

## Krakow as the host of the World Lutheran Federation General Assembly

2019-09-23

After the successful organization of the OWHC Congress, Krakow was once again distinguished by the international community.

On June 17, 2019, during the deliberations of the World Lutheran Federation in Geneva, our city was elected to host of the Federation General Assembly in 2023.

The Evangelical-Augsburg Church in Poland will be the host of the thirteenth World Lutheran Federation (LWF) General Assembly, to be held in Krakow on June 21-27, 2023. During the meeting in Geneva, the Polish delegation presented Krakow and the Malopolska Region, Poland and the Evangelical-Augsburg Church in Poland. The delegation included: Fr. Jerzy Samiec, Bishop of the Church, Fr. Adam Malina, PhD, President of the Synod and Anna Wrzesińska, foreign contacts coordinator. After the presentation, the LWF Council joyfully accepted the invitation to Krakow, thanking Polish Lutherans for extending their hospitality to the world community.

The idea of organizing the LWC Assembly in Poland was born in 2014, but the turning point happened at the celebrations of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017 in Poland. The thirteenth General Assembly in Krakow will be the second meeting of the highest decision-making body of the LWF in Central and Eastern Europe. In 1984, the Evangelical Church in Hungary hosted the seventh congress in Budapest.

The LWF Council also established an eight-person committee in Geneva that will coordinate preparations for the next Assembly. The Committee members represent seven regions of the LWF. The World Lutheran Federation unites 148 churches, 75.5 million Lutherans in 99 countries around the world. The General Assembly of the Federation is not a frequent event - it takes place every six or seven years.

The Evangelical-Augsburg Church in Poland has over 60,000 members. It is organized in six dioceses. There are 153 priests (priests and deacons) in 133 parishes.