



REVIEW AND FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2017

THE NATIONAL LEVEL OF THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN

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Together in hope

THE ARCHBISHOP'S COMMENTS

2017 was characterised by the anniversary of the Reformation. There have been discussions of Luther and Lutheran theology and trips to Wittenberg, and the understanding of the extent to which our country is permeated by Lutheran values has grown. Hopefully many misconceptions of Lutheranism have been cleared up, and Lutheranism has been given a more authentic position, which has given us all strength to live a life of freedom and service. A person who has been accepted by grace through belief in Jesus Christ is free to live according to the message of love.

THE YEAR HAS HEIGHTENED our awareness of the Catholic aspects of the Church of Sweden and has reinforced us as a church with ecumenical accountability, a worldwide perspective, and awareness that the Reformation is a constantly ongoing process. This process largely consists of issues that are also topical and important today: education, freedom, fear and hope.

In a time when populism is attempting to pit “the elite” against “normal people”, it is important to point out that the Reformation’s thoughts on *education* were aimed at everyone and in turn contributed to democracy and equality. The significance of the catechism as an instrument of learning can hardly be overestimated.

If education is a requisite consequence of the Reformation, *freedom* is its core. A person who has been justified by grace and understands this through faith is free. We are not just free from something but free to do something.

There is a great deal of *fear* in our society. This may be related to insecurity regarding jobs and pensions, the future of Europe, terrorism, social insecurity and conflicts. Hanging over all this like a cloud is the fear caused by climate change. Even though many of us are distracted by other news, the ice is melting at an alarming rate. It is no longer just an issue of comfort and prosperity – the survival of entire ecosystems, villages and cities is at

stake. We need to learn to be afraid in the right way so that we are not paralysed or stressed into random activism and that we instead cultivate positive strength to take action. In this context, the question of where we derive our *hope* from becomes crucial to our level of well-being and how we take responsibility.

For Christians the motivation for taking responsibility for our world is simple and strong. In the words of Martin Luther: “The world is full of God. In every alley, at your own door, you find Christ. Do not stare into heaven!”

The anniversary of the Reformation has coincided with a time imbued with worry and uncertainty. Concurrently, a sleepwalking indifference prevails that undermines our awareness of our dependence on each other, both within the family of human beings and in all of God’s creation.

This is precisely why it is a good time to be a church. We hold the mighty message of Jesus Christ in our hands and have the task of sharing it with others. We are not saved thanks to what *we* are and do, but thanks to what *God* is and does. We are liberated to live a life in grateful response to God’s gift of salvation. When God speaks to us with love and mercy, we can become ambassadors for peace, justice and reconciliation in our world. We are free to serve. The Church has both a place and tasks in the public sphere.¹

¹ See the Lutheran World Federation’s study document *The Church in the Public Space* (2017), drawn up by theologians from Lutheran churches in Latin and North America, Africa, Asia and Europe: https://www.lutheranworld.org/sites/default/files/dtpw-churches_in_public_space.pdf



In September 2017 the Church of Pakistan invited Archbishop Antje Jackelén to Pakistan. Here she is visiting the Diocese of Lahore and their Christian school, Cathedral 1.

Services of worship bring us together, give us guidance through the Word of God, celebrate our fellowship with Christ and each other in Holy Communion and send us to live a life of freedom and love. They are the lifeblood of the Church and Christian life. May the new Book of Worship, which the 2017 General Synod decided on following many people's efforts and work, contribute to renewed joy in services of worship in our Church.

The Church of Sweden is getting smaller – but at the same time, larger. Smaller because its membership is decreasing, while the task of being a church by following Jesus is as large as ever. Yes, maybe even larger: our social responsibility and public expectations of us as Christians are growing, while we must always focus on those who Jesus described as one of the least of these my brothers.

In this situation we need to increase our competence, both as an organisation and as individuals. It has been many years since schools had the task of providing basic knowledge of the Christian faith. Today there are few homes in which children learn to pray. It has also been many years since the Church realised that it was best to stop traditional teacher-led classroom teaching and authoritarian demands. Today the level of knowledge of faith issues is not just low in society in general. Among us, within the Church itself, there are also substantial needs.

In order to be a church and bear witness to the grace of God in words and actions, we need to be both educated and knowledgeable. There is a clear need in our Church for a systematic and coordinated programme for learning and teaching for people of all ages. The project *Dela tro – dela liv* (Share faith – share life) will now continue in the form of a programme for teaching and learning that takes a number of decisive steps forward. The joint efforts of many people are still required, but how about the goal: a programme that is just as well known as confirmation and equally self-evident as swimming lessons?

Let us continue to proudly and strongly draw attention to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And let us do this with ecumenical responsibility, aware that we are part of a worldwide church and that we will always be in need of reformation.

+ Antje Jackelén

ANTJE JACKELÉN
ARCHBISHOP AND CHAIR OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN

A sustainable collaborative church

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S COMMENTS

About sustainability, joint administrative cooperation and good work performed around the world with the funds we have raised.

I LOOK BACK with joy at the high level of participation in the church elections in September 2017. More members than before showed their commitment to the Church of Sweden and their interest in our activities by going to the polling stations and voting. The democratic governance of the Church is one of several fundamental aspects of the identity of the Church and its self-understanding. Following a long process, in the autumn the General Synod made a key decision on a new Book of Worship for the Church of Sweden. The outgoing General Synod made its decision after the proposal for the new Book of Worship had undergone several rounds of consultation and revisions. The new book will be launched during the Pentecost (Whitsun) weekend of 2018.

It is pleasing to see how the number of people actively becoming members of the Church of Sweden is increasing from year to year, even though these numbers are lower than the number of people terminating their membership. The people joining and leaving the Church of Sweden have been studied in greater detail through both questionnaires and in personal interviews, and the result is presented in the report titled *Medlemmar i rörelse* (Changes in membership). The study shows that the movements of members have risen, and that decisions to join and leave the Church often involve a lengthy process that deeply affects the individual. Safeguarding relationships and meeting people's needs must therefore constantly be topical in our parishes so that the Church of Sweden can contribute to meaningfulness, optimism for life, hope and context.

Many people want to experience being inside the church building, being part of prayers and services of worship and sharing faith and life with others. We also

see a high level of participation in the rich, broad and deep range of high-quality cultural and music events of the Church of Sweden. Music in the Church of Sweden touches people and takes over when we are lost for words. These are some of the reasons why more than six million people choose to be members of the Church of Sweden.

The life of the Church of Sweden is lived in its parishes and dioceses, the activities are broad and multifaceted, and the supporting and cohesive measures at national level are therefore extensive. The national level cooperates with the dioceses so that the parishes receive support to perform their basic task every day. Together we work to strengthen and develop the activities of the Church of Sweden, and the pages of this annual review can only reflect a small part of everything we do.

SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY AND SUSTAINABLE CHURCH

In 2017, drought, starvation and war affected people around the world, particularly in Eastern Africa and the Middle East. The Church of Sweden has provided humanitarian relief measures, primarily coordinated within Action by Churches Together (ACT Alliance). Through collections made in parishes and donations from individuals, the Church of Sweden has saved lives, alleviated hardship and contributed to psychosocial support for many people in vulnerable situations. This has taken place in parallel with our long-term development work, in which we strengthen partner churches and organisations in more than 40 countries worldwide to counteract injustice and poverty.

The Lutheran World Federation held its 12th Assembly in Windhoek, Namibia, in May. The main theme of the



Helén Ottosson Lovén speaks at the annual kick-off meeting for the employees of the Central Church Office in Uppsala.

2017 Assembly was *Liberated by God's grace*, with three sub-themes: *Salvation – not for sale, Human Beings – not for sale, and Creation – not for sale*. The delegates representing the Church of Sweden included Archbishop Antje Jackelén and First Vice Chair of the Central Board Wanja Lundby-Wedin. The involvement of the Church of Sweden in the international Lutheran community has always been strong. In 2017, the anniversary year of the Reformation, this involvement has been both confirmed and reinforced through meeting places and gatherings that encouraged reflection and greater depth of understanding.

The Church of Sweden has long worked for cohesion and integration. The activities in many Swedish parishes have changed because of the large number of people who have sought refuge in Sweden, fleeing conflict, violence and destitution. Since autumn 2015, parishes have offered services such as language practice, children's activities and psychosocial support for new arrivals, and to enable this, the Central Board of the Church of Sweden has distributed financial support to parishes and *pastorat*, groups of parishes. The national project *Mer än jobb – Svenska kyrkans stöd till människor i arbetslöshet* (More than work – support from the Church of Sweden for the unemployed) has focused on the groups furthest away from the labour market. In collaboration with the Swedish Public Employment Service, doors are opened to the labour market and establishment through rehabilitation, supported work experience and work placements/internships under supervision in our parishes and groups of parishes.

Allow me to highlight the significance of the national level's contribution to sustainable development, which encompasses support for the climate and environmental work of dioceses and parishes, as well as for development of the social welfare (diaconal) work and challenges in identity and human dignity issues. Sustainable development is often associated with climate issues, but it is more extensive than that. Issues concerning climate change, use of resources, development and justice are not only scien-

tific, technical, financial, social and political, but also ethical, existential and theological. Ethics and values are essential elements for influencing and developing both asset management and structures in the best interests of children through child impact assessments. For more on the sustainability work of the Church of Sweden, refer to the *Sustainability Report for 2017*.

JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION

One major and crucial task is to improve the efficiency of the administrative functions of the Church in collaboration with the dioceses and help each other with joint sustainable solutions. This achieves better and equal quality, and it makes the work cost-effective. We thereby free up local resources and respond to members' requests for our limited funding to be used wisely and responsibly in the basic activities of the Church.

To ensure sustainable, nationwide responsibility for the rich cultural heritage that we safeguard, we strive to bear joint responsibility for its management and heightened cost-effectiveness. As of 2018 the inter-parish financial equalisation system of the Church of Sweden has taken account of how many children live in the parish, and whether the parish is in a rural location or in a socioeconomically vulnerable area.

Cooperation is an important prerequisite for continued effective development, and the national level wants to remain a uniting force in the Church of Sweden, supporting the dioceses and helping to enable the parishes to perform their basic task locally.

HELÉN OTTOSSON LOVÉN
SECRETARY-GENERAL

About the Church of Sweden 2017



The Church of Sweden has

6.0

million members,

59

per cent of the population.



Number of people baptised

51,700*

Number of people confirmed

28,000*

Weddings in the Church of Sweden

17,800*

Funerals in the Church of Sweden

67,300*

In 2017 the Church of Sweden consisted of

1,355

parishes and

31

parishes abroad.

The number of adults in drop-in activities (number of visits/year)

2,7 million*

The number of adults in regular activities

149,000 *

Number of children and young people in drop-in activities (number of visits/year)

1.6 million*

Number of children and young people in regular activities

172,000 *



* The data are for 2016 and have been rounded off.



Number of counselling sessions during the year

775,000*

Number of visits to hospitals, prisons or sheltered housing

88,000*

Number of home visits

108,000*

The Church of Sweden has

21,700

employees and

27,000

elected representatives.*

Social welfare (diaconal) volunteers

28,000*

Volunteers in activities for children and young people

15,000*

Voluntary youth leaders

9,000*



THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN'S INTERNATIONAL WORK

Funds raised **SEK 158** million.

In addition the Church received

SEK 209 million in grants, mainly from Sida (the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency), Radiohjälpen (the fund-raising charity of the Swedish public sector broadcasting companies) and the EU for its international efforts.



