glory, we feel the effects of sin around us and from within. This experience is not always a pleasant one. When we lose a loved one in death, it hurts. Yet, if they die in Christ, it won't be long until we see them again. We face problems, many of them, but God has promised to use them for our good. The bottom line is that our futures are bright, our lives are good, so long as Jesus lives in our heart.

If you want your New Year to truly be a happy one, stay close to Jesus and his Word. Let him rule your heart and life. Trust in his promises. Enjoy the blessings he has to give! Have a happy New Year!

### Christmas Eve Service

We had a wonderful service on Christmas Eve. We had 24 in attendance. We had worshippers from each of the places we serve in Germany! The dinner that followed was great. Thanks to everyone who contributed to making everything special.

### Confessional Lutheran Christian Ministry

Pastor Donald Stuppy

Im Holzweg 4a 55288 Spiesheim

Phone: 6732-600-3933 Cell: 173-419-9572

E-mail: [welschaplain@gmail.com](mailto:welschaplain@gmail.com)

Web Page: [www.welseurope.net](http://www.welseurope.net)

## **December Worship Schedule**

### **Northwood, England**

**January 7 - Sunday**

at the Northwood Methodist Church, Oaklands Gate, Northwood, Middlesex H46 3AA  
Worship at 1:00 PM followed by Bible study, Sunday School, fellowship & potluck Dinner.

### **Wicker, Germany (Frankfurt area)**

**January 14 – Sunday**

at the Evangelische Gemeindehaus  
Worship is at 11:00 AM followed by fellowship and Bible study.

### **Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany**

**January 14 – Sunday**

Contact Pastor Stuppy for more information.  
Worship is followed by Bible study, Sunday School, and potluck.

### **Munich, Germany**

**January 18 - Thursday**

Worship is at 6:30 PM. We worship at the home of Mike Kube. His address is Pressburger Strasse 65, Munich.

### **Vilseck, Germany**

**January 20 - Saturday**

Contact Pastor Stuppy for more information.

### **Zurich, Switzerland area**

**January 21 – Sunday**

Worship is at 11:00 AM followed by food and Bible study. - at the Bachmann home  
Waldstrasse 41 Adliswil

### **Wicker, Germany (Frankfurt Area)**

**January 28 – Sunday**

at the Evangelische Gemeindehaus  
Worship is followed by a snack & Bible study.

### **Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany**

**January 28 - Sunday**

Contact Pastor Stuppy for more information.  
Worship is followed by Bible study, Sunday School, and meal at the Exchange.

## **Thanksgiving Service**

Based on comments I received, I am evaluating the Thanksgiving service at Ramstein. I will be sending out a separate email for your feedback. I believe the service was held at 4 p.m. at the South Chapel with a Thanksgiving Potluck to follow. Another option would be to meet on

Wednesday evening at 7 pm (1900 hrs) for worship with a pie social to follow. I will ask if you plan to attend either of these and which one you would prefer. Also – would you participate in the dinner if held on Thursday. All this depends on the availability of the chapel.

## **Sunday School 2017-2018**

Sunday School materials are now available ONLY for those who are part of our European church. The copy masters and teacher's guides can be found at the available links at Dropbox.

**GRADE PreK-K**

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/e579x1q1k9fln0e/AAAWGks9slN5PRzKhI9wHr\\_Ha?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/e579x1q1k9fln0e/AAAWGks9slN5PRzKhI9wHr_Ha?dl=0)

**GRADE 1-2**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/sfguf1u8ewmkv2d/AABpsGCrFPqPGWgOKW5IIS1Ca?dl=0>

**GRADE 3-4**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/epp5vo3q74vb55/AADAYGHjIJ3sAum-F7AUPOYHa?dl=0>

**GRADE 5-6**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zxkpskflbmtos7/AAAdk6VtoViaO-JeMDeoadGqa?dl=0>

Student lessons will be ordered as needed. Contact Pastor Stuppy or Marge Stuppy ([mastuppy@gmail.com](mailto:mastuppy@gmail.com)) if you need anything or have questions.

## **OFFERINGS**

As of December 1<sup>st</sup> the balance in the church account was €55.833,13. On December 31<sup>st</sup> our balance was €53.695,20. During December we received direct worship service offering equivalent to \$2,320.95. We also received gifts equivalent to €1.885,00 in direct bank deposits. We thank the Lord for moving the hearts of his people to make these generous gifts in support of this ministry.

## **THINGS TO KNOW – SYNOD WEB SITES**

**MILITARY DEVOTIONS** – by Rev. P. Ziemer

<https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/military-devotions/> -

## **WELS CHURCH LOCATOR**

Use when on vacation, business trips, relocation.

<https://yearbook.wels.net/unitsearch> or go to <https://yearbook.wels.net/>

## **ONLINE REFERRAL – SPECIAL MINISTRIES**

**Special Ministries** can supply devotions and other spiritual help and teaching tools to members of the military, prison inmates, and special needs individuals. Click on link below to submit an online

referral for someone who can benefit from Special Ministries' materials. [wels.net/refer](https://wels.net/refer)