



The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL)

Date: 30.10.2015

Our ref: 15/3939 - 2 EFY (15/40420)

Your ref:

Decision in the Board of the Diocese of Borg regarding the development of the partnership agreement with ELCJHL

In their meeting at 7th of September 2015 the Board of the Diocese of Borg made the following decision regarding the development of the partnership agreement with the ELCJHL:

“Rooted in the discussions during the consultation between the ELCJHL Church Council and the Board of the Diocese of Borg in Beit Jala in February 2015, the Diocese of Borg will work with the following measures to further develop and strengthen the partnership agreement between the two dioceses:

Diocese-to-diocese:

- Support ELCJHL in the development of routines for ecclesiastical registers and use of ecclesiastical statistics.
- ELCJHL Church Council visit the Diocese of Borg in 2016 for a sequel consultation. Possible subject: Christian-Moslem dialogue in a multi-religious context, in cooperation with public schools and MF (Norwegian School of Theology).
- The board of the Diocese of Borg will visit ELCJHL Church Council to a sequel consultation in 2017. Possible subject: The relation between religion and state.
- The Diocese of Borg will arrange yearly collection of money in the parishes in Borg to support ELCJHLs ecclesiastical work. A possible project for 2016-2017 might be “reformation gift” to the production of a new hymnal for evangelical churches in The Holy Land.
- The Diocese of Borg will encourage groups that are touring The Holy Land to visit and establish contact with congregations within ELCJHL.

Parish level:

- The Diocese of Borg will encourage to a continued close relationship between the parish of Sarpsborg and Christmas Church in Betlehem.

- The Diocese of Borg will stimulate parishes in Borg to establish friendship agreements with parishes in ELCJHL, with Redeemers Church in Jerusalem and The Good Sheperds Church in Amman as a special focus.

Pilgrimage concept: "Jordan and the rest of The Holy Land"

- The diocese of Borg will take iniativ to develop a pilgrimage concept from Jordan to Betlehem, in relation to ELCJHL-congregations and with Baptismal Site in the Jordan valley as a central arena.

Youth work

- The Diocese of Borg will stimulate to a continued contact between the scout movement in Beit Sahour and the scout movement in Fetsund in Oestre Romerike.
- The Diocese of Borg will stimulte to confirmation camps in Palestine and participation in the Emmaus march".

Yours sincerely

Rev. Per Johan Bjerkele e.f.
Executive Director

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Senior Advisor

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Recipients:

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