The Church of Sweden owns and manages about

3,400

church buildings, most of which are protected by the the Swedish Historic Environment Act.



The Church of Sweden Abroad has activities in many countries worldwide.

Data from 2016 include:

755,000 visits

116,000 people in group activities

7,400 services of worship

800 weddings



Världens fest (the World Festival) in June 2017 was held in Västerås.

The past year

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

Our mandate

The Evangelical-Lutheran Faith Community of the Church of Sweden accommodates a wealth of different activities that express the basic faith, creed and doctrine that the Church of Sweden stands for. The primary unit is the parish, which has the basic task of holding services of worship, educating, and conducting social welfare (diaconal) and mission work. Regionally, the Church of Sweden takes the form of dioceses that have the task of promoting and supervising parish life.

At the national level, whose activities are described in this Annual Review and Financial Summary, the Central Board of the Church of Sweden is in charge of the Church's joint affairs:

- surrounding world and relations, which includes representation, official relations with other churches and faith communities and international mission and diaconia;
- support to dioceses and parishes, which includes support for the basic tasks of the dioceses and parishes, training for professions and other work in the Church of Sweden, research, cultural heritage, work among Swedes abroad, and administrative support functions; as well as
- standardisation and management.

Surrounding world and relations

REPRESENTATION

The Church of Sweden exercises active representation by maintaining good relations with decision-makers, acting as a consultation body on material circulated for comment and by being an active voice in public debate. The message of the Church must have a clear theological foundation, be well balanced between the different

activities and perspectives of the Church and have a clear basis in adopted policies. This means providing theological perspectives on various social issues and speaking clearly about responsibility for the Creation, human dignity, redress and freedom in the contexts in which important decisions are made and implemented, within politics, public administration and in civil society.

The Church of Sweden is represented by, among others, the Archbishop, the Chair of the General Synod, the Vice Chair of the Central Board and the Secretary-General. In 2017 the Church of Sweden submitted 31 responses to referrals that it received for consultation in fields such as social welfare, climate, minority policy and health. Several meetings with ministers and government agencies were held on issues of importance to the Church of Sweden, such as asylum seekers' rights and need for social care, particularly those of unaccompanied minors.

THE ARCHBISHOP AND THE BISHOPS

The Archbishop is often in demand in public discussions and social debates. During the year the Archbishop took part in 136 interviews, mainly in national media. Their topics have included the Christian minorities in Iraq, the anniversary year of the Reformation, the Book of Worship, the number of people ending their Church membership, and the Church of Sweden and the Sami. As the prevailing media climate is fast paced with few opportunities for long conversations and few occasions on which to analyse thoughts and ideas, the contemplative discussions with invited guests continue in the podcast *Prata till punkt med arkebiskopen* (Have your say with the Archbishop).

 www.svenskakyrkan.se/pratatillpunkt

The Archbishop regularly raises the indispensable role of civil society and faith communities in Sweden and elsewhere in Europe. Together with other bishops in Sweden and other religious leaders, the Archbishop has expressed her concern about a society that is increasingly fragmented, and she has stated the need for creating better



Archbishop Antje visits the large mosque in Islamabad, Pakistan, during her trip to the country in September 2017.

conditions for democracy and trust and for safeguarding cohesion and integration.

In the autumn the dioceses of Gothenburg and Luleå elected new bishops: Susanne Rappmann and Åsa Nyström, who will be consecrated as bishops in spring 2018.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S VISITS TO IRAQ AND PAKISTAN

In January the World Council of Churches (WCC) organised a delegation trip for church leaders to Iraq in which the Archbishop participated. The objectives of the trip included meeting representatives of the churches in Iraq and Iraqi Kurdistan and raising recommendations and conclusions from a study that the WCC conducted on the need for protection of minority groups from Syria and Iraq.

In September the Archbishop visited the Church of Pakistan with the purpose of strengthening the relationship and highlighting the situation of Christians in the country. The delegation visited four dioceses during the trip and had the opportunity to learn more about the social welfare (diaconal) work of the Pakistani church and about partners who receive financial support from the Church of Sweden. The Archbishop inaugurated a new church building in Faisalabad Diocese with about 3,000 people in attendance and took part on panels about religious dialogue in Raiwind Diocese and at the Christian Study Center.

The vulnerable situation for Christians and other religious minorities was discussed in a meeting with the minister for interfaith issues. The rights of women and religious minorities were discussed with government representatives and human rights activists. The Archbishop also visited Pakistan's largest mosque, the Shah Faisal Mosque, for talks with leaders there.

THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN IN ALMEDALEN

The week of political debates in Almedalen on the Swedish island of Gotland constitutes an important opportunity for the Church of Sweden to make contact. The Archbishop, bishops, elected representatives and experts also participated in the week's events in 2017. Together with Visby Cathedral Parish and Visby Diocese, the Church of Sweden delivered a broad programme of seminars. Evening discussions were held with representatives of the Swedish parliamentary parties in the cathedral's series of talks called *Nikodemussamtal* and with topical figures in *Samtal under valven* (Talks under the arches). The Church of Sweden teamed up with aid organisations to hold seminars and discussions on the international square *Sverige i världen* (Sweden in the world) and with other organisations in civil society on *Det ideella torget* (The voluntary sector/NPO square). The areas prioritised by the Church of Sweden were cultural heritage, educa-



During the anniversary year of the Reformation the Church of Sweden had three stages at the Book Fair. One of them was the Fair's main stage, which was given the theme Om: bildning, about education.

tion, reformation, migration and integration. In addition to services of worship, there were cultural heritage concerts, cultural heritage walks and guided tours of the cathedral.

The week of political debates in Almedalen in 2017 was influenced by the presence of the Nordic Resistance Movement. Those who could not or did not dare to attend Almedalen due to this fact were acknowledged in words and a clearly visible empty chair at the seminars organised by the Church of Sweden. Newly composed carillon music with Arabic influences to signal the equal rights of all people was played daily from the cathedral tower, and the Church of Sweden participated in a demonstration for diversity.

MORE OPEN AND MORE INCLUSIVE SWEDEN

Idea-based organisations with an emphasis on social issues such as the Swedish Red Cross, the Swedish Sports Confederation, Save the Children and Forum, together with the Church of Sweden, signed a cooperation agreement during the year. Its objectives include increasing cooperation towards making Sweden more open and more inclusive. Facilitating collaboration at local level constitutes a key part of this cooperation. Workshops took place in several locations in Sweden to come up with approaches and draw up action plans together.

BOOK FAIR

The Göteborg Book Fair is another important meeting place. The year's programme was characterised by the overall theme of *Education*, and the Church of Sweden was a dominant player in the planning of this year's book fair. One of the guests of the Church at the fair was Joachim Gauck, Germany's recently succeeded president. The Church of Sweden was responsible for three stages. As in previous years, *Se Människan*, (See the human being), the Church of Sweden's stage, organised discussions with Swedish and international authors, focusing on where culture, theology and existential issues meet. The second stage was the book fair's theme stage and was called *Om: bildning* (on the theme of education) and the third stage was on the theme of *Bildning, mod och motstånd* (Education, courage and resistance). In cooperation with the Swedish Educational Broadcasting Company (UR), 14 seminars were recorded for the programme bank UR Play so that they can be used to further train teachers, for example. Theologians, researchers, educators and communication officers – all from the Church of Sweden – participated and were available to answer questions and take part in discussions.

www.svenskakyrkan.se/bokmassan

#VARDELJUS

More than 1,300 women in the Church of Sweden published the #vardeljus appeal on 24 November as part of the #MeToo movement that has made an impact worldwide. The Archbishop signed the appeal herself along with other women bishops in the Church. An official statement was published in support of those affected. Over the past 20 years the Church of Sweden has worked to address and prevent sexual assaults in Church contexts. Each diocese contains specially trained contacts, a man and a woman, who are tasked with meeting and supporting those who have experienced sexual harassment. The Church also works on quality assurance of its activities for children and young people. An informative publication called *Trygga Möten* (Safe meetings) for confirmation leaders and youth leaders in the Church of Sweden was launched during the year in collaboration with the Church of Sweden Youth and Scouterna – the Guides and Scouts of Sweden.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER CHURCHES, FAITH COMMUNITIES AND RELIGIONS

The Church of Sweden also has official relations with other churches and faith communities. Within the framework of this work, the Church of Sweden participates in ecumenical talks at various levels. They aim to encourage dialogue in order to gain in-depth knowledge of other churches, work through theological differences and seek joint approaches and cooperation for peace and justice. The Church of Sweden is an active member of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), which brings together Lutheran churches at a global level, as well as the World Council of Churches (WCC). The Christian Council of Sweden and the Interfaith Council of Sweden form the hub of the work on topical issues about migration and integration, the situation in the Middle East and the multicultural society.

THE ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE REFORMATION

Starting on 31 October 1517, a movement swept through Europe that affected church life, government and society, education and culture. The Church of Sweden has highlighted 500 years of reformation, and in the last week of October 2017 the Reformation was commemorated with gratitude and contemplation, with ecumenical sensitivity and in awareness of the significance of education for individuals and for society as a whole.

The result of 50 years of ecumenical dialogue between Lutherans and Catholics has led to the formulation of five joint imperatives for future dialogue. These were presented in November 2016 during the major event in Lund and Malmö in the presence of the Pope and are described in the document *From Conflict to Communion*. With solemnity and hope, the anniversary year of the Reformation was highlighted, without denying the conflict-filled past. The year was characterised by fellowship and reconciliation and a will to go forward focusing on the important aspects that unite us, without hiding our differences.

Local events were planned and services of worship held throughout Sweden. In addition to the book fair, three national gatherings were held in the spirit of the anniversary of the Reformation. *The Uppsala Festival of Theology* in February attracted nearly 1,000 participants who discussed the Reformation, its consequences and the future in various ways. *Världens fest* (the World Festival) in Västerås in early June, which also aims to increase international involvement, global affinity and solidarity,

The Lutheran World Federation

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) brings together 145 churches within the Lutheran family of churches for fellowship and work on changing people's living conditions. The LWF represents 74 million people in 98 countries. The Church of Sweden has been a member of the LWF since the Federation was founded in Lund in 1947.

The World Council of Churches

The World Council of Churches (WCC) is a fellowship of 348 churches with the main aim of achieving Christian unity and collaboration between churches for peace and justice. The WCC brings together churches and denominations from more than 110 countries and represents 500 million Christians from various traditions. The Church of Sweden has been a member of the WCC since its foundation in 1948.



The anniversary year of the Reformation concluded with a series of activities all over Sweden and a commemorative mass in Uppsala Cathedral that was broadcast live.

was held in collaboration with Västerås Diocese, Västerås group of parishes and the Church of Sweden Youth in Västerås district. More than 9,900 people took part in seminars, workshops, worship, cultural events and music for people of all ages. The 2017 gathering was a street festival, completely free of charge and without pre-registration.

Reformationsveckan (Reformation Week) was the fourth and concluding event that the national level contributed to during the anniversary year of the Reformation. Five services of worship took place in Uppsala Cathedral, several with an ecumenical theme and newly composed music. All of the services were recorded by Swedish public service broadcaster SVT, and the commemorative mass on 29 October was broadcast live. It was followed by a soup kitchen, organised by Uppsala Stadsmission (City Mission), in the cathedral square. We also held commemorative services in all the dioceses' cathedrals on the anniversary of the Reformation on 31 October. Reformation Week ended on 3 November with a performance of Rockatorium, a new music composition featuring a rock choir from Uppsala Cathedral and Uppsala Vocal Ensemble.

