

# The Daily Bread

Newsletter from Dresden  
Youth Pre-Assembly



July 12, 2010

Sprechen Sie Deutsch?

Danke  
The key-word of all languages.  
(It fits every time)

## Fußballweltmeister

Danielle have to wait at least one more time for this title :-)

## Gute Nacht, schlaf gut – bis morgen!

You should say these words every evening.

## Kaffee und Kuchen

The Germans are used to trink and eat coffee and cake.

## pünktlich

How all participants should arrive in the conference room.

## Wasser

In these days we're sometimes longing for it, singing for it or jump into it.

Weather forecast for Dresden



	Min	Max
Tues	21°C	27°C
Wed	19°C	30°C
Thurs	23°C	28°C

## HOT TIP

For more news and pictures visit: <http://lwfyouth.org>

Find LWF youth on **Facebook**, and add a link to <http://lwfyouth.org> to tell youth back at home what is happening at the conference.

## Dresden Lutherans welcome youth to the city of rebirth

by Anthony Tucker, Sierra Leone – USA

The eyes of the Lutheran communion focus on Germany as it hosts the LWF Youth Pre-assembly this week in the city of Dresden in Eastern part of Germany. Walking around the city is like travelling through the history of Germany – destruction and rebirth. It is a triad of art, history and nature, with the river Elbe running through.



Sunday worship was held at Dreikönigskirche, one of the most prominent churches in Dresden for its role in the politics of the city. After the church was destroyed in 1945, the people of Dresden, especially the youth, rebuilt it brick by brick with their bare hands. In 1989, the peaceful demonstration by hundred thousands of citizens in nearby Leipzig resulted in the fall of the GDR (communist Germany) and thus subsequently the birth of democracy, of which the Lutheran church played a crucial role. The rooms of the Dreikönigskirche itself were the first place the parliament met in East Germany. The church lives on as a symbol of peace and reconciliation.

During communism it was difficult to be a Christian, and church membership fell from 4 million to 800,000, according to Dr. Christoph Munchow from the Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saxony who welcomed youth participants. That struggle to promote a Christian identity in Dresden (and East Germany) continues today in a society with such strong atheist and secular traditions.

The local youth in Dresden support the church in its outreach ministry to the community. But they're also faced with critical issues and challenges. According to Jakob Lehmann, a member of the Lutheran Youth Organization of Dresden, **the young people find it extremely difficult to better relate with the older generation.** He suggested that the adults should try to listen to the voices of the youths. Talking about his community, Jakob also emphasized the fact that most youth in higher institution live in fear of unemployment upon graduation. According to him, the youth should try to create a platform upon which they can support each other and together confront the issues affecting them.

## Vuvuzelas come to Dresden!

by Moses Aboka, Kenya

Can you imagine that the vuvuzelas have crossed the borders from South Africa to Germany? When the youth from more than 40 countries attending the Pre-Assembly watched the World Cup final the sound of the vuvuzela filled the tents outside the conference hall.

The youths from Southern and Central American added more spice to the celebration by cheering with a lot of passion. When Germany won against Uruguay Jared Magero from Kenya was so excited. As the country celebrated he said, "It's good

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to be here and hear the sounds of fireworks, this is not so common in Kenya, and I now feel so happy.”

Despite Sergio Eloy Rios Carillo from Nicaragua speaking Spanish, he was really yearning for the Netherlands to win. “The Netherlands are so humble, I really want God to pay them for this” he commented.

Perhaps this was evident when Danielle a delegate from the Netherlands decided to hand out flags and painted some delegates hair with her national colors.

Despite the orange flag flying there were still quite a number of youth who were rooting for Spain. Pedro Munaretto from Argentina was so happy that Spain won the World Cup. Most of the players from his

country play in Spain, and since they were bundled out in the qualifications, this was the only thing to bring happiness to him. Lucky enough, Spain were crowned 2010 World Cup Champion, after a lone goal from Iniesta in the 116th minute.

Although football fans would be unhappy that the Cup has come to an end so soon, it was wonderful to see so many youths from different cultures understanding one another through the language of football.

## Baptized by the Sun

by Mary Button, USA

Sunday’s opening session was a lovely end to our first day in Dresden. The steering committee gave us an idea of what their hopes for the Pre-Assembly are, then Roger broke down how we will be spending the next week bringing those goals to fruition. But, most importantly delegates from Brazil and South Africa led all of us in a rain dance!



Certainly, Sunday’s trip through Dresden had all of us silently (or not so silently) praying for God to shower us rain and cool us off. We began with a lovely walk through the city for morning worship. In her sermon, Bishop Ilse Junkerman reminded us of what Luther said, over and over, in times of distress: “I am baptized.” For me, the most meaningful part of the service was how we shared baptism with each other. As we entered the church young people from all of the different continents represented here in this assembly were given pitchers of water.

Later in the service they were called forward to pour this water into the baptismal font, this water (representing all the regions of the world) was then poured into tiny bowls.

After the sermon, members of the church walked to the front of the church, took the bowls and stood at every pew. **Each person took the water and made the sign of the cross on the forehead of the person standing next to them and said words of thanks, or of greeting, or of remembrance, or nothing at all — letting the cross speak instead.**

I couldn’t think of a more perfect way for us to begin our time here in Germany than with the reminder that while we don’t all speak the same language, through baptism, we are all brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. Now we pray that we live into the spirit of our baptism and work together for our global church in the coming days. And a baptism of rain wouldn’t hurt either!

**"Where people share, there is a miracle. That's the kind of world we want."**

Bishop Dr. Zephania Kameeta from Namibia on the story of the feeding of the 5000 in Luke.

