

Exposure Group No. 4

**The Church District of Mecklenburg invites you to focus on
“... to dress it and to keep it” (Genesis 2,15) – Just Distribution of Resources**

The Evangelical-Lutheran Church District of Mecklenburg (ELKM) is one amongst 13 church districts within the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Northern Germany (Nordkirche).

Mecklenburg – that means the coastline of the Baltic Sea with endless sandy beaches, the beautiful lake district, dense forests, open meadows and yellow shining fields of oil seed. The people here are famous for their close attachment to their homestead, being less talkative in the beginning but friendly and hospitable - just like real North-Germans. The landscape is marked by 580 village churches and chapels and 84 city churches, which almost all are under conservation as heritage sites.

Because of the anti-church politics of two dictatorial regimes prior to the peaceful revolution in 1989 the former church structures have been broken. Today only approx. 17% of the total population belong to the Lutheran Church.

Tourism and agriculture are the most important economical and land shaping business sectors in this region. The church itself does own lands as well. As a producer and as a consumer the church needs to answer the question how far facets of justice are the guidelines in its dealing with the earth and all the God given resources. We will meet with parishes and ask them about the criteria according to which land is given on lease. Visiting an institution supporting handicapped people we would like to find out how much ecological and justice issue do influence the administration. We will see biological farming as well as a turkey fattening farm. We will visit installations for power production (wind, solar and bio mass) and waste water treatment and deal with all the related questions. Finally the chance will be given to share and discuss all the insights gained together with Bishop von Maltzahn.

The Exposure Team will be accommodated in Güstrow: Haus der Kirche „Sibrand Siegert“
Grüner Winkel 10, 18273 Güstrow, Telefon: 03843-21780, e-mail: hdk@haus-der-kirche-guestrow.de www.haus-der-kirche-guestrow.de

If you want to join the Exposure Team introduced to you above, please mark one of the circles according to your priority list!

Name:

- First Priority
- Second Priority
- Third Priority