List of Publications, January 2017

Many LWF publications can be downloaded without login at http://www.globethics.net/web/the-lutheran-world-federation-dn/collection-articles

Books can be ordered from: DTPWPublications@lutheranworld.org or downloaded free of charge at http://www.lutheranworld.org/resources


Paul's letters are of crucial importance for Christian theology and church life. The way in which the apostle Paul critically reflected on the meaning of the gospel message in light of Scripture, the traditions, ethics and Christian faith and hope, has had a significant and lasting impact on the Lutheran tradition.

In this publication, the fourth and final in a series of LWF publications on biblical hermeneutics, renowned international scholars from the fields of biblical studies and systematic theology reevaluate to what extent twenty-first-century Lutherans can rediscover the Pauline paradigm of the “power of the Gospel” and hereby overcome ambiguous perceptions of the so-called “Lutheran reading(s)” of Paul.


Healing Memories: Implications of the Reconciliation between Lutherans and Mennonites, LWF Studies 2016/2

Meeting in Stuttgart, Germany, in 2010, the Eleventh Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) asked for forgiveness from members of the Anabaptist/Mennonite tradition for the wrongs going back to the beginnings of the Lutheran movement in the sixteenth century that had led to painful divisions between the two Christian families. The Mennonites accepted this apology and both communities committed themselves to move toward reconciliation.

On the threshold of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, this publication brings together two reports: Healing Memories: Reconciling in Christ by the Lutheran–Mennonite International Study Commission first published in 2010) and Bearing Fruit—Implications of the 2010 Reconciliation between Lutherans and Mennonites/Anabaptists by the LWF Task force on Mennonite Action approved by the LWF Council in 2016.


Interactive Pluralism in Asia: Religious Life and Public Space, LWF Studies 2016/1, Simone Sinn and Tong Wing Sze (eds)

In today’s multi-ethnic and multi-cultural Asian contexts, religious plurality is one of the hallmarks of many societies. This book provides new insights into the current realities of religious life in Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia and Myanmar, highlights the influence of religious commitment on the public space, and examines how Christian theology engages with contemporary realities in Asia. Christian theologians of different denominations offer fascinating theological reflections on justification, salvation, the Holy Spirit and the Trinity, and discuss interactions within and between Asian societies as well as with the world at large.

The Church in the Public Space: A Study Document of the Lutheran World Federation

Through its member churches, programs and projects, the Lutheran World Federation has been heavily involved in community-based action for peace and justice and human rights advocacy. At the same time, the LWF has engaged in theological reflection that deepens the understanding of being church in the public space today.

This study document, prepared by an international group of Lutheran theologians and received by the LWF Council in 2016, invites the Lutheran communion, theological seminaries, ecumenical and interfaith partners meaningfully to engage in and contribute to the strengthening of the public space—locally and globally—so that it becomes a just place for all. It is an important reference document for the Reformation anniversary activities and beyond

The Lutheran World Federation, available free of charge and online

“In the beginning was the Word”: The Bible in the Life of the Lutheran Communion. A Study Document on Lutheran Hermeneutics

In light of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, the Lutheran communion revisited its own theological roots and theological identity. A communion-wide, international hermeneutics process brought together Lutheran and ecumenical theologians and the lessons gleaned from this comprehensive process are synthesized in this statement for use by the LWF communion.

At its meeting in Wittenberg in June 2016, the LWF Council received the hermeneutics statement recommending it to the member churches for study and action in order to ensure that the churches engage critically with their interpretive responsibilities at different levels. Moreover, the member churches and the Communion Office are encouraged to draw on the key elements of the document to inform the deliberations around the commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and as they celebrate and commemorate the Reformation anniversary to recommit themselves to the biblical resources for their faith and life.

The Lutheran World Federation, available free of charge and online


In 2017, Catholics and Lutherans will jointly look back on events of the Reformation 500 years ago. At the same time, they will also reflect on 50 years of official ecumenical dialogue on the worldwide level. During this time, the communion they share anew has continued to grow. This encourages Lutherans and Catholics to celebrate together the common witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, who is the center of their common faith. Yet, amidst this celebration, they will also have reason to experience the suffering caused by the division of the Church, and to look self-critically at themselves, not only throughout history, but also through today’s realities.

