



OPCEMI *news*

- CIRCOLARE DELL'OPERA PER LE CHIESE EVANGELICHE METODISTE IN ITALIA -

Christ is truly risen and we believe in the resurrection of bodies.

This statement is a fundamental part of our confession of faith. The Apostle Paul clarifies the matter precisely by writing to the believers in Corinth in I Corinthians 15, saying that if they do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, that is, of bodies, his preaching is in vain, his faith is insubstantial, and Christ himself is as if he had not risen. In short, without the resurrection there is no Christian faith. Well, we can say that among all our limitations there is certainly no lack of faith in the resurrection, so the question is how does the fact of the resurrection change our lives? If we believe in the resurrection, how is our being a believer and our way of being church affected by the fact of the resurrection and, finally, what does it mean that we believe that already today the Lord is acting in our lives while the fulfilment of all things is yet to come? So many questions, perhaps too many, after all before the resurrection of Jesus we could only say: Amen, yes, he is truly risen! But in this time, we need to remind ourselves and to the



world that our hope is not based on what happens in this world but on the unequivocal fact that Christ is risen and has promised resurrection.

The best word, for this event, is probably change. Those who believe in Christ and the resurrection are men and women who are open to change, to evolution, to growth. If we are a church ready for change, not to rationalise or economise but to be ever more effective in the mission of proclaiming the Kingdom of God, then we are a church that does not limit its gaze to the here and now but hopes in Christ, trusts in Christ, we are a church in view of the resurrection. Here is our task in the present time, in the time of anxiety, anguish, war and oppression, we must be sentinels who in the night announce

that the dawn is in sight, the resurrection, the new time of God is in sight and already involves our world with new things. Ours must be a preaching of hope precisely because it is founded on resurrection, on the transformation of death into new life.

Dear sisters and brothers, when they ask you why you believe in God in such a dark time, answer that this is precisely the time of faith, precisely under the cross faith must be even stronger and your faith will still be able to give hope not because it is perfect but because it announces God's victory over this time, not a victory of judgement and condemnation but of reconciliation and hope. Behold, Christ is truly risen. Amen.

Rev. Luca Anziani
President of OPCEMI



Prayer



O God, seeing as there is in Christ Jesus an infinite fullness of all that we can want or desire. May we all receive from him, grace upon grace; grace to pardon our sins, and subdue our iniquities; to justify our persons and to sanctify our souls. And to complete that holy change, that renewal of our hearts, which will enable us to be transformed into the blessed image in which you created us. O make us all acceptable to be partakers of the inheritance of your saints in light. Amen.

John Wesley

Calendar for the meeting of the Standing Committee of

OPCEMI

20/21 April, Roma

24 May, Roma

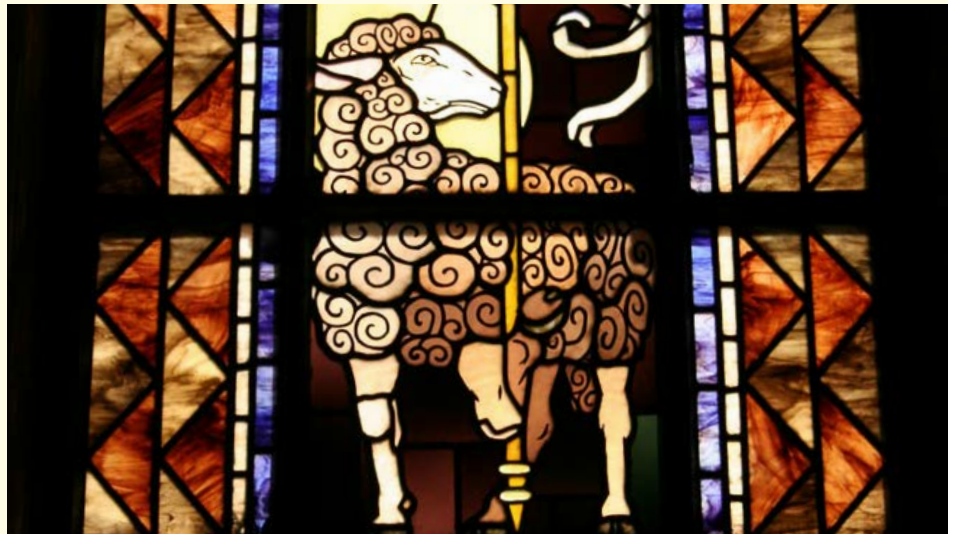
22/23 June, Roma

31 August, Torre Pellice

Methodist CONSULTATION

The annual Methodist Consultation will take place at the "Centro Ecumene", Velletri (RM) from **24th-26th May 2024**, commencing on Friday evening with a dinner and concluding with a lunch on Sunday. We would like to remind you that the ministers and officeholders are covered by OPCEMI, while the delegates of the local churches are covered by the latter.

THE INAUGURATION OF THE ARTISTIC STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH OF ROME VIA XX SETTEMBRE



On 13th April, 2024 at 18.00, in the Methodist Church of XX Settembre Rome will be an event to inaugurate the restoration of the artistic stained-glass windows designed by Paolo Paschetto and created by Cesare Picchiarini.

In addition to presenting the pact of the Cooperation Protocol between the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Superior Institute of Conservation and Restoration of the Waldensian Table, the restoration work and the artistic and theological significance of the stained-glass windows, there will be a moment to pay tribute to the artist and his work.



Internship at UMC Copenhagen 2024



The social/diaconal work in Copenhagen, MSA, is looking for two new volunteers for the season 24/25. Until now, we have had volunteers from Italy, Germany and Latvia, and they have all been very pleased to be here. MSA will provide free accommodation and food + 400 € per month against 37 hours of work. A part of the working hours is to join the youth work or some of the choirs, take part in the Sunday services, etc.

They are looking for preferably 2 young people (18 – 30) who want to spend a gap year in Copenhagen working as interns. For information you can contact the manager via email to

msa@centralmissionen.dk

**CLICK FOR THE FULL
ANNOUNCEMENT**

CSD VOLUNTEER

The call for the next volunteer project (year 2024-2025) is opened now online. It is opened to every young person – not only evangelicals- from the age of 18-30 years, and begins in the next autumn for a period of 9 to 12 months in an european country.

**CLICK FOR MORE
INFORMATIONS**



Greetings

**May His victory over death
inspire us to live with hope,
courage, and unwavering faith.**

Happy Easter!

