Reformation and the One World

Annual Bulletin 2016

Photo: Daniel Schlüter
Dear Readers,

the first year of work we have spent here from January to December was an exciting year for us. Simultaneously, it was also the 10th anniversary since the merger of the three institutions united as „Mission EineWelt“. This anniversary stands for ten years of common partnership, mission and development work. Of course, the history of development work and mission in Bavaria dates back far longer. In 2017, our overseas work can look back upon 175 years.

Since 1842, however, the world has changed considerably. Those who travelled to one of the partner churches at that time actually had to be prepared for a trip into the unknown. It was not possible to search the Internet for the latest information, or to orient oneself by reading the most current Web-blogs of other staff members, no, not even the telephone or telefax posts could have provided any assistance. At best, narratives or travel reports could have provided an insight into the foreign countries.

Those who decided to spend their working lives in North or South America, in Africa or Papua New Guinea could not rely on any quickly available information. They could not report directly on their experience or needs, on dangers or moments of happiness, but they had to write letters which were on their way for weeks or months onboard of a ship.

Times have changed. The distances seem to be shorter because they can be covered faster. Communication paths have been accelerated at a tearing pace. It seems the world has moved closer together.

But nevertheless, our task has remained as important as it was before, even if we are informed more quickly on a success or on a flop these days. But still, there has neither been peace nor justice in our world.

For this reason and due to our Christian belief, it is our mission to make all countries and churches with whom we are joined in a partnership aware of the chances that come with changes. That’s what we are all about and we hope that you will continue to support us in the future, too.

With all our best wishes and blessings, sincerely yours,

Dr. Gabriele Hoerschelmann
Director Mission EineWelt

sincerely yours,

Hanns Hoerschelmann
Director Mission EineWelt

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Cover photo: Coffee cultivation in Papua New Guinea. One of our volunteers, Daniel Schlüter ranked second in the photo competition advertised by Mission EineWelt in 2016
Already a year of Reformation

About good relationships to executives in church service, events, an important trip and a memorable birthday

Measuring our success as a function of the cooperation of executives in church service such as, for example, the Bavarian the head of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Bavaria or the President of the Bavarian Synod, the year 2016 was quite a successful one for Mission EineWelt. When looking back from the point of view how many visitors had been attracted by larger and smaller events, the results are equally pleasing. But with a critical eye on the fact by how much more justice and peace has come to our world during the past year, we clearly see that there is still a lot of work and commitment ahead of us.

The Reformation events have already kept us very busy in the past year because the One World had been the theme year of the Luther Decade in 2016. This has been reminding us of our duty ever since. We have been more than glad to fulfill our tasks and supported by renowned company, as this report will reveal.

and many more guests from politics, church and society.

During the panel discussion that took place in Nuremberg’s “Heilig-Geist” hall, Archbishop Schick emphasized that the mission of the churches was to bring about a just, peaceful and humane world. “We are in need of recurrent reformation.” Schick stated that the churches and their mission would sustain damage if they did not attempt to increase justice in the world. “Our mission is impaired by our separation”.

The Lutheran Church has become a movement around the world for a long time. All over the world, 400 million

Theme Year heralded

Our retrospect starts with a theme year in preparation of the Reformation Anniversary. Those who have planned this Theme Year over the months until the Reformation Anniversary have deliberately chosen it to end with the world-wide horizon by selecting its motto „Reformation and the One World“for 2016. In March last year, its Bavarian Opening Event took place in Nuremberg, which we had organized together with the Reformation Decade/Luther 2017 of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Bavaria as an ecumenical event attended by the Archbishop Dr. Ludwig Schick from Bamberg, Bishop of Bavaria Dr. Heinrich Bedford-Strohm and many more guests from politics, church and society.

The Reformation Decade/Luther 2017 has been reminding us of our duty ever since. We have been more than glad to fulfill our tasks and supported by renowned company, as this report will reveal.

About good relationships to executives in church service, events, an important trip and a memorable birthday
people have found their spiritual home in one of the churches of the Reformation. For a long time, the movement has shifted to the south of the world for a long time. This is what we see day by day. For this reason, it is important that we bid farewell to our self-centeredness and have a look at the idea of the Reformation the way it comes back to us from our partner churches.

The head of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Bavaria, Bishop Heinrich Bedford-Strohm had a critical eye on the globalization and its consequences. He said the churches had to look at the world with the eyes of the people in the poor countries when talking about globalization. Humaneness itself needed to be globalized, too. He clearly stepped in for the fact that the consequences of all actions always had to be taken into consideration regarding the weakest in this world. Bedford-Strohm said that the – very often computer-controlled - trading at the stock exchanges was to be "condemned". Long ago, it was already Luther who named and shamed economic injustice according to Bedford-Strohm. Thus, it was Bedford-Strohm’s conviction that economic trading must serve the weak and he ended his statement with the sentence: “Those who are religious also have to be political.”

First visit to Mission EineWelt

Some four weeks later, the President of the Bavarian Synod, Dr. Annekathrin Preidel, came to Neuendettelsau to learn more about the work of the Center run by the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Bavaria. “In the event of structural and organizational decisions in the church, it is important to think about the theological foundation first.” Preidel thinks it is a problem to first generate structures and to think about the theological motivation in the second place only. On the occasion of her visit to the partnership center Mission EineWelt, she emphasized that she attached great importance to efficiency and networking. After the meeting with the executive board, Preidel briefly introduced herself to the staff in the conference center and embarked on a tour through the library, exhibition and OneWorld Shop.

Worthy of a prize award

Every two years, the Free State of Bavaria and “Eine Welt Netzwerk Bayern e.V.” awards the Bavarian OneWorld Prize to appreciate commitment in terms of civil action. On the occasion of this year’s award, Mission EineWelt was decorated with a special award in the category “Associations/Initiatives/Schools” for the project “A Focus on Global Learning in Bavaria.”

Minister Ms. Merk was impressed and decorated Mission EineWelt for its reliable support of the Bavarian OneWorld’s work, in particular, for the current support program focusing on the strengthening of global learning. Dr. Norbert Stamm emphasized in his laudation that Mission EineWelt supported education within Germany. “The point was not to invest as much money as possible in partnership projects but to change our local structures in order to support global learning and understanding of the background of our One World.”

Lila Nacht (Purple Night – name of the festival), Open Air, grand festivity and remful sermon

Clear blue skies, information stalls, workshops, exhibitions, two stage programs, lots of food and beverages and, above all, an incredible atmosphere... More than 1,300 guests came to join us in July last year to celebrate the Festival of the Worldwide Church. And with our Bishop of Bavaria Dr. Heinrich Bedford-Strohm, a famous preacher joined us who turned against any kind of fanaticism in his sermon at St. Nikolai Church. He reminded us to be careful when dividing the world into light and darkness and to associate this with the name of
God. The Bishop of Bavaria found precise words when talking about arms exports. All those who talked about this subject never had to forget the families whose lives depend on it. But, on the other hand, it is equally important “to assist them in finding possibilities how to earn their living on the basis of other products.” The EKD Council Chair did not incriminate anybody in his sermon in Neuendettelsau, but he emphasized the fact that 55 percent of the federal arms exports originated from Bavaria. It was to be feared that “weapons that are produced in our place will contribute to darkness elsewhere.”

In a panel discussion, Bedford-Strohm said he was grateful for Mission EineWelt’s work. The duty of mission was to broadcast what we talked about as Christians. The world was one world and no world of differences. “We must stop fighting each other and responding to conflicts with violence.”

Central America

The Bishop of Bavaria, the President of the Bavarian Synod and Mission EineWelt went on a trip to Central America, touring through four countries in seven days, to learn more on fields of work and projects in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador, to visit the local staff, to commemorate the victims of civil wars and to participate in a march for peace on the occasion of a Bishop’s anniversary, to name but a few of the trip’s purposes.

Annual Reception in Munich

On the occasion of the annual reception, Fidon Mwombeki’s wish for the European continent he extended to 120 guests in Munich was a lasting energy boost on the grounds of the Reformation Anniversary. The director of the department for mission and development with the Lutheran World Federation (Geneva) said that he prayed for the fact “that this anniversary would not become a holiday like any other and an event as for example the FIFA World Cup but that it helped “to talk more about God and Jesus Christ”.

The Tanzanian theologian, who holds a doctor’s degree, stressed at Markuskirche (name of church) that Reformation was no one-time event, but that it will never end. Everywhere in the world, the churches “had to remember the Holy Scripture and hear God’s gospel of deliverance to serve God and HIS world.”

