



# Be the Church **NOW!**

Exploring opportunities of the church to  
impact the communities in which they reside

September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2023  
Protestant Conference Center Haus Villigst

Information  
[ekvw.de/  
uccforum](http://ekvw.de/uccforum)



## **“Be the Church Now!”**

**The title of this year’s UCC Forum is both – invitation and call.**

We are the body of Christ. How can this succeed? Let’s get into a conversation about it! Because: *We* must shape the future of the church, with tradition behind us and the future firmly in sight.

We often use our resources to secure the status quo of the church. But that is too little! We are not to preserve this church, but to shape it and move it forward. Only in this way can we be church.

A promising path lies ahead of us – lively and inspiring. If we succeed in walking it together, it will bring us closer to God and our neighbors.

Reverend Janna Meyers from Indianapolis will give the presentation on the topic of the conference. She is a church pastor, brings a lot of experience in children’s and youth ministry and likes to accompany congregations in processes of change.

The forum takes place in presence. The focus is on conversation and exchange. Our church fellowship with the UCC offers special opportunities to learn from and with each other at eye level.

We are very much looking forward to the meetings and cordially invite you to the UCC Forum 2023.

**Elga Zachau**

**Christel Weber**

**Thomas Krieger**

# Program

## Friday, September 8, 2023

2:00 p.m. Welcome, get to know each other and get in the mood, Coffee afterwards

3:30 p.m. Reverend Janna Meyers, St. John UCC, Indianapolis, “Be the Church Now!” followed by discussion in plenary and small groups

6:00 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. News from the church fellowship with the UCC

8:30 p.m. Evening prayer

9:00 p.m. Cozy get-together in the basement of Haus Villigst

## Saturday, September 9, 2023

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:15 a.m. Spiritual morning impulse

9:45 a.m. One-hour workshops\*

11:00 a.m. One-hour workshops\*

\* Intercultural development, Interreligious relations and young adults, Ecumenical use of buildings, What we stand for.

12:15 a.m. Reflection

12:45 a.m. Lunch

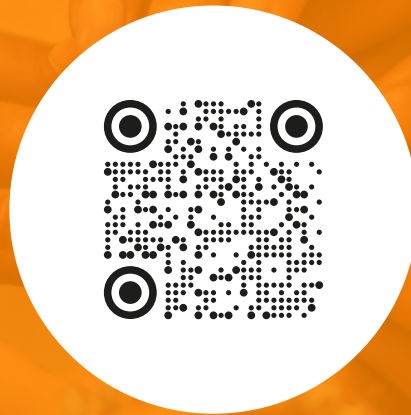
2:00 p.m. Communion service

3:00 p.m. Closing of the Forum



**Would you like to digitally follow the  
presentation by Reverend Janna Meyers?**

Scan the QR code or click the following link.



<https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/66338942533>

## Conference venue

Protestant Conference Center Haus Villigst  
Iserlohner Straße 25, 58239 Schwerte  
Phone: +49 (0)2304 755-0

## Costs

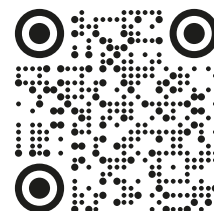
Normal: 50 € including board and lodging  
Reduced: 25 € including board and lodging  
Supplement for single room: 10 € per night

The participation fee has to be paid for the whole time period, even if you only attend one day.

## Registration

Please register, if possible, by August 15th 2023, via this [online form](#).

**Scan the QR code for your registration.**





## Arrival

**By train:** You can reach Haus Villigst via the railway station in Schwerte. There you will be able to rent a bicycle and cycle to Haus Villigst.

**By bus:** The closest railway station is Schwerte an der Ruhr. Villigst can be reached by bus line C32 from Schwerte train station to the stop called Villigster Straße, or Ruhrbrücke. From there you walk about 10 minutes to Haus Villigst. You can also take the public transport taxi-bus T30. Please note that this requires prior reservation by phone with the taxi company.

**By car via the A45 Motorway:** Exit Schwerte-Ergste: then take direction Schwerte-Ergste and Iserlohn; drive straight ahead at the traffic roundabout; turn left at the B236 to Dortmund, Menden, Iserlohn, Schwerte. Then drive straight ahead at the traffic lights in the direction of Iserlohn, Gewerbegebiet Villigst, Menden – here you are already on the road Iserlohner Straße. After about 1.4 km you will reach Haus Villigst.

**By car via the A1 Motorway:** Exit Schwerte. Take the lane in direction of Schwerte/Iserlohn (B236) and follow the B236; after the town exit you cross the River Ruhr after a few kilometers. Take the left lane at the traffic lights directly after the Ruhr bridge (direction Menden/Iserlohn). Here you are already on the road Iserlohner Straße. After about 1.4 km you will reach Haus Villigst.

