

The Covid-19 pandemic challenges churches in many ways – regarding their liturgical practices, spirituality, pastoral care, diaconal work, finances, communication policies, how to practise fellowship and solidarity between churches, and, last but not least, both theologically and politically.

The impact of the pandemic on the social and health policies of the countries concerned also affect the churches' work and witness. Some voices stress the overcoming of the pandemic, while others suggest that the "passing of the crisis" won't and can't herald a "return to normal". This crisis is also a chance to renew and rethink many issues and habits that churches until now assumed to be standard or not questionable.

More than 80 representatives of Protestant churches met online for a first virtual conference 17–19 March 2021 in order to reflect on the first year of the pandemic. They discussed the CPCE's orientation paper „Being church together in a pandemic - Reflections from a Protestant Perspective“ and identified topics for further consideration.

The conference papers are accessible at <https://www.leuenberg.eu/being-church-together-in-a-pandemic/>

This second consultation will focus on longterm consequences in the aftermath of the pandemic.

Target audience: Church experts in ethical issues, social responsibility, and contemporary theological issues

Venue: Casa Valdese, Facoltà Valdese di Teologia, and Ponte Sant' Angelo Methodist Church, Rome

Conference fee: € 350 (incl. board and lodging)
(reduced rate: € 100)

(Member churches of the WCRC Europe can request a travel subsidy.)

Registration

Please register for the consultation by sending an e-mail to wcrc-europe@gmx.eu mentioning your name, position in church and church.

It is possible to register only for online participation on Saturday morning.

Registration deadline: 31 August 2021

The number of participants is limited to 30, with places allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. However, in order to assure adequate representation of the denominational and regional structure of Protestant churches throughout Europe, participants from underrepresented churches and regions will be prioritised.

Photo credits

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cancelled_flights.jpg

<https://www.leuenberg.eu/cpce-content/uploads/2021/03/GEKE-focus-29-web.pdf>

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sant%27Angelo_bridge,_dusk,_Rome,_Italy.jpg

<http://facoltavaldese.org/media/web/facolta1.png>

BE6897	Closed
EZY6955	Closed
BE6813	Cancelled
BA2939	Cancelled
LH6517	Cancelled
BE768	Closed
FI3257	Cancelled

What can be learned from Corona?

Theological and ethical challenges for churches living with the Covid-19 pandemic

Follow-up Consultation

Rome

8 - 10 October 2021

by

the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE),
the World Communion of Reformed Churches in Europe
(WCRC Europe) and
the Protestant Church in Switzerland (PCS)



World
Communion
of Reformed
Churches



Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Schweiz
Église évangélique réformée de Suisse
Protestant Church in Switzerland



Gemeinschaft Evangelischer Kirchen in Europa (GEKE)
Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE)
Communion d'Eglises Protestantes en Europe (CEPE)

Friday, 8 October 2021

Venue: *Facoltà Valdese, Via Pietro Cossa 42, Rome*

Arrivals

16.00 Opening worship

16.30 Welcome and introduction

17.30 Country stories

19.30 Dinner



Saturday, 9 October 2021

Venue: *Ponte Sant' Angelo Methodist Church, Piazza di Ponte Sant' Angelo 68, Rome*

Online-participation possible during the morning session

09.15 Morning meditation

09.30 Keynote 1

Theological impacts of the pandemic: The notion of God and its relation to nature

Prof. Christophe Chalamet, University of Geneva

10.45 Coffee break

11.15 Keynote 2:

New normality? Which are the main social, ecological, economical and social long term consequences and challenges of the pandemic for our societies?

Dipl.pol. Martina Wasserloos, President of WCRC Europe

12.00 Feedback and questions

13.00 lunch

15.30 Working groups on the two keynotes.

17.30 Break

18.00 Plenary

20.00 Dinner

Sunday, 10 October 2021

Venue: *Facoltà Valdese, Via Pietro Cossa 42, Rome*

09.15 Morning meditation

09.30 Introduction

09.45 Keynote 3:

What means “Living in times of crisis in Lebanon”?

Linda Macktaby, Beirut

10.45 Keynote 4

What means “Living in times of crisis in Egypt”?

Dr Freddy Elbaiady, Member of Parliament, Cairo

11.45 Break

12.00 Evaluation and wrap-up

13.00 Lunch

Departures



focus No. 29 (E/2021) • Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe CPCE

“Being church together in a pandemic” – Reflections from a Protestant Perspective

