

Mission 2005 News

Η ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΑ ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΑΝΔΡΕΑ



Conference on World Mission and Evangelism, Athens, Greece, May 9-16, 2005

Mission2005News is issued every morning. Editors Alex Belopopsky and Jyrki Harkonen may be found in the Public Information Team Office (Main building, upstairs), tel +30 697 718 4378. Design: Espresso Studio. Creative director Dimitris Arvanitis. Art director Kyriakos Koutsogiannopoulos. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the views of the World Council of Churches or of CWME.

Wednesday 11 May

Today in Aghios Andreas

Daily news

Mission2005 News is for you to enjoy and take home. Take several copies and distribute them back to colleagues and friends in your church!

Healing communities

The sub-theme of the conference is being introduced by a theatre performance prepared by young participants, as well as by narrative and reflective theological reflection on the role of the church and the local congregations in mission. More inside.

Coming home

The plenary will focus on the main theme of the conference, pneumatology and mission, with addresses from two different theological perspectives. Further information inside.



Journeying together

'Synaxeis' explore a range of experiences of mission in multi-cultural, indigenous and marginalized contexts, using diverse methodologies. Full details on back page.

Live on the web!

Recordings of the plenary sessions are all available on the internet. Visit www.mission2005.org

Greek cultural evening

At 21.00 participants are treated to the sights, sounds and tastes of Greek traditional culture arranged by the CWME hosting churches.

For more info see www.mission2005.org

Number
of the Day
300

More than 300
churches
and Christian
organizations
are participating
in the CWME

Now and forever

"Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs bestowing life. Le Christ est ressuscité des morts, par la mort il a vaincu la mort, et à ceux qui sont dans les tombeaux il a donné la vie. Cristo resucitó de entre los muertos, venciendo a la muerte con la muerte, y otorgando vida a aquellos en las tumbas! Christus ist von den Toten auferstanden. Im Tod bezwang er den Tod, und denen, die entschlafen sind, schenkt er ewiges Leben."



Healing communities

Many of the laws of the ancient Hebrews dealt with health matters. Healing was also a central purpose of Jesus' ministry.

Christians since the days of the apostles have been involved in various ways in curing and healing work. Today the churches' healing ministry ranges from large hospital systems to the laying on of hands in healing services.

Since the 1980s the ecumenical movement has encouraged Christian communities to discover together new ways of creating healing communities in a broken world. Some of the healing services

practised by churches of different traditions will be performed during the conference. Conference participants are invited to join and observe these moments of prayer and meditation.

Daily services

Mission2005 offers healing services from various Christian traditions which are open to all participants. These services will take place in the outdoor chapel at 14.30. Today's healing service will be offered by the Lutheran communion. See the complete schedule for the week on page 4.

Ruth's Reflections

A Symbolic Cross

It seems a long time ago that the conference planning committee discussed ideas for a logo for the conference and considered various designs. This included discussion about the symbol of the cross. It is a most profound symbol that speaks of the heart of our faith in Jesus Christ. But we also noted that the symbol has been misused and experienced as a symbol of domination. The bringing of the olive wood cross, over the sea from Jerusalem, with the reminder from those who presented it of the realities of that context I found very moving. So too was the struggle to hold it upright. If the cross is made of many pieces as a reminder of the many parts of the body of Christ, the many needed to lift it high reminds me of the need for us to work together in our proclamation of the good news. May the gift of this cross inspire us in our deliberations.

Ruth Bottoms, CWME moderator



Profile

Beate Fagerli
and Dimitri Pasakos

Meeting of Minds

What do a Norwegian Lutheran woman and a Greek Orthodox man have in common? A love of mission of course! Beate Fagerli is the Geneva-based CWME staff

conference coordinator, and Dimitri Pasakos the local organizer in Athens. Both have worked tirelessly - and their colleagues would say miraculously - for the last year to think, write, coordinate, plan, telephone, e-mail, cajole and convince their way to this unique world gathering.

What does it feel like to actually be at the opening of the event? "Delighted but exhausted," confesses Beate, who studied theology in Norway and Nicaragua. "My hope is that this 'island' of hope becomes a real world of reconciliation once the people return home." Dimitri, also a theologian trained in Greece and the USA, agrees. "There were

moments when, like the Olympics, we thought it could not happen. But in the end, churches and organizers mobilized their best resources and here we are!"

