

## Gospel and Pastoral Care

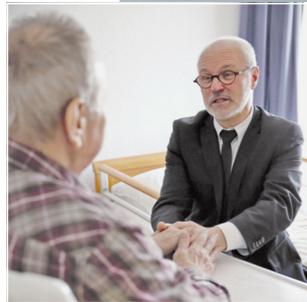
### Divine Service

Divine service is the encounter between God and human beings. Here, believers on all continents hear the glad tidings of the grace and return of Christ.



### Pastoral Care

Ministers help believers to be prepared for the return of Christ. They support them with pastoral care on their personal path through all circumstances of life.



### Prayer

In addition to collective prayers in the divine services, New Apostolic Christians also cultivate an individual prayer life. In prayer, they experience that God is present, God hears, and God answers.



## Our Life in the Congregation

### Fellowship

Togetherness is an important element in the congregations, not only in divine services.

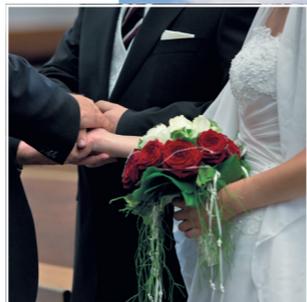
In many congregations, there are choirs and music groups as well as gatherings of young and senior members.

The teachings of the Christian faith are imparted to children in Sunday School, Religious Instruction, and Confirmation Instruction.

There are, for all age groups, manifold opportunities to engage their gifts and talents for the benefit of the congregation.

### Acts of Blessing

In the New Apostolic Church, there are acts of blessing for confirmations, engagements, weddings and for wedding anniversaries. On the occasion of funerals, assistance and comfort is provided.



## Christians among Christians

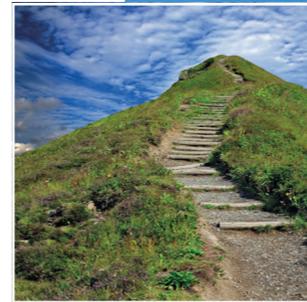
### The Church of Christ

The church of Christ began with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost). Today it is manifest in the fellowship of those who are baptised, believe in Jesus Christ, and profess Him. New Apostolic Christians are part of the church of Christ.



### The Creed

The Creed of New Apostolic Christians is expressed in ten Articles of Faith. It does not draw any boundaries that would deny other Christians access to salvation.



### Ecumenism

The New Apostolic Church is aware of its task within Christianity and is open towards the ecumenical movement - whose central theme is: unity in reconciled diversity, while preserving the identity of the respective denominations.



## Finances and Humanitarian Aid

### Finances

The New Apostolic Church does not levy any church tax, but finances itself by voluntary offerings and donations from its members. These funds are used for building and maintaining churches and for supporting congregations all over the world.



### Social Commitment

The New Apostolic Church is committed to the gospel and the imperatives of Christian ethics. Following these principles, the Church is active in charity work and helps those in difficult situations of life.

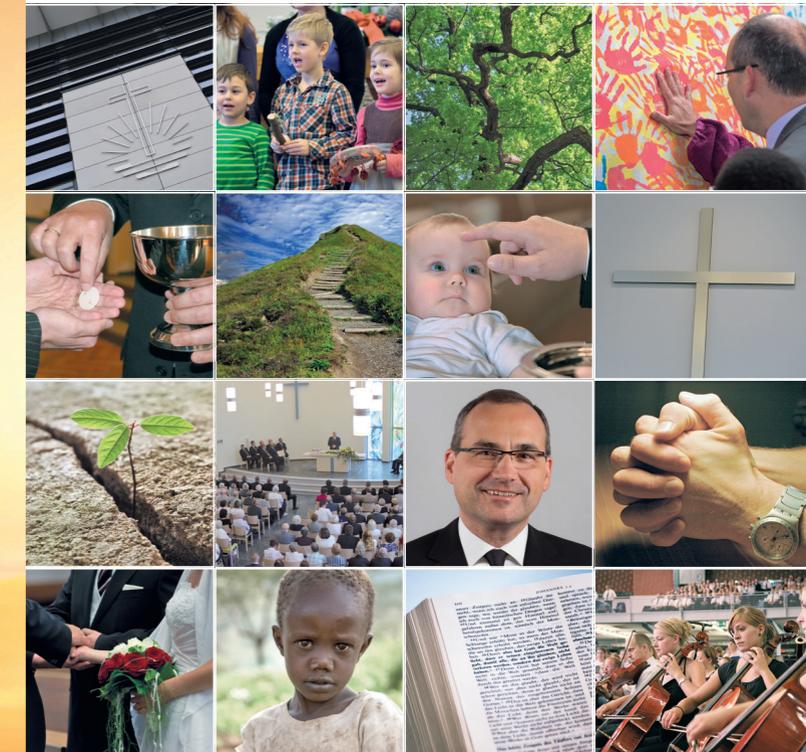


### Relief Agencies

The New Apostolic Church maintains relief agencies in order to carry out aid projects both domestically and abroad and to coordinate cooperation with competent partner organisations.



