



reformation
2017

Reformation Summer 2017

Questioning Setting out Reshaping

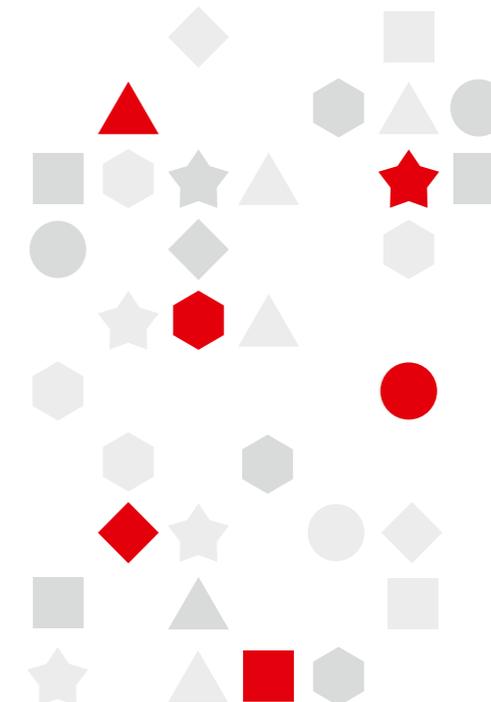
Looking back it is clear: the Reformation was the sign that one age was drawing to an end and another age was dawning. The turn of the 15th to the 16th century brought much that was new. Continents were being discovered, technology was advancing, the status quo was challenged. Theologians in different parts of Europe questioned doctrines, thought-forms and thus social reality.

What began in those days was a shaking of the foundations. 500 years ago, new realities opened up in every area of life: the spoken languages of Europe were written down and superseded Latin. Pioneers questioned limits to thought and discovered the individual. Many aspects of life were freed from the fetters of church doctrine. Confessional divisions led to wars and later to new power relationships.

What began in those days is not yet over. Five centuries later, the Reformation Summer offers us an opportunity to reflect on past insights, to recognize present-day challenges, and to question – and reshape – the world.

Contents

On the move <i>Kirchentage on the Way – 25 to 28 May 2017</i>	10
Worshipping and celebrating together <i>Festive weekend in Lutherstadt Wittenberg – 27 and 28 May 2017</i>	12
“You see me” (1. Mose 16,13) <i>German Protestant Kirchentag – 24 to 28 May 2017</i>	13
Gates of Freedom <i>World Reformation Exhibition – 20 May to 10 September 2017</i>	14
360° Panorama <i>Cyclorama by Yadegar Asisi – autumn 2016 to 2021</i>	16
Art in the Old Prison <i>Luther and the Avant-garde – May to September 2017</i>	17
Stories on tour <i>European Reformation Roadmap – 3 November 2016 to 20 May 2017</i>	18
trust and try <i>Confirmand and Youth Camps – June to September 2017</i>	20
Generation 17 <i>Volunteering – applications by summer 2016</i>	21





Prof. Dr. Heinrich Bedford-Strohm

chair of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Germany

» Let us make the Reformation anniversary in 2017 a great festival of Christ, as a testimony to our faith and our hope for a better world!



Prof. Dr. Christina Aus der Au

president of the 36th German Evangelical Kirchentag in Berlin and Wittenberg and the Kirchentag on the Way

» Strictly speaking, in 2017 we will not be celebrating 500 years of Reformation – we will have been celebrating the Reformation for 500 years! And to be even more exact, Reformation has been happening not just for 500 years but quite a bit longer.



Prof. Dr. Gerhard Robbers

chair of the Steering Committee of the association “Reformation anniversary 2017”

» I associate the Reformation anniversary with an approach to the future. After all, Reformation means constantly creating something new.



Marlehn Thieme

member of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Germany and chair of the association “Reformation anniversary 2017”

» The team from “Reformation anniversary 2017”, the people involved in many places worldwide, civil society organizations and also political leaders are confronting the challenges of the Reformation anniversary together. It is an adventure that we have been glad to embark on as partners.

