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**Press Release**  
**19 August 2015**

## Media invitation to global gathering of young Lutherans

Young Lutherans from around the world are about to meet in the historic city of Wittenberg, Germany, for the largest international gathering of young people this year.

Workshop Wittenberg comes in preparation for the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.

This global gathering will bring together 140 young reformer delegates, theology students, LWF council members and ecumenical youth from all over the world in the town of the Reformation, Wittenberg. The workshop runs from August 22 to September 4 at Stadthaus Wittenberg, Mauerstr. 18, 06886 Wittenberg.

As media, you are warmly invited to attend. Feel free to come for any or all of the sessions that interest you provided you apply for accreditation (see below). Two press conferences are planned during the event – August 22 at 12:30pm and September 3 at 12:30pm.

See the list of selected events below or find the complete program attached. More information is available at <https://www.lutheranworld.org/content/workshop-wittenberg>

With the theme, Freed by Gods love to change the world, the workshop will examine the roots of Lutheran Reformation from an international perspective, as well as enable participants to discover what Reformation means today.

The program offers participants the chance to share and learn, discover their Lutheran identity, discipleship, climate justice, church sustainability, renewal of mission, and to develop local “living reformation” projects in their home churches.

Workshop reports will be published daily and program items livestreamed. The conference language is English, with interpretation. Follow reflections on Goodwall: <http://social.youngreformers.net>

It would be our pleasure to welcome you or a colleague to Wittenberg. Please apply for accreditation at [pressestelle@dnk-lwb.de](mailto:pressestelle@dnk-lwb.de).

For more information, please contact:

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## Program highlights:

23 August at 17.00

**Opening service** with Bishop Ilse Junkermann  
Celebrated in the All Saints' Church (Schlosskirche), Wittenberg

24 August at 09.45

Rev. Dr Martin Junge, LWF General Secretary and members of the Reformation workshop offer a **welcome and presentation of the work of the LWF**

24 August at 12.30

**Press conference** for the opening of Workshop Wittenberg. Participants include: Rev. Dr Martin Junge, LWF General Secretary, Probst Siegfried Kasparick (EKM), Bishop Dr Tamás Fabiny (Hungary), Vice-President of the Lutheran World Federation, and three young participants of the workshop

24 August at 20.00

**Premiere of the animated series about the life of Martin Luther** by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary. Director Zsolt Richly (Hungary) and Bishop Fabiny will be available for questions

26 August from 14.30

Young reformers will hold an **exhibition on LWF churches**

26 August from 20.00

Participants will present the diverse cultures within the LWF as part of an **intercultural evening**

27 August at 09.15

**Visit by ecumenical partners.** Discussion with representatives of Taizé, the World Council of Churches and the Anglican Church

27 August at 14.00

Workshop participants will **plant trees** in the "Luthergarten" in Wittenberg, on behalf of their churches

28 to 30 August

**Participants visit various parishes** of the region.

2 September

Participants learn about **diaconal and social projects** in Leipzig, Halle and Magdeburg

3 September from 09.30

Participants present the **Reformation projects** they have developed during the workshop

3 September 12.30

**Final press conference**

3 September 18.00

**Church service** in the "Stadtkirche" closes the Workshop Wittenberg