

Purpose

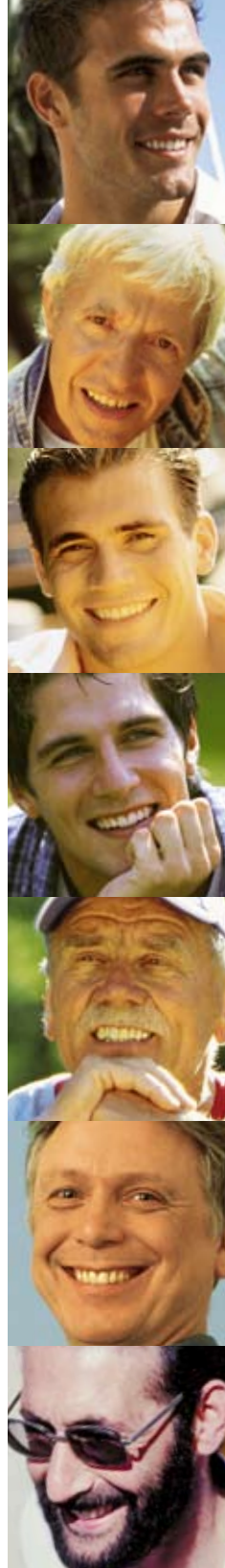
Thanks to the remarkable missionary enterprise of the Brethren movement, there are churches linked to it in over 100 countries – with probably over 20,000 congregations and perhaps 2 Million members. The structure, or lack of it, in the movement can mean that churches in one country – and even individual local churches in one country – have little contact with others. In some countries, there is rapid growth. In others, the churches are few and struggling. Countries which formerly received overseas missionaries are now beginning to send workers abroad themselves, and are setting up mission support agencies. All this makes it worthwhile for leaders from the different countries to meet regularly for fellowship, spiritual reflection, renewed experience of the Lord, exchange of information, and discussion of matters of mutual interest – in short, to encourage one another. That was certainly what happened at earlier IBCM conferences in Singapore (1993), Rome (1996) and Romania (2003). Do join us at IBCM4 if you can.

The specific objectives of IBCM4 are:

- To seek the presence and direction of the Lord together
- To enable leaders from across the world to discover and encourage each other
- To strengthen networking and fellowship
- To raise awareness of the spiritual challenges of current trends and cultural developments
- To share practical experience, ideas and methods
- To encourage younger leaders
- To encourage the development of regional conferences with similar objectives.

'Mission' in 'IBCM' refers to the whole task of the Church everywhere. We want our churches to be 'missional' churches.

We hope that as many countries as possible will be represented at IBCM4 (our target is at least 70 countries). In particular, please help younger leaders to come.



Location

For IBCM4, we have been invited to the Missionshaus Bibelschule Wiedenest, in the Oberberg hills east of Cologne in Germany. Wiedenest has been an outstanding centre of training and outreach in Europe and beyond for over 100 years. It has excellent facilities for a conference of this kind. It is served by Cologne-Bonn, Frankfurt and Düsseldorf airports. We can arrange transport from all three (as long as you tell us when you will arrive!)

Conference theme

We propose that the conference should focus on questions of cross-cultural and cross-generational evangelism and discipling, and what they mean for the structure, practices and methods of our churches in different parts of the world. Please look at the provisional programme for more details of topics etc. We think that we shall have much to learn from each other on these subjects.

Entry visas

Citizens of European Union countries, and of a considerable number of other countries (including the USA, Australia, Canada, South Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Switzerland, and some Latin American countries) do not require a visa in advance to visit Germany. To check the present position for your country, visit http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/www/de/willkommen/einreisebestimmungen/liste_html where you will find a list.

Those requiring a visa in advance will need to apply themselves in good time to the German post in their country (or to the German post in the country where they are currently resident). The application will need to be accompanied by an official letter of invitation to the conference, which will be issued by Wiedenest (request this letter by ticking the appropriate box on the booking form). The decision whether to grant a visa is entirely a matter for the post to which the application is made.

