

## Highlights

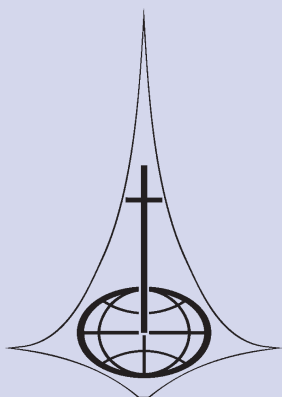
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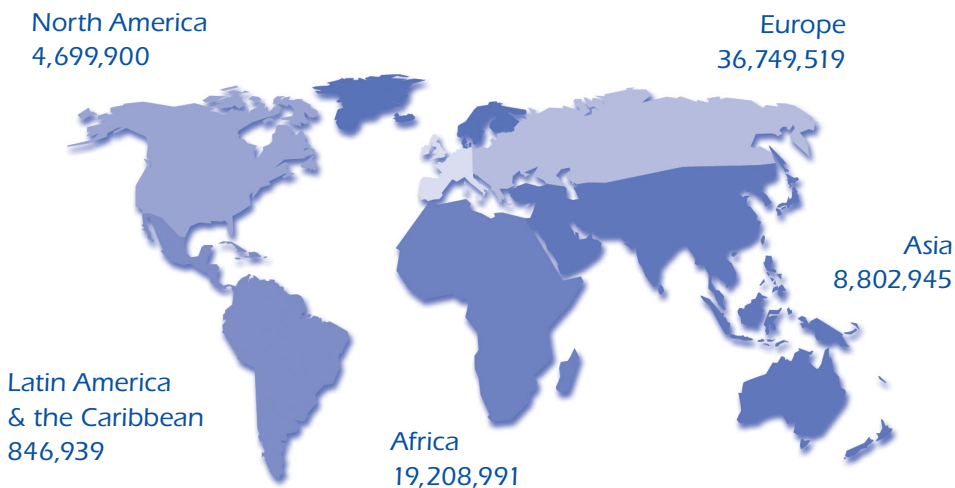
**FEATURE: A Tribute to My  
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Akuel Garang Mawien was determined to cast her vote in the referendum that will decide the future of Southern Sudan, and in doing so, also pay tribute to her father, the parent she never met...

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## LWF Member Churches Continue Steady Growth Globally



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### LWF 2010 Membership Figures

#### Slight Increase Pushes Total Figure to 70.3 Million

**GENEVA (LWI)** – The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) member churches maintained a general trend of growth globally, according to statistics released here.

By the end of 2010, the 145 churches belonging to the LWF, ten recognized congregations and one recognized council in 79 countries, had a combined total of 70,308,294 members, an increase of 213,559 or 0.3 percent over the previous period.

According to the 2010 annual statistical survey conducted by the LWF Office for Communication Services, LWF churches in Africa and Asia reported continued growth, with Africa adding almost 700,000 new members, and Asia more than 50,000.

The Latin American and the Caribbean churches reversed a recent decrease, by gaining almost 10,000 members.

Churches in Europe and North America continued to experience decreases in membership, with European membership declining by about 400,000 and North American membership by just more than 84,000.

The current LWF total figure compares with the end of 2009 survey results, which were updated to 70.1 million (70,094,735) in July 2010 when five churches from Asia (Myanmar, India and Nepal) joined the LWF. In 2008 LWF-affiliated churches had a total of 68.5 million members.

In 2010 membership of churches in the Lutheran family, including non-LWF churches, rose by 237,450 to just under 74 million (73,995,576), representing an increase of 0.3 percent. In 2009 this category counted 73.7 million compared to 72 million in 2008.

#### Africa

Membership in churches in Africa belonging to the LWF rose over the past year by 688,301, or 3.7 percent, to 19,208,991 members. The membership of non-LWF Lutheran churches on the continent was 199,697, an increase of 2,708.

*Continues on page 3*

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## LWF German Representative Cites New Impetus in Relations with Catholics

Oberkirchenrat Noberte Denecke, executive secretary of The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) German National Committee (GNC), said the recent visit to Italy and the Vatican by leaders of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germany (VELKD) has given new impetus to the dialogue between Lutherans and Roman Catholics.

After a difficult phase over the past several years, it was again possible to resume the dialogue with Catholic partners, remarked Denecke following the 20 to 26 January visit. "For the Roman Catholic Church," he said, "the Lutheran church is a major interlocutor. We can still accomplish much more theologically. This trip has given new impetus to the process," he told *Lutheran World Information (LWI)*.

VELKD Presiding Bishop Johannes Friedrich led the 19-member strong delegation which also included the lord mayor of the Luther town of Wittenberg, Germany. The key moment of the visit was a private audience with Pope Benedict XVI, at which matters related to the upcoming 2017 anniversary of the Reformation were discussed.

In Milan, a tree was planted in honor of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity near the Augustinian church of San Marco. The planting was an initiative of the LWF/GNC and its executive secretary Denecke. In Wittenberg itself, a Luther Garden

was created two years ago in which churches from all over the world have the possibility of planting a tree as a symbol of church fellowship and as part of preparations for the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. A corresponding tree is then to be planted in the respective countries.

Kurt Cardinal Koch, the new president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (PCPCU), planted a second tree in the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls, Rome's ecumenical church. Koch, who had been elevated to the position of cardinal only several months earlier, discussed various topics with the delegation of German Lutherans, such as the understanding of the church, ministry and the doctrine of the Eucharist. Both sides also emphasized the perspective for genuine further collaboration in these areas.

The PCPCU president especially highlighted the confessional foundations of German Lutherans, which made progress on such important ecumenical and theological issues possible.

