

Lutherland

Ecumenical Pilgrimage and Study Tour

October 10 - 23, 2010

A program of Christian Tours Europe
Sponsored by
ELCA North/West Lower Michigan Synod - Center for Mission & Ministry
Hosted by Nancy Brousseau, OP and Rev. Owen Williams



Come with us to the roots of Lutheran Life and Spirituality while experiencing first-hand the birthplace of the Reformation. This "Ecumenical Pilgrimage and Study Tour" will not be a typical European tour. The emphasis is on pilgrimage and reflective study rather than tourism. The sites we will visit have special significance for all of us as we come to understand better their meaning within the on-going story of our common Christian life and faith. Participants will walk in the footsteps of Martin Luther while exploring the broader context of his life and times, yesterday and today! Our study will involve local Christian leaders, seminars on relevant topics and the experience of an Augustinian monastery. Daily worship and periodic reflection will enrich our days. We will learn together as friends and faith companions. It will be a spiritual journey you will never forget. We invite you to be pilgrims with us.

Nancy Brousseau, OP
Center Facilitator, Lansing Michigan

Rev. Owen Williams
Pastor, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Alpena, Michigan

Lutherland Ecumenical Pilgrimage and Study Tour

Berlin - Wittenberg - Torgau - Leipzig - Eisleben - Erfurt - Buchenwald
Eisenach - Marburg - Worms - Mainz



Day 1, Sunday, October 10, 2010: Leave US
Transatlantic overnight flight to Berlin, Germany.

Day 2, Monday, October 11, 2010: Berlin

Arrive in Berlin, where your German tour director and private motor coach are waiting for you as you exit customs. After everything is settled, transfer to hotel for check-in. In the afternoon visit the Pergamon Museum on Berlin's "Museum Island." In the evening, meet your tour director for dinner and a welcome and orientation meeting and prayer service. D

Day 3, Tuesday, October 12, 2010: Experience Berlin

This morning become familiar with the vibrant city of Berlin with a four-hour city tour including its major religious and historical sites. Your local tour guide will show you sights such as the 1905 neo-Baroque Berlin Cathedral, the bomb-damaged tower of Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag, the "Unter den Linden" government district, and remains of the Berlin Wall. Enjoy some free time in the afternoon. Later on, the group will transfer to Lutherstadt Wittenberg. BD

Day 4, Wednesday, October 13, 2010: Day in Historic Wittenberg

A local guide will help you explore the city where Martin Luther lived and taught for 36 years. The tour includes the City Church, where Luther preached thousands of times, and the Castle Church, where he posted his "95 Theses," thus sparking the Reformation. Learn more about Luther's partners in the Reformation with a visit to the Cranach print shop. You will also visit the Luther House, which was Luther's wedding gift from his prince in 1525 and now houses one of the world's largest Reformation archives. In the afternoon enjoy a presentation by the Sisters of the Selbitzer Community. Dinner and overnight in Wittenberg. BD



Day 5, Thursday, October 14, 2010: Christian Life in the GDR - and City of Torgau

In the morning have the unique chance to listen to the personal stories of Wittenberg residents who lived as Christians during the GDR. Q&A follows the presentation. Depart mid-day for a daytrip to Torgau. Take a tour of the city where, in 1544, the first palace and church were specifically built and consecrated under the auspices of a Protestant Prince. We will see this perfectly preserved Renaissance castle, its chapel and a special feat of engineering - the cantilevered spiral staircase. We continue to nearby St. Mary's Church, where Katharina von Bora, Luther's lively wife "Katie," is buried. Return to Wittenberg in the evening. BD

Day 6, Friday, October 15, 2010: Leipzig - The Peaceful Revolution - Bach

Transfer to Leipzig this morning for a city tour. In May of 1989, tens of thousands of people gathered in the streets for the "Peaceful Revolution," which paved the way for the nonviolent



reunification of East and West Germany. You will visit their rendezvous point at the Gothic (1165 A.D.) St. Nicholas Church. Here, a member of the church will talk with you about "A Day in the Life of a German Congregation." Afterwards, hear a local pastor's presentation on *The Role of the Church in the Peaceful Revolution*. You will also visit the St. Thomas Church, where Johann Sebastian Bach was choirmaster for 27 years - possibly hear a performance by the Thomanerchor. Back to Wittenberg for overnight. B

Day 7, Saturday, October 16, 2010: Eisleben - Luther's Hometown

Leave Wittenberg this morning and head to Eisleben. A city tour includes visits to Luther's Birth House and Death House museums, the church in which he was baptized, and the church in which he preached his final sermon. Check in at Kloster Helfta, a Cistercian Monastery, where we are invited to share in the daily prayers of the sisters. A tour of the convent will get us oriented. Afterwards, hear an introduction to the three great medieval women mystics who made their homes at the convent in Helfta: Mechthild of Magdeburg, Mechthild of Hackeborn, and Gertrude of Helfta. Dinner and overnight at Helfta. BD

