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Pentecost 2010: Some 1.2 million believers will participate live

The Pentecost service will take place in the congregation of Tafelsig (photo: NAC Cape)

Zurich/Cape Town. Tafelsig is the largest church building of the New Apostolic Church anywhere in the world. The congregation is located in a suburb of Cape Town, South Africa. It is there that the central Pentecost service conducted by Chief Apostle Wilhelm Leber will take place this year. The divine service will be transmitted to 100 countries on all continents. Approximately 1.2 million believers will be able to enjoy it live.

The preparations for the big event on Sunday, 23 May 2010 are moving forward at full speed. The technology will need to be carefully coordinated in order to reach such a large number of congregations. The sermon will be translated at the altar into English, and will also be translated into another 20 languages from there. Several satellites will pick up the signal and beam it to more than 5,000 New Apostolic congregations. The divine service will be tape-delayed to reach numerous congregations in both North and South America on account of the time differences.

Even the Saturday preceding Pentecost, 22 May 2010, will be marked by this international fellowship. A festive Pentecost concert will also be transmitted via satellite from the congregation of Silvertown on that day. A local production company has made the necessary preparations, and will send the signal to a ground station in Johannesburg. From there, both sound and picture will be transmitted to a number of African countries. In Germany, the signal will first be sent to the Usingen ground station and from there to the Church's own Bischoff Publishers in Frankfurt by fibre optic cable. From there it will be translated into more than 20 languages. Then the signal's path will continue via a so-called uplink, which will send the

expanded signal to one of the Eutelsat satellites which will then distribute the signal throughout Europe, North Africa, and parts of Asia. In just three seconds, the signal will cover around 140,000 kilometres from its transmission station in Frankfurt to its receiving stations.

The [transmission path of the satellite signal](#) is extremely interesting. The Bischoff Publishers have also published their own [press release](#) on the subject.

How it all began

The first transmission of a divine service took place by program-line from Reutlingen in 1946. Five years later, the first audio transmission of a divine service took place using post cable. Some 40,000 listeners were connected at the various receiving stations throughout Germany at the time.

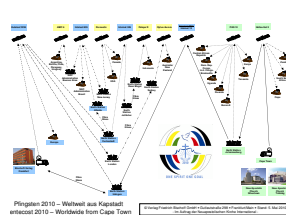
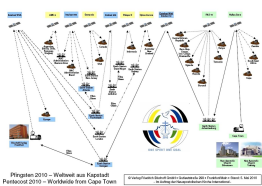
Starting in the early 1980's, divine services were increasingly broadcast using microwave transmission. Pentecost 1990 marked the first time that a divine service was transmitted from the Austria-Centre in Vienna via satellite, reaching more than 800 receiving stations in Western Europe. As of 2007, the internet has also been used for divine service transmissions.

Concert and divine service

The Pentecost concert will take place on 22 May 2010 at 5:00 PM. The divine service on Sunday, 23 May will commence at 10:00 AM. The divine service transmission will be posted in local times, with the time differences indicated.

Pentecost is generally designated as the "birthday of the church". It was on that day that the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the believers. For a more detailed explanation, please read our [report on this site](#). Our retrospectives on [Pentecost celebrations](#) over the past years are also interesting.

10 May 2010



1. Recording and transmission
 The service will be transmitted via English at the altar and simultaneously into more than 20 languages. Because of the time difference, the transmission to North and South America will be recorded before being transmitted from here on. The Church administrative aspects for more than 12 million believers worldwide in approximately 5000 churches and chapels will take part in this divine service.

2. Recording and transmission
 The audio and video recording and transmission will be handled by a local film company in Reutlingen. The audio and video recording and transmission will be handled by the local church administration. The signal will be transmitted via satellite to various African countries as well as to the German earth station in Cologne and further on to the receiving stations.

Transmission in Europe
 In the Reutlingen area, the transmission of the signal of approx. 30 transmitters will be added to the original German audio signal. An audio station at the Bischoff Verlag will send the recorded signal to an African satellite, which will transmit the signal to the receiving stations in North Africa and parts of Asia. The signal will cover a distance of around 140,000 km between its transmission site in Frankfurt and the various receiving stations, a trip which will require approximately three minutes. More than 1000 live receiving Church buildings in the area will, equipped with satellite dishes and playback units will receive the signal and render it audible.

Overseas transmission
 The signal, recorded with the French, Portuguese and Spanish installations - will be sent to the Bischoff Verlag in Cologne. This signal will be transmitted via satellite to several earth stations and sent directly via geostationary satellite stations, where it will be received and sent to Africa and South America. The signal will be transmitted directly to the receiving sites in London in Sydney, and will be distributed further.