



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

Office of the
General Secretary

lutheranworld.org

To the member churches of the Lutheran
World Federation

Geneva, 22 January 2021

Respected church leaders, dear sisters and brothers,

Greetings to you in this New Year 2021. I continue including you in my prayers, asking for God's ongoing presence and inspiration as you lead your respective churches to holistically witness to the good news of Jesus Christ in your contexts. As humankind journeys through hardship and anxieties, the message of grace as revealed through Jesus Christ remains a true gift of hope and life.

It is with immense pleasure that I share with you a further milestone in the communion's ongoing conversation about Lutheran identity: after the LWF's first global consultation in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in October 2019 and the important ensuing work that followed after, we are now launching the process to amplify opportunities for the LWF member churches' participation in the process.

This study process builds on the self-understanding of the LWF as a communion of churches that share their gifts and their insights, in a spirit of mutuality and solidarity, as they participate in God's mission in their contexts. Because of this self-understanding, your participation is crucial.

With this link, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MCXJG5H>, you will see a survey that enables your church to add its voice and its contributions as the global communion engages in the exciting conversation about our shared theological identity as Lutheran churches, while they serve in their unique and differing contexts around the globe.

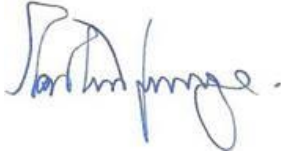
On this page of the LWF website, <https://www.lutheranworld.org/content/lutheran-identities-study-process>, you will be able to access a discussion guide that your members can use to host conversations about different aspects of our Lutheran tradition. The questions were generated at the consultation in Addis Ababa, and include regionally specific questions.

As a whole, the survey will offer invaluable input to continue articulating in a participatory way our shared theological identity as Lutheran churches and as a global communion. For us in the Communion Office, this survey is extremely important because it allows us to listen to you as we prepare for the next steps on our journey towards the Thirteenth Assembly in Krakow, Poland (2023), where the outcomes of this process will be presented.

I kindly request your support and participation in this process by adding your distinct voice, emphases, and profiles of being the Lutheran church in our times.

Thanking you in advance for your active participation, I remain

Yours in Christ

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Martin Junge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small flourish at the end.

Martin Junge
General Secretary