Pilgrimage of justice and peace

WCC’s roles in the pilgrimage

Berlin May 2015
Assembly’s call for a pilgrimage

Assembly message:

“We intend to move together. Challenged by our experiences in Busan, we challenge all people of good will to engage their God-given gifts in transforming actions. This assembly calls you to join us in pilgrimage.”
a pilgrimage of justice and peace

WCC is in **two ways** involved in the pilgrimage:

- through its own programmatic work.
- through its role in the ecumenical movement;

**Note:**
though these two ways of involvement are intertwined, they have a distinctive nature
Strategic objectives as pilgrimage aspects: inter-related

- Strengthening the fellowship
- Witnessing together
- Building relations of trust and understanding
- Encouraging spirituality, reflection and formation
- Inspiring and innovative communication
WCC Mission

Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace 2014 - 2021

Strategic objectives 2014-2021

Programmatic Objectives 2014-2017

Programmatic Objectives 2018-2021

Project Objectives

Specific activities

Gives direction to actions

Contributes to outcomes
a pilgrimage of justice and peace

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What is a pilgrimage?

Share your thoughts about pilgrimage from your context.

A journey of faith

Pilgrimage is common to all the world’s religious traditions. A pilgrimage is a journey of faith, often to a place considered sacred, in order to offer thanks, to atone for wrong-doing, or to seek enlightenment or healing or reconciliation. In the Bible itself are many examples of pilgrimage. As you begin to explore the WCC Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace, consider the nature of pilgrimage in your faith and the faith of others different from you. As you do, share your ideas and experience with others through the comments sections below, by making a video or audio presentation or sharing with others through social media. The resource document that you can download below will help you consider pilgrimage in your own life’s journey or that of your community. To draw others into the conversation in social media use the hashtag #WhatsAPilgrimage.
Your comments

Martin Schindehütte, Bishop em.  
2015-05-01 11:32:00

This is indeed an important step implementing the pilgrimage. Sharing spiritual experiences, theological insights and concrete actions is most important for this process. So see attached (http://wccpilgrimage.org/resources/documents/staticdocument:26/@download/file) a lecture of mine reflecting the biblical roots of a pilgrimage. This text is important in our process of preparing a decision of the synod in November 2016 of the regional Lutheran Church of Hannover, Lower Saxony, Germany, in my chairmanship.

David Marsh  
2015-05-01 07:49:54.367004

If we understand pilgrimage in the light of Abraham's journey, as suggested in the participants guide for this section, then we see it as a 'journey' that is initiated by God. Abraham responds to God's call in the obedience of faith. It is a call that will see Abraham personally blessed in order to enable him to fulfill his part in God's overall plan. It is a response that will see him facing situations which test him. At times he will act in ways that are informed by his own fears or the suggestions of those around him, which create the seeds of future conflict. Nevertheless God continues with him, and brings his purpose to fruition. For Abraham, his obedience involved a physical, geographical, relocation. Our obedience may require this too, or it may require that we move out of our comfort zone to meet new challenges.
Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace

Everywhere we look today, life seems imperilled... Isn’t it time for Christians and Christian churches everywhere to unite in sustaining life by working together on today’s most pressing issues? Isn’t it time for Christians everywhere to join in a sacred journey – a pilgrimage – toward justice and peace?

Become involved in the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace: an initiative of the WCC member churches “to work together in a common quest, renewing the true vocation of the church through collaborative engagement with the most important issues of justice and peace, healing a world filled with conflict, injustice and pain.”

Share your ideas and learn from fellow pilgrims: Please visit www.wccpilgrimage.org for multimedia resources and interaction guided by nine questions such as “What is a pilgrimage?” and “What are justice and peace?” Personal reflections on the pilgrimage theme, how it relates to the lives of the churches in various parts of the world, and to justice and peace issues that Christians are confronting in their communities, are being posted for discussion at blog.oikoumene.org.

Resources:
- Infographic on the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace (pdf) to guide individuals and groups in their reflections
- An Invitation to the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace adopted by the WCC Central Committee
- Beginning the Pilgrimage Towards Justice: A study guide by Dr Emily Welty
- Audio interview with the WCC president for North America, Bishop Mark MacDonald
- Preparing for pilgrimage (pdf), congregational resource to explore the meaning of pilgrimage in our context and in light of our faith
Examples of pilgrimages: PC Canada
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GeCmjLmFXOs
Examples of pilgrimages

Adele Halliday: Pilgrimage as transformation

World Council of Churches

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