

## **Pentecost 2025: UEM calls for renewal through the Holy Spirit**

The church lives where boundaries are overcome

(Wuppertal, June 3, 2025) – On Pentecost 2025, the United Evangelical Mission (UEM) recalls the world-changing power of the Holy Spirit. Under the motto “The Spirit of Transformation, Global Solidarity and Hope,” Rev. Dr. Andar Parlindungan, General Secretary of UEM, calls on the international communion of Protestant churches in Africa, Asia, and Germany to renew the church and society in the spirit of justice, diversity, and global community in his [English video message on YouTube](#).

### **Pentecost as a celebration of global unity in diversity**

“Pentecost is not the birthday of a national church, but the awakening of the worldwide church of all peoples and languages,” emphasizes the missionary theologian from Indonesia. The Holy Spirit, as described in Acts 2, does not create uniformity, but affirms diversity in reconciled unity. For the UEM as a religious communion, this means that the church lives where boundaries are overcome, voices are heard, and gifts are shared—across continents and cultures.

### **Churches in suffering—witnesses of lived hope**

In its Pentecost message, UEM pays special attention to its church members in crisis regions, such as the Democratic Republic of Congo and West Papua (Indonesia). Despite political instability, war, and social injustice, the churches there are living testimonies to the power of the Gospel. They actively contribute to UEM's global mission, including financially, and show impressive solidarity across national and economic boundaries. “These churches are prophetic communities for us in a wounded world,” explains Parlindungan. “Their faithfulness challenges us to stand up for justice, peace, and the dignity of all people.”

### **Invitation to renewal in Germany**

With regard to the German members, the message of Pentecost should be understood as an invitation to spiritual renewal, intercultural dialogue, and solidarity in a time of social change and growing secularization. “The Holy Spirit does not call for a mentality of withdrawal, but for new listening, courageous learning, and spiritual discovery—together with churches worldwide,” said UEM's leading theologian. “Openness is not a weakness, but a sign of strength and hope.”

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UEM calls on its members, partner organizations, and friends worldwide to respond to the call of the Holy Spirit with open hearts: “Be courageous in transformation, generous in solidarity, and joyful in diversity. Come, Holy Spirit—renew us and your world!”

*Keyword “UEM”*

*The United Evangelical Mission (UEM) is an international and equal community with 39 members, including 32 Protestant churches in Africa and Asia, six regional churches of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD) and the v. Bodelschwingsch Foundations Bethel. With offices in Germany, Indonesia, and Tanzania, UEM pursues a holistic understanding of mission that goes beyond spiritual proclamation. At its core is a commitment to people in need and disadvantaged people with the aim of improving their living conditions, respecting their dignity, and valuing their cultural context.*