Last December, Pope Benedict received an LWF delegation led by the president, Bishop Dr Munib A. Younan. During the visit both church leaders pointed to the significance of the 2017 anniversary and the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification signed in October 1999 by LWF and Vatican representatives.

#### The Lutheran World Federation

– A Communion of Churches  
150, route de Ferney  
P.O. Box 2100  
CH-1211 Geneva 2,  
Switzerland

**Telephone** +41/22-791 61 11  
**Fax** +41/22-791 66 30  
**E-mail:** info@lutheranworld.org  
www.lutheranworld.org

#### Interim Editor-in-Chief and English Editor

Pauline Mumia  
pmu@lutheranworld.org

#### Consulting Editor

John P. Asling

#### German Editor

N. N.

#### Layout

Stéphane Gally  
sga@lutheranworld.org

#### Photos

Helen Putsman Penet  
hpu@lutheranworld.org

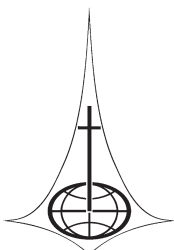
#### Circulation/subscription

Colette Muanda  
cmu@lutheranworld.org

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## LWF Member Churches Continue Steady Growth Globally

*Continued from p. 1*

Africa's largest Lutheran church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, increased its membership by 298,544, or 5.6 percent, to 5,601,271 members. A similar percentage increase was recorded in the continent's second largest LWF church, the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, which added 296,334, posting 5,576,156 members at the end of last year.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe recorded the highest percentage increase, 40 percent, accounting for 210,000 members last year compared to 150,000 in the previous year. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi reported a significant increase of 33 percent to reach 80,000 members compared to 60,000 in 2009. Also posting an increase was the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN), up by 18,000 or 2.6 percent to reach 703,893 members.

### Asia

Membership in churches in Asia belonging to the LWF rose by 56,511 or 0.64 percent, to 8,802,945 members. In the region, Indonesia remained the country with the highest numbers among its 12 LWF churches, totaling more than 5.6 million. The Protestant Christian Batak Church (HKPB) did not report any statistical changes at 4,178,526 members.

No change in data was reported for the 11 LWF member churches in India, which remained steady at a national total of 1.9 million among LWF member churches. The Lutheran Church in Singapore decreased by 9.6 percent, to 2,834 members.

### Europe

Europe continues to be the home of a majority of the world's Lutherans. Membership in churches belonging to the LWF in Europe over the past year dropped by 414,892, or 1.1 percent, to 36,749,519 members. The member-

ship of non-LWF churches in Europe was 79,326, a decrease of 452.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland (including Finns living abroad) counted a loss of members, dropping by 62,431, or 1.4 percent, to 4,387,085 members. The continent's largest church, Church of Sweden, saw its membership decline by 51,160, or 0.75 percent, to 6,700,792 members. The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland lost 1,461 members, or 0.57 percent, to 251,487 members.

European churches that recorded growth in the period included the Malagasy Protestant Church in France which gained 1,500 members, or 17.6 percent, to 10,000 members; the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church added 12,000 members, or 7.5 percent, to 172,000 members; and the Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Switzerland and in the Principality of Liechtenstein posted a 1.05 percent increase to reach 6,890 members.

### Germany

Germany continues to be the country with the largest number of Lutherans in the world with 12,676,409 members. That figure dropped by 261,001, or 2.01 percent, from the 2009 total of 12,937,410. A similar drop is reflected among the 14 LWF member churches there, with a total membership of 12,640,075, down from 12.9 million

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hanover, the country's largest Lutheran church, reported a 2.7 percent membership decline, to 2,899,432 members. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg's membership declined by 49,522, or 2.1 percent, to 2,237,461 members.

Membership in the Evangelical Church of Pomerania dropped by 6,266, or 6.2 percent, to 94,119.

### Latin America and the Caribbean

Membership in churches belonging to the LWF in Latin America and

the Caribbean rose by 9,247, or 1.05 percent, to 846,939.

The Salvadoran Lutheran Church recorded the highest percentage increase at 66 percent with an additional 8,000 members pushing the total to 20,000. The Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras grew by 300, or 25 percent, to 1,500 members; and the Evangelical Church of the River Plate gained 2,500, or 10 percent, to 27,500 members.

The region's largest Lutheran church, the Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil, reported no change in its membership of 717,000.

### North America

Churches in North America belonging to the LWF posted a membership decrease of 84,189, or 1.75 percent, to 4,699,900 members. The region's largest Lutheran church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, lost 80,264 members, or 1.73 percent, down to 4,543,037. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada declined by 3,925, or 2.56 percent, to 148,863 members.

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, which is not affiliated to the LWF, did not report any changes in its membership of 2.4 million.

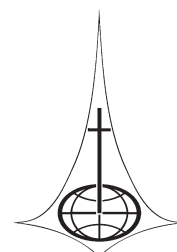
The LWF membership statistics are based on information received from the LWF member churches, recognized churches and congregations and council, as well as from other Lutheran bodies. The figures recorded for the year ending 2009 were used for churches that did not indicate any changes by early February 2011.

A one-page summary of the 2010 LWF statistics and full details can be found as PDF files at:

[www.lutheranworld.org/lwf/index.php/member-churches-continue-steady-growth.html](http://www.lutheranworld.org/lwf/index.php/member-churches-continue-steady-growth.html)

For further information:  
LWF Office for Communication Services, [info@lutheranworld.org](mailto:info@lutheranworld.org)

17 February 2011



## The Lutheran World Federation 2010 Membership Figures

### Summary

The following figures give the membership of the 145 LWF member churches (M), including two associate member churches (AM), 10 recognized churches and congregations and one recognized council (R), as well as other Lutheran churches, bodies or congregations (C).