Responses to the Reformation anniversary



Ilse Junkermann

bishop of the Evangelical Church
in Central Germany

» I hope that by celebrating and commemorating we can make an essential contribution to rediscovering the rich history of this whole region of Central Germany. All the people who live here can be proud of this history – and they may become curious to see how it gives them guidance for their lives.



Torsten Zugehör

lord mayor of Wittenberg

» Thanks to the Reformation anniversary, Wittenberg is becoming the smallest great city in the world.



SCHEDULE

End of October 2016

Opening of Panorama LUTHER 1517 by Yadegar Asisi
Wittenberg

30 October 2016

Introduction of revised Luther Bible
St George's Church/Eisenach

31 October 2016

Opening of Reformation anniversary 2017
St Mary's Church/Berlin

3 November 2016 – 20 May 2017

European Reformation Roadmap "Stories on tour" with 68 stopovers in 19 European countries (see roadmap) **Start in Geneva** (Switzerland), **end in Wittenberg**

11 March 2017

Service on "Healing of Memories"
Hildesheim

12 April 2017 – 5 November 2017

The Luther effect. 500 years of world Protestantism
Martin-Gropius-Bau/Berlin

4 May 2017 – 5 November 2017

Luther and the Germans – National Exhibition
Wartburg/Eisenach

10 May 2017 – 16 May 2017

12 Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation
Windhoek/Namibia

13 May 2017 – 5 November 2017

Luther! 95 treasures - 95 people
National Exhibition
Lutherhaus/Wittenberg

20 May 2017 – 10 September 2017

World Reformation Exhibition "Gates of Freedom"
Wittenberg

24 May 2017 – 28 May 2017

36th German Protestant Kirchentag
Berlin und Wittenberg

25 May 2017 – 28 May 2017

Kirchentag on the Way
Leipzig, Magdeburg, Erfurt, Jena/Weimar, Dessau-Roßlau und Halle/Eisleben

28 May 2017

Festive service and festival of encounter
Wittenberg

1 June 2017 – 10 September 2017

Confirmand and Youth Camp "Trust and try"
Wittenberg

9 June 2017 – 11 June 2017

Luther's wedding
Wittenberg

27 June 2017 – 7 July 2017

General Council of the World Communion of Reformed Churches
Leipzig

27 July 2017 – 5 August 2017

Federal camp of the Association of Christian Girl Guides and Boy Scouts and the International Youth Camp of the Protestant Youth Association
Wittenberg

14 September 2017

Service of worship - Ecumenical Festival of Christ
Trier

16 September 2017

Ecumenical Festival
Bochum

31 October 2017

Service and act of celebration
Wittenberg

31 October 2017

Germany-wide public holiday

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Margot Käßmann,
special envoy of the Council of the
Evangelical Church in Germany for
the Reformation anniversary in 2017

Reformation means questioning faith and the world

We welcome you to the "Reformation anniversary 2017"

© Cornelia Kirsch

What society and the churches will celebrate from October 2016 is a new departure. 500 years ago, Martin Luther published his Ninety-Five Theses on trading in indulgences – and in so doing, made a public event of a movement that had already begun, when theologians and philosophers questioned the predominant doctrines: John Wyclif in England, Jan Hus in Bohemia, the Waldensians in Italy. Besides Martin Luther, Philipp Melancthon and others in Wittenberg, its principal spokespersons were Ulrich Zwingli in Zurich and John Calvin in Geneva. They enabled a fresh, free approach to questions of faith and thereby a new view of the world. 500 years later, this is what we will celebrate in the Reformation Summer of 2017.

Reformation is a movement fed from many sources, time and again absorbing new insights from a constantly changing reality. Reformation is a process with many important and shining insights, but also with its dark sides. For example, Martin Luther's anti-Judaism has been included in the discussion. Yet it is not Martin Luther that we will be celebrating in 2017 but the common new beginning.

