

Faith and HIV

An overview of Interfaith activities taking place before and during the International AIDS Conference

21-27 July 2018

Amsterdam, the Netherlands

www.iacfaith.org

Interfaith Conference on AIDS , "Faith Building Bridges"

21-22 July 2018, Planetarium Gaasperplas, Amsterdam

The World Council of Churches- Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (WCC-EAA), in collaboration with many faith and other partners, is organising its bi-annual International Interfaith Pre-Conference on HIV this summer in Amsterdam. **Under the theme "Faith Building Bridges", the interfaith affiliated event to AIDS 2018 will take place in the Amsterdam Planetarium on 21-22 July 2018.**

Building bridges means building partnerships and working in cooperation with many groups to get to zero new HIV infections, zero HIV related deaths, and zero stigma and discrimination. The Conference provides extensive opportunities for sharing and networking across all levels of care and response to the epidemic; and it will bring together people of faith from international, regional and local organizations to network, reflect, build skills, advocate, and share about current challenges and good practices in the response to HIV.

The event will focus around how faith groups and leaders can, should and are building bridges to more effectively eliminate AIDS as a public health threat by 2030, with particular attention to people at the margins, including migrants, children, adolescents, people living with HIV/TB co-infection, and key population groups.

All who want to know more about HIV are welcome to join the event, in particular young people, students, faith leaders and representatives of churches or civil society groups (such as refugees, migrants, youth groups, substance abuse associations). The working language will be English.

Registration costs are € 30 for students (students of the Faculty for Religion and Theology at Vrije Universiteit are exempted and should get in touch with WCC-EAA registration) and representatives of locally operating Dutch organisations/institutions, and € 100 for representatives of internationally operating organisations/institutions. These costs include 2 lunches as well as coffee & tea.

See for further information: www.iacfaith.org/pre-conference

See for registration: www.iacfaith.org/registration

Interfaith Memorial & Prayer service

23 July 2018, 12:00 to 13:00 Keizersgrachtkerk, Amsterdam



**World Council
of Churches**

On Monday 23 July 2018, from 12:00 to 13:00 there will be an International Interfaith Memorial and Prayer service organised in the Keizersgrachtkerk. Everybody who would like to join us is welcome to do so. You do not need to register and there are no costs involved. The language will be English.

HIV Testing awareness-raising event

23 July 2018, 13:00 to 13:45 Keizersgrachtkerk, Amsterdam

An awareness-raising event about HIV testing will take place on 23 July 2018 from 13:00 to 13:45, immediately after the prayer service in the Keizersgrachtkerk. This event is an opportunity to become familiar with HIV self-testing. Everybody who would like to join us is welcome to do so. You do not need to register and there are no costs involved. The language will be English.

Global Village, Interfaith Networking Zone & Prevention and Testing Zone

23-27 July, RAI, Amsterdam

Booths 506 and 507

The Global Village is part of the International AIDS Conference, www.aids2018.org. This Village is accessible free of charge and is meant to make the connection between the International Conference and the local hosting community, e.g. the inhabitants of Amsterdam. The WCC-EAA will be hosting an Interfaith Networking Zone at the Global Village providing a dynamic space for exchanges, resources and workshops. In addition to the Faith Networking Zone, this year we are organizing a networking space on prevention and testing, together with UNAIDS and WHO. For further info, see: www.aids2018.org/Programme/Global-Village-Youth-Programme and www.iacfaith.org.

Global Village, Community Testing Session

25 July, 16:30 to 17:30, RAI Global Village Session Room 2, Amsterdam

Community, faith leaders and participants will share lessons learned and identify ways-forward for community-led testing. Participants will gain a deeper knowledge of HIV testing, and the role of communities, including faith communities, in the HIV response. *"It takes a community to reach those left behind: lessons learned from community leaders on HIV testing"* will take place on 25 July from 16:30 to 17:30 in the Global Village Session Room 2. No registration or costs involved. It is a joint WCC-EAA, WHO and UNAIDS event.

Chaplains Programme

23-27 July, RAI, Amsterdam

In partnership with the International AIDS Society, the WCC-EAA organizes a room at the conference venue as an Interfaith Prayer Room. This will be open and accessible to all conference participants. Some ten interfaith chaplains and young counsellors will lead faith-based prayer and worship sessions during the conference and are available for informal counselling and spiritual support to conference participants.