#### General Summary 2010

145 LWF member churches, 10 recognized churches and congregations and one recognized council ..... **70,308,294**  
 Lutherans outside LWF constituency..... 3,687,282  
**Total** ..... **73,995,576**

Continent	All Lutherans	LWF Membership	Other Churches
Africa	19,408,688	19,208,991	199,697
Asia	8,994,049	8,802,945	191,104
Europe	36,828,845	36,749,519	79,326
Latin America & the Caribbean	1,132,289	846,939	285,350
North America	7,631,705	4,699,900	2,931,805
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,995,576</b>	<b>70,308,294</b>	<b>3,687,282</b>

#### Countries with more than half a million Lutherans

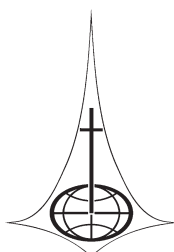
Germany*	12,676,409	Madagascar	3,000,000
USA	7,423,192	Netherlands	2,096,774
Sweden	6,700,792	Nigeria	2,042,000
Indonesia	5,642,087	India	1,935,419
Tanzania	5,601,271	Namibia	1,128,993
Ethiopia	5,596,156	Papua New Guinea	1,049,455
Denmark	4,479,309	Brazil	951,466
Finland	4,387,085	South Africa	669,725
Norway	4,014,143		

\* This figure includes the membership of the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad.

#### Lutheran churches with more than half a million members

Church of Sweden	6,700,792	Protestant Church in the Netherlands	2,096,774
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania	5,601,271	North Elbian Evangelical Lutheran Church	2,019,243
The Ethiopian Evangelical Church		The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria	1,900,000
Mekane Yesus	5,576,156	Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea	900,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	4,543,037	Evangelical Church in Central Germany	858,453
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark	4,479,214	Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church	800,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland	4,387,085	Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saxony	784,706
Protestant Christian Batak Church	4,178,256	Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil	717,000
Church of Norway	3,992,295	The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN)	703,893
Malagasy Lutheran Church	3,000,000	Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa	580,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hanover	2,899,432		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria	2,600,000		
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**	2,400,000		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg	2,237,461		

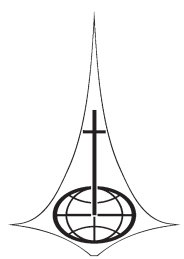
\*\* Not an LWF member church



## 2010 World Lutheran Membership Details

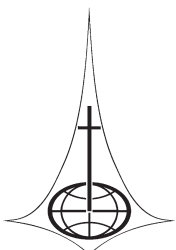
(M) .....Member Church  
 (AM) ..... Associate Member Church  
 (R) ..... Recognized Church, Congregation or Recognized Council  
 (C) ..... Other Lutheran churches, bodies or congregations

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
<b>Africa</b>		
<b>Angola</b> .....		<b>40,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Angola (M) .....	40,000	
<b>Botswana</b> .....		<b>18,650</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botswana (M) .....	18,650	
<b>Burundi</b> .....		<b>1,850</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Burundi (C) .....	1,850	
<b>Cameroon</b> .....		<b>363,352</b>
Church of the Lutheran Brethren of Cameroon (M) .....	105,994	
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Cameroon (M) .....	253,000	
The Lutheran Church of Cameroon (C) .....	4,358	
<b>Central African Republic</b> .....		<b>55,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic (M) .....	55,000	
<b>Chad</b> .....		<b>113,684</b>
Church of the Lutheran Brethren of Chad (C) .....	113,684	
<b>Congo, Democratic Republic</b> .....		<b>136,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Congo (M) .....	136,000	
<b>Congo, Republic</b> .....		<b>1,828</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Congo (M) .....	1,828	
<b>Eritrea</b> .....		<b>11,000</b>
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eritrea (M) .....	11,000	
<b>Ethiopia</b> .....		<b>5,596,156</b>
The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (M) .....	5,576,156	
The Lutheran Church in Ethiopia (C) .....	20,000	
<b>Gambia</b> .....		<b>2,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Gambia (C) .....	2,000	
<b>Ghana</b> .....		<b>27,521</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana (M) .....	27,521	
<b>Guinea</b> .....		<b>789</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guinea (C) .....	789	
<b>Kenya</b> .....		<b>144,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (M) .....	100,000	
Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	44,000	
<b>Liberia</b> .....		<b>71,196</b>
Lutheran Church in Liberia (M) .....	71,196	
<b>Madagascar</b> .....		<b>3,000,000</b>
Malagasy Lutheran Church (M) .....	3,000,000	





<b>Malawi.....</b>	<b>80,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi (M) .....	80,000
<b>Mozambique .....</b>	<b>12,606</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mozambique (M) .....	12,606
<b>Namibia.....</b>	<b>1,128,993</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN-GELC) (M) .....	5,100
Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia (ELCRN) (M) .....	420,000
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN) (M) .....	703,893
<b>Nigeria .....</b>	<b>2,042,000</b>
The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria (M) .....	1,900,000
The Lutheran Church of Nigeria (M) .....	142,000
<b>Rwanda .....</b>	<b>40,000</b>
Lutheran Church of Rwanda (M) .....	40,000
<b>Senegal.....</b>	<b>4,053</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Senegal (C) .....	no data
The Lutheran Church of Senegal (M) .....	4,053
<b>Sierra Leone.....</b>	<b>3,150</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone (M) .....	3,150
<b>South Africa.....</b>	<b>669,725</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (M) .....	580,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (Cape Church) (M) .....	4,347
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (Natal-Transvaal-T) (M) .....	10,016
Free Evangelical Lutheran Synod in South Africa (C) .....	5,362
Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (C) .....	20,000
Moravian Church in South Africa (M) .....	50,000
<b>Sudan .....</b>	<b>16,650</b>
Sudan Evangelical Lutheran Church (C) .....	6,000
The Lutheran Church of Sudan (C) .....	10,650
<b>Tanzania.....</b>	<b>5,601,271</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (M) .....	5,601,271
<b>Togo .....</b>	<b>5,920</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Togo (C) .....	5,920
<b>Uganda.....</b>	<b>9,084</b>
Uganda Lutheran Church Foundation (C) .....	9,084
<b>Zambia .....</b>	<b>2,210</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia (M) .....	2,210
<b>Zimbabwe.....</b>	<b>210,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe (M) .....	210,000
<b>Asia</b>	
<b>Australia.....</b>	<b>70,000</b>
Lutheran Church of Australia (AM) .....	70,000
<b>Bangladesh.....</b>	<b>15,050</b>
Bangladesh Lutheran Church (M) .....	5,050
Bangladesh Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	10,000