Mwombeki talked about the Annual Theme of the Reformation Decade “Reformation and the One World – Faith changes the World” and referred by quoting three aspects to a statement of the Lutheran World Federation saying that money can’t buy salvation, men or the Creation.

Mission EineWelt has been organizing the annual reception for many years in cooperation with a church district in Bavaria. In 2016, this was the church district of Munich where overseas relationships are manifold. Regional Bishop Ms. Susanne Breit-Kessler talked about those relationships in her short welcoming speech and made reference to a few examples. “Our presents are our partners from all over the world.” Breit-Kessler said that it was gift to be part of a world-wide Christianity. She valued our work and said that it was the light in our world which followed Jesus Christ’s word in word and deed.

The official part of the Annual Reception was rounded off by valuing the work of selected volunteers from the Church District of Munich before coming to an end with snacks and conversations. The event was accompanied in terms of music by Wally and Ami Warning.

A 90th Birthday

On October 29, Pastor Horst Becker celebrated his 90th birthday. Born in Hesse, the theologian became one of the directors to establish the missionary work of Neuendettelsau in 1972 as part of the work of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Bavaria. For 19 years, Becker was responsible for the fate of Missionswerk Bayern before he retired in 1991.

For many years, Horst Becker had worked as a missionary in Tanzania. As leading church official (Oberkirchenrat), he served the world mission in the United Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Germany (VELKD) in Hanover, before he came to Neuendettelsau. Under his auspices, the Bavarian institution, apart from the traditional relationships, extended its work to Asia. Moreover, a parochial center has emerged with a wide network of partnerships to Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific Region. Becker and his wife live at Neuendettelsau.

Dr. Gabriele and Hanns Hoerschelmann
Directors of Mission EineWelt
About good and difficult relations, new staff members and coopera-
tions that had been scheduled for a long time...

In Tanzania, new tensions arose in the political area and between the
religions. The partner churches in Bavaria and Tanzania have been
acting as mediators. In the other partner churches in Africa, work
ranges from continuity and setbacks to new beginnings. And some-
times, partners need to think their partnership over and to reconsider
the fundamentals of their cooperation. We are reporting on all this
with regard to the African partnerships.

In Bavaria and from Bavaria

At the beginning of 2016, we welcomed Marina Ostertag to our Department’s
team for Africa. We are delighted that the vacancy Barb Neumüller had left
with her retirement could now be filled again. Ms. Ostertag with her French
language skills is a valuable asset to our team.

In the reporting year, the following staff
has left us for an assignment in our
partner churches:
Maria Dillmann went to the Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre, ELCT;
Dr. Oliver and Antje Henke went to the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre,
ELCT;
SikhBethesihle Khumalo went to the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Mozam-
bique;
Karolin Steuer left for the Usa River Rehabilitation Centre, ELCT;
Thomas and Jennifer Wollner went
to the Usa River Rehabilitation Centre, ELCT.

Mira Vieting volunteered for Tanzania and
shot this photo along the railway line between Morogoro and Daressalam.
Our homecoming staff from their overseas assignments was:

- **Claus Heim and Trine Boe-Heim** who came back from the Usa River Rehabilitation Centre, ELCT;
- **Kai and Grace Küfner** who came back from the Usa River Rehabilitation Centre, ELCT;
- **Thomas and Andrea Ritter** who were with KELC; **Dr. Christian and Ruth-Andrea Wendebourg** who came back from Martin Luther University, EELCo.

**Tanzania**

In Tanzania, the political and interreligious tensions have increased during the past year. In addition to the interreligious meetings made possible by ELKB and Mission EineWelt between the Christian bishops and the Muslim sheikhs, the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT) also stood up for a de-escalation between the governing party and the parties of the opposition. Backed by ELKB and other churches and organizations, CCT organized various meetings for religious and political leaders in the country for the purpose of de-escalation. In lengthy discussions amongst each other and with the responsible politicians, solutions could be found that helped to stabilize the prevailing situation.

By the assignment of the married couple Mr. and Ms. Henke, Mission EineWelt is supporting a new focus of the ELCT’s medical work, namely the setting-up of a ward specializing in oncology at the KCMC at Moshi. Since cancer has been diagnosed increasingly in Tanzania in the past and given the fact that the treatment possibilities have been more than insufficient to date, we were capable of responding to an urgent need in Tanzania.

**Liberia**

A new focus emerged from our cooperation with the Lutheran Church in Liberia (LCL) to support LCL’s education at schools. Our staff member Sebastian Stüwe who used to work with us in the area of Christian education took up work as a consultant and administrator in the LCL’s school system with the objective to improve teaching in class, the motivation and skills of the teachers and the availability of teaching materials.

**Kenia**

The interreligious communication was a key aspect in our work with the Kenian to work with the church under these strained and dangerous conditions he found himself confronted with. In the workshop, however, he changed his opinion and explained to the bishop that he would return to his job with new courage and confidence. In order to assist the KELC in coping with its difficult eco-

In this photo, kindergarten children in Morogoro and the volunteer Jonathan Lichtenfeld are displayed. He submitted his photo to Mission EineWelt who had invited the volunteers to take part in their photo competition.
Congo

Currently, the relationship with the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Congo (EELCo) has been difficult with regard to financing their work. So we paused to think the situation over in 2016. The ambient factors had become increas-ingly difficult, a fact that made it impossible for us to continue “now as before”. In July 2016, we had the chance to organize a workshop with the executives of the EELCo where we agreed on the fundamentals of our future cooperation. On the other hand, we know from personal observation that the work in EELCo’s parishes deserves to be supported, not only in spiritual but also in social areas to name but education at school for example. On the occasion of a visit to Bukavu, I could see for myself once more how difficult the conditions were under which the parishes work to give their children access to education at schools. In three out of the four of the parishes I visited, there are schools parts of which are located in the church building itself. The “classrooms” are separated from each other by UN-covers only to provide a visual but no acoustic separation. In all schools, it was affirmed that the children take part in state-run examinations quite successfully. The schools are needed because there are by far not enough schools to teach all children of compulsory school age, even if the government schools provide a better education.

Mozambik

On October 9, 2016, Eduardo Sinalo was inaugurated into the office of a second Bishop of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Mozambique (IELM). In the beginning, the election of the bishop took a rather turbulent course. It was only after the intervention of the Lutheran Community in southern Africa that a second election could take place and produced a clear result. The inauguration itself took place in the Martin Luther cathedral and was attended by a large number of local and international guests in Maputo. Bishop Sinalo took over the office from his predecessor Bishop José Mabasso who retired. In 2016, after a long-term planning stage between ELCSA, IELM and ELKB, the South-African Pastor Sikhatheshile Khumalo could be sent to IELM. Pastor Khumalo’s priorities are focused on Christian education. In a series of events attended by volunteers and salaried staff, he was capable of teaching them fundamental knowledge with regard to methods and liturgy, cooperation and responsibility.

It is obvious that the IELM staff value him and his contributions and want to put the acquired skills into practice.

Reinhard Hansen
We will have a longer look at Papua New Guinea and the developments and prospects that have started last year. But we will also have a short look at all the other partners in East Asia and the Pacific region. Let us start with our oldest partner church located at Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea

Miracles are not to be expected after the election of the new leaders in the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea (ELC-PNG) that took place in March last year. However, the new beginning with Bishop Jack Urame has been encouraging because of the following factors. Urame and his new team are going to relieve the church leadership from long years of being without a leader. Secondariness and unwholesomeness will no longer determine the agenda. Apparent weaknesses are going to be analyzed. The new leader’s communication will be solution-oriented to get supervisory control of the departments going again that has been neglected for many years.

This consolidation puts our cooperation onto a more solid basis. The various challenges ELC-PNG is faced with, such as economic reforms or self-responsibility, can now be tackled again. The leaders themselves uttered that it was very important to set the ELC-PNG’s blocked potential free again and to introduce concerted strategies.

Bishop Urame and his two colleagues are approaching the districts, target groups, pastors in terms of training, understanding and wish to change their set minds. Simultaneously, Urame has meanwhile ordained nearly fifty percent of the pastors that had been left waiting for many years. During the first months of his being in office, fuelled by lots of energy, he visited together with his vice bishop nearly all districts to the joy of everybody. The focus is on the actual purpose again. All this makes church and religious faith and belief attractive again.

For myself, I can see the following problems and chances that are coming along. People at medium level are needed who bring in their technical knowledge, commitment and skills to support and advance the reformation process. For years, ELC-PNG has had institutions, resources and instruments at its disposal that could have been responsibly and professionally used. I see the reasons why this has not been actually tackled: there is a lack of money to pay specialists appropriately in comparison to the much more attractive jobs in commerce and in public service. Simultaneously, women are excluded from assuming the office of a pastor and from their cooperation in decision-making processes in management.

