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Presentation of some programs and projects of the LWF related to the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

Anne Burghardt, LWF
International Congress on Reformation Jubilee
Zurich, October 6-10, 2013



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- **Processes and programs carried out by the Communion Office of the LWF**
- **Major events planned by the Communion Office**
- **Major projects from the member churches**



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Young Reformers Network

- The program of Young Reformers Network aims to build a strong network among young people and offer meaningful contributions for the Lutheran churches.
- It will be built by young Lutherans within the context of reformatory heritage, Lutheran identity and today's global connectivity.
- The LWF and its member churches provide space for young people to name problems they see, to share their dreams and hopes and to take up today's challenges from a perspective of the Reformation.



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Expected outcomes of the Young Reformers Network

- 175 young leaders from all member churches of the LWF have been empowered to work for Reformation in their churches and societies
- 175 congregations, parishes and youth groups have experienced aspects of Reform
- A wider group of 10 000 young people has contributed to the process and received meaningful insights for their own engagement
- The global dimension of the Reformation gets visible on a global level and in the places of Reformation



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- Ideas of young Lutherans are developed and accompanied in their follow up
- The Global Young Reformers Network provides meaningful and clear contribution to Lutheran theology
- The Global Young Reformers Network gives a major contribution to the 2017 Reformation Anniversary program and to the LWF Assembly in 2017
- Training of new technologies as a working tool is provided to support sustainable, eco effective and modern communication.



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WICAS

Herstories –telling women’s stories of the Reformation time

Which role have women played in the local churches in 500 years that have passed since the Reformation?

Are there any encouraging (forgotten) examples that might inspire also today?

- To compile women’s biographies of women stories and initiatives since the Reformation.
- To promote theological reflection on fundamental themes in our identity taking women’s experiences as starting point
- <http://www.evlks.de/FrauenderReformation>



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Follow-up processes of ecumenical dialogues

- **Lutheran-Catholic dialogue: *From Conflict to Communion*; joint liturgical materials for commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation**
- **LWF Task Force on Mennonite Action**
- **Joint preparations for 2017 with Anglicans and the Reformed**
- **Participating in the Faith and Order process on renewal in the life of the church**



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Study processes on Lutheran Hermeneutics and Religion and Development

Main aim: to continue to articulate what it means to be Lutheran today through deepening the understanding of the gospel and the confessional writings

- To analyse the mutual relationship between context, text and tradition: how do we read our own contexts; how do we read our own tradition; how do we relate it to our identity.
- *What constitutes the authoritative Lutheran texts? How are they to be understood today?*
- *Which socio-economic changes have been evoked by the Reformation?*



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Interreligious dialogues

- **Public space and citizenship as important concepts in plural societies for negotiating questions of justice and peace. The role of religions in society as well as the legal framework for religious life.**
- **Reform and renewal in Jewish, Christian and Muslim tradition. Theological understandings of religious transformation and the impact of current religious renewal processes on interfaith relations.**



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**Offering virtual space for sharing
information about the commemoration of
the anniversary of the Reformation in
member churches**



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Major events planned by the LWF Communion Office

- **LWF Council in Wittenberg 2016**
- **LWF Assembly in May 2017 in Windhoek, Namibia**
- **Reformation Day 2017**
- **Regional leadership conferences and regional meetings**

2015 – From Marangu to Wittenberg: Theological Education and Leadership Formation and the Renewal of the Lutheran Church in Africa

20-25 May 2015 in Nairobi





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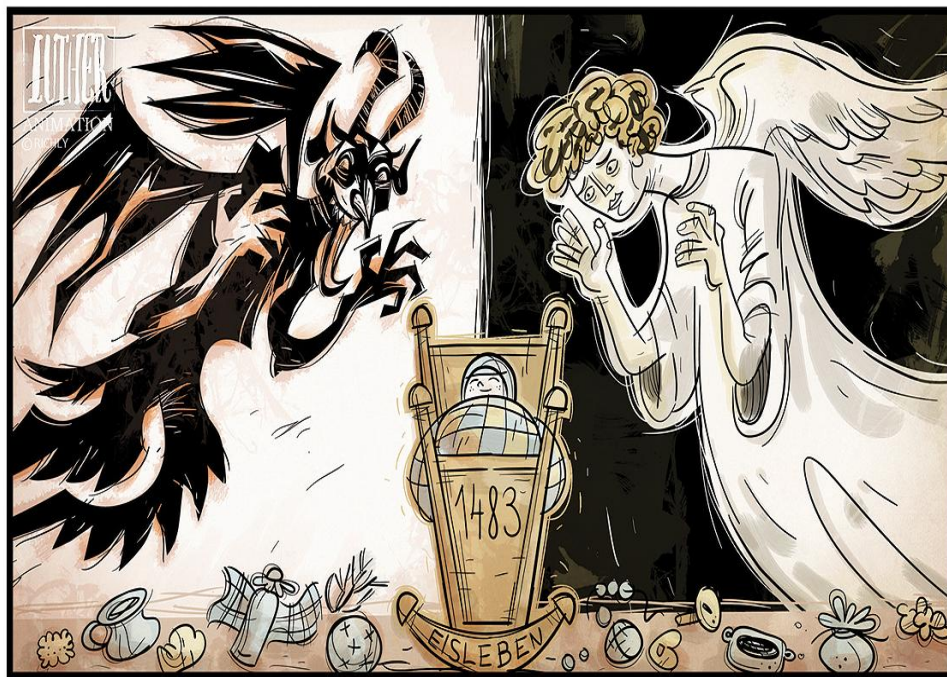
Some major projects from the member churches and LWF-related institutions

- Luther-garden in Wittenberg
- Luther-animation from Hungary
- Publication of Luther's writings in Spanish and Portugese in Latin America
- Ecumenical Commentary on 95 theses (Ecumenical Institute in Strasbourg)

Luther-garden in Wittenberg



Luther-animation from Hungary





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To be continued...



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Thank you!