A SHORT PRESANTATION ABOUT CONFESSIONAL EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN ALBANIA

- I am very glad to be here in this conference. I have come from Albania. For those who don't know me, my name is Agron Mece and represent the Albanian Lutheran Church in Albania.
- During 21 year history (last year we celebrated 20th anniversary of the Lutheran Church in Albania), the Albanian Lutheran Church has weathered some stormy periods. When no missionaries were present, I served as a pastor and head of the Albanian Church. Finally after 15 years of interrupted study I was ordained pastor in 2013, Mikel Bishka another Pastor from Albania was ordained too. Mikel and I are trying to serve faithfully. Now we are two pastors and one evangelist (Nikolla Bishka studing to become a pastor). Our wifes are helping us a lot in our mission. Pavlina Bishka in Durres and Vitori Mece in Tirana. Pastor John Vogt, has been helping us a lot with our training. He and his wife Sandy, have come in summer to have training classes with us and in winter we have had on- line training.

We are glad we have been blessed by God in our mission work. We are glad to see the old faces that have come regularly since the opening of our church, but we feel happier to see each new face. We will never forget the day when only five persons getting conformation classes became members of our church. And thanks God this group of five has kept increasing, so that now an avarage of 120 people worship in our two congregations each week. There are two gongregations. One and the main congregation in Durres, a costal and a beautiful city in Albania. In Tirana, the capital city, we have a small Family Lutheran Chirstian Congregation.

- The main activities of our Church in Albania has been:
- . Worship services (every week).
- Confirmation classes
- Holy Sacraments (baptism and Lord Supper)
- . Sunday school for children
- . Training courses for national leaders
- . English classes for different ages and levels
- Summer camp
- Artistic programs for the main events of the Church (Christmas, Easter)

- Now the worship attendance for both congregations is 118.
- There are 56 members of the Church .
- We would like to express our gratitute for everything the Wisconsin
- Evangelical Lutheran Synod have done for Albanian Lutheran Church.
- WELS is helping us financially and spiritually too. They have helped us
- opening our eyes and minds to something we didn't know existed, God's
- love!
- We would like also to thank our brothers and sisters in Christ of the Lutheran Free Church in Germany that accepted us in fellowship with them. We have also brought here some pictures to ilustrate the activity of the Albanian Lutheran Church
- Pastor AGRON MECE
- Confessional Evangjelical Lutheran Church in Albania
- June, 2017

