“From Conflict to Communion” develops a basis for an ecumenical commemoration that stands in contrast to earlier centenaries. The Lutheran–Roman catholic Commission on Unity invites all Christians to study its report both open-mindedly and critically, and to walk along the path towards the full, visible unity of the Church.


Religious Identity and Renewal in the Twenty-first Century: Jewish, Christian and Muslim Explorations, LWF Documentation 60/2015, Simone Sinn and Michael Reid Trice (eds)

Religions carry strong visions of renewal and thereby have the potential to trigger dynamics of change in all spheres of human life. Religions have contributed to societal transformation and processes of renewal spark intensive theological debates. The renewal of religious identity is informed by how religious communities interpret their traditions and past, present, and future challenges to themselves, society and the world at large. How do religious communities understand their own resources and criteria for renewal in the twenty-first century? In this publication, Jewish, Christian and Muslim scholars analyze and reflect on the meaning and dynamics of religious renewal and explore the meaning of religious renewal across religious traditions.

To All the Nations: Lutheran Hermeneutics and the Gospel of Matthew, LWF Studies 2015/2, Kenneth Mtata and Craig Koester (eds)

In his pastoral and theological reflections, Martin Luther always sought faithfully to discern the Word of God from the Scriptures. Luther drew on the Gospel of Matthew when developing edifying sermons as well as teasing out valuable ethical insights for the Christian engagement in society. While his immediate audience was in Wittenberg, the Gospel of Matthew has continued to be a resource for the church’s mission. In this collection of essays, internationally renowned theologians reflect on the ongoing reception of the Gospel of Matthew from the Reformation until today, and how, in light of the Lutheran interpretive traditions, it remains a valuable resource for the church as it seeks to respond to contemporary concerns in its mission to the whole world.

Embarking on the Journey of Interreligious Dialogue

The Lutheran World Federation is firmly committed to promoting interreligious dialogue. In a world, marked by division and strife also among religious communities, the bringing together of people of different faiths to deepen the mutual understanding of and joint commitment to issues of shared concern constitutes a strong public witness. Over the last decades, the LWF has published a number of substantial theological studies in the area of interreligious relations. During the summer of 2015, Jennifer Lewis, a student of theology at Princeton Theological Seminary, studied a number of these publications in order to gather insights that will be inspiring and thought-provoking for a wider audience. This booklet provides a taste of the wealth of expertise the LWF has gathered in this field.

Religious Plurality and the Public Space: Joint Christian–Muslim Theological Reflections. LWF Studies 2015/1, Simone Sinn, Mouhanad Khorchide, Dina El Omari (eds)

Religious plurality is a vital element of many societies across the globe. Different visions of life and religious commitment not only shape people’s private lives but have an intrinsic public dimension. Societies need to find ways to acknowledge and deal with this diversity in the public space. Religious communities and theologians are challenged to interpret their own traditions in ways that enable the constructive engagement with religious plurality. In this volume, Christian and Muslim scholars from different parts of the world together explore the meaning of public space. In relation to their contexts, they examine how public space can be understood as a shared space and discuss the meaning of secularity in plural societies.

The Self-Understanding of the Lutheran Communion—A Study Document

As the Lutheran communion journeys towards the Reformation Anniversary in 2017, the LWF wants to attest to what it means to be an ecclesial communion from a Lutheran perspective. One of the phrases that has become a hallmark of Lutheran ecclesiology is “unity in reconciled diversity.” At all times and in every place, churches discern how faithfully to live out the message of the gospel in their contexts. As part of this process, they are called to review and examine cultural and socio-ethical paradigms in light of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Careful responses to the particular contexts are an important aspect of credibly communicating the message of the gospel. At the same time, the mutual accountability of churches in different contexts is part of their commitment to the catholicity of the church of Jesus Christ.

As follow-up to the LWF Council Meeting in June 2015, the LWF General Secretary invites member churches to a study process on the significance of the Lutheran communion for the LWF member churches. The study document “The Self-Understanding of the Lutheran Communion” was elaborated by a working group, in collaboration with the LWF regions and approved by the LWF Council in 2015.
Understanding the Gift of Communion: The Quest for a Shared Self-Understanding of the Lutheran Communion. A Reader

As the Lutheran communion journeys towards the Reformation Anniversary in 2017, maintaining the integrity of the communion where disagreements have emerged between member churches has become a concern in light of how churches respond to certain ethical challenges. The articles in this publication review and reflect on shifting socio-ethical paradigms in light of the gospel of Jesus and explore subjects such as the theological significance of the concept of communion and its impact in relation to global dynamics; Lutheran ecclesiological insights in relation to insights during the Reformation; the concept of communion in the LWF’s bilateral dialogues; the importance of linking autonomy and accountability in relations between churches; the meaning of communion in a multireligious context; and the power dynamics between churches.