What will both do after the event? "I dream of simply reading newspapers and drinking coffee without interruption!" says Dimitri. And Beate? "I will just sleep and eat and see my husband! And then, for sure, another mission!"

Also 'On Air' today

Two personal testimonies on the conference theme will be given on Wednesday. Samuel Kabue from Kenya will share how the WCC's Ecumenical Disability Advocates Network (EDAN), which he coordinates, views the healing and reconciling character of the local community. Athanasios Papathanasiou, a leading theologian and educator from Greece, will offer an Orthodox contribution to missiological dialogue.

Faces and voices



Plenary Hall

Stewards in the plenary tent will help you to find the best language choice. During plenaries you can choose interpretation of the proceedings into five languages: German, Greek, French, English and Spanish.



In case of fire

You have probably seen the fire-truck that's around? The courageous firemen from nearby Nea Makri work 24-hour shifts to make sure that nothing goes wrong. In case of emergency the Greek word for fire is *photia*.

Behind the scenes

Each day the conference office prepares thousands of registration forms, various lists, signs, badges and copies. 10-15 staff and stewards do this work, principally during the late evening and night.

Finance Office

Pay your registration fees and, in case of loss or other mishaps, request cash reimbursements here. Open daily 10.30 to 16.30 and 19.00 to 20.30. Upstairs in the main building.



Prof. Brenda Ruiz
Nicaragua

I have been teaching pastoral counselling in the Baptist Seminary for several years. I have experience doing counselling with couples and dealing with issues of domestic violence. I can do counselling in English and Spanish.



Dr Philip Mamalakis
USA

I am an assistant professor of pastoral theology at Holy Cross theological school and a professional counsellor from the USA. I am experienced in forgiveness counselling, working with men and crisis counselling. I can work in English.



Rev. Tiina Talvitie
Finland

I am an ordained deacon and counsellor. I have worked with people in different crisis situations, and in community life and reconciliation in communities. I can do counselling in English, French and Finnish.



Dr Hae Yong You
South-Korea

I am an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church in South Korea. I have been teaching Christian spirituality in seminary and worked as a spiritual guide for many years.

Counselling

CWME counselling services

During the conference, counselling services are available each day in shifts from 08:00 to 22:30. Counsellors are available to discuss any spiritual, emotional or other concern or problem. The experienced counsellors are chosen from various church traditions and cultures. The counsellors can be approached at anytime (they wear yellow badges) and the rooms are upstairs in the main building.

Youth

Delegates

This conference has 18-30 year-old youth delegates from 15 different countries. These delegates have been nominated by their churches to participate in and share the programme at the same level as older participants.

World News

Germany: Berlin opens Holocaust memorial

German politicians and Jewish leaders have marked 60 years since the end of World War II by officially opening Berlin's vast Holocaust memorial.

