

8 - 14 September 2017



## [Churches in Togo call for peace, unity](#)

In Togo, leaders of the Evangelical Presbyterian and Methodist churches have issued a joint message calling for peace and unity after demonstrations on 19 August in Lomé and other cities.



## [Thursdays in Black campaign features at Africa Pre-Conference on world mission and evangelism](#)

## **Prayer Cycle**

[10 September 2017 - 16  
September 2017](#)

### [Ghana, Nigeria](#)



[» View the prayers](#)

[17 September 2017 - 23  
September 2017](#)

### [Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay](#)



[» View the prayers](#)

## New videos



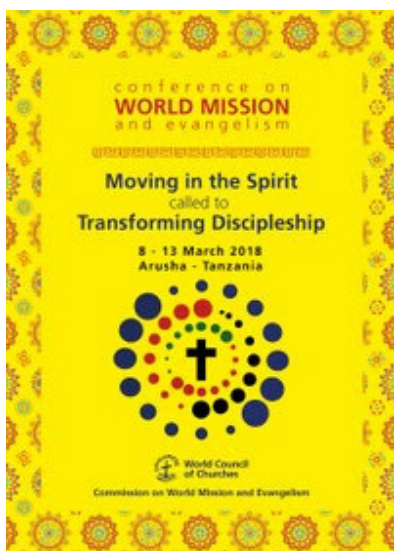
*12 Faces of Hope*

Participants at the Africa Pre-Conference of the Conference on World Mission and Evangelism, arrived in black clothing on 14 September to act in solidarity with the worldwide "Thursdays in Black" campaign.



### [In the Pacific, time to re-chart the boat of unity](#)

Pacific church leaders are re-reading the stars, and re-charting the course of their ecumenical vaka together in a time when the region is facing unprecedented socio-economic and political pressure.



### [Workshop applications open for Conference on World Mission and Evangelism](#)

The World Council of Churches (WCC) is inviting proposals for workshops to be conducted at the Conference on World Mission and Evangelism (WMC), which will take place from 8-13 March 2018 in Arusha, Tanzania, under the theme "Moving in the Spirit: Called to Transforming Discipleship".

## New on Facebook



*Ecumenical Disability Advocates Network*



*50 Moments for #JusticeAndPeace*



*12 Faces of Hope: Yehuda Stolov*



*500 years of Reformation*



*#KnowYourStatus*



## Faith on the fast-track - for children living with HIV

Faith-based organizations are at the heart of a special mission: issuing a call to action—to ensure that infants, children and adolescents around the world have access to HIV prevention, testing and treatment.



## “It will take faith to get down to business, to overcome HIV and AIDS”

As the United Nations General Assembly is getting into gear for the 72nd time in New York, USA, faith communities are mobilizing around issues surrounding HIV and AIDS, working to find common ground, and a shared, strong voice in working to overcoming the epidemic.



## [Exhibition of hope for the Holy Land opens in Geneva](#)

On Monday, 18 September at 10:30, an exhibition of hope for justice and peace will open at the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva amid a global ecumenical gathering of 45 representatives from all over the world.



*Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2019*



*#ThursdaysinBlack*

## News in other languages



## [תערוכה לתקווה עבור ארץ הקודש נפתחת בז'נבה](#)

ביום שני, ה-18 בספטמבר 2017 בשעה 10:30, תפתח תערוכה לתקווה עבור צדק ושלום במרכז האקומני בז'נבה כחלק מאסיפה אקומנית של 45 נציגים מרחבי העולם.



## Swiss Lutherans mark 500 years of the Reformation

Lutherans from all over Switzerland gathered in Geneva on 10 September for a eucharistic worship commemorating both the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and 50 years of the Federation of Lutheran Churches in Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein (BELK).