This is why international supporters such as the Catholic Church withdrew and new “missions” have increased their presence.

Future prospects

In my opinion, the partner church would be well advised to remember its beginnings when the first constitution was written in which a fundamental church was made the principle to guide them. Bishop Urame wishes to eliminate any and all misunderstandings of Ampo as a head office. In the interest of church as a whole, it is a coordination center. And it is true: the unity of the church is wanted; however, it has been constantly undermined in the various regions.

New beginnings, hopes and many relationships

The partner churches in the Pacific region and in Asia
Philippines

Our partnership work with the Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP) has intensified and the developments in this church are more than pleasing. In contrast to the ELC-PNG, we do not (yet) have a partnership relationship on the basis of a parish. 4 staff members, 3 pastors and a station manager have been made available by the LCP for the ELC-PNG by the beginning of 2017.

The LCP is a poor church in material terms; however, its large spiritual potential is still unknown in the region and in Germany to a large extent. We are grateful for the fact that a very successful inner consolidation has started three years ago after the church conciliation. We support a number of important projects in the following areas: theological education, choir work, allowances, youth measures, urgent buildings, regional consultations. We are delighted that another pastor of our Bavarian church could be assigned to the LPC to join the team teaching pastors.

Mekong Mission Forum

It is our joint concern that the programs of the Mekong Mission Forum (MMF) in support of education, studies and a genuine spirituality and the institutions and persons responsible assigned to them are noticed in the Mekong churches. The phenomenal beginnings that take place very often in the middle of critical contexts and its protestant charisma are encouraging signals.

Staff Exchange

In 2016, 33 experts were assigned abroad to six partner churches, half of which went to PNG. All of them had a mission, inclusive of the staff members who only worked there for a short time and the volunteers. We are very grateful for the results they produced and all the services our staff rendered. It is anything else but a matter of course that amidst foreign cultures and surrounding conditions an ecumenical-missionary order is executed.

Once again, we have welcomed several study groups from partner churches and partner institutions from the Pacific region and Asia. We are delighted that the participants recognize and benefit from us and we are pleased to see the relationships between the churches are growing. We have offered and organized this program for more than 10 years and it has become an important “standard program” of ecumenical and theological quality.

Reformation Anniversary

In all Asian partner churches, the 500th reformation anniversary has cast its shadows clearly visibly. In view of numerous challenges in the societies of the different countries, many churches think about the question related to their Lutheran identity: “What does it mean to be a Lutheran church in today’s context? Which are the fundamental theological insights we have to bring into our churches and into politics?” At the same time, the challenges in some countries have increased, be it due to the Islamization in Malaysia or the restrictive influence of the government in China or Hong Kong. Let me highlight but a few aspects:

Hong Kong

While preparing for 2017, numerous own publications and materials were created or translated into Chinese. We offered or are about to offer five study trips under the key word “Back to the Roots” to Israel, to Germany to places where Luther lived and worked, to Scandinavia, to the USA and to the Henan province in the mainland of China.

The Lutheran-Theological Seminar (LTS) wants to spread out its wings to three geographic regions: Hongkong, China’s mainland and the Mekong region. Due to the history of LTS and its size, our commitment in the mainland of China will have to be increased considerably. During the past few years, LTS has been renowned for its reliability and political neutrality, a fact that makes it possible to offer seminars in China.

Malaysia

In Malaysia, there are four Lutheran churches that belong to the Lutheran World Federation (LWF); together with the Lutheran Church in Singapore they constitute the Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Malaysia and Singapore (FELCMS). They differ due to their geographical extension and in particular due to their ethnic origin. In west Malaysia, there is the Lutheran Church in Malaysia (LCM) originating from the Chinese and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Malaysia (ELCM) originating from the Indian population, in east Malaysia there is the Basel Christian Church of Malaysia (BCCM) originating from the Chinese and hakka and the Protestant Church of Sabah (PCS) among the indigenous tribes of northern Borneo.

Lutheran Church in Malaysia

With an eye on 2017, the LCM has planned selected works of Luther to be translated into Chinese, a small exhibition on the reformation and the history of LCM or to plant small trees in every parish of the LCM to complement the LCM’s tree in Wittenberg.

Since January 2015, a new small parish for guest workers and migrants from Myanmar has been established. Since March 2016, the same goes for a parish for the people from Nepal.

Work among the Orang Asli has been
very successful to a large extent now as before. The “Touching Hearts” program has been very frequented to date. For roughly 170 Euros, a child can attend school for a full year. At present, 90 children are supported by this program.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Malaysia (ELCM)  
The ELCM originating from Indian people accounts for nearly 5,000 members in 27 parishes. They attach great importance to a continuous vocational training and advanced training for their pastors. However, growth is somewhat stagnating. The ELCM can hardly get through to Hindus to talk about faith. However, the ELCM plays an important part in society due to its intensive diaconic work. It runs 13 diaconic institutions that specialize in working with the handicapped (as for example Bethany Home) or in working with children from shattered and broken families.

Protestant Church in Sabah (PCS)  
For many years, the PCS has run its own Bible school in Kudat where a “Certificate of Pastoral Ministry” can be achieved. For advanced studies, the students are sent to other theological seminars. These possibilities, however, reach their limits due to the lack of funds. The biggest challenge for the church is the fact that the congregation members nearly have no chance at all to earn their living and the fact related to the aggressive Islamization of the indigenous people. Within the next few years, they will be able to provide 100 kindergartens run by the church against the envisaged number of 1,000 new Islamic kindergartens run by the state. For this purpose, large sums of money are needed to finance the training of staff members.

Basel Christian Church of Malaysia (BCCM)  
The aggressive Islamization attempts in the country are one of the biggest challenges for the BCCM, above all as regards the one-sided immigration policy and the hidden registration of indigenous parish members as Muslims. When personal identity cards are issued, the entry “Muslim” is made in the field specifying the religious denomination on behalf of the holder into the card chip without that the applicant were aware of this since this field is not visible for the applicant for an ID card. A permanent topic with the BCCM and with all other churches is the question how to sustainably finance the parishes and church life. This is why increasing attention is attached to the fact that training and advanced training of the parish managers and pastors also relates to finance.

Lutheran Church in Singapore (LCS)  
On an international basis, the LCS, accounting only for 3,000 members, is committed to engagements in Thailand, China, Mongolia and Cambodia. In Singapore itself, its work is very successful among guest workers from Thailand due to the Thai Good News Centre. People who converted to Christianity there meanwhile hold executive positions in the Lutheran Church in Thailand. Of course, International Lutheran Seafarer’s Mission has been playing an important part now as before.

All the more surprising is that the church within Singapore has been stagnating over the years and that there is no growth. The main reasons for this are the increasing secularization of Singapore, the overwhelming competition caused by other churches and the immense Pentecostal mega churches.

Dr. Traugott Farnbacher  
Thomas Paulsteiner

The information office for the Pacific region has finally completed reorganizing its Pacific library. Roughly 1,500 books, magazines, music CDs and DVDs related to Oceania are now available for the user. Our own Facebook page will inform the German public in time on current events from the Pacific region. Numerous inquiries for lectures on topics such as the changing climate in the Pacific region, the consequences of the nuclear past or deep-sea mining and the fact that we are invited to join groups of experts stress the significance of this unique ecumenical project in Germany, the “Pacific Information Center”, in the context of our civil society. Private persons, churches, media and educational institutions benefit from our network of contacts into the Pacific world and to European partners.

www.pazifik-infostelle.org
Together in favor of life

You are the salt of the earth.

“The liberation theology announced God’s realm and what came was the Pentecostal Movement”. Dr. Julio Adam, Professor for practical theology at the University EST, São Leopoldo, used this sentence to describe the religious movements in Brazil. In his opinion, both movements have the same concern: “They address the poor and want to change politics.”

But both movements have their own completely different approaches to achieve this objective. In liberation theology, the base communities interpreted the Gospel and became active in political and social terms on the basis of the Gospel in order to change and to improve the living conditions of the poor. Thus, political tendencies took over in Latin America which had been suppressed until then by dictatorships and those who were politically and economically powerful. In Brazil, tremendous social improvements for the poorest in the country could be achieved. But the hearts of the poor people can only be reached to a large extent by a spirituality that is tailored to the emotions and the individual human being. And this is the approach of the Pentecostal churches that stand for a radical break with the historic churches and an intimate, moralizing and triumphant spirituality.

