

Detmold, February 2017

Dear members and friends of the society, ladies and gentlemen,

there is a lot of media coverage of the great Luther Year 2017. On this occasion it befits a society like ours to reflect the controversial topic "Luther and the Jews". In this newsletter you will find interesting and instructive events.

Also this year there will be two political elections, for our federal state North Rhine-Westphalia in May, and in September the national election. In this context we will have to continue to give attention to the reasons for the ongoing increase in anti-semitism – together with reflections on how to confront these alarming and undemocratic tendencies. Two relevant events are announced in this newsletter.

Tuesday, February 28, 19:30

**How to Deal with Right-Wing Tendencies
Town Hall Talks**

Andreas Kemper, sociologist; Lutz Krügener, Representative for Peace Work of the Lutheran Church, department of Hannover; Claus Wagner, Representative for Political Extremism and Pastor for Religious Education of 'Lippische Landeskirche. Also: Saxophone Quartet 'AbraxSax'.

Many people stand up for refugees. Others are afraid of the new openness. Populism and extremism are on the increase. The political landscape undergoes disruptive changes. How can an open society and the churches deal with these developments?

Dieter Bökemeier, Monika Korbach, Lippische Landeskirche, Reformed Parish Detmold-Ost.
Hall of the Detmold-Ost Parish, Marktplatz 6, Detmold

Wednesday, March 1, 19:00

**"Chottechott, was isser damit?"
Lyrics and music by Joseph Plaut**

Dr. Peter Schütze, Friedrich Brakemeier and Dr. Eugen Heinen; music played by Werner Zahn

Organisers: City of Detmold, in cooperation with the Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation in Lippe County (Registered Association)

Entrance free – donations are welcome!

Assembly Hall of 'Alte Schule am Wall', Detmold

Entrance via Residenz-Hotel, Paulinenstraße

Wednesday, March 1, 19:30

**Not What You Believe ('Anders als du glaubst)
A Play About Jews, Christians, Muslims, and the Rip Across the World**

Berliner Theatercompagnie (Theater Company Berlin)

A devoted Muslim woman, a believing Christian woman, a Jew, a leftist Atheist, and a dyed-in-the-wool skeptic: Those of all people are thrown together in a post-mortal Never-Never-Land after a deadly attack. Is this some kind of limbo? Is it the way to paradise? Of course these five people quarrel, "in heaven as it was on earth". Until they realize that there is a common cause. And so they get on their way. An adventurous journey leads them to several earthly, man-made places of hell. The 'Berliner Theatercompagnie' uses simple techniques, a lot of imagination and their theatrical verve to accompany the audience through all the highs and lows of this adventure trip.

Reformed Church Blomberg, Bürgerstiftung 'Zukunft Blomberg' (Citizens' Foundation), Center for Integration Lippe

Evening Tickets €14.00; advance sale €10.00. Available at LZ Blomberg (regional newspaper), Eine Welt Läden Blomberg and Detmold

Friday, March 3, 18:00

Luther and the Jews

Opening of the Exposition

GfCJZ in Lippe, Parish Detmold-West, Department for Education and School of 'Lippische Landeskirche

In 2017 the Protestant church celebrates the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Notwithstanding our joy about this event, one thing must not be forgotten: Martin Luther has left us a difficult legacy. Central insights of Luther's theology are interwoven with anti-semitic patterns of thought. The fact that the anti-Jewish instructions of Luther's later years were made use of for National Socialist anti-semitism poses a further liability for the Protestant church.

An exposition by the Protestant church Berlin-Brandenburg
Christuskirche Detmold

Tuesday, March 7, 15:00

Vocational Training for Teachers of Religious Education: "Martin Luther and the Jews"

Senior R.E.-classes can develop a more sophisticated picture of Luther by visiting the exposition "Luther and the Jews". They can look into the problem of his hostility towards Jews and can put this hostility into the historical and theological context. This will throw a further light on Christian Anti-Judaism and Anti-Semitism. As well as a topical introduction and a visit to the exposition this vocational training offers useful reading matter for advanced teachings in church history.

Organiser: School Department of Lippische Landeskirche
Christuskirche and Parish Hall Detmold-Ost

Thursday, May 9, 19:30

The Reception of Martin Luther's Writings on Jews at the time of National Socialism by the "Deutsche Christen" ("German Christians").

Dr Oliver Arnhold, Bielefeld University

Organizing Cooperative
Christuskirche Detmold, Bismarckstraße

Sunday, March 12, 15:00

General Membership Meeting

Reports from the managing board, elections and exchange of ideas; coffee, tea and biscuits will be provided.

This year the following functionaries must be newly elected: Jewish chairperson (candidate: Karla Raveh); Protestant chairperson (candidate: Bettina Hanke-Postma); bursar (candidate: Rüdiger Schleysing); revision of finances (candidate: Günther Stukenbrok)

Haus Münsterberg, Detmold, Hornsche Straße 38

Tuesday, March 14, 19:30

Reformed Reformers and Their Relationship to Jewry

Dr Achim Detmers, General Secretary of the “Reformierter Bund” (Reformed Federation) in Germany

Organizing Cooperative
Christuskirche Detmold, Bismarckstraße

Thursday, March 23, 19:30

Luther and the Jews

Peter von der Osten-Sacken, protestant theologian

Christuskirche Detmold, Bismarckstraße.

Thursday, March 30

The “Adult” Nation and its Enemies

About the Clientele and the Fascination Potential of “Modern” Populist and Right-Wing Movements.

Dr Michael Winter, Sociologist and Psychologist, University of Hannover

One focus of Dr Winter's research is the 'Undemocratic Right'. He writes: “Racism is more than prejudice. Aversion against 'the Foreign' and 'the Other' can express itself as a seemingly spontaneous emotion: fear, loathing, sometimes fascination and, ultimately: hatred. In which way do these emotions develop? What makes these subjective antagonisms and the search for a “Führer” so attractive?”

GfCJZ in Lippe, bookshop 'Kafka&Co Detmold

Haus Münsterberg, Detmold, Hornsche Straße 38

Friday, April 7, 19:30

Calvin as an Instigator of Jewish-Christian Dialogue

Maik Fleck, Pastor of the Reformed Parish Detmold-West

Wednesday, May 10, 19:30

What Can Christians Learn from Islam?

Prof. Dr. Klaus von Stoch

For many people in 'the West' Islam appears backward and adverse to progress. However, Islam incorporates elements of spirituality and religious practice deeply related to the other monotheistic religions. At the same time it contains on the practical level suggestions which can be instructive for Christians. This lecture will show up such suggestions by trying to show in which way the practice of Muslim belief can be understood as the quest for God with all senses.

Event in cooperation with the Protestant Student Community Detmold/Lemgo and the Catholic Student Union.

Moderator: Dr. Katharina Kleine Vennekate
Haus Münsterberg, Detmold, Hornsche Straße 38

All members will receive a timely invitation by mail for the General Membership Meeting on March, 12 at 3 o'clock pm.

On behalf of the managing board I send you all the best regards.

Micheline Prüter-Müller