“Women on the Move: From Wittenberg to Windhoek” Toolkit

The project “Women on the Move: From Wittenberg to Windhoek” (WMWW) celebrates the leadership and participation of women in the ongoing Reformation 1517—2017. The WMWW toolkit gives an introduction to the project. It equips women in the global Lutheran communion to take part by sharing texts, images and videos with other women. The toolkit has two major sections: Her-stories – with guiding questions and several elements to be developed by individual readers; Women doing theology - including theological reflection and publications and the women theologians’ network. The toolkit is made up of a number of elements available for individual download. A cover folder with an inspiring image of Catharina crossing over the threshold provides a convenient holder for stories and ideas collected on the journey toward 2017. The folder is available in standard printing and press (delivery to service provider) formats. Use the toolkit to revisit and reflect on the past together with other women, and to empower the present. Experience how it makes visible women’s contributions to the spreading of ongoing reformation ideas and ways of living.

Available online only at http://www.lutheranworld.org/content/resource-women-move-wittenberg-windhoek-toolkit


Despite their richness, the Psalms also raise some interpretive challenges. How do we read such difficult passages as the one which advocates the violent destruction of one’s enemies? This collection of essays by renowned international scholars addresses such issues as historical and contemporary Lutheran and ecumenical interpretations of Psalms and provides valuable interpretive insights for theologians, biblical scholars, pastors, counselors and students.


On the basis of the results of earlier Lutheran-Reformed dialogues and the theological foundations (relating to ecclesiology and ministry) articulated in this report, Lutheran and Reformed churches have now a greater potential to reach full communion. The report recommends several practical steps toward more fully living out the reality of this communion. It also includes several contextual observations on challenges faced and creative responses to these in different parts of the world reaching out for unity between Reformed and Lutherans. The document marks the end of a six-year dialogue process.

Available online only at http://www.lutheranworld.org/sites/default/files/DTPW%20Reformed-Lutherans%202014_0.pdf

Religion: Help or Hindrance to Development? Documentation 58/2013, Kenneth Mtata (ed.)

The decline of religion in the Western world used to be regarded as a direct consequence of development, and it was assumed that this would also occur in the global South once the same levels of economic development had been reached. The current flourishing of religion in the global South and the increased awareness of its significance in the global North prove that religion continues to play a crucial role. In those contexts where religion frames reality, development cannot ignore religion. This collection of essays by scholars and development practitioners from Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin and North America explores the fascinating interface between religion and development as well as the negative and positive potential of religion in development.

Evangelische Verlagsanstalt/The Lutheran World Federation, ISBN: 978-3-374-03772-8 (www.eva-leipzig.de), € 12.--, CHF 15.--, USD 15.--, plus postage and packing. Also available in German.
LWF Gender Justice Policy

The LWF Gender Justice Policy, approved by the LWF Council in 2013, is a tool to enhance the communion’s journey towards inclusiveness. Developed in a participatory process, it has grown out of experiences in member churches, is enriched by the biblical and theological bases of our Lutheran identity, and provides guidance and methodologies for contextualizing action plans and strategies and integrating gender as a crosscutting priority in all of the communion’s work.

The Lutheran World Federation, ISBN: 978-2-940459-31-5, free of charge. Postage and packing for bulk orders. Also available in French, German and Spanish. (German copies from Ulrike.Hansen@Mission-EineWelt.de; French: Rev. Jeannette Ada Maina mainaada@yahoo.fr; and Spanish: Elizabeth Arciniegas lizalara16@gmail.com.)


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“You have the Words of Eternal Life”: Transformative Readings of the Gospel of John from a Lutheran Perspective, Documentation 57/2012, Kenneth Mtata (ed.)

