

*Detmold, 7 June 2026*

*Dear members,*

*friends of the GfCJZ,*

*we are pleased to remind you of our event at Haus Münsterberg:*

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**Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 19**

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## **"Should Jews be proselytised? The Protestant Church and Jewish Mission"**

### **Lecture by Jan Christian Pinsch**

"Israel remains God's chosen people, even though it has not accepted faith in Jesus as its Messiah": this was the position taken by the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD) in 2000, clearly rejecting an institutionally organised mission to convert Jews. But it had been a long process to reach this point. In his lecture, Jan Christian Pinsch shows that behind the mission to the Jews lies an anti-Jewish attitude that shaped the Protestant Church from the Reformation period until well into the 20th century. Only slowly, after 1945, did voices rise in favour of a readjustment of Christian-Jewish relations. At the same time, there are still evangelical circles within and outside the regional churches whose claim to truth and understanding of mission are diametrically opposed to distancing themselves from the mission to the Jews.

Jan Christian Pinsch is a research assistant for modern church history at the Institute for Protestant Theology at the University of Paderborn. His research focuses on anti-Semitism and conspiracy myths, the Protestant Church and right-wing populism, among other topics.

Haus Münsterberg, Hornsche Straße 38, Detmold

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We would also like to draw your attention to other exciting events:

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**Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 11:30**

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## **Laying of 10 Stolpersteine in Oerlinghausen**

On the initiative of the Stolperstein group and the Oerlinghausen local authority, a further ten Stolpersteine will be laid on 10 June in memory of the former Oerlinghausen families Bornheim, Kulemeyer and Paradies. These residents of the town were persecuted and ostracised in Oerlinghausen during the Nazi era because of their Jewish faith, forcing them to flee.



Descendants of the families will also take part in the laying of the Stolpersteine at Rathausplatz (the Bornheim family), Rathausstraße 39 (the Kuhlemeyer family) and Hauptstraße 41 (the Paradies family), some of whom will be travelling from South America.

Pupils from the Niklas-Luhmann-Gymnasium and the Heinz-Sielmann-Schule will perform musical and literary pieces, whilst Mr Jakob Zelewitsch, cantor of the Herford-Detmold Jewish community, will sing psalms and prayers.

The event is expected to last around 2 hours.

Rathausplatz Oerlinghausen

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**Monday, June 29, 2026, 18:00**

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## **Lecture evening – ‘Authoritarian National Radicalism in Germany’**

Dear interested parties,

The ZfsL Detmold cordially invites you to an evening lecture with **Prof. em. Dr. Wilhelm Heitmeyer**.

Prof. Heitmeyer is one of Germany's leading sociologists and educational scientists in the field of conflict, violence and right-wing extremism research. As the founding director of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Conflict and Violence Research (IKG) at Bielefeld University, where he served as a research professor until 2025, his work focused in particular on the topics of group-focused hostility, social disintegration, social conflicts and right-wing extremism. In 2025, he was awarded the Federal Cross of Merit, 1st Class.

Following the lecture, there will be an opportunity for a joint discussion.

We look forward to your / attendance.

Organiser: Centre for Practical Teacher Training, Detmold

The event will last until around 8 pm

ZfsL Detmold, Bruchstraße 38a

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## Right-wing beliefs

### **The Protestant Adult Education Service invites you to a symposium featuring keynote speeches and a discussion**

The Protestant Adult Education Service invites you to the Regional Church Office in Detmold, Leopoldstr. 27, on Thursday 9 July from 3 pm to 6 pm.

**Theologian Dr Jan Christian Pinsch** will present the findings of his study “Right-wing Faith: Networks and Narratives of Bible Fundamentalist Christians in Lippe” this afternoon. In addition, journalist and filmmaker Kyra Funk will report on her research. She is the author of the TV documentary “Russlanddeutsche, die AfD und ich” (Russian-Germans, the AfD and Me). Regional pastor Horst-Dieter Mellies, ideological affairs officer of the Lippe Regional Church, will moderate the event.

Time and again, a close connection emerges between far-right political groups and right-wing conservative Christian movements. In East Westphalia-Lippe, too, there are various actors and networks that can be associated with so-called biblical fundamentalism. They hold the view that the Bible is literally true and free from error. In extreme forms, such beliefs can endanger democratic values and social cohesion.

The event is organised in collaboration with the Evangelical Association of Westphalia and Lippe and the Institute for Protestant Theology at the University of Paderborn. Admission is free. Registration is required at [Rechter Glaube \[https://lippische-landeskirche.de/13852-0-70\]](https://lippische-landeskirche.de/13852-0-70)

Landeskirchenamt in Detmold, Leopoldstr. 27

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*Finally, we would like to pass on an appeal asking for support for this very important project:*

### **Riga as a Place of Learning: Pilot project for school groups on the Holocaust – Appeal for donations**

Since 2023, the city of Detmold has been a member of the Riga Committee, an association of cities commemorating the victims of Nazi atrocities in the Latvian capital, Riga. The German War Graves Commission and the Riga Committee, with the support of the Bethe Foundation, have launched a project for school pupils from the cities of the Riga Committee. The pupils are set to travel to Riga in autumn 2026 as young representatives of the member cities. Pupils from Detmold have also applied to be “memorial ambassadors” for this project.

A donation matching scheme has been launched to fund this trip. The Bethe Foundation will match the donations collected by the Volksbund together with the cities of the Riga Committee, up to a total of 30,000 euros. The fundraising campaign has now begun and we ask our members to support this very worthwhile initiative. Donations for the project can be made via the following website:

[https://www.betterplace.org/de/projects/174852?utm\\_campaign=ShortURLs&utm\\_medium=project\\_174852&utm\\_source=PlainShortURL](https://www.betterplace.org/de/projects/174852?utm_campaign=ShortURLs&utm_medium=project_174852&utm_source=PlainShortURL) .

Further information on the Riga project can be found at: <https://www.volksbund.de/bethe-verdopplungsaktion> .

Thank you very much for your support!

*Best regards*

*Kristina Panchyryz and Philipp Wagner*

*(Management)*