The Lutheran churches are influenced by the new religious movement. In 2006, church congregations left the IECLB since the pastors did not know what to do with the Lutheran denomination/doctrine any more. They expected a stronger growth of their congregations with a Pentecostal orientation. The cooperation of the partner churches with Mission EineWelt relies on a sustainable strategy that is based on the Lutheran confession, namely with a focus on preaching the word of God. By means of education, people are often capable of executing their vocations as responsible citizens and stepping in for justice in civil society. By way of diaconic institutions, the sick and people living on low incomes are supported. It is understood as diaconic work for the community to serve the local community, based on the preaching of God’s word and the celebration of the Sacraments. Quick healing and dubious changes promised by the Pentecostal churches are not to be expected, but the people are accompanied and not left alone in difficult times.

This conviction makes the IECLB a missionary church, following the motto: “If we do not do missionary work, we will be missionized,” the church moti-
Partnership Agreements

At the beginning of 2016, the partnership agreements between the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Bavaria, the International Conference of Life Cycle Analysis in Latin America (CILCA), the trilateral agreement with the Evangelical Church of Lutheran Denomination in Brazil (IECLB) and the CILCA churches were extended by another five years. Leading church official Oberkirchenrat Michael Martin visited the four Lutheran churches in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador on the occasion of signing the agreements in order to get informed on their work. Leading church official Michael Martin, Oberkirchenrat, and head of the division for Ecumenism and church life in the head office of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Bavaria answers to the question why the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Bavaria contracts a partnership with Lutheran churches so far away from us as follows: „Our partnerships help to fill the world-wide community within the Lutheran World Federation with life. This is an example that is also true for the Lutheran churches of Central America. The encounters with our partner churches enrich our faith. They strengthen our skills and capabilities to take part in bringing God’s mission to this world. We can learn a lot from the members of the Central American parishes and see how faith surrounded by poverty becomes an anchor of hope. On the other hand, Bavarian staff members provide valuable assistance in the vocational training and advanced training of the church staff. “

For Bishop Medardo Gomez, President of the CILCA churches, it goes without saying “that the partnership actions come from the talents of all Christians through God in order to fulfil his task in this world.” And he continues: “For this purpose, the churches who maintain partnership relations exchange their gifts, i.e. time, hospitality, patience and understanding which are essential for the work of God in this world. “ Michael Martin confirmed that this was true by pointing out “that partnerships between churches lived in the spirit of community are a sign for the one Body of Jesus Christ in our tormented world. The Christians are congregated, called and sent out to preach the creative, redeeming and healing reality of God in our world. The partnerships are a strong means of expression for the commitment of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Bavaria in our globalizing world. It is the task of the whole church to become aware of the fact that it is a part of the Lutheran World church. The Bavarian frontiers must never be the frontiers of the church. “

Since this exchange was a very lively one, it was no surprise that the prolongation of the partnership contract between the Lutheran Churches in Central America (CILCA) and the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Bavaria (ELKB) and of the trilateral agreement between CILCA, ELKB and IECLB was an important event for the Lutheran Christians in Central America.

Say Yes to life – say Yes to Peace

The 30th Bishop Anniversary of the Lutheran Church in El Salvador was attended by the Bishop of Bavaria Dr. Heinrich Bedford Strohm, the President of the Bavarian Synod Dr. Annekathrin Preidel and our director Dr. Gabriele Hoerschelmann.

When two female pastors, a male pastor and a deacon were ordained, the Bishop of Bavaria took over to preach the sermon. Bedford Strohm emphasized the following:

“I felt greatly honored that Bishop Medardo Gomez has invited me to preach the sermon. I have admired him very much for standing up against and overcoming violence in his country that had directly threatened his own life many times. In the past, there was Civil War. Today, the violent youth gangs are the ones to terrify and terrorize the country. They are to be held accountable for the number of homicides shooting up. But the ordination was a day of joy and hope; we could give four people God’s blessings to accompany them through their life in the service of the church. “

Bedford Strohm emphasized the shop of Bavaria took over to preach the sermon. Bedford Strohm, the President of the Bavarian Synod Dr. Annekathrin Preidel and our director Dr. Gabriele Hoerschelmann. When two female pastors, a male pastor and a deacon were ordained, the Bishop of Bavaria took over to preach the sermon.
Pastoral Course of Lectures

27 male and female pastors from the IECLB and the ELKB attended the 2nd Pastoral Course of Lectures organized between the Bavarian Church and the Brazilian Church lasting for two weeks, headed by Dr. Christian Eyselein in cooperation with Dr. Rolf Schünemann and Hans Zeller. The topic was: “The light of which world?”

What is the world like we are talking about in South America, in Central Europe? Economic globalization on the one hand and religious and ethnic conflicts on the other hand are responsible for the homelessness of millions of people. The participants presented projects and programs in the areas of ministry, mission, practical theology and cooperation of civil society. They learnt from each other how Christians could become the light in this world.

Participation through cooperation

By way of staff exchange, the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Bavaria is on an equal footing with its partnerships. Mission EineWelt welcomes staff members from the partner churches and assigns colleagues to the partner churches, assigns young volunteers by way of the International Protestant Volunteer Program to social projects in Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

Traumatology Program

In a course lasting for two years, 17 participants from El Salvador attended the training to become a traumatology consultant. The church district of Munich, Wings of Hope, the Lutheran Church in El Salvador and the Department for Latin America organized this training course.

All participants quoted in their final report that they took this training course as a chance for themselves to assimilate their own experiences.

As a follow-up, a possible traumatology assistance center is planned. This is how a drop-in center for traumatized people could be established in El Salvador that could also serve the purpose of training and advanced training of further consultants. Such training possibilities have already been initiated for the other three CILCA churches.

Land Ahoy

In South America, the consequences of the food production’s economic constraints are disastrous. The concentration process initiated in farming, for example, as regards soybean cultivation, has been accompanied by an ecological and social crisis. The impact of the developments in support of industrial farming was discussed at large in conferences and encounters of interested parties from Bavaria and Brazil. 12 theses were prepared to specify demands for a sustainable development of the food production.

On Brazil Day, the topic was made transparent by specific reports on the situation of the small farms in Brazil and Germany. The theses of this conference were discussed in detail. During a trip to Brazil that served studies and encounters of all participants interested in farming, the participants discussed the impact of industrial farming onto family-run farms.

Special Projects

24 students and professors of Stuttgart Media University set out on the quest for projects of the Lutheran Churches in order to shoot a movie entitled “We will build the Future with you – Lutheran development work in Nicaragua and El Salvador”.

Under the motto “Journalism and Religion”, 12 journalists travelled to Brazil to forge links with Brazilian journalists in order to familiarize with local reality. In Brazil, few private media decide on the circulation of information. The journalists could find out for themselves how difficult it is to report on deviating opinions. Church journalists, too, are under considerable strain because they are too quickly considered to be political. The travel itinerary included the visit paid to a settlement of the landless, an indigenous village, a Pentecostal church and small farming projects.

Energy-efficient Baking Ovens

The Department for Latin America and the Lutheran churches in Nicaragua are jointly implementing a program in the north of Nicaragua to bring about a change from the traditional open fireplaces to more efficient ovens. The improved oven reduces the use of regenerative wood and thus protects the biodiversity of the region’s forests. Moreover, the people’s health is getting better due to the elimination of smoke in the living areas. Expenditure for procurement of firewood and cooking time are reduced.

Having examined the provided energy-efficient ovens, the compensation fund of the church for climate collections verified that CO2 emissions were reduced by 579.3 t in 2015 and reductions amounting to 760 t of CO2 are expected for 2016 on the grounds of furnishing further ovens.

The activities of the Department of Latin America focus on giving the poor a voice to establish worthy conditions of living for them and to strengthen the partner churches to advance their active local position. In this way they are the “salt of the earth”.

Hans Zeller
Trust in Partnership

About annual meeting and retreat, bidding farewell and welcome, anniversary, trips and many encounters.

“Trust in Partnership” – was the topic of the annual meeting of the officials responsible for special work areas in their church district related to partnership, development and mission in which more than ninety responsible persons from the different church districts took part, looking at and reviewing their own work and picking up new incentives. Trust in Partnership – this topic has also come up in many events and offers in the course of last year.

Coming together in a high rope course in Germany or being on one’s way in the highlands of Papua New Guinea: all this requires both the guests’ and the hosts’ confidence and has deepened the experience that we can trust each other and that we can rely on each other. And when confidence and trust have grown, even difficult topics and differences can be discussed openly. In the end, confidence and trust also means to be able to create things together and not for one another.

