



The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL)

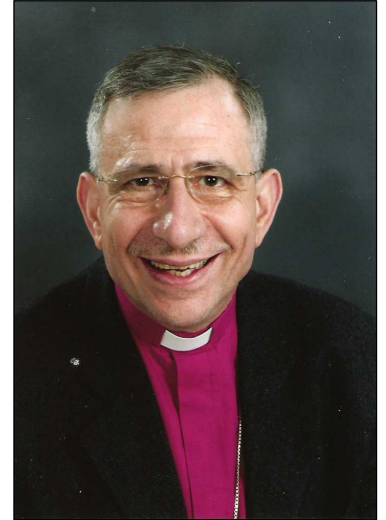
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The Rt. Rev. Munib A. Younan, Bishop of ELCJHL

Appointments within the ELCJHL

Bishop since Jan. 5, 1998, consecration, as well as:

2007 – present	Chairman, Baptism Site Committee
2007 – present	Chairman, Board of Trustees for Severance and Pension Fund
2007 – present	Chairman, Board of Trustees, Diyar Consortium, Bethlehem
2004 – present	Chairman, Abraham's Guest House, Beit Jala
1998 – present	Chairman, Coordination Committee for Cooperation between the ELCJHL and Overseas Partners (COCOP)
1998 – present	Chairman, ELCJHL church council
1998 – present	Chairman, Evangelical Lutheran School Board (ELSB)
1990 – 1998	Synod president
1984 – 1998	Pastor, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hope, Ramallah
1979 – 1984	Pastor, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Reformation, Beit Jala
1976 – 1979	Assistant pastor, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Redeemer, Jerusalem
1977 – 1988	Youth pastor
1976 – 1997	Teacher and coordinator of Christian education in ELCJHL schools
1976	Ordained May 30, 1976, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Jerusalem



Education

1988	Study and research at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, Illinois
1972 – 1976	Master's degree, theology, University of Helsinki, Finland. Thesis: "Election in Deutero Isaiah"
1969 – 1972	Study of diaconry at Luther Opisto College in Järvenpää, Finland
1968	High school certificate, <i>tawjihi</i> , Al-Ahlia College, Ramallah
1955 – 1967	Lutheran schools in Jerusalem and Beit Jala

Personal

Born Sept. 18, 1950, in Jerusalem to 1948 refugees Andria Younan, originating from Beersheba, and Alice Qandalraft from West Jerusalem. Holds a United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) refugee status card.

Married: 1980 to Suad Yacoub (born Oct. 23, 1959) from Haifa, originally from Kfar Bir'im, northern Israel

Children:

Annaliza (born 1982)	Employed by the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem; married June 2007 to Nazih Khoury; one daughter
Andria (born 1984)	Master's degree student in biomedical engineering at Technion, Haifa
Martha (born 1991)	Undergraduate student in occupational therapy at Bethlehem University

Other assignments

1. Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

July 2010 – present	President; Chairman, LWF Council, Board of Trustees
Aug. 2007 – present	Chairman, Lutheran Council in Asia (LUCAS)
July 2003 – present	Vice-president, Asia region
July 2003 – 2010	Member, LWF Council Executive Committee, Board of Trustees
2003	Member, LWF/EKD Land Development Committee
2001 – 2004	Board member, Beit Hanina Vocational Training Center
1998 – present	Chairman, Augusta Victoria Hospital Board
1998 – 2003	Chairman, Asian Regional Church Leaders Conference (ARCC)
2003 – present	Member, Department for Mission and Development (DMD)
1997 – 2003	Vice-chairman, Program Committee for Mission & Development
1997 – 2003	Vice-chairman, Board of Trustees, Institute for Ecumenical Research, Strasbourg, France
1997 – 2003	Member, LWF Council
1990 – 1997	Adviser
1981 – 1984	Member, LWF Youth Committee

2. Middle East Council of Churches (MECC)

2010 – present	Co-President, representing evangelical churches
1995 – 2010	Member, MECC Executive Committee
1993 – 1998	Member, Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR)
1990 – 1995	Member, Life and Service Committee
1985 – 1990	Member, Education Committee

3. Fellowship of the Middle East Evangelical Churches (FMECC)

2010– present	Member, Executive Committee
2004 – 2010	President
1997-2004	Member, Executive Committee
1991 – 1996	Member, Theological Committee

4. World Council of Churches (WCC)

2002 – present	Chair, Local Reference Group, which provides oversight for the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme for Palestine and Israel (EAPPI), an initiative of the Patriarchs and Heads of Local Christian Churches in Jerusalem
1998 – 2006	Member, WCC – Orthodox Study Group

5. International Christian Committee (ICC), Jerusalem

1998 – 2004	President, Board of Managers
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6. Near East School of Theology (NEST), Beirut

2003 – present	Member, Board of Managers
1999 – 2003	Vice-president, Board of Managers

7. Swedish Theological Institute

2007 – present	Board member
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8. Templar Order of Jerusalem, International Grand Priory

2004 – present	International Grand Chaplain
2001 – present	Member, Priory of Finland

