



28 JUNE–6 JULY 2017

2017 GENERAL COUNCIL VISITORS PROGRAMME

THE GENERAL COUNCIL

The World Communion of Reformed Churches' next General Council will be held in Leipzig, Germany, in 2017—the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The WCRC is returning to the birthplace of the 16th-century Reformation to demonstrate that this event belongs to Christians around the world—and to witness to the world in these times of injustice and violence.

THE VISITORS PROGRAMME

The Visitors Programme provides an opportunity for persons who would like to attend the General Council. Visitors are invited to the public sessions of the General Council. Visitors:

- can fully participate in worship life and Bible studies;
- can accompany the General Council during its sessions in Berlin and in Wittenberg;
- are welcome to listen to the speakers that unfold the Council theme during the plenary sessions;
- have the opportunity to be in discussion with these speakers in special workshops for visitors;
- are invited to the cultural events that will take place during the Council;
- can take part in sightseeing trips in and around Leipzig.



Leipzig

The business of the Council will be taken up in Leipzig. Leipzig is an appropriate site for such a gathering. It has welcomed visitors to its conference grounds for 1,000 years. The local Reformed congregation is a vibrant cultural centre in a city known for its dedication to the arts. And the candlelit peace prayer vigils of 1989 sparked the reunification of Germany.

Wittenberg

In Wittenberg, the birthplace of the Reformation, the General Council will affirm its visible support to Christian unity at a worship service close to Martin Luther's church and in acts of agreement with the Lutheran and the Roman Catholic churches. Historic sites will be visited.

Berlin

Berlin will see the Council engage in the Church's witness to the world. An internationally broadcast worship service will be held in the Berliner Dom. The Council will immerse itself in the life of the city—visiting diaconal institutions, historic sites and local congregations. And it will engage globally at a reception hosted by Germany's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

2017 PROGRAMME POSSIBILITIES

Wednesday, 28 June

4:30 p.m.	Welcoming of visitors	Reformed Church, Leipzig
6:00 p.m.	Evening of Encounters	Reformed Church, Leipzig

Thursday, 29 June

10:00-11:30	Opening Service	St Nikolas Church, Leipzig
12:00-1:00	Reception by the Mayor of Leipzig	New Town Hall, Leipzig
2:00-4:00	Theme input 1	Leipzig Messe

Friday, 30 June

8:30-10:00	Worship, Bible study presentation and groups	Leipzig Messe
10:30-11:00	Information for visitors	Leipzig Messe
11:00-12:30	Workshop with presenters of theme input 1	Leipzig Messe
2:00-4:00	Theme input 2	Leipzig Messe
4:30-6:30	Workshop with presenters of theme input 2	Leipzig Messe
Afternoon	Different sightseeing activities	Leipzig
10:00	Worship	Reformed Church, Leipzig

Saturday, 1 July

8:30-10:00	Worship, Bible study presentation and groups	Leipzig Messe
10:30-11:00	Information for visitors	Leipzig Messe
11:00-12:30	Theme input 3	Leipzig Messe
2:00-4:00	Workshop with presenters of theme input 3	Leipzig Messe
Afternoon	Different sightseeing activities	Leipzig
7:30	Visit of social art projects	Leipzig

Sunday, 2 July – Trip to Berlin

9:30-10:15	Worship in Berlin Dom	Berlin Dom
12:00-2:00	Reception by Federal Government	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2:30-5:30	Solidarity visits to diaconic projects	Berlin
2:30-5:30	Visit of historical sites	Berlin

Monday, 3 July

8:30-10:00	Worship, Bible study presentation and groups	Leipzig Messe
10:30-11:00	Information for visitors	Leipzig Messe
11:00-12:30	Theme input 4	Leipzig Messe
2:00-4:00	Workshop with presenters of theme input 4	Leipzig Messe
Afternoon	Different sightseeing activities	Leipzig
5:00	Peace Prayer	St Nikolas Church, Leipzig
7:30-9:00	Organ Concert	Reformed Church, Leipzig

Tuesday, 4 July

8:30-10:00	Worship, Bible study presentation and groups	Leipzig Messe
10:30-11:00	Information for visitors	Leipzig Messe
11:00-12:30	Theme input 5	Leipzig Messe
2:00-4:00	Workshop with presenters of theme input 5	Leipzig Messe
Afternoon	Different sightseeing activities	Leipzig
7:30-9:00	Psalm Concert	St Nikolas Church, Leipzig

Wednesday, 5 July – Trip to Wittenberg

10:00-11:00	Worship service	Schlosskirche, Wittenberg
12:00-1:30	Visit of the World Reformation Exhibition	Wittenberg
2:30-4:00	Ecumenical acts	Wittenberg

Thursday, 6 July

8:30-10:00	Worship, Bible study presentation and groups	Leipzig Messe
10:30-11:00	Information for visitors	Leipzig Messe
All day	Trips to religious and cultural sites	Various

Registration Costs

	North America/ Western Europe			All Other Regions		
	Full-Time Visitors <i>(Includes public transportation)</i>	Day Pass <i>(Excludes public transport)</i>		Full-Time Visitors <i>(Includes public transportation)</i>	Day Pass <i>(Excludes public transport)</i>	
		Leipzig	Berlin or Wittenberg		Leipzig	Berlin or Wittenberg
Meals included	470 €	50 €	70 €	390 €	40 €	60€
Without meals	155 €	15 €	35 €	75 €	5 €	25 €

Enquiries

Please direct all enquiries to
Rev. Hanns Lessing *(General Council Coordinator)* or
Rev. Sylvia Bukowski *(Coordinator of the Visitors Programme)*
under the following email: visitors@wcrc.eu



**World Communion
of Reformed Churches**

The World Communion of Reformed Churches is comprised of 80 million Christians in Congregational, Presbyterian, Reformed, United, Uniting and Waldensian churches. The WCRC, working with its 225+ member churches, is active in supporting theology, justice, church unity and mission in over 105 countries.

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