With regard to this aspect, one of the highlights of last year certainly was the partnership festival in the church district of Bayreuth. Guests from 8 countries had come to see us, some of whom already had met before in a workshop about the “Freedom of a Christian”, i.e. what life is like in the corresponding context in Brazil and in Papua-New Guinea, in Tanzania, in Germany and in Liberia and how freedom can be lived in between arbitrariness and obligation, team spirit and self-interest, disturbances and reconciliation.

Having passed those intensive days together has also left its mark on Sunday’s festival service under the motto: Oneness with Jesus Christ. Misery and praise were brought before God in Kyrie and Gloria in the corresponding languages. The sermon was held by Bishop Shoo, Pastor Weston Mhema took over to publically sell the donations in an auction. 16 church districts had made arrangements to show us what their partnership was like. The atmosphere was a familiar one as if one had already known each other for a long time. The panel discussion proved how manifold the accents of Reformation had developed in the individual countries. On the occasion of the cooperation event organized by the church districts of Uffenheim, Kempten and Bad Neustadt, the fact of being on the way together turned out to be a great success. All three church districts maintain a partnership in the diocese of Arusha from where two persons had come for a visit from every partnership district.
All those six people were on their way together for those three weeks and they did not only experience close encounters in “their” church district but also in the two others. This did not only make them a team but this also teamed up the Bavarian church districts who were the hosts. A final workshop clearly showed how successful, stimulating and enriching this “joint venture” was for all participants.

The young people who came to live with us in Bavaria as volunteers for a year had lots of courage and confidence. They came from Malaysia and Tanzania, from Papua New Guinea, from Brazil and Argentina and were assigned to 8 different church districts. Although their German language skills were inexistent or very poor, the inhabitant of an old people’s home soon became a “Grandfa-

colorful in two ways. Starting with the “Purple Night” in the garden of Mission EineWelt where everybody had a picnic and enjoyed a blithesome evening. Then Banda Brasileira started to play cheerfully together with a band spontaneously made up of players from the church district of Windsbach. All this continued on Sunday morning: the Banda played, Bishop Bedford-Strohm held the sermon and hundreds of people sang to praise the Lord. More than 1,000 national and international visitors enjoyed encounters, music on two stages, culinary treats and informed themselves by bidding their visits to more than 25 stalls, got into a conversation with others and took part in actions on the topic “Reformation and the OneWorld”.

The program of the intercultural congregations in Bavaria, above all, of those events on special topics proved the test of time, were it the Bible Conference or the Marriage Workshop, where the question was discussed, how parenting can be successful in and between two cultures. The “Virtual Church Congress” on October 8, 2016 showed us that contact and exchange don’t always have to come along with a long journey.
communication connections were set up across the globe; lectures from different countries and churches could be listened to and discussed. The services were made up in a way to get involved and become involved although people could only meet on-screen. Already in the PPO workshop (Papua New Guinea, Pazific, East Asia), a live coverage invited young people from Lae to participate in the events at Neuendettelsau.

The staff members of our department were subject to a few changes. Whilst Christiane Rimroth changed over to the exhibition and Thomas Wollner had been working with the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Tanzania since August 2016, Valinirina Nomenjanahary took over to accompany the partnerships with Africa. The Nimbo family from Papua New Guinea has newly arrived here from Papua New Guinea. After having completed his language skills, Pastor Penga Nimbo will be working in a parish of the ELKB and supporting our department’s team as an ecumenical staff member.

Lots of confidence has grown in the partnerships over the years and we are very pleased to see that encounters accompanied by love, commitment and skills are organized in many places to be spread in the church districts and synods. This is of outstanding importance and impact not only within the church itself. In the current climate prevailing in society, people with an open attitude to welcome strangers from far away and from near places, people who trust in God’s love of all people are needed, who are willing to be on the way together in this One World we have been entrusted with.

Reinhild Schneider

Yang Letag, a male nurse, came to Bavaria on the grounds of this program. He came from Gaubin Hospital on the island Karkar in Papua New Guinea. When we asked him what it was that the people have learnt from him, he answered: "In the beginning, many did not believe me when I said I come from Papua New Guinea. They thought I come from Africa because of my dark skin. The people in Bavaria have now been informed on our health system. When we asked what he disliked he said that it had been all the questions related to witchcraft and sorcery. "I was not interested in these questions at all," he answered. "The local people here expect me to be able to supply a lot of information on this issue because I come from Papua New Guinea. But in fact, I have never had come into any contact with that sort of thing. This does not fit my work as a male nurse.

New Guinea. After having completed his language skills, Pastor Penga Nimbo will be working in a parish of the ELKB and supporting our department’s team as an ecumenical staff member.

Have you ever had a look at our partnership map to find your church district and your partnership church district? Please go to
https://mission-einewelt.de/internationale-beziehungen/partnerschaften/karte
to find our map and go to the following link
https://mission-einewelt.de/internationale-beziehungen/partnerschaften/Partnerschaftsvorstellung
where we introduce our partnerships
Faith changes the World

Discussing Reformation on a national and international platform in symposia and study workshops, in virtual and analog ways

“To counteract the restrictions by PEGIDA (a political movement) or the AfD party (a German political party), a reformation in the sense of a broadening of the people’s minds is needed,” stated Ludwig Schick, Archbishop of Bamberg and Chairman of the Worldwide Church of God Board run by the German Bishops’ Conference on the occasion of the symposium on the Reformation Year entitled “Faith changes the World”. The Reformation Decade Year 2016 could not have been started any better.

The mission of the church is political and ecumenical; it broadens our horizon and tears down frontiers. It is a child of the freedom of all Christians and seeks out transformation in such places where this freedom is restricted and where the dignity of man and creation are violated. This was the central topic that clearly accompanied the two-day symposium and its different focuses on “Luther’s Theology in the Age of Globalization”, “Turning back to Life” and “Liberal-minded Congregations”. Apart from Archbishop Schick, the Bishop of Bavaria Heinrich Bedford-Strohm, the Hungarian Bishop Tamás Fabiny, the commissioner for migration and integration of the SPD party, a member of the Bavarian Parliament, Arif Tasdelen, the President of “Diakonisches Werk” in Bavaria, Pastor Michael Bammessel, and many more participated in this event.

Another highlight was the Poetry Slam event - some of which were thought-provoking and some which were of critical nature - that were recited by former volunteers of Mission EineWelt. Prior to that, the young women and men had participated in a workshop organized by Mission EineWelt on the topic “Poetry Slam for the One World – the Youth has a Say”. Faith changes the World – this Reformation issue makes a difference for old and, above all, for the young.

Global Reformation also was one of the topics of this year’s Summer School. In cooperation with the Augustana University, the exchange of academic partners of Mission EineWelt and the network of theological training and advanced training is supported. Theologians from institutions in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Pacific region who maintain close relationships with Mission EineWelt and from Europe with whom Augustana University has close links came to meet and discuss topics “Reflecting Reformation”.

Room for Refugees

There was another academic conference called into life and determined by the motto of the Reformation Decade year “Reformation and the One World”. “Room for Refugees” was an event organized in cooperation with Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU) and Philipps University, Marburg, together with the initiatives BildungEvangelisch, Mission EineWelt and the project organization office of the Reformation Decade/Luther2017. There was no better location for the conference than the City of Erlangen for it had welcomed the Protestant Huguenots who came to Erlangen under Margrave Christian Ernst by the end of the 17th century. The Huguenots fled from France because they were prosecuted for their religious faith. Ernst’s measure combined the ideal of Christian charity with the urgent hope for economic recovery.

Scientists and practitioners of different disciplines met in this conference to discuss the following: In how far have societies been changed or will be changed by refugee movements and which
forms of integration or exclusion are involved? How did they succeed in the past in creating new room to live for those groups of people who had to leave their homes? Are there any connections between the past and the presence? These were the questions that bothered people like Prof. Klaus Bieberstein, a theologian specialized in the Old Testament (Bamberg University), Andreas Grüner, a scientist doing research work in the field of the ancient world (Erlangen University) and Ute Verstegen, an archaeologist and specialist in art history (Marburg University). One of the challenges of our present time is the question related to the cult buildings of non-native religious orientations. This is the question that had kept Martin Baumann (University of Lucerne) busy. Or what about the problems related to the uprooting of the refugees from within Columbia? This was the topic that kept Pastor Hernandez Miranda Atahualpa, Bogota, Colombia, busy. Pastor Geraldina Alvarez worried about the refugees who get stuck in Costa Rica, Pastor Reinhard Hansen was concerned about the immense refugee camps in East Africa, Andra Vermeer was worried by the indifference of the Government of Afghanistan regarding the situation of refugees from within the country and Claudia Jahnle was concerned by the repetitive colonial pattern of argumentation. Representatives from politics and church (Mayor for Social Matters Elisabeth Preuß and Regional Bishop Stefan-Ark Nitsche) looked at the housing conditions of refugees in Erlangen.

