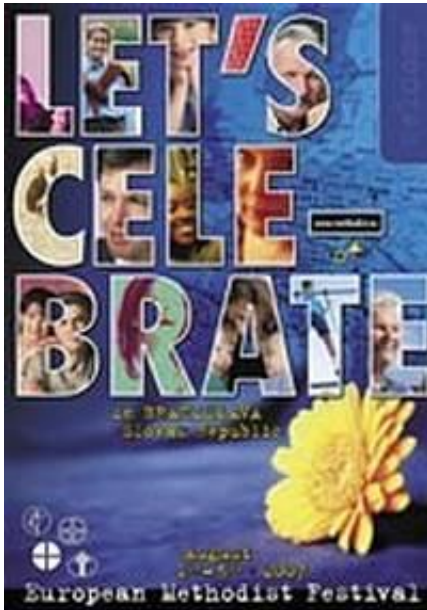


Full steam ahead for Festival plans!



The planning group for the European Methodist Festival, which will take place from 1-5 August 2007 on the theme “Let’s Celebrate”, held its final planning meeting on 18-20 April.

We shall be celebrating

- ◆ Jesus, Lord of the Church
- ◆ Methodist Churches in Europe and our commission
- ◆ Charles Wesley’s 300th anniversary
- ◆ Young and old from many countries gathered together

Around 900 people from 25 countries have registered already. Further registrations can be accepted until 15 May 2007.

At the recent meeting, twenty two people involved in the planning group made their final decisions and shared out the remaining tasks for the festival.

The university campus, Horsky Park (Bratislava, Slovakia), offers meeting rooms, good catering and accommodation. A number of marquees from the Church’s tent missions will be available for large events, workshops, Bible studies, community gatherings, small Wesley groups and informal late night conversations.

We anticipate a very pleasant musical event with David Plüss, Helmut Kandert, Tore Aas, Pieret Rips, Luca Genta, Tomas Boström and other top musicians, together with music groups from Portugal and Russia and the results of Gospel workshops.

Bible studies will be led by people from different countries and provide new insights. Amongst these are Bishop Våxby, Bishop Streiff and Bishop Wenner, a former President of the British Methodist Church – Inderjit Bhogal, Jürgen Blum, Tove Odland und Katrine Meltzer from Norway, and Steve Pearce from Britain who is facilitating the Children and Youth study programme.

In the next few weeks, further details will be published on our website:

www.methodist.eu

Translations into different languages will be available.

Armin Besserer, 24. April 2007