The significance of the Reformation will be highlighted from many quarters for a long time, both locally and globally. The essence of the step from conflict to communion is a joint ecumenical mandate to manage and develop. In connection with the anniversary year of the Reformation, through ecumenical cooperation, the

national level of the Church of Sweden published literature and information, study and inspirational materials to encourage continued deeper understanding and public education about the Reformation.

<https://www.svenskkyrkan.se/reformationsaret/church-of-swedens-focus-on-reformation-year-2017>

THE ASSEMBLY OF THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

The Lutheran World Federation's 12th Assembly was held in Windhoek, Namibia, in May on the theme of *Liberated by God's grace*. The Assembly constituted a gathering of 145 member churches from 98 countries, with more than 300 delegates representing 75 million Lutherans. During the course of the Assembly, the theme was addressed in more detail through three sub-themes: *Salvation – Not for Sale*, *Human Beings – Not for Sale* and *Creation – Not for Sale*.

In the days prior to the Assembly, women and young people took part in pre-assemblies about joint issues and attended lectures. The Women's Pre-Assembly imbued the atmosphere of the main LWF Assembly and resulted in several significant resolutions on securing and respecting gender justice in the member churches.

The members of the LWF Council were appointed during the Assembly, and Archbishop Antje Jackelén was elected as new Vice-President for the Nordic Countries region at the first meeting of the Council.



The drought in Somalia is severe, forcing many people to flee the country.

CHURCH OF SWEDEN RECEIVED AWARD IN POLAND

In October the Archbishop received the *Princess Anna Wazówna Church Award*, which was bestowed on the Church of Sweden by the Evangelical-Augsburg Church in Poland for the relief efforts provided in war-torn Masuria in Poland following the Second World War.

INTERNATIONAL MISSION AND DIACONIA

The Church of Sweden strives to bring about internationally and ecumenically coordinated mission and diaconia measures as well as long-term development cooperation. The activities are designed on the basis of long-term, strategic cooperation with other churches, ecumenical networks and development organisations. The task of the Central Board of the Church of Sweden also includes coordinating, planning and developing the work, involvement and financing of the Church and its parishes regarding international mission and diaconia. The international work is mainly financed using funds raised (collections and donations), grants received from Sida and the fee designated for joint work. The international activities of the Church are assessed by *Swedish Fundraising Control*. Our international work has received certification for the *Core Humanitarian Standard*, CHS, which means that accountability and quality permeate the international work of the Church of Sweden, and that people who live in vulnerable situations are to be involved and that they, as well as the organisations that provide funding for the work, are to have confidence in the partners of the Church of Sweden.

LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

The Church of Sweden supports and collaborates with churches, organisations and networks in 40 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. The long-term development cooperation aims to counteract injustice and poverty by addressing their root causes. This is achieved by the Church of Sweden strengthening and helping cooperation partners to take rights-based action in the civil sector for sustainable, democratic societies that are imbued with justice and equality. Such a working method bolsters people's own resources and involves them in processes to improve their living conditions.

In South Africa, Swaziland and Ethiopia there are mentor mothers who help vulnerable families take better care of their children. These women live in the area where they work, which enables them to gain the confidence of those they meet more quickly. The key is to detect malnutrition and provide support and advice in everyday life. The Church of Sweden has provided support for this work, which started in South Africa, for many years.

HUMANITARIAN AID AND FUNDRAISING

The Church of Sweden saves lives and mitigates suffering in acute humanitarian situations. The work is primarily coordinated and performed within Action by Churches Together, *ACT Alliance*, but also in collaboration with other partners.

In spring 2017 the UN stated that the world had been hit by its largest humanitarian crisis since 1945. An estimated 20 million people were suffering from starvation in several countries including Somalia, Ethiopia and South Sudan. Due to drought and conflicts, a large number of people in, for example, Eastern Africa have been in desperate need of food and water. Many people have been forced to flee due to the violence and

The Church of Sweden supports and cooperates with churches, organisations and networks in 40 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

ACT Alliance

The international work of the Church of Sweden is one of the more than 140 members of ACT Alliance, Action by Churches Together. ACT Alliance was launched in 2010 and is a global collaboration of churches and faith-based organisations on disaster relief efforts, development and advocacy in over 100 countries.

The national level provides support in four overall areas: the basic task of the parishes, communication, situational analysis and research, and administrative cooperation aiming towards creating a sustainable church.

drought in the region. More than a million South Sudanese refugees fled to Uganda during the year – most of them women and children. The Church of Sweden increased its funding to help address the humanitarian situation there and in other countries.

So in early June the Church launched a fundraising campaign against hunger, and by mid-August about SEK 7 million had already been raised. The majority of the donations were from individuals, and donations to support people in vulnerable situations are continuing to be made. The Church of Sweden has had a presence in the affected areas through ACT Alliance's local partners and has contributed to emergency measures such as the distribution of food and water, medical care, seed and new cattle, as well as income support.

Many countries are hit by recurring periods of drought or flooding that jeopardise access to food. That's why the Church of Sweden also works with a long-term approach to reduce risks and vulnerability when extreme weather strikes. Such measures include planting trees and bushes that stop flowing water, sharing knowledge of more efficient farming and hardier crops, as well as managing water resources.

SUPPORT TO PEOPLE PERSECUTED DUE TO THEIR FAITH

In many places around the world, believers are immensely vulnerable and live in areas where churches and other religious premises are attacked. This affects both Christians and people of other faiths, such as Muslims, Jews and Yazidis in Iraq and Syria. The Church of Sweden condemns all violence that takes place in the name of religions and therefore supports believers affected and includes them in its prayers.

Together with churches and partners worldwide, the Church of Sweden works in support of conflict resolution

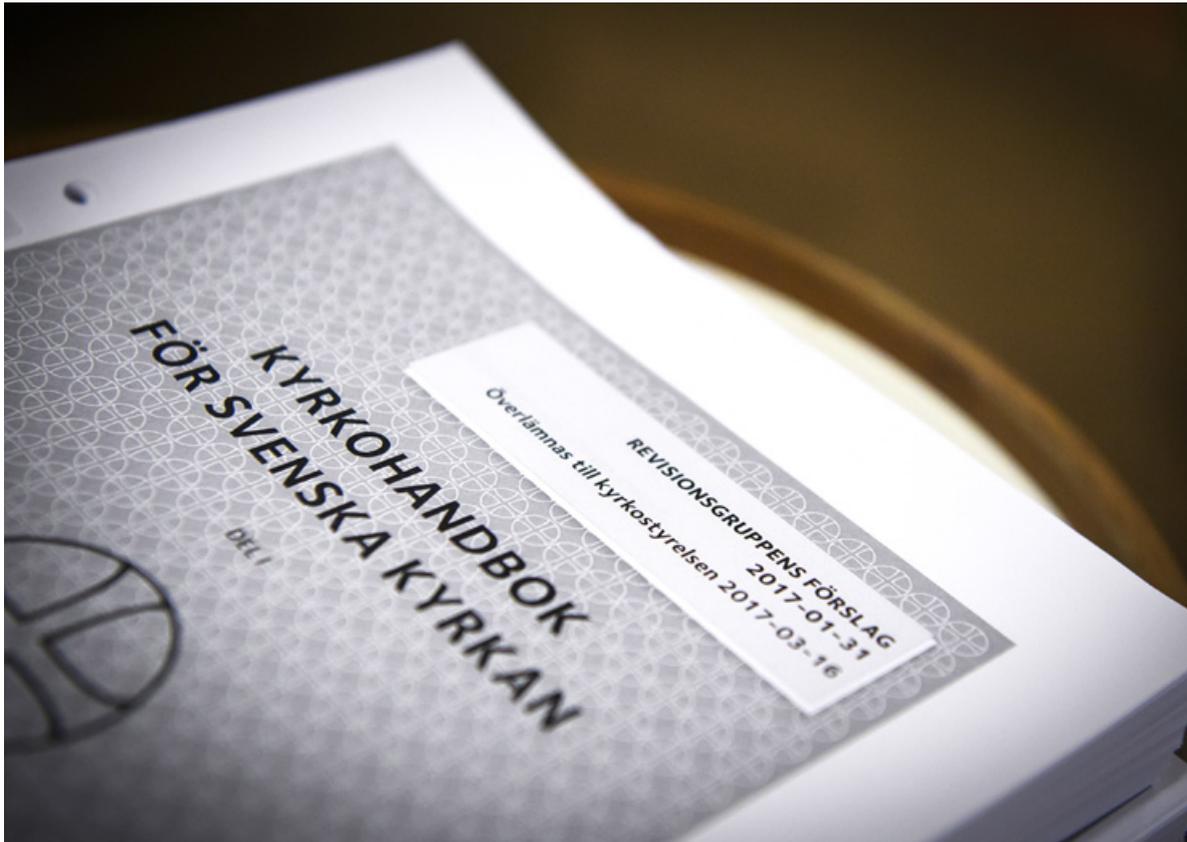
and human rights. The Church of Sweden strengthens Christian minorities and attempts to establish dialogue between people of different faiths. It supports Christians in African countries and Pakistan. The Church of Sweden collaborates with, for example, *the Middle East Council of Churches*, *the World Student Christian Federation – Middle East* and *the Near East School of Theology, Beirut*, which trains priests in the Middle East. Some of the work of the Church of Sweden is conducted silently, behind the scenes, for reasons of safety for individuals and organisations.

Together with the Christian Council of Sweden and the Interfaith Council of Sweden, the Church of Sweden also safeguards the development of society in our own country and reacts when people and religious premises are attacked.

<https://www.svenskakyrkan.se/internationelltarbete/international>

Support to dioceses and parishes

One of the tasks of the Central Board of the Church of Sweden is to support the dioceses' efforts to develop parish activities. Support to parishes is provided either directly or via the dioceses. Some development work takes place in cooperation with one or more dioceses that have special interest and involvement in an area of activity. The national level provides support in four overall areas that have been defined by the Central Board together with the dioceses: the basic task of the parishes, communication, situational analysis and research, and administrative cooperation aiming towards creating a sustainable church. For detailed information about the



In November 2017 the General Synod adopted the proposal for a new Book of Worship for the Church of Sweden.

national level's work on climate and sustainability issues, refer to the *Sustainability Report for 2017*.

Cooperation has been bolstered at elected representative level between the Central Board of the Church of Sweden and the Diocesan Boards, as well as collaboration at employee level between the managements of the dioceses and national level management. A strategic development project is being conducted with the dioceses within several areas of activity, not least within administrative cooperation and the work on implementing child impact assessments in the decision-making processes of the Church.

DECISION ON NEW BOOK OF WORSHIP

On 23 November the General Synod voted to adopt a new Book of Worship for the Church of Sweden. The work to renew the Book of Worship has spanned many years and has aimed to develop local services of worship and promote the joint aspects of the Church of Sweden. The Book of Worship contains orders of service for various kinds of services and includes prayers and other texts, as well as music. The new Book of Worship allows for greater flexibility, which had been requested – especially from a children's perspective.

A main volume, music volume and a missal, which

contains the order and music for mass/Holy Communion and other services of worship have been published. Implementation work is in progress together with the dioceses so that the new Book of Worship can be launched on Pentecost (Whit) Sunday 2018. Information material and detailed study material have also been produced, along with a choral edition. The Book of Worship is currently being translated into national minority languages and Swedish sign language.