The Bible remains the main resource for faith communities. How can it be read fruitfully in ways that strengthen the community of readers in their faith, witness and service to the world? In what ways can convergence be found in diverse, sometimes conflicting, interpretive contexts? This collection of essays seeks to attend to these and similar questions. The focus on the three interpretive poles highlights these as central to biblical interpretation. The Gospel of John is used as a base text, read in light of different contexts and through the lens of the ecumenical, Lutheran and Reformed traditions. This book is the first in a series that will further explore the relationship between these hermeneutical poles.


The report of this bilateral dialogue commission bears witness to a new phase in the maturity of relations between Anglican and Lutheran churches and focuses on diakonia and the fullness of its expression. It engages the reader in its stories of the churches’ faithful ministry and draws fully on perspectives from the global diversity that is transforming the lives of both communions.


The global financial crisis has left large numbers of people around the world distraught, devastated and robbed of their human dignity. Exploring questions of economic justice, spirituality and morality, the authors recognize that structural greed is at the very core of the current crisis.


While work is central to human flourishing, the way in which it is understood and practiced has the potential both to affirm and to assault human dignity. Drawing on the social sciences, this book contributes to the current discussion on the ethics of work from the perspective of the Lutheran theological heritage as it is expressed in the different contexts of the communion. Furthermore, it explores the various ways in which the Scriptures can be read in light of Luther’s understanding of vocation, and explores the implications of affirming the dignity of work in relation to questions of fair remuneration, gender and culture.


“Like Living Stones”: Lutheran Reflections on the One Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, Hans-Peter Grosshans and Martin Sinaga (eds)

In this book, Lutherans share insights into how faith in the one holy, catholic, and apostolic church not only provides theological commonality among Lutherans, but also helps realize the social aspect of the Christian faith.


Freedom and Responsibility: Christian and Muslim Explorations, Simone Sinn and Martin Sinaga (eds)

How can Christian and Muslim ethical and theological reflection contribute to the wider discourse on human beings and actions, freedom and responsibility? The contributions in this book honestly name complex and often conflictual realities and point to seeds of hope in our societies and religious communities, thus deepening the understanding of human agency and freedom from a faith perspective.


Churches Holding Governments Accountable: A resource for reflection, discussion and action, Karen L. Bloomquist, John R. Stumme and Martin L. Sinaga

Churches have often overlooked or been unaware of the strong theological grounds for holding governments accountable for the common good of all. Clarifying this is the purpose of this resource, so that churches might become more confident of how the faith they confess provides impetus for this important work in their respective contexts.


Transformative Theological Perspectives, Theology in the Life of the Church series, vol. 6, Karen L. Bloomquist (ed.)

This final volume of the Theology in the Life of the Church series brings together some of the papers presented at the concluding consultation in 2009. Theologians from around the world address such questions as, How can the Lutheran theological understandings be reinterpreted in an increasingly interreligious and threatened world?, How can theology be further developed in ways that are transformative of personal, social and global realities today?


Some participants in the concluding consultation of the Theology in the Life of the Churches program reflect theologically on such diverse practices as reading the Bible; worship; baptism; forgiveness of sin; church discipline; inclusion of children at the Eucharist; spiritual care of the dying; stigmata as marks of Christ; sexual taboos; engaging political powers; and theological formation in daily life.

God, Creation and Climate Change: Spiritual and Ethical Perspectives, Karen L. Bloomquist (ed.)

Biblical scholars, theologians and ethicists from around the world creatively probe, revise and develop perspectives, from Christian and other traditions, that can inspire, guide, empower and sustain us for making the significant changes in worldviews, practices and policies needed at this kairotic time.


One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church: Some Lutheran and Ecumenical Perspectives, Hans-Peter Grosshans (ed.)

Lutheran as well as contributors from other denominations explore how they understand the church as being one holy, catholic and apostolic.


God, Creation and Climate Change, Karen Bloomquist with Rolita Machila

A resource for reflection and discussion in local contexts.


Lutherans Respond to Pentecostalism, Theology in the Life of the Church Series, vol. 4, Karen L. Bloomquist (ed.)

A number of mostly African theologians explore how Lutheran as well as other churches are responding to the challenges posed by the spread and influence of diverse expressions of Pentecostalism throughout the world.


A variety of mostly Asian theologians propose points of departure for theological inquiry, based on particular struggles of their churches to discern who they are (identity), to survive in economically and/or politically threatening situations, and to bear witness to their faith in the midst of religious diversity and resurgence. A question running throughout the book is, What are the lived realities of people in local communities and the questions this evokes that need to be addressed theologically?