Outward-looking, ecumenical and international – that will describe our quincentennial celebration in many places in Europe and the world, not to mention the World Reformation Exhibition. At the Kirchentag in Berlin and in venues "on the way" to the great festive service on 28 May 2017 we will sing and pray, hear God's Word and also face up to current problems. We want to struggle for responses and guidance in conversation with the different denominations and religions and in listening together to people from other regions of the world, but also with the activists in civil society.

500 years later a new beginning is still imperative. This is also an opportunity for the younger generation: for the confirmation candidates and young people attending the camps in Wittenberg, for the volunteers working there for a year, and for all the stewards and other enthusiastic people lending a hand, without whom this celebratory year could not happen.

The 2017 Reformation anniversary will prove a source of renewal and inspiration on our way into the 21st century, of that I am convinced.

On the move

Kirchentage on the Way

Six Kirchentag-style gatherings on “the way” in eight Central German cities invite us to stop for a while on the way to the great festive service in Wittenberg. Like the Kirchentag in Berlin they will have the general theme “You see me”. These extra gatherings are an invitation to enjoy the hospitality of Central Germany.

With the triple motto “Music – Dispute – Life” Leipzig will bring together brass bands from the whole of Germany and also recall the Leipzig Disputation. Magdeburg has chosen the motto “You have 1 good message”, which recalls the existence in that city of one of the “propaganda” centres of the Reformation. There are plans for a parade of ships along the Elbe River. In Erfurt, where Martin Luther became a monk, the motto is “Light on Luther”. This will raise the question of what it means to be Christian in our day. The classical cities of Jena/Weimar will repeat the question asked by Gretchen in Goethe’s Faust, “Say, what do you think of religion?” In Dessau-Rosslau the motto is “Explore.Love.Want.Do”. And in Halle/Eisleben it is “Two cities for a Halle-lujah”.



Worshipping and celebrating together

Festive weekend in Wittenberg

People from all over the world will gather on 27 and 28 May 2017 on the Elbe meadows outside the gates of Wittenberg. And, while looking across at the Castle Church and St Mary's City Church, they can look back over 500 years of Reformation.

The first visitors will arrive on Saturday, hold a "night of lights" at sunset with the Taizé community by the riverbank and sleep under the stars on the meadows. Next morning they will welcome the sunrise with songs and prayers.

As the culmination of the Berlin Kirchentag and the Kirchentag on the Way, everyone will join in worship at a festive service at Sunday noon, giving thanks for God's goodness and ecumenical fellowship. This will be a service that encourages us to spread the gospel in our own way – God willing!

A "festival of encounter" will follow – with food and drink, exchange and talk, spiced with information about the host region. And that will lead into a musical climax: a concert of celebrities, with a message encouraging us to get involved, politically and socially.



„You see me“
(Gen 16:13)