The General Synod tasked the Central Board of the Church of Sweden with continuing to work on the music for services of worship and put forward additional music for the Book of Worship. This encompasses music for services and music in the liturgical texts, music from Sami tradition, for example, and from partner churches outside Europe.

www.svenskakyrkan.se/kyrkoandboken

LEARNING AND TEACHING

In collaboration with dioceses and parishes, a venture focusing specially on the teaching and mission of the Church, *Dela tro – dela liv* (Share faith – share life) has been in progress for several years. Its objective is to strengthen the parishes in their basic task and to find new

In July 2017 about 1,180 people were taking part in some form of labour market programme in Church of Sweden parishes and group of parishes. Most of them were in the programmes of measures for new start jobs or wage-subsidised employment or in security employment.

ways to carry out specific work tasks. With this venture, the Church of Sweden has wanted to give people of all ages the opportunity to grow and develop in their ability to talk about and live in faith. The venture is now being phased out, but the Board is also planning a systematic and cohesive programme for learning and teaching for people of all ages in the Church of Sweden.

INTEGRATION AND ESTABLISHMENT

The Church of Sweden has been working with asylum seekers and refugees for a long time. Since autumn 2015 the activities in many Swedish parishes have changed because of the large number of people who have sought refuge in Sweden, fleeing conflicts, violence and destitution. Through co-workers, often volunteers, many parishes have offered services such as language practice, pastoral counselling and psychosocial support.

The Central Board of the Church has earmarked SEK 60 million per year up to and including 2019 for work with refugees and new arrivals in Sweden. A long-term approach and collaboration with other organisations have constituted the starting point in the distribution of these funds. The largest proportion of the funding has been allocated to the work in Swedish parishes and groups of parishes, but a large proportion has also been allocated to international measures, such as humanitarian relief efforts and development, primarily in the Middle East. The Church Board has also made extra resources available to the diocesan organisation for coaching employees locally. The Swedish Refugee Advice Centre, of which the Church of Sweden is one of the principals, has reinforced its legal expertise thanks to extra funding. Materials used in services of worship have been translated into various languages, including Persian/Farsi, Dari, Arabic and Tigrinya.

Several parishes witness fear and xenophobia among people – feelings that they have tried to counteract through initiatives to increase trust between people. During the year the national level has worked with Västerås Diocese to establish collaboration with the national coordinator against violent extremism, now the Swedish Centre for Preventing Violent Extremism under the auspices of the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention at the Ministry of Justice.

Support Migration at national level is designed for employees, elected representatives and volunteers who work with migration and integration issues in various ways. It is a two-part support function consisting of an intranet and a phone and email service. *Support Migration* facilitates the exchange of experience, knowledge and methods between parishes. Employees connected to the function arrange training in topics such as psychosocial approaches and how to treat and respond to people. This training is for employees in dioceses and parishes – some in collaboration with other organisations. The intranet section is open to the general public and other actors.

internwww.svenskakyrkan.se/supportmigration

There has long been cooperation at local level in many locations between the parishes of the Church of Sweden and the Swedish Public Employment Service to open doors to the labour market through rehabilitation, supported work experience and work placements/internships under supervision. A national agreement between the Church of Sweden, the Church of Sweden Employers' Association and the Swedish Public



Mensura Nepjip moved to Sweden from Eritrea nine years ago. Café Trädgårn is a collaborative effort involving the Cathedral Parish and Härnösand Municipality and acts as a meeting place open to all. Therese Nyvind Martinsson is an assistant in the parish.

Employment Service strengthens and ensures the quality of the activities and aims to help more people obtain work. The multi-year project *Mer än jobb – Svenska kyrkans stöd till människor i arbetslöshet* (More than work – support from the Church for the unemployed) was concluded in December and has subsequently become part of regular activities. The project has focused especially on groups who are far away from the labour market, such as

the young, people with disabilities and new arrivals in Sweden. In July 2017 about 1,180 people were in some form of labour market programme in the parishes and groups of parishes of the Church of Sweden. Most of them are in the programmes of measures for new start jobs, wage-subsidised employment or in security employment.

DUTY PRIEST AND ONLINE SUPPORT

The *Jourhavande Präst* (Duty Priest Service) of the Church of Sweden is available in three channels at times of the day and night when other support services are closed. The service can be reached by phone by calling the emergency services number 112, and online via digital letters or the chat function. The work is coordinated at national level and is staffed by employees nationwide. About 75,000 calls were answered in the phone service in 2017. Increasing numbers of people are using the other two channels, and the number of chats per evening amounts to about 40. The chat service reaches new target groups, particularly young people. The Church of Sweden also offers a Finnish phone service.

THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

As in previous years a social welfare-focused initiative was conducted in connection with All Saints. The initiative in 2017 was about lowering the thresholds for being a compassionate human being to people who are grieving. Within the scope of this work, a number of tips have been drawn up for possible approaches when talking to people in mourning, *Första hjälpen vid sorg* (First Aid for Grief). The tips were shared in social media, and during the weekend when All Saints is commemorated, an information booklet was distributed locally where candles were handed out. It made a major impact: the film on first aid reached 1.2 million users on Facebook.

SOCIAL MEDIA

There is a great deal of scope for social flows through the web platform of the Church of Sweden. The website has been adapted to the fact that more than half of those who visit the Church of Sweden website access it via a mobile phone or tablet. On average one film was produced per day for the website, to complement existing texts.

Ever more people are accessing the social media channels of the Church of Sweden. Some people ponder on major life issues; others want to discuss a reflection or to say a prayer for someone. Many deacons, parish educational officers and priests have had an online presence for many years in the channels of the Church of Sweden and other forums. With about 65,400 followers on the official Facebook page of the Church of Sweden in December 2017 and about 19,700 followers on the Facebook page of the international organisation, there is an increased need for priests to have a presence online. The tasks vary between answering factual questions and providing pastoral counselling. Sometimes they can point a person to a different priest in their local area. A recruitment and training initiative has been launched with the objective of increasing the number of priests available online.

 www.facebook.com/svenskakyrkan

CHURCH AND POLICE COOPERATION

An updated agreement about cooperation with the Swedish Police and the Church of Sweden, *Equmeniakyrkan* (Uniting Church in Sweden) and the Catholic Church in Sweden was signed in 2017. It aims to enable the faith communities to contribute to police work, such as notifying next of kin of a death, victim support and crisis management. Support can also be provided in the form of psychosocial assistance to police employees. The national agreement is to be the starting point for local and regional agreements.

CULTURE

The Church of Sweden strives to provide rich, multifaceted and candid cultural activities and wants to conduct dialogue with artists and others who work with culture and who address major existential issues in our time. The Church of Sweden therefore awards culture grants every year with the aim of contributing to the creation of new artworks linked to Christian tradition and Bible stories. Interest in the grant broke all records in 2017, with 475 applications, and this interest increases every year. The grant of SEK 500 thousand was distributed equally between five projects in the performing arts, pictorial arts, film, literature and music. The Sami Culture Prize of the Church of Sweden was awarded to director Amanda Kernell for her film *Sameblod* (Sami Blood).

The 2017 Göteborg Film Festival was on the theme of *Gudar och människor* (Gods and humans), and faith and religious issues therefore played an unusually prominent part. The Church of Sweden film award *Angelos* went to *Dröm vidare* (Dream on), the directorial debut of Rojda Sekersöz; her film also won the audience's prize awarded at the closing gala of the festival. Just over a month later, in March, the Church of Sweden youth film award was presented to *Heartstone* during BUFF (International Children and Young People's Film Festival) in Malmö. The Church of Sweden arranged seminars and other activities at both film festivals.

SAMI CHURCH DAYS

In June more than 500 participants from Sweden, Finland, Norway and Russia gathered for the Sami Church Days in Arvidsjaur. In addition to a service of worship in the Sami language, the delegates could choose between concerts and seminars on topics such as jojk (yoik) in the church, Sami church art, climate issues, and matters concerning a potential truth and reconciliation commission. A youth camp for 14–25-year-olds was held in parallel. Communication was a challenge, as it took place in at least five languages as well as the various Sami languages.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Church of Sweden manages the country's largest cohesive collection of cultural heritage. It is both tangible



The Sami Church Days in Arvidsjaur brought together more than 500 delegates from Sweden, Finland, Norway and Russia.

and intangible: cemeteries and memories, churches and traditions, instruments and music. The Church of Sweden owns 3,400 churches and chapels, 3,000 of which are protected by the Swedish Historic Environment Act. The Church receives annual financial assistance from the Government, an annual ecclesiastical heritage grant, for the extra costs incurred through care and maintenance of the ecclesiastical heritage that is covered by the Historic Environment Act. The Central Board of the Church of Sweden has the task of deciding how to distribute this SEK 460 million grant and reporting on how it is used.

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH

Analyses and research findings are continually presented via publications, presentations and conferences. Anthologies, research overviews and scientific and popular science articles are also published.

The study *En tid av möten* (A time of encounters) was presented in the spring, highlighting the extent of the Church of Sweden's work with asylum seekers and new arrivals in Sweden in 2015 and 2016. The study was based on a national questionnaire and interviews in parishes with various conditions. The study describes how the parishes of the Church expanded their existing activities and mobilised employees and volunteers for new initiatives, in both rural and large urban areas. This conveys a picture of challenges, but also a great deal of joy, not least in encounters between people. The study has been published in a book and can also be downloaded free of charge from the Church of Sweden website. It has also been translated into English.

Several researchers in the Church of Sweden have contributed to the book *Mellan himmel och jord – Svenska kyrkans kulturarv inför framtiden* (Between heaven and earth – the cultural heritage of the Church of Sweden looking to the future). The book is part of an ongoing reflection in the Church of Sweden on how its cultural heritage is a living heritage, featuring new interpretations and understandings in dialogue with the history that spans many thousands of years. Symbols are conveyed and change, are interpreted and re-interpreted – new ones emerge, while others disappear. The key is that the cultural heritage is not just something that must be preserved and protected, but rather that it is something that the Church has been entrusted with in order to promote and renew it.

THE BASIC TRAINING OF THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN AND THE SWEDISH THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

The Church's educational institute, with activities in both Uppsala and Lund, has the task of training future deacons, parish educational officers, church musicians and priests. Recruitment and skills supply are constantly topical issues in the Church of Sweden. A total of 174 people graduated in 2017 – 76 in Lund and 98 in Uppsala; 76 people studied half-time and through distance learning. The graduates comprised 52 deacons, 50 parish educational officers, 9 church musicians and 63 priests. In addition, 56 students have received a certificate on completing the foundation course in pastoral theology, 10 of whom studied in Gothenburg. The educational institute is responsible for the training that authorises vicars to head a parish, and 75 people completed this training during the year.



Evening mass in the Church of Sweden, Phuket, Thailand.

The Swedish Theological Institute in Jerusalem focuses on the theology of religions and meetings between religions, especially between Christianity and Judaism, as well as ecumenical contacts with Christians from various church traditions. The institute provides short and long courses in these fields, and people meet from different religious and political groups in the area. The participants on the courses are theologians, priests and other groups of church staff from the Church of Sweden and partners around the world. As a first this year, the 2017 church leader conference for leaders from Latin America was translated into Spanish. Church leaders from Guatemala, Colombia, Honduras and Haiti took part, and the course focused on gender and leadership.