Virtual World Church Congress

The topic related to the Reformation Year was even broadened by the first Virtual World Church Congress with contributions relating to justice and peace in which Christians from all over the world participated. The Online-Event was designed by the Reformation Office “Luther 2017” by Mission EineWelt and various partner churches of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Bavaria. Apart from virtual services and the keynote of Martin Junge, Secretary General of the Lutheran World Federation, there were individual video contributions and discussions on the website www.churchfestival.org. By means of entries in different platforms, groups and individuals could give their own comments on what they had heard via their private PCs and ask questions. The topic “Justice and Peace” was treated interactively in this way. On the Virtual World Church Congress itself, nearly 2,000 individuals were counted to have visited the website. Some of those visitors were in fact larger groups. In the partnership center of Mission EineWelt for example, some interested parties met in order to participate in the Virtual World Church Congress together. Further live events took place, among others, in Munich, Nuremberg and Schweinfurt. Some partnership groups benefitted from the chance of contacting their overseas partners. Moreover, the event was made known in large parts of Brazil and Tanzania where the local church radio continuously reported on what happened on the website.

Study Day for Women

On the occasion of the Study Day for Women “Reformation and the One World”, the ordination of women around the globe was profoundly discussed. It is true; women were the first to learn the message of the Resurrection and to tell it to the disciples of Jesus. Women read the Bible at the time of the Reformation. They discovered the freedom from within the Holy Bible. The promise made with regard to “the ministry of all who were baptized” has not yet been fulfilled, as Dr. Cornelia Schlarb emphasized in her speech. To date, women all over the world have still been fighting for the ordination of female theologians in some Lutheran churches and for a ranking on a par with men in ministry. Pastor Julia-Kilagwa explains that in the 1980ies the ordination of women was discussed in the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Tanzania and that it was ratified by ELCT in 1990. The Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea has still been on its way to ordain women now as before, says Hofagao Kaia Hauth, and due to the cooperation of Pastor Verena Fries, she was in support of a representative of the cloud of witnesses. Pastor Christine Stradtner emphasized the important work of the Convent of Female Theologians who had been striving for the ordination of women in Bavaria some 40 years ago.

Intercultural Parishes

Those parishes with different languages and origins reveal a special diversification in the sense of the Reformation. On the one hand, the objective of Pastor Dr. Aguswati Hildebrandt Rambe and Pastor Markus Hildebrandt Rambe who share this project post is to make and foster contacts with intercultural parishes in Bavaria. A special highlight was an intercultural study trip in September 2016 together with responsible persons from 16 Bavarian Protestant parishes with different languages and origins. In Rome, the participants followed the tracks of the intercultural dynamics in Christian parishes from Biblical times until today (e.g. Early Christianity; Middle Ages, Waldensian Church and Reformation; migration churches and the protestant Rome of today). Apart from the contents of this program, the personal experience “to be on the way together” was of crucial importance for the participants. On the other hand, the objective is to broaden the minds within
the ELKB’s parishes, for example by way of international church services together with various parishes with different languages and origins who had become aware of each other and worked together for the first time in the process of preparation. In many cities, such as in Nuremberg, Munich, Bayreuth or Regensburg, for example, international services have been a regular component in the parish programs for quite some time and in most cases consultancy and support was provided by this shared project post.

Baptism of Refugees

Against the restrictions of PEGIDA (a political movement) and AfD (a political party) and in favor of a broadening of the minds in the sense of the Reformation, the ELKB’s year 2016 was also determined by the topics flight from home and expulsion; and in particular by the topic “Baptism of Refugees”. A group networking within the ELKB established upon the initiative of the Department for Mission and Intercultural Studies both had an eye on this question in detail in terms of church policy and ministry how to deal with a request for baptism, baptism preparations and the integration of the baptized person into parish life and to deal with a request for baptism, baptism or justice – or as per their urgency – is baptism and mission necessary for salvation? Another controversial discussion was related to strategic questions.

The conference contributions are available free of charge. Please go to: http://www.missionrespekt.de/

Mission Respectfulness

Five years after the publication of the ecumenical declarations “Christian testimony in a multi-religious world” (in Germany entitled “Mission Respectfulness”), the theological intent was on the ethical aspect of mission in connection with this declaration. In this context, clear differences became obvious and were discussed, as, for example, in questions related to the objective of mission – baptism or justice – and how controversial the issue of baptism is. Another controversial discussion was related to strategic questions.

With regard to the different major topics, the focus always was to reflect what was actually seen and heard in view of the local situation at home and of the own church. Here are some opinions of participants:

• For myself, I have now understood that there is more to it than to preach and lead my congregation. I am responsible for society as a whole, independent of our religious frontiers.

• Public theology is important because the church is a sentinel in society.

• Our work as Christians should focus on welfare and social work.

• It is my wish that the people and particularly the young people learn more on the history of Reformation of the church in order to know what it was like and where we stand today.

Dr. Claudia Jahnel

International Course of Lectures

Another highlight in the year of “Reformation and the OneWorld” was the 11-day long international course of lectures entitled “Lutheran Churches and their Role and Responsibility in Society”. 22 participants from Lutheran churches and a protestant Moravian Church in Tanzania, Kenya, South Africa and Nigeria met with participants from the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Bavaria to discuss topics such as the role of the church in the political environment of Reformation Time, the behavior of the church during Nazi dictatorship, in particular the role of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the role of the church during the collapse of the GDR, the subsequent reunification of Germany and the peaceful revolution in 1989.

Apart from lectures, visits to locations such as Wittenberg, the Documentation Center Nazi Party Rallye Grounds in Nuremberg or Nikolaikirche (name of church) in Leipzig were part of the program. On the occasion of a visit to the Bavarian State Chancellery and the Bavarian Head Office of the ELKB, the participants could gain insights into the current relationship of church and government.

In cooperation with the “Gottesdienststiftung” (name of an institution run by ELKB), the project team for the intercultural parishes has developed liturgies and a baptism program in several languages (initially in English–German, French–German, Persian–German and Arab–German). The desire of refugees to be baptized shows us how up to date and how controversial the topic of mission has been as before. This insight was also obtained in an ecumenical-theological conference in cooperation of Mission EineWelt that took place in the Baptist seminary in Elstal.

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Solidarity and Education

Teaching at school, education congress, day events, OneWorld Days and preparatory program for international volunteers.

The tone gets rougher in the world. To date, international politics have been the only ones to strive for more justice in the world – at least in words – but now, national egoism comes to the fore ever more frankly. It is not new that a head of state pursues the country’s national interests. However, the recklessness is new which which such egoism is demanded and so is the populist tone used to spread these policies among the public.

Mission EineWelt’s answer to these challenges is on the one hand to live in solidarity in the global context and on the other hand to rely on education through global learning.

The Department for Development and Politics organized more than 150 educational events, some in cooperation with others. Now as before, the formats were quite different: work at school and an educational congress, day events or the preparatory program for our international protestant volunteers, tutorials for foreign students or with volunteers who have returned to their home countries; the audience was close to the church or the contrary.

All in all, we have again attracted the attention of more than 8,000 people in this way.

Moreover, the Department for Development and Politics also presented the work of Mission EineWelt on the occasion of several big events, such as, for example, the Bavarian OneWorld Days in Augsburg. (See the above photo: Dr. Fornari; the spokesmen and spokeswomen in responsible for development policy of the Bavarian Parliament Dr. Hans-Jürgen Fahn and Christel Kamm; Reiner Erben, environmental expert of the City of Augsburg; Bärbel Kofler (human rights commissioner of the Federal Parliament); Claudia Roth (vice president of the Federal Parliament); Annegret Lueg and Dr. Jürgen Bergmann (from left to right).

Student Support Programs for Foreign Students (STUBE)

One of the focuses of the Bavarian student support program was to deal with media and communication in the context of development policy. In two study days and two weekend workshops, the participants discussed with their lecturers specific aspects of media work such as the representation of the global south in the media of the north, the significance of social media in the development process or the impact on and disinformation for political purposes. The cooperation of our trainee Wengel Assema Ajalew from Ethiopia.
(Master program in media ethics), the participants could be informed on the fundamental perspectives of the current discussions relating to development policies. The immense interest in the events and the committed cooperation and discussion shows that we offered the topics that were really of interest for the students and interested parties.