## Ending statelessness in Europe is high priority for realizing human rights

A regional conference held 5-6 September in Berlin allowed participants to look at statelessness in the European context through the lenses of human rights and development. The conference, with the theme “Statelessness in the European Context: Prevention, Reduction and Protection,” approached statelessness as an issue that is often invisible even though it occurs in so many countries around the world.



## معرض الأمل من أجل الأرض المقدسة يفتح أبوابه في جنيف

في يوم الاثنين الموافق 18 أيلول / سبتمبر على الساعة 10:30، سيُفتتح في المركز المسكوني في جنيف معرض الأمل من أجل تحقيق العدالة والسلام وسط تجمع مسكوني عالمي يضم 45 ممثلاً من جميع أنحاء العالم. وتمت دعوة وسائل الإعلام إلى الحضور للالتقاط الصور وإجراء المقابلات.



### “Paths of Peace” assembly draws speakers from across the globe

In a presentation on 11 September, World Council of Churches president for Europe and Archbishop emeritus Dr Anders Wejryd reflected on the times when churches have been able to make a difference by getting people to actually change politics and priorities.



### Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo exemplify women's leadership for justice and peace

While violence against women is rampant in situations of war and oppression, women often take the lead standing up against injustice. The courage shown by mothers and grandmothers of the disappeared during Argentina's Dirty War period (1976-83) was described as an example and a challenge by WCC representatives recently.



### [In Indonesia, hearts and minds turn to pursuing justice and unity](#)

As they gathered in Jakarta, Indonesia from September 2-8 to prepare resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2019, ecumenical partners reflected on the theme of “Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue.”



### [Tveit: search for unity “an urgent need today”](#)

The need for the ecumenical movement is an urgent one today, said World Council of Churches (WCC) general secretary Rev Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit as he spoke this week at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University in Minnesota (USA).



### [Seminar explores how populist rhetoric leads to racism](#)

Rising populism, racism and xenophobia - how can

churches act against this tide? Practitioners, ecumenical officers, and representatives of mission and church-based humanitarian agencies came together in Geneva from 1-3 September to formulate an answer.



### [Four voices, one concern – Addressing “faith-healing only” in context of HIV](#)

“I believe we need an advocacy strategy to listen, share experiences, and address the issues we face in working for treatment adherence,” said Rev. Dr Nyambura Njoroge, World Council of Churches Ecumenical HIV and AIDS Initiatives and Advocacy (WCC-EHAIA) coordinator as she addressed a consultation on HIV Treatment Adherence and Faith Healing in Africa on 5 September.



### [WCC welcomes new temporary ceasefire in Colombia](#)

“This is another sign of hope from Colombia to the whole world”, said Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit, general secretary of the World Council of Churches (WCC) after the announcement that the Colombian government and the National Liberation Army (ELN) have agreed to a temporary ceasefire.

## **Upcoming events**

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## **SEASON OF CREATION**

### Season of Creation

1 September - 4 October 2017

Worldwide

From September 1st to 4 October, Christians around the world are praying and caring for creation. It's the "Season of Creation". The beginning and the end date of Season of Creation are linked with the concern for creation in the Eastern and the Western traditions of Christianity, respectively.



### World Week of Peace in Palestine and Israel

17 - 24 September 2017

Worldwide

During this week which includes the International Day of Prayer for Peace on 21st September, church organizations, congregations, and people of faith are encouraged to make a common witness by participating in worship services, educational events, and acts of supports to support peace and justice for Israelis and Palestinians.



### Opening of the exhibition "12 faces of hope" in Geneva

18 - 22 September 2017 Ecumenical Centre, Geneva

On Monday, 18 September at 10:30, an exhibition of hope for justice and peace in the Holy Land will open at the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva.





## Hearing on Racism, Discrimination, Afrophobia and Xenophobia

25 September 2017

Geneva, Switzerland / online

The "Hearing on Racism, Discrimination, Afrophobia and Xenophobia: The experience of people of African descent in the USA" is organized by the World Council of Churches, together with the National Council of The Churches of Christ in the USA. It will be an opportunity to learn about the racial discrimination, xenophobia and afrophobia that people of African descent are experiencing in the USA, and acknowledge and reaffirm the role of faith communities as agents of transformative justice in the face of racial injustice.



