# ICCE 2025 Conference Schedule

## Monday 29.9.

**12:30-14:00 Opening & Keynote session 1.**

**Keynote: Thomas Schlag**

* **Why congregational education matters – Research insights and perspectives for a future-oriented relevant practice.**
* **Response: Pekka Metso**

## 14:15-15:15 Paper session 1: The Role of Congregational Education in a Secularized and Diversified World

- Worship communities as contexts of nonformal socialisation and learning: the case of Evangelical Lutheran Church in Finland (Pietari Hannikainen, Sini Niemelä)

- Christian Education and Its Role in the Secular Community: An Exploration of the Challenges Faced by Christian Members of the Methodist Church Living in Gauteng (South Africa) (Ruth Mataruka)

- The Periphery of Congregational Education in Europe: A Conceptual Contribution (Stefan van der Hoek)

**15:15-15:45 Coffee break (AT103)**

## 15:45-16:30 Paper session 2a: Innovations in Confirmation Training and Religious Education

- Confirmation Work as an Open Gate to Church: Surprising Results on non-baptised Confirmands from the Third European Study (Manuela Hees, Wolfgang Ilg)

- Death, Dying, and Mourning as Topics in Confirmation Work: The teamers’ perspective (Felicitas Held)

## 16:45-17:45 Paper session 2b: Innovations in Confirmation Training and Religious Education

- “*That used to be my dream as a child, to pursue this hobby*” – Young athletes' thoughts on faith, sports, and life in Lutheran sports confirmation school (Erika Mutikainen & Martin Ubani)

- Navigating Challenges: The Evolving Role of Cooperation in Congregational Education (Aino-Elina Kilpeläinen, Minna Valtonen, Jouko Porkka, Tiina Ikonen)

- Qualitative Research in the area of Church Work with Children (Martin Steinhäuser)

## Tuesday 30.9.

**9:30-10:45 Keynote session 2.**

**Keynote: Caroline Klintborg**

* **Lost in Translation? Church-Based Religious Education in an Era of Religious Transformation.**
* **Response: Felicitas Held**

## 11:00-12:00 Paper session 4: Public Theology and Christian Identity in Contemporary Society

- Teaching Sin to Evangelicals: The Lost Role of Idolatry, Defilement, and Impurity in the Biblical Metanarrative Paradigm (Elvir Ciceklic)

- Survey Research on Biblical Usage and Interpretation Among Congregation Members (Agnes Pangyanszky)

- Protestant Family Traditions in the Context of Christian Family Practices in Other Denominations (Danuta Kądziołka)

**12:00-13:00 Lunch break**

## 13:00-14:00 Paper session 5: Christian Traditions, Family, and Lifelong Learning

- Christian traditions as spaces for adult learning - a Protestant perspective (Anna Walulik)

- The Ideals that Influence the Dynamics between Adults Involved in Youth Religious Formation (Corina Nagel-Herweijer, Ronelle Sonnenberg, Jos de Kock)

- Non-formal Religious Education in Communities of Worship: Workers’ Perceptions (Sini Niemelä)

**14:00-14:30 Coffee break (AT103)**

## 14:30-15:30 Paper session 6: Faith, Well-being, and Societal Crises

- Fears, Faith, and Well-being of Youth: Connections Between Fears, Religion, and Well-being Among Lutheran Youth in Finland (Jouko Porkka, Kati Tervo-Niemelä)

- Stereotypes between liberal and conservative theology students in Finland (Pietari Hannikainen)

- Religiosity and Wellbeing of the Young Church Volunteers (YCVs) in Finland (Eveliina Hellas, Jouko Porkka, Kati Tervo-Niemelä)

**15:45-16:45 Business meeting and info**

**17:00 Visit at the Ecumenical Campus Chapel**,Campus Chaplain Oona Leiviskä

**19:00 Conference Dinner (Restaurant Filipof, Torikatu 10)** [**https://www.ravintolafilipof.fi/en/**](https://www.ravintolafilipof.fi/en/)

## Wednesday 1.10.

**9:30-10:45 Keynote session 3.**

**Keynote: Kati Tervo-Niemelä**

* **What Draws Young Finnish Men Increasingly to Christianity? Understanding the Rise in Faith and the Role of Congregational Education.**
* **Response: Stefan Van Der Hoek**

## 11:00-12:00 Paper session 7: Religious Identity and the Role of Adults in Religious Formation

- Teacher power vs. youth agency? How is young people’s religious agency shaped in Finnish Lutheran confirmation training? (Heidi Toivanen)

- Supporting adult agency through religious education in new Finnish Lutheran congregations. Qualitative interview study (Piia Miettinen, Martin Ubani)

- Non-binary adolescents looking for a Christian community: Wellbeing, faith and the possibilities of church confirmation work in supporting Finnish youth from pre-pandemic to post-pandemic times (Jouko Porkka, Minna Valtonen, Kati Tervo-Niemelä)

**12:00 Closing**

**Lunch**