



EVANGELISCHER KIRCHENBEZIRK
ESSLINGEN

Who we are...

The Lutheran-Protestant Church in Esslingen is part of the Protestant Church in Württemberg (Württembergische Landeskirche) and as such, part of the worldwide Church of Christ. The Church District of Esslingen (Deanery) on both sides of the river Neckar consists of 22 Parishes with some 58 000 church-members, 38 ministers and 12 deacons.

Esslingen is a center of Diaconal Services (social work), youth work and church music, done partly by employees and largely by many volunteers. All our work is financed by church-tax and donations.

Esslingen has been a historical center of Christianity in our region since the 7th and 8th century. The foundations of an early, very small church building of this time can be seen in the excavations under the Church of St. Dionys with its twin-towers, in the heart of the old town of Esslingen.

Esslingen was a center of trade (wine) in medieval times and pilgrimage (St. Dionys). Wealthy merchants and monasterial culture had a strong impact on urban life.

As an independant imperial town (Freie Reichstadt), Esslingen became protestant in 1531. The Reformation was introduced by Ambrosius Blarer and some years later the town council adopted the Lutheran Confession with the four „sola“: God’s word, Jesus Christ, Grace and Faith.

In our parishes we ask how God’s word can be preached authentically in today’s language. We ask for communion, not only with other protestant churches in Europe and worldwide but also with catholic and orthodox churches. We are working towards a more ecumenical relationship and unity amongst our churches, in order to proclaim the Gospel together.

Text: Christoph Bäuerle, Pfarrer der Stadtkirchengemeinde Esslingen