## Individual Churches      National Total

### Georgia

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) *(see Russian Federation)*

### Hong Kong, China ..... 50,230

Hong Kong and Macau Lutheran Church (M) .....	2,183
Lutheran Church – Hong Kong Synod (C) .....	8,300
The Chinese Rhenish Church Hong Kong Synod (M) .....	14,000
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong (M) .....	15,800
Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong (M) .....	9,947

### India ..... 1,935,419

Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	800,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Madhya Pradesh (M) .....	17,500
Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Himalayan States (M) .....	24,750
Good Shepherd Evangelical Church (M) .....	15,400
Good Samaritan Evangelical Lutheran Church (C) .....	50,233
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam (M) .....	400,503
India Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	80,000
Jeypore Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	150,000
North Western Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church (C) .....	118,283
Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	85,000
South Andhra Lutheran Church (M) .....	45,500
The Arcot Lutheran Church (M) .....	40,000
The Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	108,250

### Indonesia ..... 5,642,087

Batak Christian Community Church (M) .....	20,000
Christian Communion of Indonesia Church in Nias (Gereja AMIN) (M) .....	18,223
Christian Protestant Angkola Church (M) .....	27,810
Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia (M) .....	359,755
Indonesian Christian Lutheran Church (M) .....	23,000
Pakpak Dairi Christian Protestant Church (M) .....	36,797
Protestant Christian Batak Church (M) .....	4,178,256
Protestant Christian Church in Mentawai (M) .....	38,907
Simalungun Protestant Christian Church (M) .....	211,383
The Indonesian Christian Church (M) .....	355,000
The Protestant Christian Church (M) .....	360,956
The United Protestant Church (M) .....	12,000

### Israel ..... 160

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (M) <i>(see Jordan and Palestinian Territories)</i>	160
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission – Shalhevyah Christian Center & Cong. (C) .....	80
Immanuel Lutheran Church (C) .....	80

### Japan ..... 32,551

Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	21,990
Japan Lutheran Brethren Church (C) .....	1,219
Japan Lutheran Church (AM) .....	2,723
Kinki Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	2,732
West Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church (C) .....	3,887

### Jordan ..... 3,000

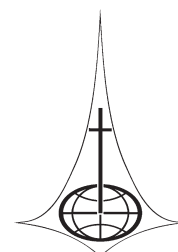
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (M) .....	3,000
<i>(see Israel and Palestinian Territories)</i>	

### Kazakhstan

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) *(see Russian Federation)*

### Korea, Republic ..... 5,091

Lutheran Church in Korea (M) .....	5,091
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**Kyrgyzstan**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) *(see Russian Federation)*

**Malaysia ..... 104,003**

Basel Christian Church of Malaysia (M) .....59,500  
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malaysia (M) .....4,050  
 Lutheran Church in Malaysia and Singapore (M) .....8,453  
 The Protestant Church in Sabah (M) .....32,000

**Myanmar ..... 27,243**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Myanmar (Lutheran Bethlehem Church) (M) .....1,900  
 Lutheran Church of Myanmar (M) .....1,620  
 Myanmar Lutheran Church (M) .....2,150  
 The Mara Evangelical Church (M) .....21,573

**Nepal.....941**

Nepal Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....941

**New Zealand ..... 1,130**

Lutheran Church of New Zealand (C) 1,130  
*(a district (District of the Lutheran Church of Australia) (C) ..... 1,130*

**Palestinian Territories**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (M) *(see Israel and Jordan)*

**Papua New Guinea ..... 1,049,455**

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea (M) .....900,000  
 Gutnius Lutheran Church – Papua New Guinea (M) .....149,455

**Philippines..... 18,000**

Lutheran Church in the Philippines (M) .....18,000

**Singapore ..... 2,834**

Lutheran Church in Singapore (M) .....2,834

**Sri Lanka ..... 5,324**

Lanka Lutheran Church (M) .....5,324

**Taiwan..... 28,127**

China Evangelical Lutheran Church (C) .....2,621  
 China Lutheran Gospel Church (C) .....225  
 Chinese Lutheran Brethren Victory Church (C) .....3,846  
 Taiwan Lutheran Church (M) .....18,408  
 The Lutheran Church of Taiwan (Republic of China) (M) .....1,827  
 The Lutheran Church of the Republic of China (C) .....1,200

**Thailand ..... 3,404**

Lutheran Mission in Thailand (C) .....no data  
 The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Thailand (M) .....3,404

**Uzbekistan**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) *(see Russian Federation)*

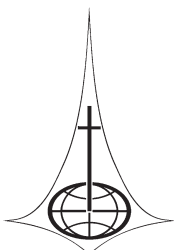
**Europe**

**Austria..... 311,548**

Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Austria (M) .....311,548

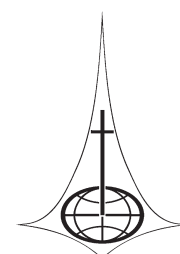
**Belarus**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) *(see Russian Federation)*