Out of print.

Accepted by God—Transformed by Christ: The Doctrine of Justification in Multilateral Ecumenical Dialogue. A Study on the Doctrine of Justification by the German Ecumenical Study Commission (DÖSTA)

A study by the German Ecumenical Study Commission (DÖSTA), involving representatives of the Protestant and Roman Catholic churches, as well as delegates from the Orthodox, Old Catholic, Baptist, Mennonite and Methodist churches. The commission’s statement is a helpful example of a regional attempt to facilitate the reception process within the wider communion.


Deepening Faith, Hope and Love in Relations with Neighbors of Other Faiths, Theology in the Life of the Church Series, vol. 2, Simone Sinn (ed.)

Writers from different parts of the world develop theological reflections arising from their specific interreligious engagement in order to deepen commitment to and theological discernment within interreligious relations.

The Lutheran World Federation, ISBN 978-3-905676-60-0, CHF 15--., USD 15.--, € 12--., plus postage and packing.
Being the Church in the Midst of Empire: Trinitarian Reflections. Theology in the Life of the Church Series, vol. 1, Karen L. Bloomquist (ed.)

Theologians take up the daunting challenge of developing constructive theological responses, grounded in the Triune God, which have the potential to counter, transform and nurture long-term resistance to empire today.

Out of print.

Bridges instead of Walls: Christian-Muslim Interaction in Denmark, Indonesia and Nigeria, Lissi Rasmussen (ed.)

The analyses and comparison of specific conflicts and peace building efforts between Christians and Muslims in Denmark, Indonesia and Nigeria and attempts to determine the role of religion in each of these situations reveal insights into how effective bridges can be built in contexts such as these.


“So the poor have hope, and injustice shuts its mouth”: Poverty and the Mission of the Church in Africa, Karen L. Bloomquist and Musa Panti Filibus (eds)


Leadership and Power in the Ministry of the Church, Reinhard Boettcher

This discussion resource seeks to encourage reflection and discussion in the churches on how leadership and power are exercised in light of central biblical and theological understandings.


Witnessing to God’s Faithfulness: Issues of Biblical Authority, Reinhard Boettcher (ed.)

In what sense is the Bible the Word of God? In what sense is it authoritative for Lutheran Christians and the life of the church? How does this affect our interpretation? In interaction with one another, theologians from different parts of the world explore these and other key questions, and identify some common ground amid their differences.


Spirits, Ancestors and Healing: A Global Challenge to the Church. A Resource for Discussion, Ingo Wulfhorst (ed.)

Why do increasing numbers of Christians seek support within spiritualist groups and indigenous religions? What are the repercussions? Representatives of four regional working groups provided the substance for this publication.


The Diaconal Ministry in the Mission of the Church, Reinhard Boettcher (ed.)

The main presentations and final statement of a global consultation on the diaconal ministry are brought together in this publication. Churches are challenged to reexamine how they understand and order the diaconal ministry as an expression of diakonia as a core component of the church’s mission in society.


Lutheran Ethics at the Intersections of God’s One World, Karen L. Bloomquist (ed.)

The intent of this book is to shed light on how different cultural perspectives intersect and affect how ethical concerns are viewed and evaluated, even within the “grammar” of one confessional tradition. Articles here are likely to expand contextually limited views on topics such as sexuality, human rights, democratization, technology and property. Furthermore, it provides insights into how discussions on ethical questions might take place in a global communion of churches.

Martin Luther’s Message for us Today: A Perspective from the South, Klaus Nürnberger

The author interprets Luther’s theology in response to the conflicts and predicaments faced in South Africa during the last three decades. He argues that a critical reading of Luther’s theology provides a unique contribution to ecumenical insights and debates focused on the contextual relevance of theology.


Worship in African Contexts of Holism and Crisis, Itonde A. Kakoma (ed.)

Ancestors, Spirits and Healing in Africa and Asia: A Challenge to the Church, Ingo Wulfhorst (ed.)

These essays from LWF consultations seek to provoke reflection and further discussion on how Christians can and should respond to the many forms and practices of spiritualism and their adherents.


