



Joint Catholic-Lutheran Commemoration

Rt. Rev. Dr Munib A. Younan – President The Lutheran World Federation

Bishop Dr Munib A. Younan was elected president of The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) by the LWF Eleventh Assembly in Stuttgart, Germany, in July 2010.

Bishop Younan was born in 1950 in Jerusalem. His parents were Palestinian refugees, and he holds United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNWRA) refugee status.

A high-profile lecturer and speaker, Younan is sought after for his perspective on just peace as a Palestinian Christian. He is also active in interreligious encounter, ecumenism and reconciliation in his own region and internationally. His work has been recognized with a number of awards and prizes.

Bishop Younan studied diaconry at Luther Opisto College in Järvenpää, Finland, and obtained a master's in theology at the University of Helsinki. He also studied at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Illinois (USA), and was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Divinity by Wartburg College, Iowa (USA), in 2001.

In 1976, Younan was ordained at the Church of the Redeemer, Jerusalem. He served the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) in various capacities of pastoral leadership, youth leadership and Christian education. In 1990 Younan was appointed president of the ELCJHL Synod, which he held until his election and consecration as bishop in January 1998. He is a member of the executive committee of the Middle East Council of Churches, which he has served since 1985.

Younan first became involved with the LWF in 1981 as a member of its Youth Committee. From 2003 to July 2010 he served as LWF vice-president for the Asia region.

Bishop Younan and his wife Suad Younan have three children and four grandchildren.

[Full biography on LWF Web site](#)