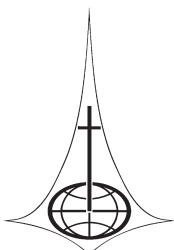
Individual Churches	National Total
<b>Belgium</b> .....	<b>974</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Belgium (C) .....	160
Lutheran Church of Belgium: Arlon and Christian Mission (R) .....	814
<b>Croatia</b> .....	<b>3,329</b>
Evangelical Church in the Republic of Croatia (M) .....	3,329
<b>Czech Republic</b> .....	<b>130,572</b>
Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren (M) .....	115,000
Silesian Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession (M) .....	15,572
<b>Denmark (including Greenland)</b> .....	<b>4,479,309</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark (M) .....	4,479,214
The Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in Denmark (C) .....	95
<b>Estonia</b> .....	<b>172,000</b>
Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	172,000
<b>Faeroe Islands</b> .....	<b>40,280</b>
The Evangelical Lutheran Church on the Faeroe Islands (C) .....	40,280
<b>Finland</b> .....	<b>4,387,085</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland (M) .....	4,387,085
<i>(including ELCF members abroad)</i>	
<b>France</b> .....	<b>231,357</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church – Synod of France (C) .....	957
Evangelical Lutheran Church of France (M) .....	10,400
Malagasy Protestant Church in France (M) .....	10,000
Union of Protestant Churches of Alsace and Lorraine (M) .....	210,000
<b>Germany</b> .....	<b>12,676,409</b>
Church of Lippe (Lutheran Section) (M) .....	31,000
Evangelical Church in Central Germany (M) .....	858,453
Evangelical Church of Pomerania (M) .....	94,119
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Baden (M) .....	3,200
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria (M) .....	2,600,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Brunswick (M) .....	386,400
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oldenburg (M) .....	446,899
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg (M) .....	2,237,461
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hanover (M) .....	2,899,432
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mecklenburg (M) .....	196,272
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saxony (M) .....	784,706
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Schaumburg-Lippe (M) .....	57,870
Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in Germany (C) .....	1,400
Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church (C) .....	34,934
Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad (M) .....	25,020
North Elbian Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	2,019,243
<b>Greenland</b>	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark (M) <i>(see Denmark)</i>	
<b>Hungary</b> .....	<b>213,125</b>
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary (M) .....	213,125
<b>Iceland</b> .....	<b>251,487</b>
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland (M) .....	251,487
<b>Ireland</b> .....	<b>377</b>
The Lutheran Church in Ireland (R) .....	377



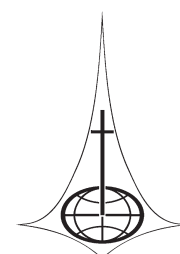
<b>Italy</b> .....	<b>7,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Italy (M) .....	7,000
<b>Latvia</b> .....	<b>250,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia (M) .....	250,000
<b>Liechtenstein</b>	
Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein (M) <i>(see Switzerland)</i>	
<b>Lithuania</b> .....	<b>20,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lithuania (M) .....	20,000
<b>Netherlands</b> .....	<b>2,096,774</b>
Protestant Church in the Netherlands (M) .....	2,096,774
<b>Norway</b> .....	<b>4,014,143</b>
Church of Norway (M) .....	3,992,295
The Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Norway (M) .....	21,848
<b>Poland</b> .....	<b>75,000</b>
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland (M) .....	75,000
<b>Romania</b> .....	<b>43,991</b>
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Romania (M) .....	13,271
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania (M) .....	30,720
<b>Russian Federation</b> .....	<b>91,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) .....	76,000
<i>(see Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan)</i>	
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia (M) .....	15,000
<b>Serbia</b> .....	<b>49,000</b>
Slovak Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Serbia (M) .....	49,000
<b>Slovak Republic</b> .....	<b>372,858</b>
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Slovak Republic (M) .....	372,858
<b>Slovenia</b> .....	<b>20,000</b>
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovenia (M) .....	20,000
<b>Sweden</b> .....	<b>6,700,792</b>
Church of Sweden (M) .....	6,700,792
<b>Switzerland</b> .....	<b>6,890</b>
Fed. of Evang. Luth. Churches in Switzerland & in the Principality of Liechtenstein (M) .....	6,890
<i>(see Liechtenstein)</i>	
<b>Ukraine</b>	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) <i>(see Russian Federation)</i>	
<b>United Kingdom</b> .....	<b>183,545</b>
Lutheran Church in Great Britain (M) .....	2,745
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of England (C) .....	1,500
The Lutheran Council of Great Britain (R) .....	179,300

**Latin America & the Caribbean**

<b>Argentina</b> .....	<b>74,460</b>
Evangelical Church of the River Plate (M) .....	27,500
<i>(see Paraguay, Uruguay)</i>	