## Introducing Our Church



# Our Faith and Conduct

## Faith

Our faith is based on Jesus Christ whose sending is attested to in John 3: 16: *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” NKJV*



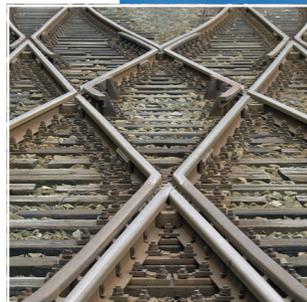
## Vision

A church in which people feel at home and, inspired by the Holy Spirit and their love for God, align their lives to the gospel of Jesus Christ and thus prepare themselves for His return and eternal life.



## Mission

Reaching out to all people in order to teach them the gospel of Jesus Christ and to baptise them with water and the Holy Spirit. Providing soul care and cultivating a warm fellowship in which everyone shall experience the love of God and the joy of serving Him and others.



# Brief History of the Church

## The Beginnings

At the beginning of the 19th century, Christians prayed for an increased activity of the Holy Spirit. Prophecies occurred. Thus, by 1835, twelve Apostles were called. The Catholic Apostolic Church came into being and quickly spread.



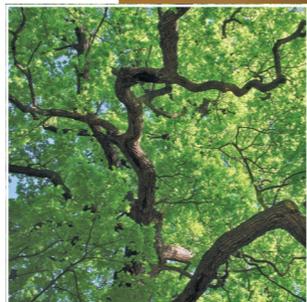
## Hour of Birth

In 1863, following differences of opinion, the Catholic Apostolic Church excommunicated the congregation in Hamburg. The congregation, however, remained together and was given an Apostle in the person of their former Priest Carl Preuss. This was the hour of birth of the New Apostolic Church.



## Development

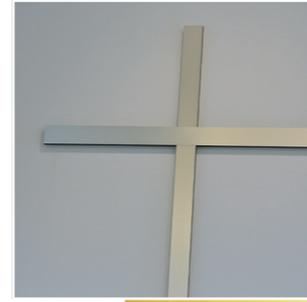
Emanating from Hamburg, many new congregations arose. Today, the New Apostolic Church numbers 60,000 congregations worldwide, with close to nine million Christians.



# Jesus and the Apostle Ministry

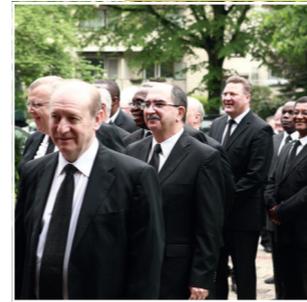
## Jesus

In Jesus Christ, God revealed Himself as Redeemer: *“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4: 12) NKJV*



## Apostles

The Apostles are the spiritual and organisational leaders of the New Apostolic Church. Their primary task is to offer salvation in Jesus Christ to mankind. In His name, they teach and administer the sacraments. They are supported in this by ministers working in an honorary capacity.



## Chief Apostle

The Chief Apostle is the highest spiritual authority in the New Apostolic Church. He discharges the office of the Apostle Peter. Jean-Luc Schneider has held the Ministry of Chief Apostle since Pentecost 2013.



# Three Sacraments

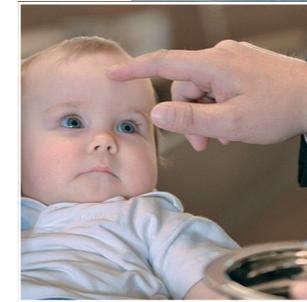
## Holy Communion

In Holy Communion, the body and blood of Christ, as well as His sacrifice, are present. The celebration of Holy Communion is the central event of the divine service.



## Holy Baptism with water

Holy Baptism with water is the first and fundamental sacramental act of the grace of God. It is the first step on the way to complete redemption. The person becomes a Christian and is incorporated into the church of Christ.



## Holy Sealing

Holy Sealing is administered by Apostles. The Christian thereby receives the gift of the Holy Spirit. This is the completion of what began with Holy Baptism with water: the rebirth out of water and the Spirit. The life received thereby is nourished, above all, through Holy Communion.



# The New Apostolic Church

The New Apostolic Church is an international Christian church. The basis of its teachings is the Holy Scripture. In 1863 it emerged from the Catholic Apostolic Church and is led by Apostles, just like the early Christian congregations.

The core of the New Apostolic doctrine is the return of Christ to take home those who have been prepared for this event. The New Apostolic Church places great value on the personal responsibility of its members. The individual is accountable to God for his conduct. The gospel of Christ and the system of values resulting from the Ten Commandments provide clear orientation for this.

The New Apostolic Church is fully independent and politically neutral. It is financed by the voluntary contributions of its members.

Almost nine million believers worldwide currently profess the New Apostolic faith.