**German Protestant Kirchentag
Berlin – Wittenberg**

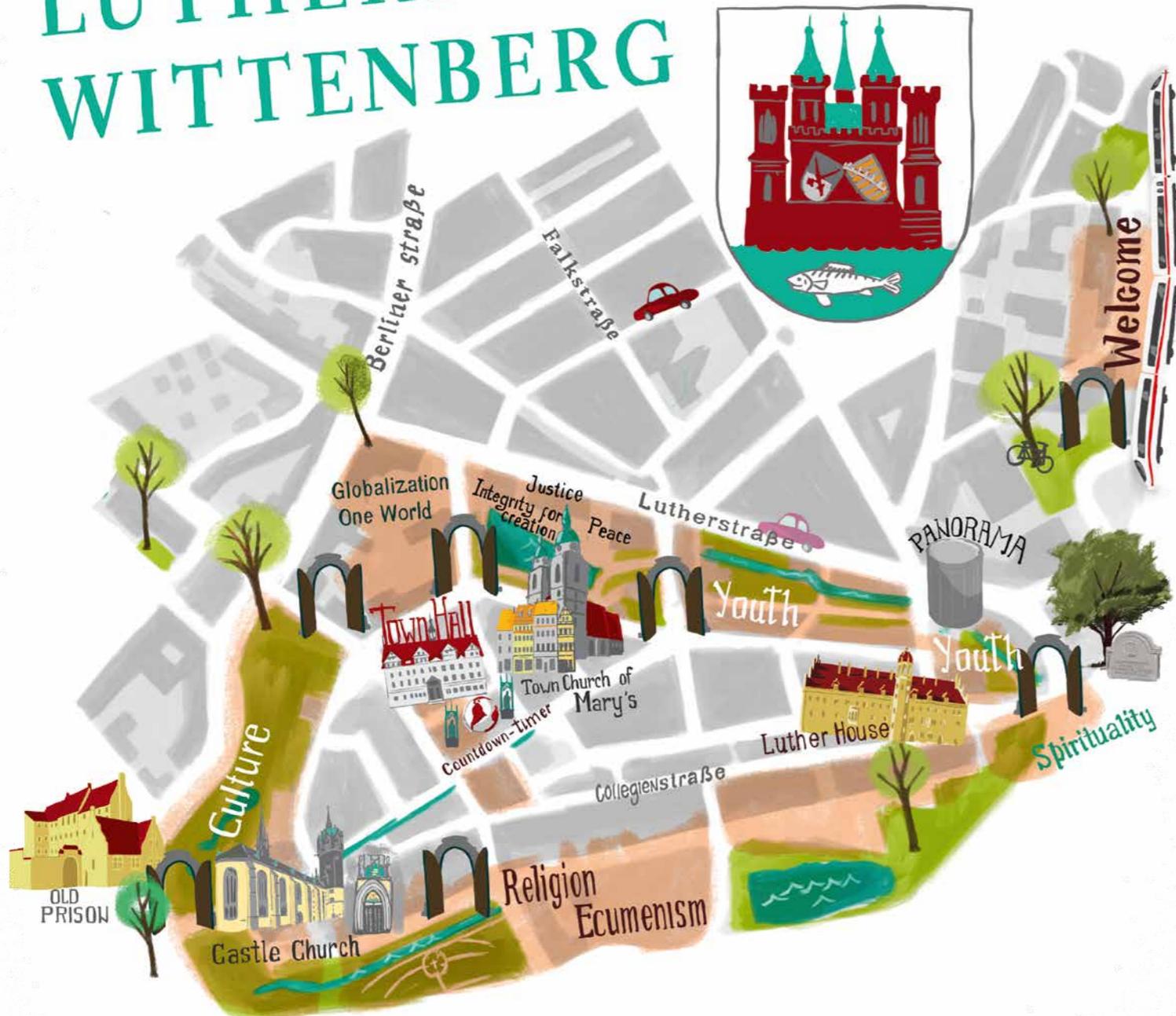
24 – 28 May 2017

You are warmly invited to the 36th German Protestant Kirchentag from 24 to 28 May 2017 in Berlin und Wittenberg. Reflecting on international ecumenism, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, it will also look ahead to the next 500 years of Protestantism. The Kirchentag is a movement reaching far beyond a regular church event. Well-known speakers engage with its topics – encouraging lots of audience participation – in panels, lectures and workshops.

Add to that all the concerts, theatrical performances and other cultural offerings, frequently created by the participants themselves, and the Kirchentag – with its over 2500 single events – becomes a truly interactive festival.

The theme of the 2017 Kirchentag is "You see me" (Gen 16:13). It combines the knowledge that God looks at us with the challenge to remain clear-sighted in our dealings with others. Ellen Ueberschär, general secretary of the Kirchentag, adds, "Join us at a special Kirchentag in Berlin and the grand finale in Wittenberg – the festive closing service."

