

INTERNATIONAL CASTLE CHURCH COMMUNITY

Dear Members and Friends of the International Castle Church Community,

The International Castle Church Community was successfully inaugurated on Pentecost 2013 at the Castle Church in a beautiful five-language worship service.

Attached you will find the order of service, sermon and a picture from the service.

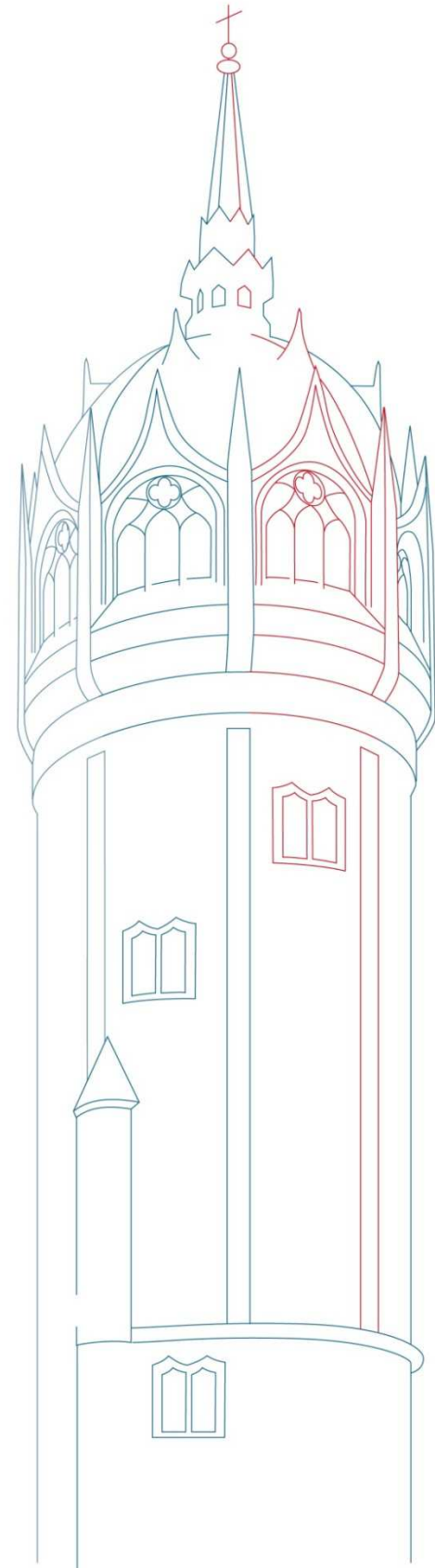
The first certificates of membership were distributed at the inauguration and many more people and institutions who attended and who feel attached to the Castle Church also indicated their interest in the new Community. There are now over 70 people from Germany, the USA, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Poland, Tanzania, France, and the Netherlands as well as three institutions that are a part of the Castle Church Community. Several well-known historic families and cities have even declared their intent to join the Community. Many local Wittenbergers who feel a connection to the Castle Church have also joined. A hopeful beginning.

Many of these new members have already supported the Community through contributions of time, money, and ideas. Thank you for these diverse gifts!

The Board of Trustees has been established, board members include:

Cordula Hubrig (President of the Congregational Council)
Propst Siegfried T. Kasparick
(Pastor of the Castle Church Congregation)
Sarah Herzer (Cantor of the Castle Church)
Dr. Hanna Kasparick (Director of the Predigerseminar)
Pr. Friedrich Kramer (Director of the Evangelical Academy)
Pr. Hans-Wilhelm Kasch
(Director of the LWF Center in Wittenberg)
Pr. Christa Hansen (Hadersleben Diocese, Denmark)
Greta Steeber (ELCA Wittenberg Center, Wittenberg)

Propst Kasparick was elected president and Pr. Kasch vice-president.



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The websites for the Castle Church and the Castle Church Community will soon be available!

The websites will have information on life at the Castle Church, sermons given at the Castle Church, and, of course, news on past and upcoming activities. There will also be information on the International Castle Church Community and blank membership forms.

At the moment the Castle Church is completely engulfed by the restoration work. The nave and tower are enveloped by scaffolding, though it should all be ready by the 2017 Jubilee. In the meantime large photo screens of the altar, organ, pulpit, and choir on the scaffolding remind visitors of how it usually looks.

The life in and around the Castle Church is certainly affected by the restoration work, but not prohibited. Worship is well attended. The Children's Worship Circle, the Gospel Choir, the Scola Cantorum Adam Rener, the Bläserchor, and other congregational groups are as lively as ever. The music events are still popular and the tours that are offered twice-daily show that tourist interest in the church is unabated.

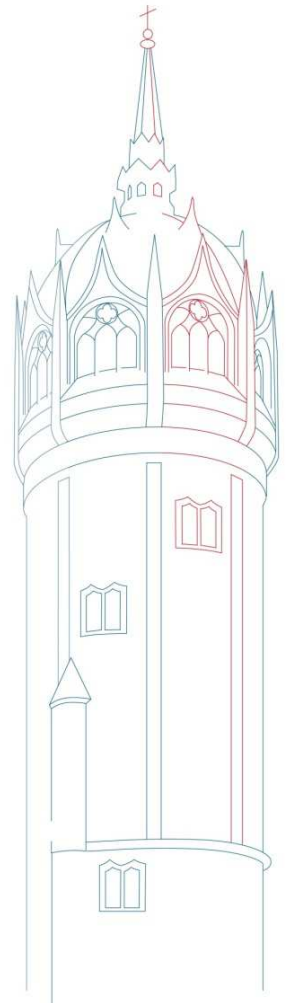
A trip to Wittenberg is always worthwhile.

Once again:

You all have our sincerest thanks for your interest and engagement!

Yours, Siegfried T. Kasparick

Lutherstadt Wittenberg, September 2013



Appendices

Picture

Sermon (Pentecost)

Worship Service Bulletin (Pentecost)