WORK AMONG SWEDES ABROAD

The Church of Sweden has staff stationed abroad and its own premises in 40 locations in 23 countries worldwide, where it holds services of worship, provides education, and carries out social welfare (diaconal) and mission work. Services of worship are held regularly in another 100 or so locations. The recruitment and training of staff stationed abroad form part of the Central Board's remit. Employees and elected representatives in the various parishes abroad received further training in communication and security during the year. Emergency preparedness has

become topical through the terror attacks in recent years and it must be constantly renewed.

The Church of Sweden is currently having difficulty obtaining visas for employees, particularly to Australia and the USA, resulting in activities decreasing and problems arising.

www.svenskakyrkan.se/iutlandet

RAINBOW KEY

The Church of Sweden is to be an inclusive church, where everyone should feel safe and welcome. This is why anti-discrimination work is under way and employees are continually trained in gender and diversity issues to develop environments in which people are welcomed. To strengthen LGBTQ competence in the Church of Sweden, the process model *Regnbågsnyckeln* (the rainbow key) is offered. It has been devised by EKHO Sweden – Ecumenical groups for Christian LGBTQ people and the Sensus study association. It was tested in a few pilot parishes in 2017 and will be offered to all parishes in 2018. In 2017 the Church of Sweden trained 30 process leaders in *Regnbågsnyckeln*, and a further 30 will be trained in 2018. A parish that wants to be designated a *Regnbågsnyckeln parish* must provide training in its teams of employees and among its elected representatives.



After the terror attack in Stockholm. Together we can conquer violence.

CHURCH OF SWEDEN PREPAREDNESS

The Central Board is responsible for coordinating emergency preparedness in the Church of Sweden and, through advice and instructions, for providing guidelines on how emergency management and preparedness work should be run in the Church. Within the framework of the Central Board's emergency preparedness and emergency management, support is provided to the activities of parishes abroad, to staff in the international organisation and other parts of the national level of the Church. The Church of Sweden continually cooperates with *the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency*, and the emergency coordination and security function at national level has been reinforced in recent years.

ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION

Development work is in progress for greater collaboration within administration in the Church of Sweden. This is taking place with the dioceses and aims to create conditions that enable parishes to free up additional energy and resources to devote to their basic tasks. The work also contributes to sustainable development and consistent quality throughout the Church of Sweden.

The five prioritised areas of activity that the dioceses and the Central Board of the Church of Sweden have agreed on together are IT, properties, accounting and

payroll administration, case management and purchasing support. The joint IT platform is a central prerequisite for administrative cooperation, which is why the cost per user and the parishes' connection to the platform are subsidised. The number of parishes and dioceses that are connected amounted to 433 at year-end 2017/2018, with a total of 13,000 users.

The rate of new users connecting to the joint administrative solutions is relatively high. The number of parishes and groups of parishes that are either connected to or are preparing to connect to the joint accounting and payroll processes currently totals 150.

The Church of Sweden can influence trade and industry when entering into framework agreements for the entire Church – through which our costs are simultaneously cut. SEK 137 million was saved through the framework agreements in 2017. All 86 suppliers in the framework agreements follow the code of conduct for suppliers of the Church of Sweden, which contains requirements regarding environmental consideration, working conditions, other human rights and a ban on corruption. Various sustainability issues are highlighted in assessment criteria and in specifications of requirements, adapted to the relevant activities. For example, requests for a large proportion of eco-labelled products, or demanding that working conditions in factories in low-cost countries are followed up.

A central register of all properties will be drawn up, as will premises supply plans describing how the parishes intend to use their buildings in the future.

Through a new purchasing portal on the Church of Sweden intranet, parishes and dioceses can access sustainability assessments and other information that helps units within the Church make active choices and, if necessary, change their own behaviour to reduce their climate impact.

PROPERTIES, CHURCHES AND EQUALISATION SYSTEM

Joint responsibility must be taken within the Church of Sweden to free up financial resources for the basic tasks of the parishes and to work nationwide. Cultural heritage comprising churches and other buildings must be managed more efficiently, which was the essence of a General Synod decision made in autumn 2016. In a future with fewer members, the Church of Sweden will need to work more cost-effectively in several areas. Regarding properties in particular, it is thought that considerable resources can be freed up if the parishes gain better tools for monitoring and effective management. The annual costs of the management of all properties including churches and chapels amount to about a quarter of the total costs payable by the Church of Sweden. Major opportunities remain for additional energy savings in the buildings of the Church of Sweden. Stewardship is a core starting point for future work; it means that we must integrate environmental aspects in the work, side by side with pastoral, social and cultural heritage aspects. This must take place concurrently with achieving economically sustainable property management.

A central register of all properties will be drawn up, as will premises supply plans describing how the parishes intend to use their buildings in the future. A church maintenance grant will be introduced to bolster the parishes' maintenance of their church buildings. In consultation with dioceses and the Central Board, parishes will over time be able to transfer church buildings that they no longer use to the Church of Sweden Faith Community. The register will be introduced first, however, and is planned to have been set up by 1 January 2019.

Changes to the financial equalisation system of the Church of Sweden came into force in January 2018. One

such change is that the calculations are based on the number of children living in a parish and factors such as whether the parish is located in a rural or socially disadvantaged area.

MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN

The number of people actively becoming members of the Church of Sweden is increasing from year to year, although these numbers are lower than the number of people terminating their membership. The members joining and those leaving the Church have been studied in greater detail via a questionnaire and in personal interviews, and the result has been presented in the report titled *Medlemmar i rörelse* (Changes in membership). In 2017 more than 96,000 members left the Church of Sweden. This is partly an effect of reactions to media reports where there has been a loss of trust among members who have had a long relationship with the Church, but also an effect of the unusually large generation of young adults and that these individuals have re-evaluated their membership to a greater extent than those in previous years. People leaving the Church of Sweden are often young men who live in cities and have an above-average income.

People becoming members of the Church are often born abroad, young women or people returning to the Church. The study shows that changes in membership have increased, and that decisions to join and leave the Church often involve a lengthy process that deeply affects the individual.

Heightening awareness of how the Church of Sweden can contribute to meaningfulness, an optimistic approach to life and context in the various phases of life is one important task, and another is to provide information on the activities that the Church of Sweden conducts in society at large. The breadth of the work of the Church is something that the national level, dioceses and parishes should continually highlight together.

 www.svenskakyrkan.se/statistik



In most locations around the country, the queues to the polling stations were long at times.

CHURCH ELECTIONS

Church elections were held in September with a high voter turnout. The expanded opportunity to vote in advance up to and including election day was a key factor in the higher turnout, as was the fact that the nomination groups had been more active than in previous elections in conveying their programmes and canvassing for votes.

The goal of the communication in the run-up to the election was to create awareness of the Church of Sweden and the election and provide information on how to vote. Three weeks prior to the election, a staffed service called *Valservice* (election service) was available to answer the general public's questions about the church elections by phone and email. The most common questions concerned voting cards, polling stations and nomination groups. The service was used most of all on election day itself, when 634 phone calls were answered by the national level.

Media interest in the church elections and on social media was more extensive than in previous years, and in addition to many local political articles in editorials, the significance of the church elections was highlighted in many editorials around the country.

Standardisation and management

The Central Board of the Church of Sweden prepares decisions for the General Synod on amendments to the Church Ordinance regarding stipulations about the Church's faith, creed and doctrine; the books of the Church; services of worship; sacraments and other ceremonies; belonging to the Church; and the Church's ordained ministry. This also applies to changes to the Church organisation and the rules that parishes, dioceses and national-level bodies must comply with when performing their tasks. The work focuses on drawing up suitable documentation for establishing a consensus, reflection and decisions on changes to the Church Ordinance.

One example of standardisation can constitute regulations about the preservation and storage of documents in

the Church of Sweden archives in terms of what writing and storage equipment is to be used, the lending and returning of documents, the submission of documents for review, and when to sort out and remove documents from the archive.

CAPITAL AND ENDOWMENTS TO THE CHURCH

Through its management of its endowments, the Church of Sweden is the country's largest agricultural manager and its fifth largest forest manager. Its assets consist of forest, land and fund capital, and they have a combined market value of about SEK 29 billion. The endowments to the Church are managed by the dioceses, and the Central Board has a supervisory role, which includes the provision of advice and support in management-related issues. The Board's remit also includes issuing more detailed stipulations that apply to the management when necessary.

The national level manages capital that stood at approximately SEK 8,155 million as at 31 December 2017, with a required return of 3% per year over a rolling 10-year period, above inflation. The return from asset management is regarded as a resource with which to pay for long-term commitments and high priority areas for the activities of the Church of Sweden. The capital must be managed effectively and in an ethically defensible way. The financial policy adopted by the Central Board governs the work, and delegated responsibility for the work lies with the Asset Management Council.

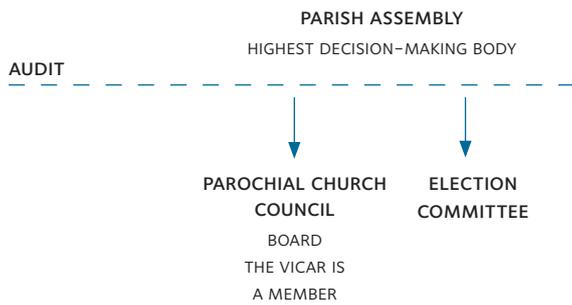
Within the framework of the sustainability work, Ethos funds are available for the entire Church. There are currently three funds: One Swedish fund, one global equity fund and one Swedish fixed income fund. The entire management of the national capital follows the UN's *Principles for Responsible Investment*. For a more detailed account, refer to the *Sustainability Report for 2017*.

www.svenskakyrkan.se/hallbarutveckling

Organisation 2017

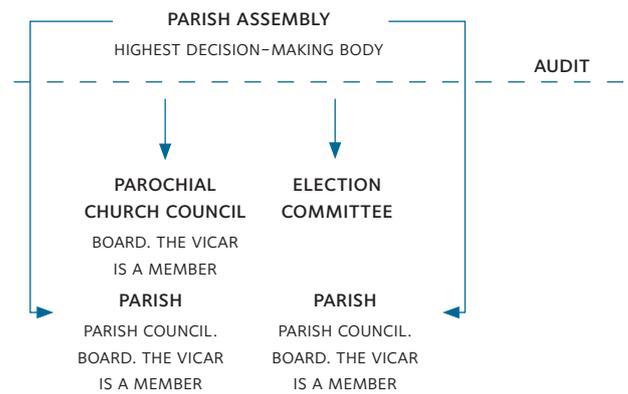
Parish

- SPECIFICALLY, A PARISH NOT INCLUDED IN A GROUP OF PARISHES
- THE LOCAL PASTORAL AREA
- CARRIES OUT THE BASIC TASK OF THE PARISH



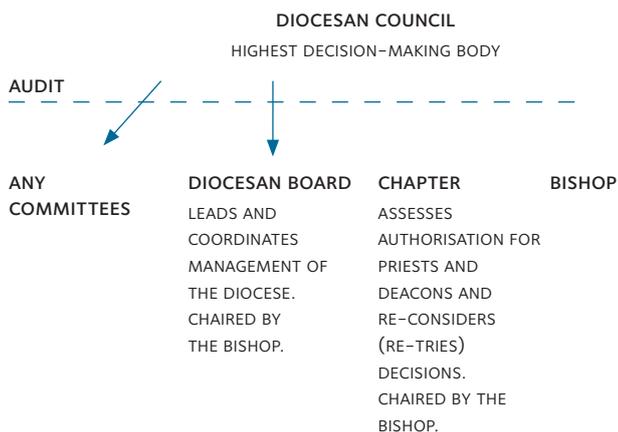
Pastorat (group of parishes)