LUTHERSTADT WITTENBERG



Gates of Freedom

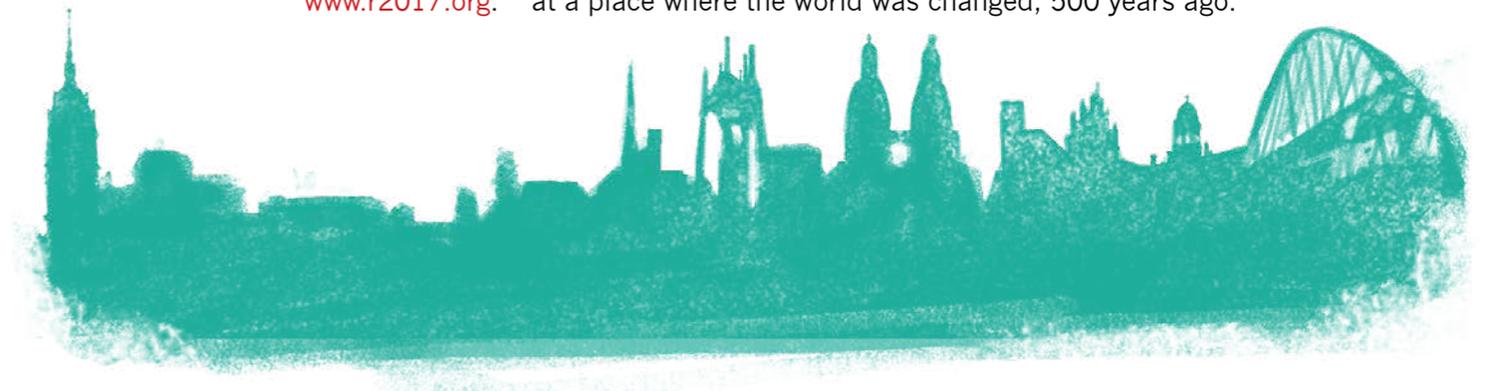
World Reformation Exhibition

The World Reformation Exhibition will run from 20 May to 10 September 2017 in Wittenberg, inviting visitors to discover its seven Gates of Freedom. Devised by churches, institutions, initiatives and cultural workers from all over the world, the gates and their surrounding areas will demonstrate ways of perceiving the topic of Reformation.

The Welcome Gate is also a lookout tower and will give visitors an overview of the city. When they then set out on the walking tour through the Wittenberg embankments, they will come across the gate areas dedicated to Youth; Spirituality; Globalization/One World; Culture; Ecumenism and Religion; Justice, Peace and Care for Creation. This way, visitors can have a close-up, personalized experience of the exhibits and presentations of Reformation issues today.

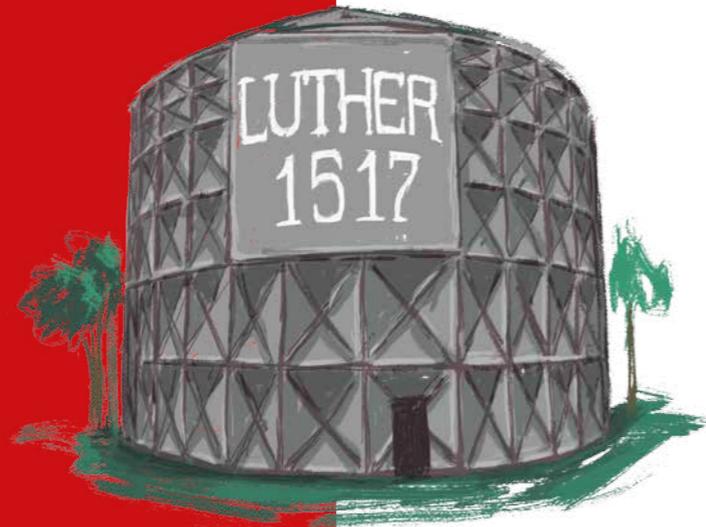
The programme of the World Reformation Exhibition is available at www.r2017.org.

In addition, the 16 theme weeks of the exhibition will offer a full programme on open-air stages and in event tents in the city – panel discussions, workshops and much more. It will thus point to the future, at a place where the world was changed, 500 years ago.