A Graced Horizon, Essays in Gospel, Culture and Church. In Honour of the Rev. Dr Choong Chee Pang, Roland Chia and Mark Chan (eds),

Communion, Responsibility, Accountability, Responding as the Lutheran Communion to Neoliberal Globalization, Karen L. Bloomquist (ed.)
The first part of this book brings together the work on economic globalization that the Lutheran World Federation has been pursuing in relation to its member churches, field programs and ecumenical partners. The second part contains articles that deepen theological, pastoral and ethical reflections that are evoked by this focus, but are much wider in their implications. The book is now out of print.


Verantwortung füreinander–Rechenschaft voreinander. Neoliberale Globalisierung an die lutherische Kirchengemeinschaft, Karen L. Bloomquist (Hg.)

Koinonia: Services and Prayers, Liturgien und Gebete, Services et Prières Liturgias y Oraciones, Päivi Jussila and Gail Ramshaw (eds)
Parallel texts in English, German, French, and Spanish

Includes: Daily Prayer (Morning Prayer, Prayer During the Day, Prayer at Midday, Evening Prayer, Night Prayer), Prayers and Blessings, the Christian Calendar, Holy Communion, Service of the Word with baptismal renewal, Meditation on the Creed, selected Psalms.


Spiritualism: A Challenge to the Churches in Europe, Ingo Wulfhorst (ed.)

Espiritualismo/Espiritismo: Desafios para a Igreja na América Latina, Ingo Wulfhorst (ed.)

Agape: Songs of Hope and Reconciliation—Lieder der Hoffnung und Versöhnung—Chants d’Espérance et de Réconciliation—Cantos de Esperanza y Reconciliación, compiled by Maggie Hamilton and Päivi Jussila

Includes hymns and songs from Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe, and North America.


History of the LWF

From Federation to Communion, Jens Holger Schjørring, Prasanna Kumari, Norman Hjelm (eds)

A reader-friendly history of the colorful and eventful search for inter-Lutheran unity. From the inception of the LWF in 1947 through assemblies and major activities this book is a valuable discussion-starter for seminaries, pastoral conferences, etc.


The Rise of World Lutheranism: An American Perspective, E. Clifford Nelson

Fortress Press, 1982, free of charge, plus postage and packing.
Theology and the Church

Lutheran and Reformed Churches in Times of Global Transformation, Wolfgang Greive and Odair Pedroso Mateus (eds)

The Lutheran World Federation and World Alliance of Reformed Churches. Free of charge, plus postage and packing.

The Doctrine of Justification: Its Reception and Meaning Today, Karen L Bloomquist and Wolfgang Greive (eds)

Based on the historic 1999 Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification between Lutherans and Roman Catholics, these articles arose from a 2002 ecumenical symposium that reflected on what justification actually means to people today in churches around the world, the impact this agreement was having on different churches, and the implications for further ecumenical pursuits. This volume explores the significance of justification by God's grace for faith, values, and unity, both for individuals and as churches.


A Shift in Jewish-Lutheran Relations? Wolfgang Greive and Peter Prove (eds)

The essays and country reports included in this book evince a turning point in Jewish-Lutheran dialogue at a global level. As Jews and Lutherans, men and women, from all continents sought a mutual understanding these essays signal the ending of the bitterness and defensiveness that have plagued Lutheran-Jewish relations.

The essays were first presented at an international consultation at Dobogókő, Hungary, in September 2001.

LWF Documentation 48/03, ISBN 3-905676-00-1, CHF 15--, USD 15.--, € 12--, plus postage and packing.

Jüdisch-lutherische Beziehungen im Wandel? Wolfgang Greive und Peter Prove (Hsg.)


Between Vision and Reality: Lutheran Churches in Transition, Wolfgang Greive (ed.)

This book provides provocative insights into how Lutheran churches in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin and North America understand themselves in their respective social contexts and live out what it means to be the church. These essays grow out of regional consultations to ascertain how the church as a communion understands itself in today's society. The book reflects the probe for a realistic sense of what ecclesiology means and how it is lived out in different contexts. It addresses the fundamental questions that challenge theology and the church, and it calls us to reflect anew on how the gospel addresses people today.

Asian, African, Latin American, North American, and European theologians discuss the church in context, social issues, and theological mediation.


Zwischen Vision und Realität: Lutherische Kirchen im Übergang, Wolfgang Greive (Hsg.)


Communion, Community, Society, Wolfgang Greive (ed.)


The Church as Communion, Heinrich Holze (ed.)