- PASTORAL AREA
- OVERALL LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENSURING THAT PARISHES PERFORM THEIR BASIC TASK
- FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



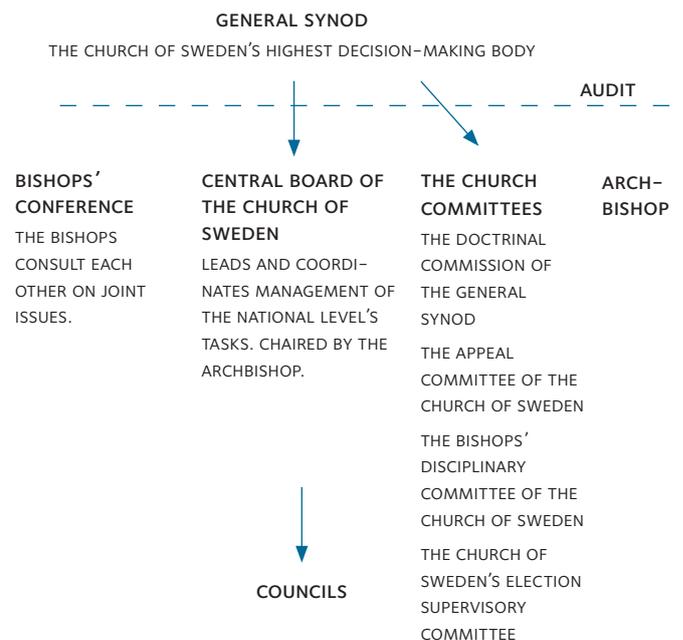
Diocese

- THE REGIONAL PASTORAL AREA
- PROMOTES AND SUPERVISES PARISH LIFE



National level

- RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CHURCH'S JOINT AFFAIRS AND REPRESENTS THE CHURCH NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.

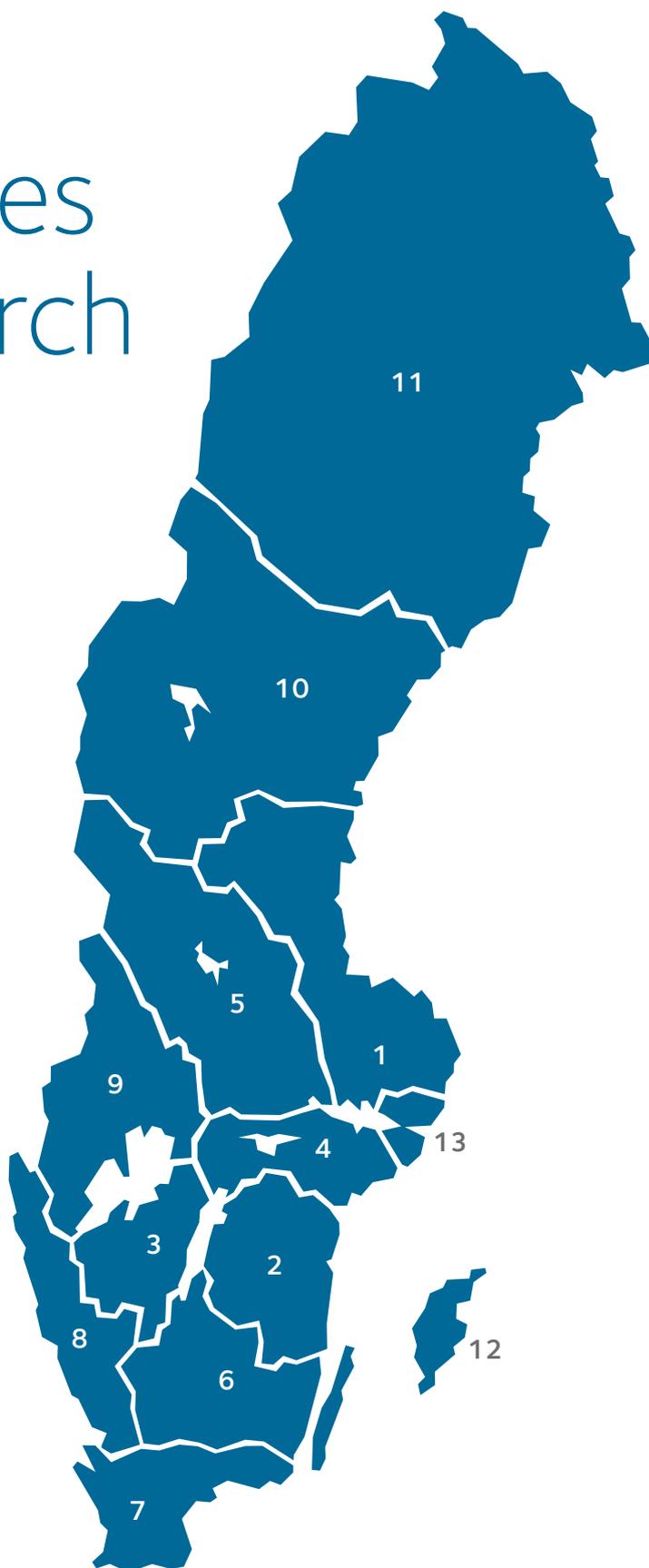


This is not a complete organisational chart.

The dioceses of the Church of Sweden

14 BISHOPS IN 13 DIOCESES

In 2017 the Church of Sweden was made up of 13 dioceses divided into a total of 1,355 parishes in Sweden and 31 parishes abroad and counted 59 percent of Sweden's population among its members.





1. UPPSALA DIOCESE
 BISHOP: RAGNAR PERSENIUS
 62.5% MEMBERS
 121 PARISHES
 ARCHBISHOP: ANTJE JACKELÉN
 (Uppsala Diocese has two bishops
 with different areas of responsibility)



2. LINKÖPING DIOCESE
 BISHOP: MARTIN MODÉUS
 63.4% MEMBERS
 106 PARISHES



3. SKARA DIOCESE
 BISHOP: ÅKE BONNIER
 64.1% MEMBERS
 120 PARISHES



4. STRÄNGNÄS DIOCESE
 BISHOP: JOHAN DALMAN
 55.4% MEMBERS
 71 PARISHES



5. VÄSTERÅS DIOCESE
 BISHOP: MIKAEL MOGREN
 63.4% MEMBERS
 72 PARISHES



6. VÄXJÖ DIOCESE
 BISHOP: FREDRIK MODÉUS
 63.1% MEMBERS
 175 PARISHES



7. LUND DIOCESE
 BISHOP: JOHAN TYRBERG
 58.0% MEMBERS
 171 PARISHES



8. GOTHENBURG DIOCESE
 BISHOP: SUSANNE RAPPMANN
 57.2% MEMBERS
 186 PARISHES



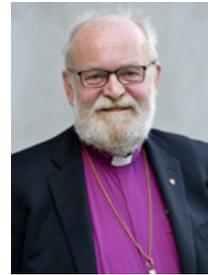
9. KARLSTAD DIOCESE
 BISHOP: SÖREN DALEVI
 69.8% MEMBERS
 86 PARISHES



10. HÄRNÖSAND DIOCESE
 BISHOP: EVA NORDUNG
 BYSTRÖM
 69.1% MEMBERS
 103 PARISHES



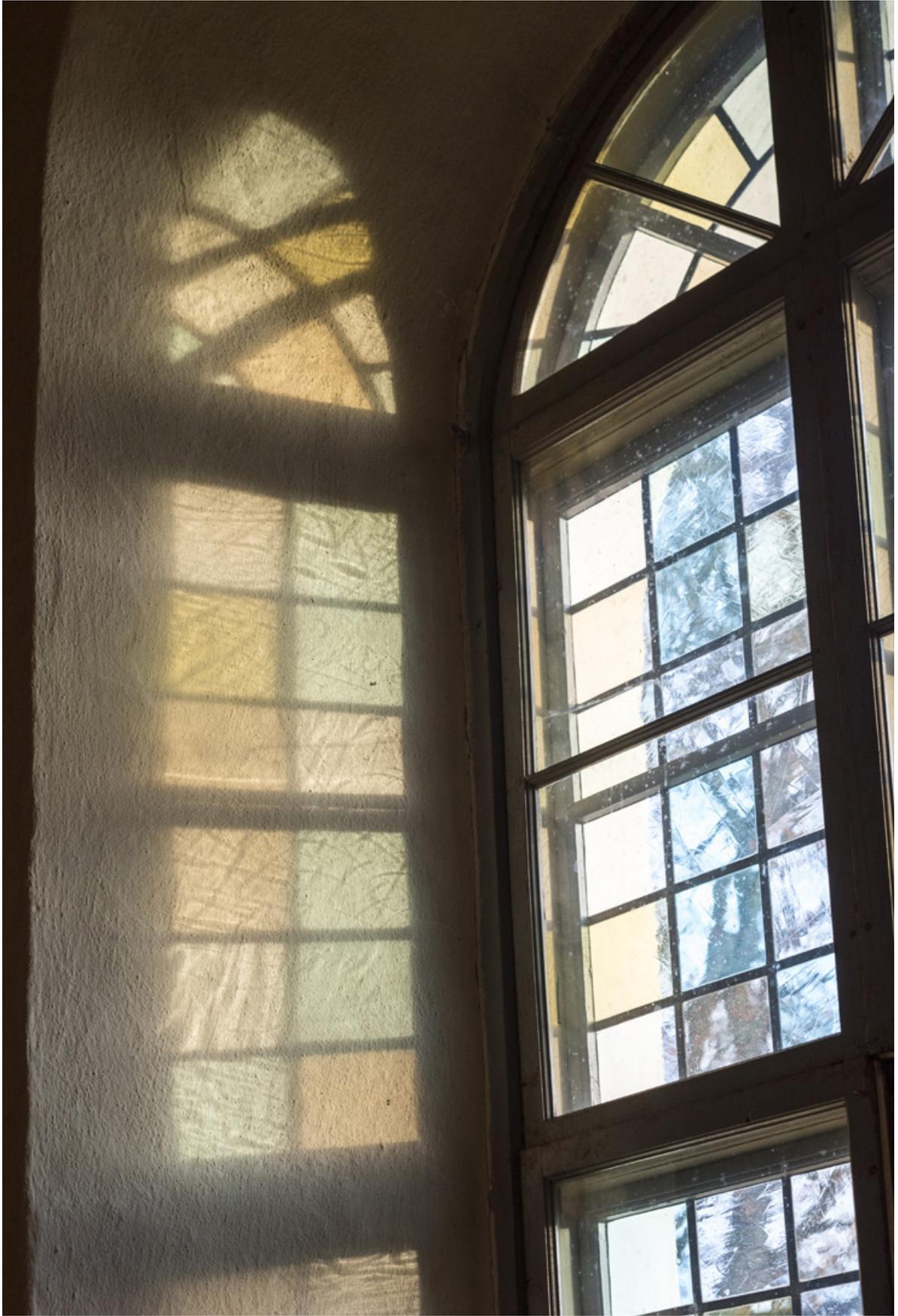
11. LULEÅ DIOCESE
 BISHOP: HANS STIGLUND
 NEW BISHOP:
 Åsa Nyström
 Consecrated on 3 June 2018
 70.8% MEMBERS
 58 PARISHES