Our focus for the year 2017 will be the future objectives of the United Nations. Those global sustainable objectives are unknown to a large extent both to our target group and to the population. This field of work is worthwhile of being discussed.

International Protestant Volunteers (IEF)

In an annual recurrent interval, volunteers are prepared for their departure, assigned to their locations and volunteers who have returned from abroad or are about to return are attended by us in a time-consuming process of personal preparation and follow-up in terms development politics and regional studies of civilization and culture, relationship work, ministry and cultivation of a network of contacts – not only for and with our volunteers but also with their families plus the work with our former volunteers who support the program actively as teamer and multipliers, who can also attend advanced training courses to enhance their methods and with regard to development politics. Once more, we have become aware of the fact that the IEF work is much more than one might think in the first line. For sure, we do not go in circles. In fact, we are faced with new challenges because of the ever changing organizational and development political framework conditions and due to the needs and demands of all parties involved in the voluntary service.

In 2016, 36 volunteers were assigned to our partner parishes in 10 countries. They are the first volunteers who also attended a weekend workshop entitled “DP- Basics – Fundamentals of Development Policies” in addition to the usual preparations. The reason why they attended this workshop is that many of the new volunteers have little or no knowledge of topics related to development politics. However, it is exactly this kind of knowledge that is required for their experiences abroad and the service of learning which, in the end, will also be fruitful for us when they return to Germany. In the evaluation workshop, 35 volunteers who were assigned abroad in 2015 and have meanwhile returned home could also successfully try new methods used for reflection in terms of theater pedagogy.

The volunteers who apply are younger in age from year to year. For this reason, they are to be accompanies with even more care. In this context, their families also become ever so important.

Nearly 40 parents came along to attend this day in 2016 and thanks to the support of two former volunteers who answered their questions authentically, it turned out to be a success: their discussions, their exchange among each other, mutual understanding and getting to know each other is helpful asset for the parents and the IEF staff.

Our work with former volunteers is also constantly improving: on the occasion of the many workshops, we have succeeded in integrating our former volunteers for a long time and in a very effective way as teamer; the annual meeting of those who return home for also organized and executed for the first time under the auspices of former volunteers on the topic “Post Colonialism”. The participation in the Virtual Church Day in the scope of the Reformation Decade was another topic of a various number of topics and forms relating to the work with former volunteers who have returned home.

Participants of the Poetry Slam workshops presented their impressive texts on the occasion of the opening event “Reformation and the One World”. A new newsletter particularly addressed to those who have returned home keeps our former volunteers informed on information, events and offers in terms of development politics.

Proceeding on our experiences, we are looking into the future with fresh ideas: people who already underwent vocational training are to be addressed as a prospective target group for our volunteer services abroad. Young interested
people who have not served abroad yet shall also be integrated into educational events and we focus more on cooperations between former North-South and current South-North volunteers to advance and support their exchange.

**A World in a Box**

Our education materials related to development politics have been very popular now as before. Obviously our offer fills in a gap because we want it to serve also those users with little preliminary education. Our boxes have been lent out nearly 150 times, 60 they were borrowed by our in-house staff, too. The topics relating to clothing, mobile phones and world nutrition have been of a particular interest to its users; in fact, the demand for a box containing information on the topic cacao and chocolate has been very high in the course of the years.

Mission EineWelt feels that sending out these boxes is an important service offered for all those who have committed themselves to development politics. Of course, a considerable amount of time and money goes into those boxes for keeping them up-dated and complete. This can only be handled in close coordination with our logistics department.

But in this way, we have been succeeding in doing justice to our educational tasks throughout Bavaria. Moreover, further educational boxes were handed over to OneWorld locations in Bavaria by way of leasing in order to facilitate access to those boxes all over Bavaria.

**Free Trade or Fair Trade?**

The debate on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement CETA has produced a high interest of the public. The people are interested in questions of consumer protection and the one-sided preferential treatment of international groups’ interests. Those studies according to which the development countries will be the losers resulting from these trade agreements are less known. Mission EineWelt does not accept incoherent policies that on the one hand intend to counteract the causes that give the people reason to flee from their homes by means of development aid in support of the living conditions in the development countries but that on the other hand simultaneously aggravate the chances of exactly those countries to advance their further development by entering into new trade agreements.

For this reason, Mission EineWelt also participated in supporting a petition in favor of a Bavarian referendum against CETA on the occasion of the spring synod in Ansbach.

As a consequence, the Bavarian synode ordered Mission EineWelt to further pursue the state of facts. Even if meanwhile the annexes of CETA have been reworked, we still have to fear a negative impact for the countries with a weaker economy. On the occasion of many events, Mission EineWelt focused on the negative impact of these agreements onto so-called development countries. Simultaneously, we show by way of Fair Trade that a reliable cooperation is possible.

For this reason, Mission EineWelt supports among others the setting-up of World Shops where products from Fair Trade are offered by the allocation of funds from the Church Development Service.

**Co-Awardee of the German Human Rights Film Award ((Deutscher Menschenrechts-Filmpreis))**

On the international day of human rights (on December 10), the German Human Rights Film Award celebrated its 10th anniversary in Nuremberg’s Tafelhalle in honor of the six award winners. More than 450 guests from politics, church, the media and organizations from civil society took part in the event to pay their respect to the filmmakers. From Mission EineWelt’s point of view, it is a fundamental prerequisite for any form of development tailored to the needs of mankind to take the human rights into account.

For this reason, a former organization of Mission EineWelt named “Kirchlicher Entwicklungsdienst Bayern” was one of the founders of the German Human Rights Film Award. Questions related to the development of poor countries are, however, not the only topics to be treated. Many films of awardees show that the violations of human rights are no distant problem but they establish a connection with our western way of life and economy. Human rights do always concern us and it is good to know that this insight can be imparted by the German Human Rights Film Award.
A year with new challenges ahead

Increased receipts and expenses - we will be prepared to tackle cuts due to economization

Every year is different, the numbers change, there are small shifts in the budget that perhaps account for long-term developments. Overviews and statistics sometimes make room for speculations, however, sometimes they also clearly indicate the changes to come. We try to make receipts and expenses of last year transparent for you.

In 2015, receipts revealed a significant increase due to the increased budget allocations of the ELKB to us. Last year’s increase was due to the increase in pay rates for our staff. In addition, it was due to the fact that vacancies in the personnel exchange with Brazil and Latin America were filled. Compared with this, the past year reveals an increase in receipts of approx. 200,000 Euro.

This result corresponds with a reduction of the grants from the ELKB in the scope of the decisions made by the Bavarian synod to decouple the receipts from the expenses. Simultaneously, charitable gifts and donations have increased.
Receipts in 2016

The ELKB has indeed increased its grants by nearly 58,000 Euro, but in consideration of the increase in pay rates for our staff for 2016 to be posted under expenses and a simultaneous reduction of the grants due to the decoupling of the receipts from the expenses results in reduced grants accounting for more than 300,000 Euro. In parallel, fortunately charitable gifts and donations increased by more than roughly 260,000 Euro. In an annual comparison, there were no changes with regard to legacies. However, there is an increase in miscellaneous receipts and for remunerations for board and lodging. Simultaneously, we had to observe that the grants collected in the Bavarian parishes’ services nearly decreased by one half. In consideration of all developments, nevertheless the final annual financial statement could be closed with a surplus of 200,000 Euro.

Expenditure 2016

Last year’s overall expenditure has increased by more than 800,000 Euro in comparison to the preceding year. In the first line, this is due to the increase in personnel costs due to the increase in pay rates and the filling of vacancies abroad. In the area of Latin America, the expenses for personnel costs have in fact clearly been reduced, but this is due to the fact that temporary project positions that had been financed by third parties expired. The earmarked special budget used for channeling and transfer of funds to partnership groups and to specific project work have also further increased.

Prospects

We are aware of the fact that the financial development will be characterized by cutbacks in allocations and grants due to the process entitled “Profile and Concentration” of the ELKB. In parallel, a staff scheme of the ELKB will have a medium-term impact on our staff scheme and budget.
As is already obvious when looking at the current annual accounts, the allocations and grants from the ELKB will be reduced in the years to come, too.

Since missionary work was integrated into the former "Missionswerk" and thus became part of the work under the auspices of the ELKB in 1972, we had to cope with several such cost reduction intervals in the course of time. And this will be the case in the coming years, too.

Simultaneously, we have recognized that the support from others is maintained or even increases. In fact, there are donators who have been financially supporting our work for decades as reported adjacently. As for cooperation, the same is true. We are very delighted that young women and men who spent a year as a volunteer in a partnership church continue to support our work when they have returned home.

