

WITHDRAWAL OF CONDEMNATIONS OF ROMAN CATHOLIC DOCTRINE

The Lutheran Churches in Europe have drafted a document that says that the mutual condemnations of Lutherans and Roman Catholics made in the Lutheran confessions and at the Council of Trent no longer apply. The LWF is asking all member churches to respond to the joint declaration with a plain “yes” or “no”. Lutheran churches are being asked to respond to the joint declaration, and the deadline is 1 May 1998. The time frame will not allow the general convention to decide on the question, and it will have to be delegated to the CTICR of the Church Council. It should be clear that going back on the condemnations of Roman Catholic doctrine in the Lutheran Confessions will mean that Lutherans no longer call the Roman Catholics wrong in the matters that are covered by the Lutheran confessions, including the statement on the papacy.