	<b>Individual Churches</b>	<b>National Total</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Argentina (C) ..... <i>(see Chile, Uruguay)</i>	30,000	
Protestant Congregation in Tandil (C) .....	160	
Protestant Society in Southern Argentina – Lutheran Church (C) .....	3,800	
Protestant Society of the South-East (C) .....	2,000	
United Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	11,000	
<b>Bolivia</b> .....		<b>24,400</b>
Bolivian Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	22,000	
Christian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bolivia (C) .....	700	
German-Speaking Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Bolivia (R) .....	1,000	
Norwegian Lutheran Mission in Bolivia (C) .....	700	
<b>Brazil</b> .....		<b>951,466</b>
Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (C) .....	1,050	
Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil (M) .....	717,000	
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Brazil (C) .....	233,416	
<b>Chile</b> .....		<b>13,450</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile (M) .....	3,000	
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Argentina (C) <i>(see Argentina)</i>		
Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Republic of Chile (C) .....	170	
Lutheran Church in Chile (M) .....	10,280	
<b>Colombia</b> .....		<b>2,026</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (M) .....	1,519	
St Martin's Congregation (R) .....	160	
St Matthew's Lutheran Church (R) .....	347	
<b>Costa Rica</b> .....		<b>1,607</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Costa Rica (R) .....	220	
Lutheran Costa Rican Church (M) .....	1,387	
<b>Ecuador</b> .....		<b>2,020</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ecuador (R) .....	520	
<i>(including the El Adviento Evangelical Lutheran Church in Quito, and The Savior Church in Guayaquil)</i>		
Evangelical Lutheran Indigenous Church of Ecuador (C) .....	1,500	
<b>El Salvador</b> .....		<b>20,000</b>
Salvadoran Lutheran Church (M) .....	20,000	
<b>Guatemala</b> .....		<b>211</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Congregation "La Epifania" (R) .....	211	
Lutheran Church of Guatemala (C) .....	no data	
<b>Guyana</b> .....		<b>13,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana (M) .....	13,000	
<b>Haiti</b> .....		<b>no data</b>
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti (C) .....	no data	
<b>Honduras</b> .....		<b>1,500</b>
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras (M) .....	1,500	
<b>Mexico</b> .....		<b>6,382</b>
All Saints' Lutheran Church (C) .....	191	
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mexico (C) .....	3,000	
German-Speaking Evangelical Congregation in Mexico (R) .....	313	
Lutheran Synod of Mexico (C) .....	1,211	
Mexican Lutheran Church (M) .....	1,500	
The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (C) .....	167	



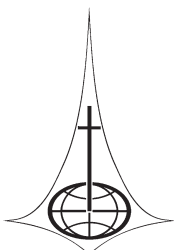
<b>Nicaragua</b> .....	<b>7,050</b>
The Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope (M) ..... 7,050	
<b>Panama</b> .....	<b>no data</b>
Brotherhood of Popular Pastoral Action – Lutheran Coordination (C) ..... no data	
<b>Paraguay</b> .....	<b>3,981</b>
Evangelical Church of the River Plate (M) ( <i>see Argentina</i> )	
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Paraguay (C) ..... 3,981	
<b>Peru</b> .....	<b>3,612</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Peru (R) ..... 182	
Evangelical Lutheran Congregation Cristo Rey (C) ..... 70	
Norwegian Lutheran Mission (C) ..... 2,060	
Peruvian Lutheran Evangelical Church (M) ..... 1,300	
<b>Suriname</b> .....	<b>4,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Suriname (M) ..... 4,000	
<b>Uruguay</b> .....	<b>190</b>
Evangelical Church of the River Plate (M) ( <i>see Argentina</i> )	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Uruguay (C) ..... 190	
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Argentina (C) ( <i>see Argentina</i> )	
<b>Venezuela</b> .....	<b>2,934</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela (M) ..... 1,950	
Lutheran Church of Venezuela (C) ..... 984	
<b>North America</b>	
<b>Canada</b> .....	<b>208,513</b>
Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad (M) ..... 8,000	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (M) ..... 148,863	
Lutheran Church – Canada (C) ..... 51,650	
<b>USA</b> .....	<b>7,423,192</b>
Apostolic Lutheran Church of America (C) ..... 6,000	
Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (C) ..... 44,500	
Church of the Lutheran Brethren of America (C) ..... 8,860	
Church of the Lutheran Confession (C) ..... 8,108	
Conservative Lutheran Association (C) ..... 994	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (M) ..... 4,543,037	
Evangelical Lutheran Synod (C) ..... 19,848	
Lutheran Churches of the Reformation (C) ..... 1,300	
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (C) ..... 2,400,000	
The Protestant Conference [Lutheran] (C) ..... 1,000	
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (C) ..... 389,545	

*These statistics are based on data received by 4 February 2011.*

*Compiled by Colette Muanda (LWF/OCS)*

A one-page summary of the 2010 LWF statistics and full details can be found as PDF files at:

[www.lutheranworld.org/lwf/index.php/member-churches-continue-steady-growth.html](http://www.lutheranworld.org/lwf/index.php/member-churches-continue-steady-growth.html)



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# FEATURE: A Tribute to My Father

## Referendum Marks a Milestone in Sudan's War-torn History

**NAIROBI, Kenya/GENEVA (LWI)** – Akuel Garang Mawien was determined to cast her vote in the referendum that will decide the future of Southern Sudan, and in doing so, also pay tribute to her father, the parent she never met.

(CPA) signed in the Kenyan capital Nairobi in 2005, effectively ending the war fought between the Khartoum government and the SPLM. The Southern Sudan Referendum Commission (SSRC) says there were ap-

the final referendum results would be declared in mid-February.

Although jubilation marked the start of the voting within Sudan and the diaspora, fresh clashes were reported in the oil-rich border region of Abyei, which remains the subject of negotiations between the government and SPLM, and was not taking part in the referendum.

### Global Church Support

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) has been part of the churches' efforts toward peace and justice in Sudan for many years, intermittently providing emergency relief services to internally displaced persons inside Sudan from the mid 1970s and to refugees in neighboring countries in later years. Since 1997, the LWF has been present as a cross-border program of the Department for World Service (DWS) from Kenya and Uganda until 2007 when it became a stand-alone country program. Its humanitarian assistance and development work is carried out in the Lakes, Jonglei and Eastern Equatoria States, with the office headquarters in Juba.