12. VISBY DIOCESE
 BISHOP: SVEN-BERNHARD FAST
 NEW BISHOP:
 Thomas Petersson
 Consecrated on 3 June 2018
 66.1% MEMBERS
 37 PARISHES



13. STOCKHOLM DIOCESE
 BISHOP: EVA BRUNNE
 50.3% MEMBERS
 61 PARISHES



Report of the Board

GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE ACTIVITIES

The mandate of the national level is to be a cohesive force and help the Church of Sweden fulfil its obligations nationwide by taking responsibility for the Church's joint affairs in various areas. It covers:

- the surrounding world and relations, which includes representation, official relations with other churches and faith communities and international mission and diaconia;
- support to dioceses and parishes, which includes support for the basic task of the dioceses and parishes, training for work and professions in the Church of Sweden, research, cultural heritage, work among Swedes abroad, and administrative support functions; as well as
- standardisation, supervision and management.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Activities at national level are conducted in the registered Church of Sweden Faith Community, organisation registration number 252002-6135 with its registered office in Uppsala. The General Synod is the highest body of the Church of Sweden at national level and its 251 members are elected by members of the Church, 249 of whom in direct elections and the remaining two are selected by the 31 parochial church councils in the Church of Sweden Abroad. The Central Board of the Church of Sweden is the Church's highest responsible body when the General Synod is not in session. The Board is chaired by the Archbishop, and the General Synod appoints the other members for a four-year term of office. It leads and coordinates the management of the national level's tasks. The

Central Board deals with issues as stated in the Church Ordinance, decides on all overall and day-to-day issues at national level and represents the Church of Sweden. The Central Board is the General Synod's drafting and executive body. This means that the Central Board can put forward proposals regarding various issues through written communications to the General Synod. It also carries out the tasks set by the General Synod.

Other Church bodies directly appointed by the General Synod are: the Doctrinal Commission, the Bishops' Disciplinary Committee, the Election Supervisory Committee and the Appeal Committee. The Central Board of the Church appoints bodies such as the International Commission, the Council for the Church of Sweden Abroad and the Asset Management Council. The Central Board is responsible for all overarching operations.

The Central Church Office in Uppsala is organised in 11 departments that carry out the national-level work. The work of the Central Church Office is led by a Secretary-General.

The annual governance, in the relationship between the General Synod, Central Board, Secretary-General and heads of departments, mainly consists of processes for planning and for follow-up of activities and financial matters. Each year a budget is drawn up for a period of three years as well as a detailed budget for the coming year. The follow-up processes take place continually during the year, and dialogues and reporting back to the Central Board of the Church take place every four months. Additional follow-up takes place through the Secretary-General's continuous reporting to the Central Board during the year.

LEGAL STRUCTURE

The Church of Sweden's national level includes a subsidiary in the form of the management company Svenska kyrkans förvaltningsaktiebolag and the dormant education and training subsidiary Svenska kyrkans utbildningsaktiebolag. Svenska kyrkans förvaltningsaktiebolag owns and manages the Fjårdingen 15:2 property in Uppsala, which meets the main part of the Central Church Office's requirement for office premises. The national level of the Church of Sweden also owns shares in the associated companies Fairtrade Sverige AB and Berling Media AB. With reference to Chapter 7 Section 3a of the Swedish Annual Accounts Act, no consolidated accounts are drawn up due to the limited extent of the above activities in relation to the total activities at national level.

The framework of the activities encompasses five branches, comprising four within the Church of Sweden Abroad organisation – located in Thailand, Hong Kong, Italy and Greece – and the Swedish Theological Institute in Jerusalem in Israel.

FOUNDATIONS

The national level of the Church of Sweden manages 92 (the same number as in the previous year) foundations with "affiliated" management. The foundations are separate legal entities, and separate annual reports/compilations are drawn up for them in compliance with applicable legislation; they are not therefore included in the income statement and balance sheet of the national level of the Church of Sweden. At year-end the carrying amount of the assets in the foundations was SEK 216 million (SEK 217 million in the previous year). The return from the foundations is largely allocated to the activities run at national level in the Church of Sweden. Certain foundations also award grants to recipients outside the Church of Sweden depending on what causes they promote. The foundations can be divided up into the following categories: international mission and diaconia, education and training, research and culture, and the Church of Sweden Abroad.

KEY EVENTS IN 2017

The year's activities contributed in various ways to the objective of the faith community: to bring the Gospel to life and make the Kingdom of God known. A few of the most significant examples are listed below. For a more detailed description of the year's activities, see the Report on activities.

- The Church of Sweden highlighted 500 years of reformation, and the national level implemented a range of activities in conjunction with this. These include arranging meeting places in the spirit of the Reformation and, through ecumenical cooperation,

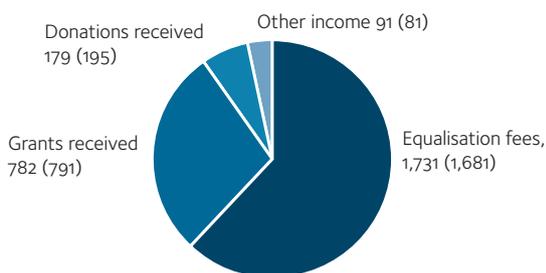
publishing literature and information material to support continued deeper understanding of and public education about the Reformation.

- In November 2017 the General Synod voted to adopt a new Book of Worship for the Church of Sweden. The Book of Worship contains orders of service for various kinds of services and includes prayers and other texts, as well as music. The Church will start using the new Book of Worship on Pentecost (Whit) Sunday in 2018.
- Church elections took place during the year. The final count showed a voter turnout of over 19%, which is the highest turnout in a church election since 1934, with nearly one million votes cast.
- The Central Board of the Church of Sweden has earmarked SEK 60 million per year from 2017 to 2019 for work with refugees and new arrivals in Sweden. The largest proportion of the funding, SEK 48 million, has been allocated to the work in Swedish parishes and groups of parishes, and SEK 12 million has been used in the international activities for humanitarian relief efforts and development, primarily in the Middle East.
- In 2017 the Church of Sweden received SEK 8 million from the Swedish Government's support for civil society's work with refugees. The funds have been used to bolster ongoing activities in parishes and two regional ventures.

TOTAL INCOME AND EXPENSES

The financial result amounted to SEK 621 million (preceding year: SEK 547 million). Total income was SEK 3,545 million (SEK 3,376 million in the previous year), including the return from asset management. The largest income item comprises the equalisation fee. It is mainly redistributed in the Church's equalisation system in the form of equalisation grants. The second-largest income item comprises grants received – mainly the ecclesiastical heritage grant, which is recognised as income to the extent that it is used. Funds not yet used are recognised as a liability in the balance sheet. Other grants are received from, among others, Sida (the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency), the EU, the charitable foundation Radiohjälpen and various other foundations and are primarily used in the international work of the Church. Collections and donations form another key source of income, especially for the international work.

DIAGRAM 1: INCOME* 2017
(SEK MILLIONS, PREVIOUS YEAR IN PARENTHESES)

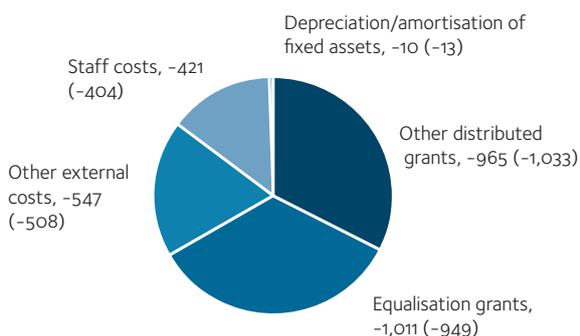


*excluding asset management

The work is based on the Church Ordinance and the decisions made by the General Synod and the Central Board of the Church of Sweden. Total expenses amounted to SEK 2,954 million (SEK 2,907 million in the previous year). Other distributed grants mainly refer to grants for the ecclesiastical heritage grant, SEK 555 million (SEK 586 million the previous year) and distributed grants from the international work, SEK 285 million (SEK 290 million the previous year). The international grants refer to grants for development cooperation, disaster relief and cooperation abroad. Distributed grants also include the largest proportion of the General Synod's initiatives for refugees and asylum seekers. The equalisation grants refer to diocesan grants and parish grants for church maintenance, cost equalisation and equalisation related to the proportion of members.

The increase in other external costs relates to the church elections in 2017 and higher IT costs. The rising staff costs compared to the previous year are mainly attributable to increased pension costs.

DIAGRAM 2: EXPENSES 2017 (SEK MILLIONS, PREVIOUS YEAR IN PARENTHESES)



FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The market value of the assets in the asset management operation stood at SEK 8,155 million on 31 December 2017 (previous year: SEK 7,388 million). The result reached SEK 762 million (previous year: SEK 628 million), correspond-

ing to a return of 10.3% (9.3% for the previous year). This can be compared to the benchmark index of 8.3% (previous year: 8.8%) during the corresponding period.

All asset types in the portfolio contributed positive returns. The Global equities asset type generated the highest return in terms of percentage: 19%. In relation to its benchmark, however, the Properties asset type was the highest performer: 15.4% compared to 4.8% for the benchmark. In total, investments in equities generated a positive outcome of SEK 670 million, of which SEK 633 million constitutes unrealised changes in value. Fixed-income investments including cash and cash equivalents, property funds and alternative investments contributed a total of SEK 92 million, of which SEK -25 million comprises unrealised changes in value. The preponderance of above all global equities compared to fixed-income and other asset types had a positive impact on the result. Exchange rate changes during the year had a negative impact on the result of the global equities portfolio (including emerging markets) amounting to about 5%. This is above all because nearly half of the portfolio comprises shares denominated in dollars.

OTHER NON-FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The faith community works towards integrating spiritual, social, ecological and financial sustainability perspectives throughout its activities, in both planning and implementation. This work stems from our mandate to safeguard human dignity and manage both ecological and financial resources responsibly. The national level of the Church of Sweden complies with the new accounting requirements stipulated in Chapter 6 Section 10 of the Swedish Annual Accounts Act, and the report of the board must therefore include a sustainability report. The national level has opted to draw up the report separately from the annual review in accordance with Chapter 6 Section 11 of the act. A sustainability report complying with Chapter 6 Sections 12-14 of the Annual Accounts Act is integrated in the year's sustainability report, which has been drawn up in accordance with Global Reporting Initiative's (GRI's) Standards, Core level, and is published on the Church website under

www.svenskakyrkan.se/hallbarutveckling

FUTURE TRENDS AND MATERIAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Significant risk areas to take into account for the national level of the Church of Sweden comprise the risk of damaged confidence, activity-related risks, risks in financial management and external risks.

The Church of Sweden's most important resource is people's confidence in the Church. Considerable importance is therefore attached to updates and training

regarding, among other things, the code of conduct, the policy to counteract corruption and embezzlement, the policy against discrimination and victimisation, and guidelines for prevention of sexual assault.

Activity-related risks arise, for example, as the national level has many employees who travel to or live in environments with poor road safety or other safety risks. There are guidelines about managing the risks, and all staff stationed abroad receive training in these guidelines. Other activity-related risks comprise the fact that the national level also has many critical systems that are managed within the framework of our IT policy.