*Those not requiring a visa in advance may remain in Germany for up to three months in any six. Those who do need a visa will not be able to arrive in Germany earlier than Sunday 24 June 2007 and **must** leave Germany not later than on Monday 2 July 2007.*

The cost of visas will fall to the applicant.

Conference languages

We are planning for simultaneous translation by headphone between the following languages: English, German, French, Spanish and Russian; and to make informal arrangements for translation to other languages as desirable and practicable.



Sunday, 24 June 2007

- Arrival of participants

Monday, 25 June 2007

- Arrival and registration of participants
- Welcome session (evening)

Tuesday, 26 June 2007

- Bible Reading: **Principles of cross cultural evangelism** (1 Corinthians 9:12-27) – David Yap (Singapore)
- Strategic address: **Local churches: embracing cultures and generations** – John Allan (UK)
- Exhibition
- Workshops
- International examples 1 (evening)

Wednesday, 27 June 2007

- Bible Reading: **The practice of cross cultural evangelism: Corinth** (1 Corinthians 1:18-2:16) – Oscar Muriu (Kenya)
- Strategic address: **Reaching secularised societies** – Jean-Luc Tabailoux (France)
- Workshops
- International examples 2 (evening)

Thursday, 28 June 2007

- Bible Reading: **The practice of inter-cultural evangelism: Antioch near Pisidia** (Acts 13:13-52) – Jabesmar Guimaraes (Brazil)
- Strategic addresses: **How and why the gospel is effective in:**
 1. **Latin America** – Juan Carlos Ciccone (Argentina)
 2. **Africa** – Simeon Havyarimana (Burundi)
 3. **South Asia** – Paul Joshua (India)
- Workshops
- International examples 3 (evening)

Friday, 29 June 2007

- Bible Reading: **The practice of cross-cultural evangelism: Lystra and Athens** (Acts 14:1-20 & 17:16-34) – Andrew Turkanik (Poland)
- Strategic address: **The gospel and culture** – Felix Muchimba (Zambia)
- Closing address (afternoon) – Gerd Goldmann (Germany)

Saturday, 30 June 2007

- German national congress (IBCM4 participants invited)

Sunday, 1 July 2007

- Visiting and preaching in churches across Germany



Some **speakers** above have yet to be confirmed.

Workshop leaders will, as in the case of speakers, be appointed so as to ensure that the list is representative of the different parts of the globe.

Workshops will cover a wide variety of topics related to the theme.

Wiedenest

100 Jahre
1905-2005

Impulse für Gemeinden.
Weltweit.

Missionshaus Bibelschule
Wiedenest e.V.

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51702 Bergneustadt

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Fax (0 22 61) 4 06-155

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www.wiedenest.de

Visit www.ibcm.net for
up-to-date details and news
of the conference
(Please feel free
to photocopy this brochure
and pass it to others)



Costs and fees

Though the character of your accommodation at Wiedenest may vary (at the Bible School, at a neighbouring facility, or with local believers), there is a standard fee of € 200 payable by all conference participants. This will cover accommodation, meals, administration, use of conference facilities, local transport, equipment, main speakers' expenses, etc. The fee is for the period Monday 26 June 2007 – Sunday 1 July 2007 inclusive. Accommodation and board at Wiedenest may be available before and / or after these dates, **by prior arrangement only**, at an additional charge of €30 per 24 hours.

If participants prefer to be accommodated in neighbouring hotels, Wiedenest can supply details so that participants can themselves make the booking. In this case, the accommodation element of the conference fee would be deducted from the standard fee, and the participants themselves would be responsible for settling their account with the hotel. Airport transfer is available from Cologne-Bonn, Düsseldorf or Frankfurt at € 20 (return).

Conference participants will be responsible for arranging their transport to and from Germany, and for meeting all associated travel costs, including food and accommodation en route.