Day 8, Sunday, October 17, 2010: Erfurt - Martin Luther as Monk

This morning we worship with the local congregation at St. Andrews. Afterwards, transfer to Erfurt, where you will take a city tour in the footsteps of Martin Luther. See the University district where Luther studied and visit St. Mary's Cathedral, where he was ordained. You will also tour the Augustinian Monastery (now inhabited by Protestant sisters) where Luther took his monastic vows and lived as a monk. A presentation by a sister of the Casteller Ring will end our day. BD

Day 9, Monday, October 18, 2010: Eisenach - The Wartburg and Bach's Birthplace

This morning, take the beautiful trip up the mountain to the Wartburg Castle. After his excommunication Martin Luther was kidnapped by his prince and hid here for almost a year under the alias of "Junker Jorg." See the room where Luther lived and made his translation of the New



Testament. Later visit the Bach House - experience what a typical home looked like in the 18th century, see an interesting collection of antique instruments and hear a demonstration on a variety of these pieces. Return to Erfurt for a free evening when you can just relax or enjoy some time in the historic old city center. B

Day 10, Tuesday, October 19, 2010: Erfurt and Buchenwald

Breakfast is followed by an *Introduction to the 14th c. Dominican Rhineland mystics, Meister Eckhart, Henry Suso, John Tauler, and the influence on Martin Luther.* The remainder of the morning has been left free to explore Erfurt and/or the former Augustinian Monastery on one's own. In the afternoon, continue to the former concentration camp Buchenwald, where a quarter million people were imprisoned between 1937 and 1945. All of them suffered and 50,000 of them died. Among the prisoners were Lutheran pastors Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Paul Schneider, outspoken opponents of National Socialism. A private guided tour will allow us time for reflection and a service of reconciliation. Back to Erfurt. BD

Day 11, Wednesday, October 20, 2010: Marburg

We will check out, board our bus and make our way to Marburg, the home of Philipp of Hesse. It was Philipp one of the leading princes of the Reformation who invited reformers, including Luther and Zwingli to come to his castle in Marburg to resolve their theological differences. These discussions are referred to as the Marburg Colloquy. We have a second chance to visit the story of Elizabeth as we visit the church built in honor of her and her service the Church of St. Elizabeth. (she was canonized by Pope Gregory IX who called her the "greatest woman of the Middle Ages") and visit Marburg University and enjoy this medieval city. We will continue to Darmstadt for dinner and overnight (3 nights) BD

Day 12, Thursday, October 21, 2010: Worms

Today, Worms is on your list. It was at the Diet of Worms in 1521 where Luther stood his ground with the Emperor and refused to recant what he had said and written about grace, about indulgences, about the Pope. Our tour of Worms will include visiting the grounds of the former Bishop's Residence, the Luther Monument, St. Peter's Cathedral, and the Jewish Cemetery. In the afternoon, we return to Darmstadt for rest and refreshment. B

Day 13, Friday, October 22, 2010: Mainz, Rhine River and Wrap-up

In the morning, we head to Mainz for a city tour which includes the Gutenberg Museum. Here you can see original Gutenberg Bibles and learn about the print technology that helped the Reformation movement succeed. In the afternoon, enjoy a relaxing half-day Rhine river cruise, visiting some sites made famous by German folklore, including the Lorelei. This evening, share in a closing banquet and evaluation session. BD

Day 14, Saturday, October 23, 2010: Auf Wiedersehen!

Airport transfer to Frankfurt Airport for flight home.

Slight changes to this itinerary may be made.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Rates:

The rates for the land arrangement are based on a minimum of 25 participants, double occupancy.

Per person: US \$ 2,300.00

Single room supplement US \$ 430.00

Accommodation:

Berlin	1 night	Maritim proArte Hotel
Wittenberg	4 nights	Colleg Wittenberg
Eisleben	1 night	Hotel zur Klosterpforte Helfta
Erfurt	3 nights	Augustinian Monastery
Darmstadt	3 nights	Maritim Rhein-Main Hotel

Included:

- Thoroughly experienced multilingual tour director from Berlin's Tegel Airport and to Frankfurt's Rhein-Main Airport.
- Transportation in a 4 star European-styled motorcoach with climate control, reclining seats, restroom, sink, refrigerator and coffee machine. Maximum 44 seats.
- Hotel accommodation, double occupancy.
- Taxes, parking and road fees.
- Guided city tours in Berlin, Wittenberg, Torgau, Leipzig, Eisleben, Erfurt, Buchenwald, Eisenach, Marburg, Worms and Mainz.
- Entrance fee to Pergamon Museum in Berlin, Castle Church, Town Church and Luther House in Wittenberg.
- Presentation in Wittenberg by the Sisters of Selbitz Community, Panel discussion on "Life as a Christian Before and After the Fall of Communism."
- Entrance fee to both churches in Torgau.
- Presentation in Leipzig: A Day in the Life of a German Congregation, Entrance fee to St. Thomas Motet in Leipzig, Lecture on Peaceful Revolution in Leipzig.
- Entrance fee to St. Peter and Paul Church, St. Andrew's church and Luther's birth house in Eisleben.
- Admission to the Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, the Bach House in Eisenach including a mini concert.
- Admission to the Gutenberg Museum in Mainz, Rhine River Cruise from Rudesheim to St. Goar.
- 21 meals: 12 Buffet breakfasts and 9 dinners.
- All necessary tips such as bellman, maid, doormen and dining room tips for meals specified in the itinerary, the customary gratuity to tour directors, drivers, and step-on guides are included.
- Information folder for all participants upon arrival in Berlin.

Not included:

Airfare, expenses for passports, visas, beverages, bar bills, telephone calls, laundry or items of a personal nature, baggage or other insurance, meals other than those included in the itinerary, tips for beverages and drinks.

Deposit/Payment/Cancellation:

An initial non-refundable deposit of US \$ 300 is due upon registration

Final payment US \$ 2,000 is due before August 10, 2010

Tour costs are payable by check made out to "North/West Lower Michigan Synod (with "Germany" on memo line) and sent to Nancy Brousseau, OP, North/West Lower Michigan Synod, 2900 N. Waverly Road, Lansing, MI 48906. The checks should arrive by the due dates. Christian Tours Europe is not responsible for loss or delay of check during mailing. In the unlikely event that Christian Tours Europe cancels the program, you will receive a full refund of all funds paid to Christian Tours Europe.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Terms and Conditions:

Any person reserving a Christian Tours Europe ("CTE") tour accepts the condition that CTE reserves the exclusive right to change tour itineraries, hotels, and other tour components whenever it is deemed necessary, although tours are planned and hotels are booked with all possible care. Published times in our itineraries are as accurate as possible and subject to change due to traffic, weather, mechanical and any other conditions that prevent CTE from operating under normal conditions. CTE cannot accept liability in the case of any passenger being denied boarding by any airline carrier due to carrier's over-booking of a flight, nor does it accept liability in the case of a cancelled or delayed flight. It shall be the passenger's responsibility solely to provide the means to join a missed tour that is already in progress. In the event that any dispute arises in which any party has a right to assert a claim, the exclusive jurisdiction for that claim shall be in a court of competent jurisdiction located in Braunschweig, Germany. The tour is operated exclusively under German law.

Responsibility:

Christian Tours Europe, Braunschweig, Germany acts only as an agent for all suppliers of service offered on this tour and does so upon the express condition and agreement that it shall not be liable for any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay, irregularity, or expense arising from strikes, war, weather, quarantines, sickness, government restrictions or regulations, from any act or omission of any individual, firm or corporation furnishing transportation, sightseeing, hotel accommodations, or any service in connection with such travel plan, or from any other cause whatsoever in connection therewith.

Baggage:

Transportation for one full-sized suitcase is included. For extra luggage, an additional \$30.00 per bag will be assessed. There is no charge for an additional carry-on bag, which must fit under your seat or in the overhead rack and for which you will be responsible. Although every effort is made to handle passengers' luggage as carefully as possible, Christian Tours Europe cannot be responsible, assume liability, or accept claims for loss or damage to luggage due to breakage, theft, or fair wear and tear though hotel and group carrier handling.

Travel requirements and insurance:

For U.S. citizens, a valid passport is all that is required. Participants are responsible for all visa, health and passport regulations. Please check your medical insurance for overseas coverage. It is recommended that participants purchase trip insurance to cover health, trip cancellation, and loss of baggage. Should you desire such insurance, please mark that on your registration form; the registrar will mail an offer for trip insurance to you.

Gratuities:

All necessary tips, such as maid, doorman, and dining room tips for meals specified in the itinerary and the customary gratuity to escorts, drivers and step-on guides are included. Tips for beverages and drinks are not included; if you wish, such appreciation may be extended on a voluntary and individual basis.

Physical activities:

There will be physical activities for you. You should be in good health, able to climb stairs (sometimes many) without assistance and to walk at a modest pace for more than a mile at a time. Christian Tours Europe requires all handicapped or disabled clients requiring special assistance to be accompanied by a responsible paying adult and that Christian Tours Europe must be notified, in advance, of this special required assistance.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact:

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