Risk management in the financial management operations aims to ensure that the management of financial assets is conducted satisfactorily. This is achieved by continuously monitoring, evaluating and checking the financial risks. The structure of this activity must ensure that the management complies with agreed strategies and guidelines. The risks are managed through good internal control, for instance regarding secure management of transactions, clearly defined and delimited areas of responsibility and documented descriptions of routines. The external risks include macroeconomic factors such as the economy, employment, interest rates, etc. The national level therefore conducts external situational analysis work, which monitors and analyses developments in these areas.

The Church of Sweden is in a time of change and faces major challenges in the present and in the future. These challenges are made up of changes in both society and the Church.

The forecasts made of the future membership trend and future income from the Church fee indicate a downward trend, which means that the Church will need to substantially reduce costs in future. Although the financial forecasts point to a need for cost cuts, there is currently built-up capital, both locally and nationally. The national capital constitutes a joint resource for the entire faith community, and its returns enable resources for emergency measures as well as strategic measures for church life that is sustainable in the long term.

Regarding the capital situation of the Church, the Central Board has been in dialogue with the dioceses and reached a consensus that more joint responsibility is required in order to fulfil the task of the Church of Sweden in the future. The dialogue with the dioceses, in which discussions on distribution of responsibility and joint priorities are among the central issues, will continue in coming years.

The Church of Sweden must prepare itself to use fewer resources to build stronger relations and work with joint solutions for administrative cooperation. To achieve this, the courage to change and the ability to see new solutions are both required. The Church of Sweden also needs to clarify its role and task in various contexts to a greater extent. The Central Board of the Church is planning a far-reaching initiative for learning and teaching through a cohesive programme for people of all ages to strengthen the work performed locally. Future development is addressed in the publication titled *Nyckeln till Svenska kyrkan – en skrift om organisation, verksamhet och ekonomi* (The key to the Church of Sweden – about the organisation, activities and finances of the Church).

EQUITY

The General Synod decided that the capital of the national level was to be a minimum of SEK 6,500 million at the end of 2016. The target for the amount of equity is to be adjusted annually taking account of the consumer price index; at the end of 2017 it totalled SEK 6,613 million. Unrestricted equity stood at SEK 8,240 million at year-end 2017, of which SEK 2,676 million refers to unrealised gains in financial management.

It is important for the Board to continue the dialogue with the dioceses to secure church life that is sustainable in the long term.

PERFORMANCE AND POSITION

Other aspects of the operation's performance and position at year-end are specified in the following income statement, balance sheet and notes.

FIVE-YEAR SUMMARY

Amounts are in SEK millions

Income statement	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
<i>Income</i>					
Equalisation fees	1,731	1,681	1,666	1,633	1,622
Collections and donations	179	195	222	200	179
Asset management	761	628	326	885	613
Other income	874	872	845	784	786
Total income	3,545	3,376	3,060	3,502	3,200
<i>Expenses</i>					
Equalisation grants	-1,011	-949	-933	-962	-976
Staff and other costs	-1,943	-1,958	-1,832	-1,754	-1,707
Total expenses	-2,954	-2,907	-2,765	-2,716	-2,683
Other income statement items	6	37	-4	39	34
Net income for the year	596	506	291	824	553
Change in designated funds	25	41	15	9	11
Net income for the year after transfers	621	547	305	834	563
Balance sheet					
Assets	14,060	13,144	12,967	11,913	9,878
Equity including designated funds	8,363	7,767	7,260	6,970	6,145
Liabilities, provisions	5,697	5,377	5,706	4,943	3,733
Equity/assets ratio*	59%	59%	56%	59%	62%
Personnel					
Average number of employees					
Sweden	387	392	377	333	321
Abroad	85	97	96	93	97

*Equity as a percentage of total assets

Income statement

Amounts in SEK thousands	Note	2017	2016
Income from operations			
Equalisation fees	4	1,730,862	1,681,080
Donations received	5	178,616	194,580
Grants received	6	782,316	791,254
Returns from asset management	7	761,434	628,353
Net revenue	8,10	86,265	75,760
Work performed by the Church for its own use and capitalised		610	0
Other income from operations		4,531	5,468
Total income from operations		3,544,635	3,376,494
Expenses from operations			
Equalisation grants	4	-1,010,999	-949,166
Other distributed grants	9	-964,663	-1,033,222
Other external expenses	10,11,12	-547,125	-508,396
Staff costs	13	-421,443	-403,603
Depreciation/amortisation and impairment of tangible and intangible fixed assets	14	-9,649	-13,097
Total expenses from operations		-2,953,878	-2,907,484
Income from operations		590,757	469,010
Income from financial investments			
Income from financial assets	15	5,990	27,201
Other interest income and similar income statement items		-206	10,456
Interest expense and similar income statement items		-62	-326
Total		5,722	37,331
Net income for the year		596,479	506,341
Change in designated funds			
Net income for the year according to the income statement		596,479	506,341
Utilisation of designated funds from previous years		29,735	48,854
Provision (reservation) of designated funds received during the year but not used during the year		-4,812	-8,064
Net income for the year after transfers		621,401	547,130

Balance sheet

Amounts in SEK thousands	NOTE	31/12/2017	31/12/2016
ASSETS			
<i>Fixed assets</i>			
<i>Intangible fixed assets</i>			
Capitalised expenditure for development of computer programs	16	4,974	8,376
Licences and similar rights	17	14,907	
Total		19,881	8,376
<i>Tangible fixed assets</i>			
Buildings and land	18	97,583	98,475
Equipment	19	7,724	9,016
Total		105,307	107,492
<i>Financial assets</i>			
Participating interests in Group companies	20	55,774	55,774
Receivables from Group companies		30,000	30,000
Participating interests in associated companies	21	57,740	57,740
Asset management	22	8,154,819	7,388,362
Other long-term securities	23	147,884	344,467
Other long-term receivables	24	274	411
Total		8,446,491	7,876,754
Total fixed assets		8,571,679	7,992,622
<i>Current assets</i>			
Inventories		2,655	2,711
<i>Current receivables</i>			
Accounts receivable, trade		14,497	12,582
Receivables from Group companies		226	2,451
Current receivables		9,443	17,967
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	25	14,951	19,108
Total		39,117	52,109
<i>Current investments</i>			
	26	3,481,212	3,925,972
Cash and bank balances	26, 30	1,965,504	1,170,093
Total current assets		5,488,489	5,150,884
TOTAL ASSETS		14,060,168	13,143,506
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
<i>Equity</i>			
Retained capital		7,618,577	7,071,446
Designated funds		123,202	148,124
Net income for the year after transfers		621,401	547,130
Total		8,363,179	7,766,701
<i>Provisions</i>			
	27	56,263	171,659
<i>Current liabilities</i>			
Accounts payable, trade		55,469	47,114
Debt to subsidiary account holders in the Church account	26	5,262,429	4,727,458
Debt regarding grants received but not used	28	31,545	147,748
Liabilities to Group companies		324	0
Other liabilities		186,536	214,962
Accrued expenses and deferred income	29	104,423	67,864
Total		5,640,726	5,205,146
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		14,060,168	13,143,506

The Central Board of the Church of Sweden

A PRESENTATION OF THE BOARD AND ITS WORK

The national level of the Church is responsible for the joint matters of the Church. This applies to the area of the surrounding world and relations, which includes representation, official relations with other churches and faith communities, and international mission and diaconia; the area of support to dioceses and parishes, which includes supporting them in their primary task, basic training programmes, research, cultural heritage, work among Swedes abroad, joint information and administrative support functions; and the area of standardisation, supervision and management.

The General Synod is the highest decision-making body of the Church of Sweden, but it must not decide on individual issues that a parish or diocese has the task of deciding on.

The General Synod appoints a Central Board, which leads and coordinates the management of the national level's tasks as stipulated in the Church Ordinance. The Central Board represents the Church of Sweden Faith Community, for example in responses to material circulated for comment, statements and official contacts. The Board consults the Bishops' Conference on theological and ecumenical issues.

The Central Board carries out the tasks set by the General Synod and it can submit communications containing various proposals to the General Synod. Each year, the Central Board submits a plan of operations and an annual review and financial summary for the national level to the General Synod.

The Central Board consists of the Archbishop and 14 members with an equal number of deputies; they are elected for a period of four years. Additionally, another bishop is elected as a deputy for the Archbishop. The Archbishop is the Chair of the Central Board, and there

are also two Vice Chairs. The daily work at the Board's office is led by the Secretary-General, who is appointed by the Board.

According to the Church Ordinance the Central Church Board's tasks include to:

- represent the Church of Sweden Faith Community,
- be responsible for the Church's official relations with other churches and faith communities,
- support the work of the dioceses to develop parish life,
- state the conditions for admission to the basic church training programmes, decide on their syllabuses and ensure that there are sufficient places available on these programmes,
- coordinate the Church's and its parishes' responsibility for international mission and international diaconia,
- be responsible for the work of the Church among Swedes in other countries,
- be in charge of the Church's equalisation system,
- deal with overall issues regarding the Church's joint IT system,
- promote research that is significant to the Church, and
- work to provide rich and multifaceted cultural activities that promote dialogue about religion and approaches to life.



THE CENTRAL BOARD OF THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN, 2018–2021 (INCLUDING DEPUTIES)

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Aron Emilsson | 9. Mats Hagelin | 17. Carl Seved Tigerhielm |
| 2. Nils Kaiser | 10. Leif Nordlander | 18. Åsa Ingårda |
| 3. Anna Karin Hammar | 11. Karl-Gunnar Svensson | 19. Lars-Ivar Ericson |
| 4. Torvald Johansson | 12. Fredrik Modéus | 20. Britt Sandström |
| 5. Elisabeth Rydström | 13. Wanja Lundby-Wedin | 21. Julia Kronlid |
| 6. Sofia Särqvist | 14. Lars Johansson | 22. Nils Gårder |
| 7. Daniel Larsson | 15. Sebastian Clausson | 23. Marie Rydén Davoust |
| 8. Marja Sandin Wester | 16. Antje Jackelén | |



Not shown:

Jesper Eneroth, Erik Sjöstrand, Daniel Tisell, Margareta Winberg,
Sara Waldenfors, Marie Johansson and Cecilia Brinck



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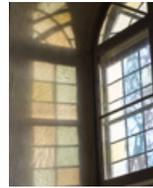
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For those who want to find out more

CONTACT, INVOLVEMENT AND RELATIONSHIP

MORE ABOUT THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN

Would you like to get involved and help make the world a better place? Do you have any questions about life or need someone to talk to? The Church of Sweden is a fellowship and a context in which you can meet other people and look at your faith in more depth. Your and other people's involvement and support are important to the Church. Everyone can contribute in some way.

The broad activities of the Church of Sweden welcome you, whoever you are. You are welcome to get in touch with your parish; for contact details visit the website svenskakyrkan.se.

READ MORE ABOUT THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN

svenskakyrkan.se

www.facebook.com/svenskakyrkan

<https://twitter.com/svenskakyrkan>

www.instagram.com/svenskakyrkan

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FOR DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH'S INTERNATIONAL WORK:

Swish: 9001223

PlusGiro Account: 90 01 22-3

Bankgiro Account: 900-1223

PRODUCTION DETAILS

TEXT: Central Church Office

IMAGES: Ikon, the Church of Sweden's image agency, unless otherwise stated

PROJECT MANAGER: Lena Sjöström, Central Church Office

EDITOR: Marie Nordström, Central Church Office

IMAGE EDITOR: Gustaf Hellsing, Central Church Office

PRODUCTION: BrandFactory AB

TRANSLATION: Translator Scandinavia AB

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ARTICLE NUMBER: SKI8156