Mr Arie Den Toom, LWF/DWS representative in Sudan, spoke of very good security in Juba as patient and jubilant voters lined up to vote, with



*Akuel Garang Mawien © LWF/Fredrick Nzwili*

The 19-year-old high school student, who lives in Nairobi, Kenya, views the poll as one of the most important milestones in her country's history. When her father was killed in Sudan's civil war, her family fled to Kakuma refugee camp in northwestern Kenya for safety. Many of her relatives were among the almost 2 million who died because of the decades-long fighting between the government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). Millions of others were displaced in the long civil wars—from 1955 to 1972 and from 1983 to 2005—fought mainly over control of the country's vast resources.

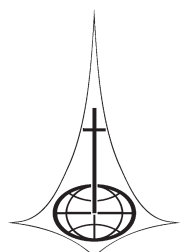
In the historic referendum vote that started on 9 January concluding on 15 January, the people in the region were expected to choose whether to remain united with the rest of the country or break away to form Africa's newest nation.

The referendum was mandated by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement

proximately 3.9 million voters of whom 95 percent or more than 3.7 million were in Southern Sudan, and around three percent, 116,860 voters registered in Northern Sudan. In the diaspora, more than 60,000 registered voters in Australia, Canada, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, United Kingdom, and the United States were also expected to vote. According to the SSRC timetable,



*Voters crowd near the entrance of a referendum polling station in Nairobi, Kenya on 9 January 2011. © LWF/Fredrick Nzwili*





no major incidents reported five days into the referendum voting.

He pointed out that Sudanese from the North were continuing to arrive in big numbers in the South, especially into Abyei and Unity states. Although Jonglei state had not received notable numbers, the LWF was prepared for such an influx. “We are currently involved in re-training our emergency staff and members of other non-governmental organizations,” Den Toom told *LWI*. Preparedness also includes the purchase of 5,000 non-food item parcels.

A former freedom fighter Rev. Jacob Lem, now a pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Sudan, encountered at one of the voting centers in Kenya, commended the local, regional and global church community for the long-standing involvement in resolving the conflict in Sudan. “It was the church that encouraged the African Union to bring the government and the rebels to the negotiating table. Christians around the world pushed successfully for the implementation of the CPA,” he said.

## Yearning to Return Home

Many of the refugees are now more than ever yearning to return home. At the LWF-managed Kakuma camp, Garang Manyor, a community leader who fled Southern Sudan in 1987, could not hide his joy as he turned up to cast his ballot in the referendum. “We have been at war [for decades] and I am happy that I voted. I am going to change what I can,” said Manyor. “As we wait for the results, I want Southern Sudan people to ask themselves what they can do for their country, not what their country can do for them,” he added.

In Kampala, Uganda, 40-year-old Amin Brown Elemet was emphatic about change that would bring peace. “We could not stay in our country and develop it. Now, we want to go back and build our Southern Sudan,” he said.

Jane Atong, studying languages at the Kampala School of Adult Education, regretted that she could not vote in Khartoum in the north, like the rest of her family. She anticipates continuing her education in Southern Sudan, saying



*LIRS staff member Christine Gedim (left) and Jehan Deng (right) a staff at the Government of South Sudan Mission Office in Washington DC, show their inked fingers, proof that they voted on 9 January 2011 in Alexandria, Virginia, USA. © Private*

it had been difficult to get access to education in the capital as a southerner.

## Challenges

Still, others were cautious about the enormous task of rebuilding the southern part of Africa's largest country. “A lot of resources will be needed to build hospitals, schools, water sources and roads, as part of reconstruction and rehabilitation,” said Rev. Jacob Nhail Guut from the Episcopal Church of Sudan, also voting from neighboring Kenya.

“You won't find good hospitals in any of the Southern Sudanese villages. So the challenge of rebuilding is a huge one. At least a tap with clean water in each village would be a welcome relief,” he added.

Many could not hide their sadness as they described the cluster bombing of settlements, killings of scores of people, and destruction of entire villages. But the thousands turning up at the referendum's polling stations, dancing and singing joyfully as they cast their ballots were a sign of hope that this chapter of their history would soon be behind them.

“All the time we were running. Weeks would go by without sight of our children or husbands. We were scattered like animals. But now we thank God that we survived to see

this day,” said 45-year-old Eli Marco Kolkol Ajabo, a mother five.

“And yes, we voted! I voted!” remarked a jubilant Christine Gedim, a staff person of the Baltimore-based Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, after casting her ballot in Old Town Alexandria, Washington DC, USA.

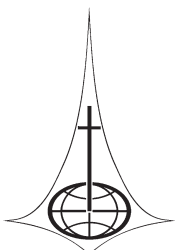
“My vote was in honor of those who gave up their lives so that we could witness this historic day [...] to help bring an end to being treated as a third class citizen, for all the sufferings and humiliation we endured for almost half a century, and of course to help be a part of the democratic transformation process in Sudan and Africa as a whole,” said Gedim, originally from Mundri West town in Western Equatoria state, Southern Sudan.

“We are hoping and praying for security, peaceful voting processes and happy conclusion,” she added.

*Nairobi (Kenya)-based LWI correspondent Fredrick Nzawili wrote this feature article, with additional information from other sources.*

**\*The article is in the continuing LWI features' series focusing on the topic “Give Us Today Our Daily Bread,” the theme of the LWF Eleventh Assembly, held 20–27 July 2010 in Stuttgart, Germany.**

14 January 2011



# The Lutheran World Federation

## Consultations 2011

The consultations listed below are currently planned and will take place providing funding has been procured.