360° Panorama

Cyclorama by Yadegar Asisi



The installation LUTHER 1517 makes the Reformation an all-round sensory experience. The 360° panorama created by artist Yadegar Asisi unfurls the complexity of the Wittenberg events in the first half of the 16th century. Besides giving an artist's interpretation of well-known events, Asisi depicts the life of the populace, scholars and upper classes; he presents the underlying causes and repercussions of the Reformation in an understandable way. Visitors experience the Panorama in a day-and-night rhythm, embedded in a soundtrack of especially composed music.

Over the last 13 years, Yadegar Asisi has revived the 19th century tradition of huge circular images. At currently five locations the panoramas engage with historical subjects like the Berlin Wall. The artist has also captured the fascinating natural scenery of the Himalayas. Asisi's late project, the Wittenberg Panorama, opens in autumn 2016 and will remain on display until 2021.



Art in the Old Prison

Luther and the Avant-garde

Wittenberg's Old Prison on the edge of the embankments is going to become a space for art: not pictorial depictions of the life and work of Martin Luther and other Reformers, but an encounter between contemporary art and insights of those who were pioneers of thought and faith, 500 years ago.

Luther's moderate attitude to the prohibition of images in the Reformation period opened the door a crack to the modern age. "Pictures," Martin Luther declared, "are neither good nor bad;

you can have them or not have them." This is a licence to reflect anew on the role and content of art – and to face this challenge time and again.

A team of top-notch curators under the leadership of Professor Dr. Walter Smerling (Foundation for Art and Culture) is inviting artists from all continents to grapple with the notion of Reformation. Besides established artists from the contemporary scene, there will also be room for young artists, quite in the spirit of the avant-garde.

Stories on tour

European Reformation Roadmap

From Turku (Finland) in the North to Sibiu (Romania) in the East, from Rome (Italy) in the South to Dublin (Ireland) in the West – the Reformation has left traces here, and far beyond, over the last 500 years. These stopovers illustrate the route of the storymobile “Stories on tour”. Reformation stories – from then to now – will be collected at 68 European sites: over five centuries of history that have shaped the present and will form the future.

The storymobile will stop at every place on the roadmap for 36 hours. Regional and ecumenical partners will stage numerous events in order to uncover the local connections with Reformation history. Personal stories will testify to the relevance of Reformation perspectives. Each town or city on the Roadmap will send a memento to the World Reformation Exhibition in Wittenberg, where the tour will conclude on 20 May 2017.

All stopovers on the Roadmap are listed at www.r2017.org.



trust and try

Confirmand and Youth Camps

Trust – or to use Luther’s word “fiducia” – is not just a theological centrepiece of the Reformation. Particularly for young people, trust is of central importance when it comes to coping with the challenges of life.

The Confirmand and Youth Camps from June to September 2017 in Wittenberg will offer thematic workshops, attractive evening programmes and mega worship services. They will invite young people to try out new things, to trust themselves – and the camp community. The confirmands can, of course, carry out their own project, but they can also pick up valuable new ideas to take back to their home churches, after five days living under canvas.

Older teenagers, as team leaders, will accompany the up to 1500 campers per week and play a key role. They will be responsible for the main thematic programme and for organizing the leisure-time activities. Team leaders will

receive advance training at a special camp.

If you are interested in becoming a team leader, please contact us at teamer@r2017.org.



Generation 17

Volunteering for the Reformation anniversary

Setting out together for a city brimming with history – this is a one-off opportunity. Several hundred volunteers will form a unique community in Wittenberg for a year. They will live together, share their volunteer service and cooperate on the projects making up the Reformation Summer.

Volunteers will drive to the cities on the European Roadmap on the show truck. They will keep up supplies in the tent villages of the youth camps and welcome international visitors to the World Reformation Exhibition. Volunteers will translate, look after children and young people, support stage teams and be responsible for specific jobs in the organization office. They will be trained at workshops and can refresh their skills according to their interests. They can plan projects, organize their own leisure time and live their faith. All that is possible for Generation 17 thanks to the activities of “Reformation anniversary 2017”.

