THURSDAY, 01.09.
- The Churches’ commitment to water justice
- Blue Community – an initiative for water as human right and public good

FRIDAY, 02.09.
- Youth promoting climate resilience, food and water justice

MONDAY, 05.09.
- Climate change and its impact on Dalit women

WEDNESDAY, 07.09.
- Ecumenical encounter: Workshop on water justice

THURSDAY, 01.09. / FRIDAY 02.09.
MONDAY 05.09. / TUESDAY 06.09.
- Ecumenical Conversation: Creation Justice Now! Climate Action and Water for Life

All Ecumenical Conversations and all Brunnen workshops will take place 16.45-18.15 CET.
Thursday, 01.09.

**The Churches’ commitment to water justice**

Water is an increasingly scarce resource and about one-third of the world’s population still does not have access to safe water. With over 260 river basins around the world sharing borders of two or more countries, transboundary water conflict is a reality. The Sustainable Development Goal 6 for water and sanitation for all will not be achieved by 2030 unless efforts are quadrupled.

The global water crisis is not only caused by physical scarcity but also by the unequal distribution of this precious resource. The members of the WCC’s Ecumenical Water Network (EWN) therefore understand and address water as an issue of rights and of justice. Water is intrinsically related to poverty, food production, energy, industry, health, education, gender, peacebuilding and many other concerns that relate to Earth’s well-being and people’s ability to live life in fullness.

The International Reference Group members of the WCC EWN will conduct this workshop. We invite you to join us to protect water as a gift from God, a common good and a fundamental human right. When we are united by Christ’s love, water can be the element of our unity rather than a reason of conflict.

Contact: water@wcc-coe.org; arnoldtemple1@yahoo.com

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**Blue Community – an initiative for water as human right and public good**

The workshop shows how churches can become active for peace, justice and the preservation of creation through water. The Blue Community initiative is showcased as a concrete option for action with the potential to connect churches and parishes worldwide.

Blue Community was founded as an international initiative by the Council of Canadians in 2009. Four years later, the Reformed Churches Bern-Jura-Solothurn and allies launched the initiative in Switzerland. Almost 40 Blue Communities have been founded in Switzerland to date, half of which have a church background. Worldwide, over 120 members have joined the initiative, including prominent church members such as the WCC and the EKS.

Contact: lisa.krebs@refbejuso.ch

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**FRIDAY, 02.09.**

**Youth promoting climate resilience, food and water justice**

The workshop will look at concrete examples of how to create awareness among communities and churches about environmental and ecological concerns and care for God’s creation:

- The Church of South India (CSI) is campaigning for Climate Resilient Schools, Churches and Communities. At two thousand schools all over South India, students are auditing air, water, waste, energy, land and food as part of the Green School programme. An environmental management system audits through students, the consumption of natural resources and helps schools become better environmental managers. (Dr.Mathew Koshy Punnackadu)
- The WCC’s Eco-School which has been annually organised in the different continents for the Youth since 2017 in response to the challenges raised by injustices related to the climate, water, and the health crises is an example of global youth formation and action. (The Rev’d Vinod Victor Chaplain, Anglican Church of Freiburg)
- The network of ‘Youth for life-giving food, agriculture and fisheries’ grew from the WCC’s Eco-School. Tsiry Nantenaina Randriavanelo, from the Reformed Church in Madagascar, Ezaka ho Fampandrosoana any Ambanivohitra, is youth leader of network and will share the work of the network and the lessons learnt.

Co-moderated by Judith E. Koenigsdörfer, Ecumenical Officer Evangelical Church in Central Germany (EKM), and the Rev. Canon Dr Leslie Nathaniel, Rector, Church of England, Diocese of Europe

Contact: csi.oikos@gmail.com; Manoj.Kurian@wcc-coe.org

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**MONDAY, 05.09.**

**Climate change and its impact on Dalit women**

Dalits have been known as the broken community for centuries. They have been subjugated to caste-based discrimination and have long been exploited and marginalized. Dalit women are victimized even more because of both casteism and gender-based discrimination.

Dalit women are already vulnerable due to poverty, social exclusion, lacking access to government mechanisms and aid, and lack of education. Climate change and the water crisis are making Dalit women even more vulnerable and have a drastic impact on the life, livelihood and dignity of Dalit women in India.

Contact: dataconcerns@ncci1914.com; jyoti@ncci1914.com

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**Wednesday, 07.09.**

**ECUMENICAL ENCOUNTER:**

**WORKSHOP ON WATER JUSTICE**

An encounter on water will be organized by members of Ecumenical Water Network. The workshop is part of a diverse program of freely accessible events which will take place in the city centre of Karlsruhe to make it possible for locals to exchange ideas with international Assembly guests.

**Time: 13.30 – 15.00**

**Venue: Building of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Lamnstr. 13-17, Karlsruhe**

Contact: water@wcc-coe.org

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**ECUMENICAL CONVERSATION:**

**CREATION JUSTICE NOW! CLIMATE ACTION AND WATER FOR LIFE**

The aim of this conversation is to promote a theological and ethical reflection of the urgency of climate change and water crisis and to come up with a roadmap for reconciling with nature.

Ecumenical Conversations are envisioned as in-depth and linked to the potential work of WCC commissions and other programmes. They are drawn from the insights of WCC networks, member churches, and partners, and/or relate to emerging ecumenical concerns. Ecumenical conversations are to be outcome-focused. Outcomes will be shared with the assembly committees, and detailed reports will be shared with future governing bodies.

Each Ecumenical Conversation will take place in the same group for 4 days.

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Find out more about the WCC’s work on water: https://www.oikoumene.org/what-we-do/ecumenical-water-network