Iraq: Fighting near Syrian border

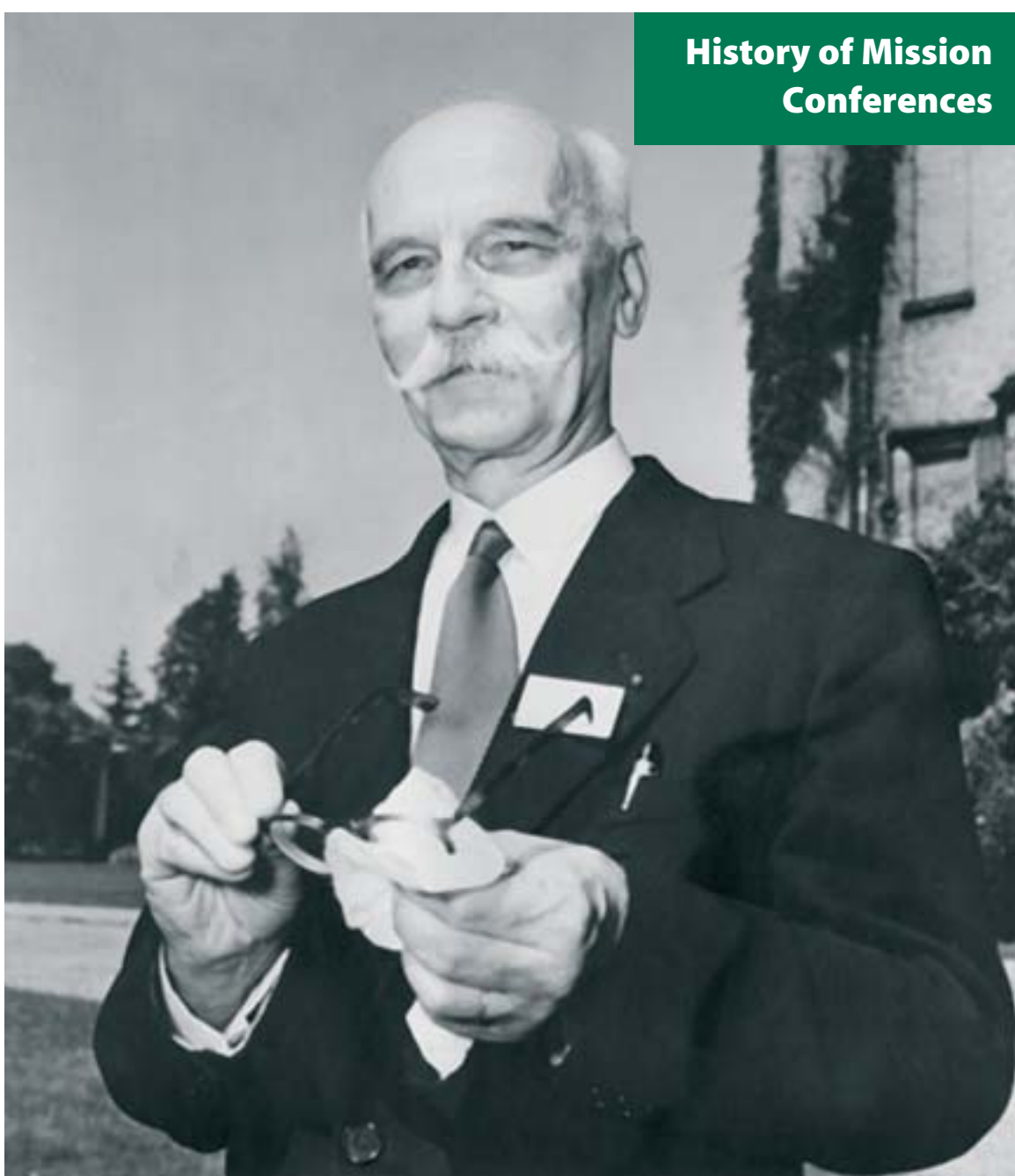
U.S. forces pushed north early Tuesday as they battled fighters near the Syrian border, part of a force of about 1,000 troops aimed at countering insurgents, the U.S. military said.

Info on Mission 2005 Local Organizers

Armenian Evangelical Church of Greece

The origin of the Armenian Evangelical Church dates back to the 19th century. The life of the Armenian Evangelical Church in Greece started in 1923. The Evangelical Church has two churches, one in Piraeus and the other in Athens.

Thursday: The Catholic Church of Greece



History of Mission Conferences

Tambaram 1938

The third mission conference took place in **Tambaram**, India. In a world context where peace was increasingly threatened by fascist-type regimes, the discussions focused on the importance and centrality of the church in mission. Tambaram also defended the ultimate truth of the Christian message vis-à-vis other religions, while advising missionaries to a listening and dialoguing approach in practice.

Whitby 1947

The mission conference in **Whitby**, Canada, was a small one. It reflected on the fundamental changes in what was considered a "revolutionary" world after the shock of the second world war. There was a need to rebuild not only countries, but also relations between people who had been in conflict. Whitby became famous for its slogan, "partnership in obedience". The term "partnership" had been used earlier, but it received particular emphasis at Whitby.

Dr Marc Boegner, president of the French Protestant Federation, was a leading delegate at a joint meeting of representatives from the World Council of Churches and the International Missionary Council at Whitby in 1947.

Mission2005 in the international press

Evangelischer Pressedienst Germany (www.epd.de)

Auf der Tagung geht es unter dem Begriff Heilung zudem um Alternativen zum westlichen Gesundheitssystem. Erwartet werden zudem Diskussionen zu den negativen Folgen der Globalisierung und der wachsenden Kluft zwischen Arm und Reich. Auch neue Ansätze für gewaltfreie Konfliktlösungen in der veränderten Weltlage seit den Anschlägen vom 11. September 2001 stehen auf der Tagesordnung.