If you are interested, please contact us by summer 2016 at volunteers@r2017.org.

Contributing, participating, just being there



Short-term volunteers: Sign up from summer 2016 as a voluntary worker – in the context of the World Reformation Exhibition, Kirchentag on the Way, the festive weekend or the youth camps.

Team leaders: Take responsibility as a team leader at the youth camps from June to September 2017. Support us in organizing and running the programme, and be part of the community.

Choirs, theatres, performers: Feed your ideas and contributions into the “Kirchentag on the Way” programme in one of eight central German cities – whether on stage or with your own action stand.

Long-term volunteers: Live and work for a gap year in Wittenberg in a community of hundreds of others taking a year out. Apply for a place now under the German schemes for post-secondary social service Freiwilliges Soziales Jahr or Bundesfreiwilligendienst.

Sponsors and partners: Whether from a company or an individual, whether you make an online donation or set up a standing order – all forms of support are welcome. We would be glad to discuss individual partnership packages.

Exhibitors, providers, artists, musicians: Play a part as exhibitor or provider, with an artistic or musical programme at the World Reformation Exhibition. We will discuss how this could work in a personal conversation.

www.r2017.org/mitmachen

Imprint

Publisher

Reformationsjubiläum 2017 e.V.

Executive directors

Hartwig Bodmann, Ulrich Schneider
(responsible under press law)

Neustr. 10b,
06886 Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany

Editorial board

Cathrine Schweikardt, Christof Vetter

Donation account

KD-Bank eG
IBAN: DE 46 1006 1006 2017 2017 46
BIC: GENODED1KDB

Design

ALEKS & SHANTU GmbH
Illustrations: Daniel Leyva

Translation

Elaine Griffiths

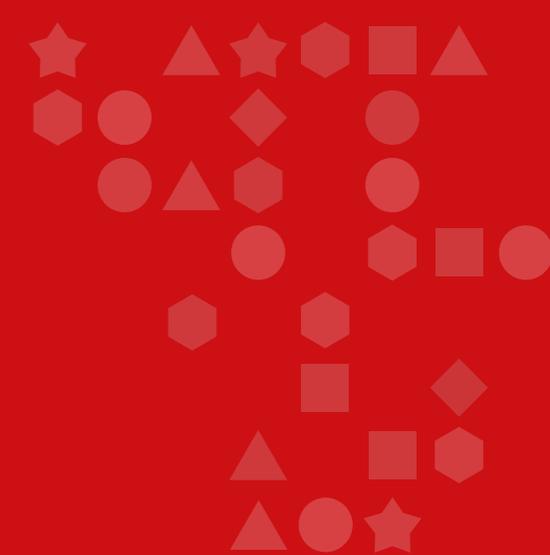
Print

LASERLINE Digitales Druckzentrum
Bucec & Co. Berlin KG

1st print run: 10,000

More information: www.r2017.org
Questions to: info@r2017.org

Tickets



World Reformation Exhibition ‘Gates of Freedom’

including asisi Panorama LUTHER 1517 & Luther and the Avant-garde

€19 day pass

€14 reduced day pass

under 25-year-olds,
full-time students

€35 family pass

parents with children up to 25,
grandparents with grandchildren up to 25

Kirchentage on the Way

**€59 full-programme
admission pass**

€42 reduced admission pass

under 25-year-olds or students

€105 family pass

parents with children under 25,
grandparents with grandchildren under 25

asisi Panorama LUTHER 1517

€11 adults

€9 reduced

full-time students,
severely disabled persons

€4 children

6 to 16 years of age

For information on additional types of ticket and application details, see
www.r2017.org/eintritt.

AM ANFANG
WAR DAS WORT



reform ation 2017

www.r2017.org



Evangelische Kirche
in Deutschland



*Deutscher
Evangelischer
Kirchentag*

