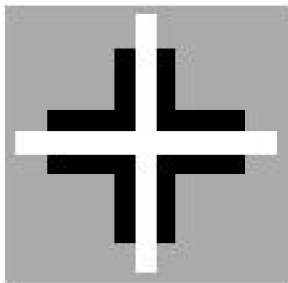


DEUTSCHER
GOTTESDIENST



GERMAN
CHURCH SERVICE

First Sunday of every month (except July and August) at 2:00 PM at
CENTRAL ST. MATTHEW UCC 1333 S. CARROLLTON AVENUE NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118

E I N L A D U N G
ZUM GOTTESDIENST IN DEUTSCHER SPRACHE

**Am 1. SONNTAG IM ADVENT, dem 1. Dezember 2019, um 14 Uhr
MIT DEM HEILIGEN ABENDMAHL
und danach, eine Advents- und Weihnachtsfeier!**

Wer kann, bringe bitte etwas zum Essen oder Trinken mit!

und

**Am HEILIGEN ABEND, am Dienstag, dem 24. Dezember 2019 um 16.00 Uhr (4p.m.)
DER WEIHNACHTSGOTTESDIENST!**

und

Am 2. SONNTAG NACH DEM CHRISTFEST, dem 5. Januar 2020, um 14 Uhr,
Danach gemütliches Beisammensein mit Kaffee und Kuchen.

Liebe Freunde des Deutschen Gottesdienstes!

Perhaps more than most, this year of 2019 has been a time of looking back. In June, we marked the 75th anniversary of D-Day, then a month later it was the 50th anniversary of the moon landing, and just this month of November, we passed the 30th anniversary of the Reunification of Germany. I don't believe I watched the original conference held by Günter Schabowski when he announced the end of travel restrictions between East and West German: I was all of twelve years old at the time (9 November 1989). Having since had the opportunity to read the transcript, one gets the sense that the SED Politburo's spokesman was supremely unaware of the place he would occupy in history even as he read the new policy from a hastily delivered note. Whatever Egon Krenz's true timeline was for policy change, it was completely and irrevocably overthrown by the question, "When will these things be?" and Schabowski's famous, if less-than-confident answer, "Das tritt nach meiner Kenntnis ... ist das sofort ... unverzüglich." Sometimes, as is the case with the Invasion of Normandy, history is made through meticulous planning and preparation. Other times, as like the start to Reunification, our lives are profoundly changed through spontaneity and improvisation. Human history is rich with examples from both sides of this spectrum and every shade in between. While we pause this week to give thanks for the many blessings in our lives, especially those good things most immediate: friends, family, personal prosperity, and such; it is also a good time to give thanks for those moments (surprising or planned) that have shaped the course of human civilization for good and made this world into a better place.

Turning to other news, it is my sad duty to report to you the death of Mrs. Ruth Elizabeth Raith, whom I had the solemn privilege of laying to rest earlier this month. Please keep her family in your prayers during this season of grief.

The work and mission of the German Church Service is carried out solely through your generous giving. The Vorstand is thankful for your membership throughout 2019. With your support, we are able to continue offering worship and fellowship in the German language, and assistance and comfort to mariners through our friendship with the Global Maritime Ministry of New Orleans. If your circumstances allow, please consider the possibility of an end of the year, tax-deductible donation to our church.

I wish you all a holy Advent, a joyous Christmas, and a happy and prosperous New Year!

Ihr,

The Very Rev. Richard B. Easterling +

Mailing address and phone number

1301 METAIRIE ROAD METAIRIE, LA 70005 (504) 840-9900

Email: gcsnola1@att.net Website: www.thegermanchurchservice.org

Upcoming Events at Deutsches Haus

Kulturabend. Tuesday, December 3, 7:00 pm. Christmas caroling with the Deutsches Haus Damenchor and Sangerchor. Food service will be available before the event with desserts available from the Deutsches Haus Ladies Auxiliary before and after the program. Free and open to the public.

Quarterly Membership Meeting. December 5, 7:00 pm.

Winterfest. Saturday, December 7, 6 pm. Fabulous fundraising event for the Crescent City Homebrewers. Open to public for \$30 admission. Food additional. *More Info*

Christmas Party. Saturday, December 8, 11:30 am. Visits by JoJo the Clown and Saint Nicholas!

Volunteer Party. Saturday, December 14, 7:30 pm. Deutsches Haus and Oktoberfest volunteers only.

German Conversation Night. Tuesday, December 17, 7 pm. (In the Beer Stube) A chance to practice speaking German. Event led by a teacher. Free, no registration required. Will repeat every month on 3rd Tuesday.

The First Annual Christkindl Markt (Christmas Market). Saturday, December 21, 2019, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. The Christkind and St. Nicholas will visit with children during the day. WE HAVE SPACE FOR CRAFTERS AND ARTISTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CHRISTMAS MARKET.

JANUARY 2020

All Haus memberships renew on 1 January

A Viennese New Year. Saturday, January 4, 6:30 pm. A New Year's Dinner Show featuring The Vienna Operetta Ensemble. Check the website for more details.

Upcoming Events at the GACC

Dec. 21: GACC members' holiday potluck dinner.