Bookings and payment

Bookings forms will be available on the IBCM (www.ibcm.net) and Wiedenest (www.wiedenest.de) websites. Please return it to Wiedenest either to ibcm4@wiedenest.de or to **Missionshaus Bibelschule Wiedenest, IBCM4, Olper Straße 10, 51702 Bergneustadt, GERMANY**

It is essential to complete and return the booking form for a firm place to be booked at the conference.

Either the full fee may be paid immediately, or a deposit of € 50 may be paid at the same time as the booking form is submitted.

Payment can be made as follows:

- By electronic bank transfer to Missionshaus Bibelschule Wiedenest, Acc. No 2 202 700 015 at Volksbank Oberberg, BLZ 384 621 35 (German Bank Code), BIC: GENODE1WIL IBAN: DE71 3846 2135 2202 7000 15
- By credit card (VISA, Mastercard, Maestro Card and Japanese Credit Bank) – state type of card, card number, expiry date, the exact name on the card, and the amount to be charged to the card. Send credit card details to Wiedenest only by ordinary mail, not by e-mail.

Those wishing to pay in Sterling should contact Neil Summerton (summerto@hornsey.u-net.com), who can arrange payment via Partnership UK.

Assistance with costs

The conference organisers hope to be able to provide assistance with conference fees and travel costs for participants from up to 40 countries. Assistance will be given only if it is essential to enable the participant to attend. Normally, only one person from each country will be assisted. Participants who receive assistance will be expected to make some financial contribution themselves.

To request this help, please apply to Neil Summerton (summerto@hornsey.u-net.com or Abbey Court, Cove, Tiverton, Devon EX16 7RT, UK). Please state why such assistance is necessary and what proportion of expected costs you will be able to meet yourself.

Whether help can be given will depend on whether funds are available for this purpose; decisions will not be made as to whom to assist until early in 2007.

Many countries will require financial assistance if they are to be represented. It is hoped that individuals, churches and trusts in the developed world will be willing to provide such sponsorship. If you can help in this way, please be in touch with Neil Summerton (contact details above).

Insurance

All participants are strongly advised to arrange travel and medical insurance for themselves in connexion with the conference. Wiedenest can arrange health (not travel) insurance for you for the period during which you are in Germany, at a cost of € 0.85 per day (subject to an excess of € 50). Take advantage of this, please complete the appropriate section of the booking form.

Conference organisation

The IBCM conferences are the responsibility of an International Planning Group (IPG), comprising Fares Marzone (Italy – Chairman), Paul-Gerhard Kalthoff (Germany), Ken Newton (Australia), and Neil Summerton (UK – responsible for conference administration and recruitment). The IPG is supported by an International Advisory Group comprising representatives from different parts of the world, who are consulted electronically. For IBCM4, the IPG is working very closely with a German National Committee chaired by Gerd Goldmann (Werksleiter, Missionshaus Bibelschule Wiedenest).

Fourth International Brethren Conference On Mission (IBCM4)

Quadrennial conference
of national leaders
in the worldwide
Brethren movement

Missionshaus
Bibelschule Wiedenest
Germany

Monday 25 June –
Sunday 1 July 2007

IBCM
4 Germany



ALL THINGS
TO ALL
BY ALL MEANS
TO WIN
SOME



HOW TO FIND US

... BY CAR

... from Köln (Cologne) A 4:

Drive along motorway A4 (Köln-Olpe) – take the exit Reichshof/Bergneustadt – drive towards Bergneustadt – straight cross the roundabout – next traffic lights drive right-hand – about 1 km after leaving Bergneustadt turn right – sign „Missionshaus Bibelschule Wiedenest“

... from Frankfurt or Dortmund A 45:

Drive along motorway A 45 take the exit Drolshagen/Wegeringhausen – direction Bergneustadt – after about 8 km drive through the village „Wiedenest“ – about 500 m after leaving „Wiedenest“ turn left – sign „Missionshaus Bibelschule Wiedenest“

... BY TRAIN

Take a train up to Köln-Hauptbahnhof (main-station); there change to Gummersbach. It is possible to meet you there (or take the bus 301 direction Pernze/Olpe to stop „Bibelschule Wiedenest“)