Die Kirche als Gemeinschaft: Lutherische Beiträge zur Ekklesiologie, Heinrich Holze (Hg.)


Releitura de Teologia de Lutero em contextos do Terceiro Mundo, Nelson Kirst (ed.)

ISBN 3-906706-03-6, free of charge, plus postage and packing.

Luther and Liberation, A Latin American Perspective, Walter Altmann


Worship and Congregational Life


June 2003, package of 3 booklets CHF 15--., USD 15.--, € 12--., plus postage and packing.
See How They Love one Another: Spiritual Life in Community, Päivi Jussila (ed.)
Eleven essays from diverse regions which are a meditative, prayerful perspective on Christian life and doctrine.

Gottesdienst und Kultur im Dialog, S. Anita Stauffer (Hg.)

Christlicher Gottesdienst: Einheit in kultureller Vielfalt, S.Anita Stauffer (Hg.)

Baptism, Rites of Passage, and Culture, S.Anita Stauffer (ed.)
Examines baptism as well as three rites of passage (healing, burial and marriage), church architecture, and preaching, all in cultural context.

Relación entre culto y cultura, S. Anita Stauffer (ed.)

Culte et culture en relation, S. Anita Stauffer (éd.), responsable pour la version francaise, Marc Chambron

The Church and Social Issues

Engaging Economic Globalization as a Communion, Karen Bloomquist
Also available in German, Spanish, French.

Concern for Creation, a contribution to the theological discussion on developing a renewed theology of creation. Viggo Mortensen (ed.)
Tro & Tanke, Uppsala, 1995, ISSN 1101-7937, free of charge, plus postage and packing.

A Just Asia: The Challenge of a Globalized Economy, Viggo Mortensen (ed.)
LWF Studies, Geneva 1997, free of charge, plus postage and packing.

Frieden und Bekenntnis, Die Lehre vom gerechten Krieg im lutherischen Bekenntnis, Götz Planer-Friedrich (Hg)
Free of charge, plus postage and packing.

Frieden und Gerechtigkeit. Auf dem Weg zu einer ökumenischen Friedensethik, Götz Planer-Friedrich (Hg)

The Politics of Altruism, A Study of the Political Behaviour of Voluntary Development Agencies, Jorgen Lissner
Free of charge, plus postage and packing.
Base Communities and the People’s Movement
LWF Studies, 1989, free of charge, plus postage and packing.

Basisgemeinden und Volksbewegung
LWB Studien, 1989, free of charge, plus postage and packing.

To Speak or not to Speak: Proposed criteria for public statements on violations of human rights
LWF Studies, 1984, free of charge, plus postage and packing.

The Debate on Status Confessionis, Studies in Christian Political Theology
LWF Studies, 1983, fee of charge, plus postage and packing.

The Church and People of Other Faiths

Dialogue and Beyond: Christians and Muslims Together on the Way, Sigvard von Sicard and Ingo Wulfhorst (eds)

Multifaith Challenges Facing the Americas ... and Beyond, Hance A.O. Mwakabana (ed.)
This book provides a glimpse into the rich fabric of multifaith realities in North, Central, and South America through select perspectives from Lutherans living in a number of these countries. Some essays survey the landscape of increasing religious diversity, some challenge assumptions about the dominance of Christianity in the Americas. These provocative theological reflections examine the implications of religious pluralism for the church’s witness
LWF Studies, ISBN 3-906706-86-9, CHF 15--., USD 15.--, € 12--, plus postage and packing.

Explorations in Love and Wisdom: Christians and Buddhists in Conversation, Theodore M. Ludwig and Hance A.O. Mwakabana (eds)
Twenty-two diverse essays. The essays are not final answers to the issues and concerns but are explorations into the love and wisdom that characterize Christian and Buddhist traditions.

Theological Perspectives: Toward a Christian Theology of Religions, Hance A.O. Mwakabana (ed.)
The book explores and highlights the nature and reality of the phenomenon of religious pluralism in Europe today and its general implications; reflects on the theological challenge and significance of religious pluralism for the churches in Europe and reflects on how to initiate a process for promoting greater interest in the normative religious beliefs and practices in our Christian tradition.

Religious Pluralism in Africa: Challenge and Response, Hance A.O. Mwakabana (ed.)
A handbook for pastors, theological faculties and students, with fresh voices from those who work in the religious plurality of Africa everyday.

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