Awards

May 2008	Mikael Agricola Medallion, Finland
October 2007	Templar Peace Prize
Fall 2005	Bethlehem Star Award from Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas
October 2004	Holyland Christian Ecumenical Foundation (HCEF) Prize, Washington, D.C.
October 2004	Bethanien (Bethany) Prize, Methodist Church, Oslo, Norway
December 2001	Human Rights Award from the United Nations Association, Washington, D.C.
September 2001	Honorary Doctorate of Divinity (D.D.) from Wartburg College, Iowa, U.S.
January 2001	Finnish Peace Prize 2001 from the Finnish Christian Peace Movement

Initiatives

Inter-religious encounter

2006 – present	Founding member, Council for Religious Institutions in the Holy Land, Jerusalem
2000 – present	Member, Jordanian Interfaith Coexistence Research Center, Amman, Jordan
1991 – present	Initiated a number of informal, long-running dialogue groups for joint reflection between local Christians and Jews, now known as the Jonah Group. This effort was called “quiet ecumenism” (Jerusalem Post, October 2000). Initiated “trialogue” among the three monotheistic religions in Palestine
1984	Participated in WCC Jewish-Christian dialogue symposium, Sigtuna, Sweden
1982	Co-founded Al-Liqa’ Center for Religious Studies, Jerusalem

Ecumenism

2009	Contributing writer, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2011 worship resources
2006	Instrumental in the “Amman Agreement,” a mutual recognition agreement among Middle East evangelical churches, a FMEEC initiative
2002	Instrumental in founding the Jerusalem Inter-church Center, a mark of the bishop’s excellent relations with all local churches
1998 – present	Working for a deepening of the communion between Lutherans in Jerusalem and developing communion by signing agreements with companion synods and diocese
1984 – present	Instrumental in local Lutheran-Anglican dialogue conferences
1993	Translator of the first Arabic translation of the “Augsburg Confession” with 50-page study guide
1997 – 2000	Instrumental in developing the first Palestinian Christian instruction curriculum, an ecumenical effort that is recognized by the Palestinian Ministry of Education for use in all Palestinian schools
1997 – present	As an evaluator of Palestinian curriculae, wrote “The Christian Dimension of the Palestinian Curriculum,” which was adopted in 1998 by Jerusalem church leaders as the main document for negotiations with the Israeli Ministry of Education. Active in church-to-church relationships in Jerusalem.

Just Peace and Reconciliation

Instrumental in on-the-ground initiatives to promote peace, reconciliation and justice. A high-profile lecturer and speaker, locally and internationally, on what makes for just peace from a Palestinian Christian perspective, based on Christian teachings and doctrines.

Publications

Books

- 2003 *Witnessing for Peace: In Jerusalem and the World*, Augsburg Fortress, USA
 1993 *The Augsburg Confession in Arabic*, Emerezian Est., Jerusalem

Chapters

- 2009 “Beyond Luther: Prophetic Interfaith Dialogue for Life,” in *The Global Luther: A Theologian for Modern Times*, Fortress Press
 2008 “The Future of the Lutheran Reformation Tradition: From the Perspective of Palestinian Christians,” in *The Future of Lutheranism in A Global Context*, Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis
 2007 “The Role of the Church in Peacemaking: Raising a Prophetic Voice,” in *The Forgotten Faithful*, Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center, Jerusalem
 2005 “Theological Reflection and Theology,” in *Theological Reflection on Accompaniment*, World Council of Churches

Articles, Lectures and Presentations

- 2009 “Give us today our daily bread: A holy call to justice,” Asia Pre-Assembly Consultation & Asia Church Leadership Conference
 2009 “Role of religious leaders in enhancing commitment to respect and value people of diverse faiths,” Consultation on Interfaith Diapraxis, Bangladesh
 2009 “Fifty Years of Living Witness and Creative Diakonia,” ELCJHL 50th anniversary worship service, Jerusalem
 2008 Keynote address, Sabeel Seventh International conference, “The Nakba: Memory, Reality and Beyond,” Jerusalem
 2007 “The Healing Program of Jesus,” sermon in Lansdale, Pennsylvania, USA
 2006 “Religion and Politics,” World Council of Churches assembly, Brazil
 “The Theology of Accompaniment,” Geneva, Switzerland
 2005 “Reconciliation in the Middle East,” Sweden
 2004 “Cultural Diversity,” address to the UNDP, Oslo, Norway
 “The Future of the Reformation Tradition,” Moorhead, Minnesota
 2003 “The Witness of the Palestinian Lutherans in the Middle East”
 2000 “Das ökumenische Leben in Jerusalem” (Ecumenical Life in Jerusalem), in “Jerusalem: Stadt der Friedens,” EMW Annual 2000, Hamburg, Germany
 1999 “The Significance of Jerusalem to Christian Churches in Jerusalem,” speech at Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs (LOGA) in Washington, D.C.
 “Challenges of a Palestinian Church” in *festschrift* for Bishop Christian Krause, Braunschweig, Germany
 “The Jubilee for the Palestinian Christians”
 “The Role of Religion for Just Peace and Reconciliation”
 “The History of Arab Christians and Challenges in the Holy Land and the Middle East”
 1998 “Let the Church Be the Church,” programmatic lecture on the occasion of his consecration as bishop, Jan. 5, 1998
 “Prayer and Reconciliation in a Shared Land” in *Toward the Third Millennium. Trialogue in Jerusalem: Jews, Christians and Muslims*, ICCI-Jerusalem