

PLEASE CONTACT US:

Department for mission and ecumenical affairs

Church officer
Rev. Anne Heitmann



Blumenstr. 1-7, D-76133 Karlsruhe
Phone: 0049-(0) 721 9175-388
Fax: 0049-(0) 721 9175-25-388
Mail: anne.heitmann@ekiba.de
www.ekiba.de/oekumene

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Protestant church in Baden
www.ekiba.de

Evangelical Church in Germany
www.ekd.de

Community of Protestant Churches in Europe
www.leuenberg.net

Conference of European Churches
www.cec.kek.org

Evangelical Mission in Solidarity
www.ems-online.org

World Council of Churches
www.oikoumene.org

Regional Council of Churches
www.ack-bw.de

International Convent of Christian Congregations in Baden
www.ikcg.de



INFORMATION
on the Protestant Church
in Baden / Germany



INFORMATION ON THE PROTESTANT CHURCH IN BADEN / GERMANY

Baptism along the Rhine River



Baden is situated in the south-western part of Germany. Politically it is part of the federal state Baden-Württemberg.

The **Protestant Church in Baden** exists since 1821, when reformed and lutheran Christians voted for unifying their churches.

The Protestant Church has over 1,23 million members and is organized in 25 church districts with - in total - 690 congregations:

The **Bishop** is Prof. Dr. Jochen Cornelius-Bundschuh. He is member of the Church Conference of the Protestant Church in Germany EKD with its 20 regional churches.

The Protestant Church in Baden has three levels of organization:

- the congregation/parish, led by a parish council and minister(s) serving it
- the church district/deanery, led by a district synod, a district council and a superintendent (dean)
- the church „Evangelische Landeskirche in Baden“, led by the Synod, the bishop and the senior church officers (Oberkirchenräte).

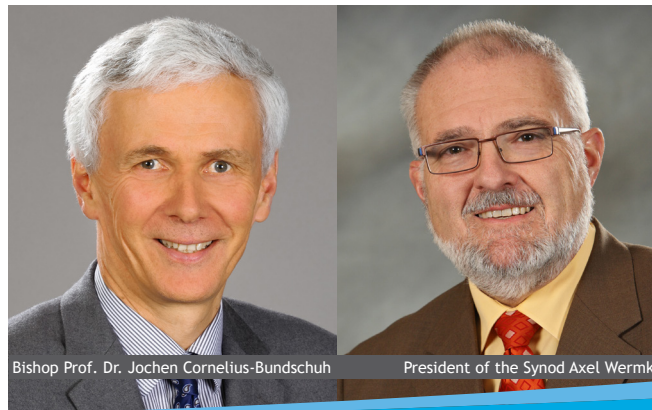
All members older than 14 years can elect the church elders (members of a parish council). These elders then elect the members of the district synods. Each district synod elects two members for the Synod of the church. The Synod of the Protestant Church in Baden is the highest authority within the church and normally meets twice a year.

There are 1021 ministers (about 41% female) working in congregations and specialized ministries. Furthermore about 32.000 employees are working in diaconical institutions, schools and Kindergartens.

Together with thousands of volunteers in the congregations they try to be a part of the worldwide body of Christ and the ecumenical community and bring the Good News to people in word and deed.

The daily business of organizing the church and its spiritual life is delegated to the senior church officers. Eight senior church officers are responsible as heads of departments, for example for church in society, social work, for finances, staff and for buildings.

The department for evangelism, congregational life, society and also mission and ecumenical affairs is led by senior church officer Rev. Dr. Matthias Kreplin. Rev. Anne Heitmann is responsible in this department for mission and ecumenical affairs, supported by



Bishop Prof. Dr. Jochen Cornelius-Bundschuh

President of the Synod Axel Wermke

Global Youth Meeting at our Youth Conference



three regionally oriented ministers. One person is commissioner for church development service. There are three ecumenical co-workers from overseas partner churches.

Each church district has one or two ministers responsible for ecumenical affairs. In the same way each congregation commissions one or two elders for this task.

The Protestant Church in Baden is a founder member of the Regional Council of Christian Churches (ACK-BW), of the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (GEKE), as well as the Conference of European Churches (CEC) and the World Council of Churches (WCC).

Situated on the border to France and Switzerland the church cooperates with the protestant neighbours there at various levels. The Protestant Church in Baden is a member of the Evangelical Mission in Solidarity (EMS). There are more than 100 partnerships with local Roman-Catholic congregations and church districts and with churches in Europe and overseas.