Agencia Latinoamericana y Caribena de Comunicacion (ALC), Peru (www.alcnoticias.org)

Cerca de 700 cristianos de las mas diversas tradiciones y de todos los rincones del planeta se han congregado en Atenas esta semana para la decimo tercera conferencia mundial sobre mision y evangelizacion, convocada bajo el lema: "Ven Espiritu Santo, sana y reconcilia!", que comienza este lunes 9 y se extiende hasta el domingo 15 de mayo.

Day's Glossary

Healing

Many laws of the ancient Hebrews dealt with health matters. Healing was also a major activity of Jesus' earthly ministry (Matt. 10:1).

Holy

The church of the risen Christ, victorious over sin and death, is holy. Also in the Nicene Creed holiness is one of the four specific notes of the church ("one, holy, catholic, apostolic).

Practical details

Airport taxi

Telephone 229 40 91 300.

Breakfast

Breakfast is served in the main building cafeteria daily from 7.15.

Prayers

Morning worship and evening prayers will take place in the Worship tent.

Currency

Only euros are accepted in the cafeteria and shops.

First Aid

A clinic is staffed 24 hours a day in the conference venue. For any emergency contact the Information desk.

Information desk and messages

The Information desk is open from 8.00 to 19.00. Personal messages and mail are distributed each day in alphabetized boxes at the Information desk. Hand messages directly to stewards.

Liturgy of healing

The first liturgy of healing starts today at 14.30 on the walkway to the sea behind the cafeteria.

Lost and found

For lost property please go to the Information desk.

Messages

Please check the message board in the main entrance!

Meals

Lunch is served daily at 12.30 or 13.30. Dinner is served daily at 19.00 or 19.45. Please try to go at the time assigned to you to avoid long queues.

Orthodox meeting

All the Byzantine and Oriental Orthodox participants meet at 20.00 in the Plenary Tent.

Participants list

The participants list is not yet available.

Post office in Nea Makri

Open from 07.30 to 14.00. Shops in the same town are open until 14.00 and reopen at 17.00 to 21.00 each day.

Press Room

Interview requests and meeting room for the media is in the Press Room, on the ground floor of the main building.

Internet Café

Connect to the Internet using the lines of the Internet café. Wireless access to Internet also available.

Special needs

Contact Judith Kocher at the Information desk.

Stewards

Stewards will guide and help you when needed but remember that they have designated tasks.

Swimming

Enjoy, but participants swim at their own risk.

Taverna

An outdoor cafeteria, "The Seaside Taverna", will be open every evening after dinner, selling snacks and drinks.

Toilets

Toilets are signposted. Please respect other participants and keep them clean!

Weather

Wednesday 11 May 2005

Athens + 23°C, sunny
Oslo +12°C, sunny

Today's Synaxeis

TIME	SYNAXIS THEME	PLACE
14.30	The Church of all and for all	Plenary tent
14.30	Healing the nations	Worship tent
14.30	Living with HIV/AIDS within the church	Room 101
14.30	Called in Christ – represented on the mosaics Redemptoris Mater	Glass House
14.30	Religious plurality	Synaxis tent 1
14.30	The missional church as healing community	Synaxis tent 2
14.30	Women's ministry of healing	Synaxis tent 3
14.30	Dialogue and church mission in Germany	Synaxis tent 4
14.30	Community of healing and church mission in England	Synaxis tent 4
16.30	Mission from the perspective of people	Plenary tent
16.30	Multicultural ministries	Worship tent
16.30	Turning home into hopes	Room 101
16.30	Churches seeking reconciliation and peace	Glass House
16.30	Indigenous people's resources	Synaxis tent 1
16.30	A Christian approach to HIV prevention	Synaxis tent 2
16.30	Theological education as mission	Synaxis tent 3
16.30	A journey to Argavia	Synaxis tent 4
16.30	Meditating and praying as spiritual guidance	Synaxis tent 5

Any changes to this schedule will be posted on the Synaxeis registration board.



Μία μέρα πριν...