We have no reason to worry.

Jochen Kronester

Apportionment of donations and charitable gifts in 2016
All of us are longing for a good health, a self-determined and satisfying life. We would like to take our chances and benefit from the possibilities we are offered. Nobody of us wants to be dependent on someone. Nobody wants to be poor. Nobody wants to be seriously ill. Nobody wants to be an analphabet. Our brothers and sisters in our partner churches feel exactly the same. We accompany them, learn from them and support each other. Nobody wants to be alone. All of us need friends, partners, and companions.

We use the funds from donations and charitable gifts to offer them a chance for a self-determined life, we provide education, we support basic medical treatment in those places where the people need and depend on our help. In 2016, more than 2.3 million Euros of donations that we have received could be used to change a lot. Thanks to the generous support of our donators, sponsors, friends, church districts, parishes and partnership groups, we were able to offer many chances. And they were accepted, recognized and used, as for example for the Building of a Well in Tanzania.

We who live in Bavaria can hardly imagine what a hardship it is to have no access to potable water. We live in a place where the supply of potable water is good and available in abundance. In the Bagamoyo region in Tanzania, there are four villages with roughly 6,000 inhabitants. This means there are 6,000 people who live in distress and suffer from hardships due to the lack of potable water. 3,000 of them have access to potable water from a water pipeline once a week. Often, the water pipelines do not provide any water at all. The people are forced to cover enormous distances by foot to rivers, lakes and puddles. Diseases are the consequences. Infant mortality is alarmingly high in this region and at the beginning of the year, three cases of cholera were reported. In the summer of 2016, a solar-powered deep water-supply well could be drilled and commissioned only after a few more weeks. The potable water is filtered, stored in professional containers and made available at so-called “water plugs”. The people of a whole region have benefitted from this investment in the long run. The well is operated and maintained by the deacons of the Ushirika wa Diakonia Faraja brotherhood. What a tremendous help! The distances to have access to really good potable water get shorter.

MAF-air service in Papua New Guinea

We could also support the general overhaul of a Twin Otter for the medical air service in Papua New Guinea (PNG). With more than 300,000 Euro, Mission EineWelt could pay for one half of the maintenance costs. More than 80,000 people living in the most distant areas can be provided with medical treatment by means of this airplane. In January, the mechanics from MAF in Australia started the general overhaul. The paint was stripped from body and wings and they were varnished. New turbine motors were fitted into the wings and a new cockpit was integrated. After a few months of work, the Twin Otter could be brought back to PNG to take up its vital service again. Such work and so many

See chances – benefit from chances – offer chances

Drinking water supply, an airplane, the Peace Decade and the Purple Night – the various facettes of fundraising.
other large and small projects can only be funded by our donators’ charitable gifts: donations by way of direct debits, spontaneous donations, requests for donations, free or earmarked gifts.

**Free donations**

Mission EineWelt is very well interlinked with all its projects and partners. In this way, we are directly informed of everything that happens locally. We get to know where there is an emergency and how sustainable assistance can be provided. With free donations we can respond quickly and specifically.

**Catastrophes in our partner church**

Free donations also make it possible for us to respond flexibly and quickly in an unbureaucratic way and help our partner churches in the event of a catastrophe. Our strength is the direct line we have to the local people and projects. Due to our good cooperation that has grown over the years, we are immediately informed on local problems and needs without detours and can help on the spot.

**Flexible help**

In the event of a new roof for a school, the maintenance and repair of the water supply for a boarding school or additional money to increase a physician’s pay in a rural hospital. All these applications are submitted to a board to decide on the extent in which specific projects are going to be supported. We are aware that this is an enormous responsibility that we bear and which we face. For this reason, we are more than willing to supply information on all donations we receive and on their use and on all charitable gifts we can use to continue our important work flexibly and sustainably. All earmarked donations are immediately transferred to the specific project. Your donation is used to help exactly in the very place you wish to help!

**Your project donation**

You have made up your mind in favor of a project you want to support directly? The donations you make to us and that are earmarked are reliably and timely transferred to our local projects. Please quote the project and/or the project number on your bank transfer. This helps us to assign your donation to its correct purpose.

**Regular project support**

One-off donations cannot guarantee a long-term and sustainable support. Regular donations make it for us and our partners easier to plan more reliably and they reduce the administrative costs. If you wish to support your project on a regular basis, please don’t hesitate to contact us. We will be more than pleased to supply you with the desired information.

**Continuous support**

Your regular donation makes it for us and our partners easier to plan more reliably. Receiving your donations on a regular basis helps us to reliably pay for current costs.

**Purple Night**

On July 16, the eve of the festival of the Worldwide Church, the first Purple Night took place in our garden: a picnic for young and old on a wonderful warm summer evening, accompanied by Brazilian music. What a nice opportunity to get to know our organization, staff, neighbors and friends. The guests came from near and far; they brought along family and friends. There were picnic baskets and hay carts filled with treats, tableware and decoration. In the atrium of our center, we invited our guests to dine and feast at the tables under the trees. There were lots of laughter, extensive partying and dancing. It was a wonderful evening which will certainly become a well-loved tradition for many.

Make a note of July 15, 2017. This is when the second Purple Night will take place.

**November 2016**

**Peace Decade at Markt Einersheim**

Traces of war

The central opening of the ecumenical peace decade for Bavaria took place in the church district of Markt Einersheim in 2016. The Archbishop of Bamberg Dr. Ludwig Schick and church official Kirchenrat Ivo Huber, head of the church district at Markt Einersheim, extended their invitation to join them at Matthäuskirche (St. Matthew’s Church). Mohanna Mohammed, a refugee living at Markt Einersheim, told his story about the traces of war his body and soul have to live with.

**Your donation is effective**

We are the Center for Partnership, Development and Mission of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Bavaria. It is our task to foster and support the relations to the Lutheran partner churches in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific Region and education in Germany is also one of our tasks. In the scope of cooperations, we maintain connections to further churches in Africa, East Asia, Australia, North America and Scandinavia. We are the Center for Partnership, Development and Mission of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Bavaria and are run and financed by the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Bavaria. But our donators, sponsors, friends, church districts and parishes support and enable this important work.

We would like to thank you very much for your support.

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Flight and Migration

Since 2014, the motto “Flight and Migration” has stood for the campaign of Mission EineWelt. The partnership center has developed a series of materials to enable congregations, groups and committed people to discuss the topic.

We have developed a separate Website for this purpose to inform on offers of the partnership center and to quote additional information sources.

www.flucht-und-migration.org

An interactive game, a so-called serious game with the title “Up and Away”, gives you the opportunity to retrace the history of different refugees on your PC, tablet and smartphone by means of five different flight and migration histories.

An exposition headed “Up and Away” supplies information on five boards (so-called roll-ups) with regard to the reasons why people flee with an eye to German history, substantiated by facts, statements and more. The exposition is available for lending via

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We offer material such as the poster “Open your doors”, “There are no strangers for God’s people” or the brochure on a service draft and pilgrims’ way can be ordered via this website or the homepage of Mission EineWelt.

You may also contact us personally and order in writing, via telephone or Email.

Please direct your orders to:

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“Make it a success”

2017 is a year to rejoice and celebrate: 500 years of Reformation, 175 years of assigning Bavarian missionaries to overseas and 10 years of Mission EineWelt. The last event gave rise to a special event of the Center: “Make it a success” will be on from March 27 until October 31, 2017. We count on your support! All persons who take part in this event are given 10 Euros to get started. They are invited to increase this sum by using their skills and talents. Groups or school classes are also invited to join us and put their ideas into practice. The deadline is October 31, 2017. The earned money will go to projects from the fields of education, social and welfare work, development service and medical supply in the partner churches of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Bavaria. The event is sponsored by the Evangelische Bank who will provide the money for the event. Join us and support the important work in our One World with your skills.

You may register now on our website
www.mach-was-draus.de

where you will find further information, the detailed terms of participation and a compilation of ideas to make you go further. If you are planning your own local event in order to earn more money, you may post your advertisement in a calendar on the website.

Thank you for the 1,000 likes

On December 13, 2016, the Facebook page of Mission EineWelt crossed the magic figure of 1,000 likes. By your participation, your likes, comments and sharing of our messages that help to spread the topics of Mission EineWelt and our partner churches further. Thank you very much for supporting us.

Of course, we shall keep you informed on current topics and news from our Center. Together we will succeed in achieving the next 1,000 likes!

https://www.facebook.com/MissionEineWelt

Printed Media

If you are looking for brochures on special topics, magazine and brochures on particular you can find them in our online shop
https://shop.mission-einewelt.de/