DMD	=	Department for Mission and Development
DTS	=	Department for Theology and Studies
DWS	=	Department for World Service
IERS	=	Institute for Ecumenical Research, Strasbourg (France)
OCS	=	Office for Communication Services
OGS	=	Office of the General Secretary
OEA	=	Office for Ecumenical Affairs
OFA	=	Office for Finance and Administration
OIAHR	=	Office for International Affairs and Human Rights

### January

Date	Unit	Place	Title
25-26	OGS	Geneva, Switzerland	Meeting, Advisory Committee to the LWF Transition Process
27-28	OGS	Geneva, Switzerland	Round Table, LWF Related Agencies and Mission Organizations

### February

Date	Unit	Place	Title
4-8	OEA	Wittenberg, Germany	Symposium of Biblical Scholars
10-12	DMD	Chicago, USA	North America Regional Committee

### March

Date	Unit	Place	Title
8-13	DMD	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Lutheran Council in Asia (LUCAS) Meeting & Asia Church Leadership Conference

### April

Date	Unit	Place	Title
3-8	DMD	Johannesburg, South Africa	Africa Lutheran Church Leadership Conference
20-24	DTS	Bad Boll, Germany	Consultation on Church and Diapaxis

### May

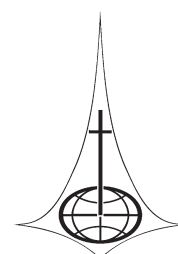
Date	Unit	Place	Title
2-7	DWS	Bogota, Colombia	Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation
3-4	IERS	Strasbourg, France	Board Meeting, Strasbourg Institute
3-9	DMD	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam	Mekong Mission Forum
23-27	DMD	Montreux, Switzerland	LWF Project Committee Meeting
30.05-03.06	DMD	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Latin America & the Caribbean Church Leadership Conference
31.05-07.06	OEA	Wittenberg, Germany	Plenary Meeting of the Lutheran-Orthodox Joint Commission

### June

Date	Unit	Place	Title
5-10	DWS	Central America	Communication Capacity Building Workshop
8	OGS	Geneva, Switzerland	Executive Committee Meeting
9-10	OGS	Geneva, Switzerland	Endowment Fund Board meeting
9-14	OGS	Geneva, Switzerland	LWF Council Meeting
18-25	OEA	Jerusalem	Meeting of the Anglican-Lutheran International Commission

### July

Date	Unit	Place	Title
6-18	OEA	Tokyo, Japan	Meeting of the Lutheran-Roman Catholic Commission on Unity



22-28	DMD	Lusaka, Zambia	Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa (LUCSA) Council Meeting
23 – 01.08	DMD	Nairobi, Kenya	Consultation on Strategic Leadership

## August

Date	Unit	Place	Title
29.08 – 03.09	DWS	Medan, Indonesia	Asia Regional Consultation

## September

Date	Unit	Place	Title
6-12	DTS	Nairobi, Kenya	Consultation: Reading the Bible from a Lutheran Perspective

## October

Date	Unit	Place	Title
1-4	DMD	Montreux, Switzerland	Consultation on Poverty and Exclusion in Europe
5-10	DTS	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Consultation: Muslim/Christian Diapraxism on Engaging Structural Greed

## November

Date	Unit	Place	Title
1-11	DMD	Porto Alegre, Brazil	HIV & AIDS Consultation on Gender, Human Sexuality and Prevention
7-11	DMD	Undetermined	Consultation on “Lutheran Communion in Europe Engaged for Inclusiveness and Gender Justice”

## Undetermined

Date	Unit	Place	Title
	DWS	Port-au-Prince, Haiti	Roundtable on Haiti

For an updated version, see the LWF Web site: [www.lutheranworld.org/lwf/index.php/resources/consultations-2011](http://www.lutheranworld.org/lwf/index.php/resources/consultations-2011)

## LWF Gratitude over Estonian Church Reunification

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) expressed joy and gratitude over the reunification of the Tallinn (Estonia)-based Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church (EELC) and the Toronto (Canada)-based Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad (EELC Abroad).

In a congratulatory letter this January to EELC Archbishop Andres Pöder and EELC Abroad Bishop Andres Taul, LWF General Secretary Rev. Martin Junge said the signing of the reunification treaty in Tallinn on 23 November and in Toronto on 28 November 2010 marked “an important moment of affirmed communion, after many decades of suffering from separation, through the political world situation.”

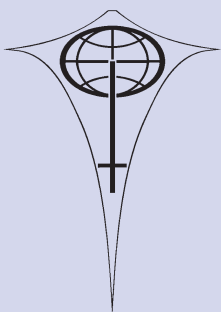
Junge pointed out that those who had left Estonia lived with the challenges of refugee and migration dynamics, with many of them carrying along the wounds and trauma of war and occupation. Many of those who had remained at home including the younger generations, would be marked until

today by their own or their parents’ difficult experiences under communist rule and church persecution, he said.

As the church abroad grew into the new social context of post-war Europe, the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Exile became a founding member of the LWF in 1947. After the EELC joined the LWF in 1963, both churches could reconnect again in one worldwide Christian family, with an important bridge-building function, also across the iron curtain, Junge noted.

The general secretary pointed out that the reunification comes after almost 20 years of a historical process to bridge once more the gap of the impact of separation, not only structurally, but also to achieve what both churches had longed and worked for: “to be one Estonian church, in full communion and expressed through common leadership.”

The EELC has 172,000 members, while the EELC Abroad has 8,000 members.



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 150, route de Ferney  
 P.O. Box 2100  
 CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland  
 Tel. +41/22-791 61 11  
 Fax +41/22-791 66 30  
 E-mail [info@lutheranworld.org](mailto:info@lutheranworld.org)  
[www.lutheranworld.org](http://www.lutheranworld.org)