## Ecumenical Strategic Forum on Diakonia and Sustainable Development

3 - 6 October 2017

Geneva, Switzerland

The ecumenical strategic forum will articulate a common vision for the churches' engagement for sustainable development, while strengthening relations and cooperation for ecumenical diakonia.



## Commission on Education and Ecumenical Formation meeting

9 - 13 October 2017

Cluj, Romania

The Commission on Education and Ecumenical Formation (CEEF) is the WCC's primary advisory body for the whole area of education, ecumenical formation and faith nurture. The CEEF develops priorities and methodologies in these areas, fosters networking, exchange and collaboration among ecumenical institutions and experts in the area of ecumenical formation.



## Workshop on mapping Christian health services

10 - 11 October 2017

Geneva, Switzerland

Since its establishment, the World Council of Churches has supported health work of the churches globally, by supporting establishing and strengthening of Christian health associations at national and regional levels, global advocacy, and other initiatives. But there is currently lack of data on the contribution of the Christian family to global health. Through a workshop on 10-11 October 2017, the WCC aims to discuss and develop a framework for mapping such data.



## Executive Committee meeting

17 - 23 November 2017

Amman, Jordan

The 25-person Executive Committee will meet at the WCC's Ecumenical Institute in Bossey. This WCC governing body, with members from churches in every region, is moderated by Dr Agnes Abuom. It meets twice a year to monitor ongoing work, supervise the budget and deal with policy matters referred to it by the Central Committee.



## Continuing formation on Health and Healing in Africa

10-16 December 2017

Kinshasa, D.R. Congo

The Continuing Formation on Health and Healing in Africa will give a space for young people to come together and discuss the role of the churches in addressing those issues and enabling young people to become actors of healing in their communities within the framework of the pilgrimage of justice and peace.



## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

18 - 25 January 2018

Worldwide

The theme for the week of prayer in 2018, "Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power" is inspired by Exodus 15:6. The resources for the week have been prepared by members of different churches in the Caribbean.

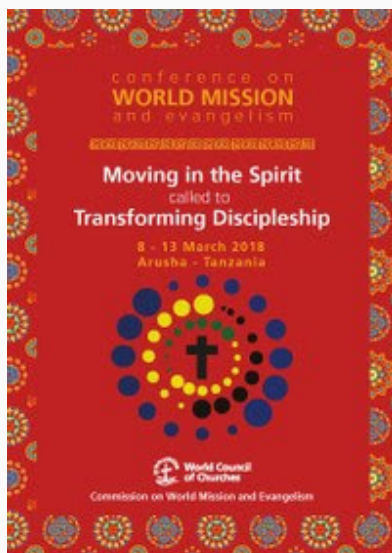


## Global Ecumenical Theological Institute 2018

5 - 13 March 2018

Arusha, Tanzania

The Global Ecumenical Theological Institute (GETI) 2018 is a global ecumenical short-term study and exposure programme in accompaniment of the World Mission Conference in March 2018 in Arusha, Tanzania.



## Conference on World Mission and Evangelism "Moving in the Spirit: Called to Transforming Discipleship"

8 - 13 March 2018

Arusha, Tanzania

The Conference on World Mission and Evangelism is the long tradition of the International Mission Council and the World Council of Churches' (WCC) Commission on World Mission and Evangelism (CWME), organized every decade.



## Central Committee meeting

15 - 21 June 2018

Geneva, Switzerland

The Central Committee serves as the chief governing body of the WCC until the next assembly, meeting every 2 years. It is responsible for carrying out the policies adopted by the Assembly, reviewing and supervising WCC programmes and the budget of the Council.