



# Abba

Conference Handbook  
27 June - 1 July, 2010

# Content

Content.....	2
Welcome! .....	3
Corpus Christi.....	3
Program .....	5
Church services.....	6
Holy Communion.....	6
Prayer and Confession.....	7
Educational activities – Plenary session, In-depth session, Seminars .....	8
Plenary session.....	8
5 In-depth sessions .....	8
8 different seminars.....	10
Group sessions .....	12
Recreation .....	13
Feast.....	13
Conference locations .....	14
Campus Varberg.....	16
Bus Timetable.....	18
Check out.....	19
Corpus Christi conference 2011.....	19
Evaluation.....	20

## Welcome!

Corpus Christi is delighted to welcome you to the conference "Abba" 2010. Here you and other youths from the Nordic countries will have the opportunity to discover more about Christ as limbs in his body! "Abba" means father. Jesus prays to Abba, the heavenly father, something Gods children are allowed to do. What makes you a child of God and how do you get to partake in the security and blessing his care gives? Are there signs of the divine sonship and what is "the Spirit of adoption" that cries "Abba" (Rom 8:15)? Through life Gods children are nourished by the Church as a mother cares for her children. Can one really call the church a mother? Who is Abba? Who is the mother?

During the conference we come closer to Abba through divine services and lectures and learns how we become his children.

Corpus Christi  
through Johan Sidenvall

## Corpus Christi

... is a fully independent non-profit association working for church and biblical renewal among young people in the Nordic countries. The vision is for young people to be led into an evangelic-lutheran church life. The organization was founded the late summer of 2008 and held the first youth conference in June 2009. The conference gathered youths, leaders and pastors from the Nordic countries, Latvia and the US. Corpus Christi' conferences aims at giving young people joy and courage to drink from the spring wells of salvation that the Holy Spirit opens for us through the Word of God in the church services, the biblical teachings, the common prayers and the hymns that that unite Christians in all places and all times.

### *Want to join?*

For those of you who participate at the conference a free membership in the association Corpus Christi is included. All you need to do is to hand your personal details (name, e-mail, etc.) to the Information Bureau. As a member you have voting rights at our annual meeting, which is just after the end of the conference. If you want to be more than a member you can also become an assistant. You take part in the planning, work and leading of others into the revived church life that we want to encourage through our conferences.

## **Information Bureau - red shirts**

Many practical issues will be resolved by themselves and the conference handbook you are reading will be of great help. Do you have questions or still want to know more about Corpus Christi you should turn to the Information Bureau - and to us wearing red Corpus Christi-shirts. The Information Bureau is at Campus Varberg, where we eat lunch and at the door of the Varberg town church. The Bureau is manned as much as possible, if not please contact the following:

Andreas Karlgren: +46 708 32 42 16

Erik Johansson: +46 703 84 25 35

### ***Book sale***

At the Information Bureau there will be a book sale. Take the opportunity to buy good literature for a discounted price! For example, our main speaker Daniel Preus book, *Why I'm a Lutheran* that will be available in limited number of copies.

# Program

## Monday                      28 June

10.00 Check-in  
13.30 Divine Service  
14.00 Greeting and information  
14.30 Plenary session 1  
15.30 Coffee break + Check-in  
17.30 Introduction to common  
prayers and liturgy  
18.00 Vespers  
18.45 Dinner  
20.00 In-depth session 1  
21.00 Compline  
22.00 Evening snack/ Group  
session/Theological  
reflections  
23.30 Lights out

## Tuesday                      29 June

8.00 Breakfast  
9.15 Morning Prayer  
10.00 Plenary session 2  
11.00 Seminars 1  
12.15 Matins  
13.00 Lunch  
14.00 Recreation  
17.45 Fruit snack  
18.00 Vespers  
18.45 Dinner  
20.00 In-depth session 2  
21.00 Evening service & music  
22.15 Evening snack/ Group  
session/Theological  
reflections  
23.30 Lights out

## Wednesday                      30 June

8.00 Breakfast  
9.15 Morning Prayer  
10.00 Plenary session 3  
11.00 Seminars 2  
12.15 Matins  
13.00 Lunch  
14.00 Recreation  
16.45 Fruit snack  
17.00 In-depth session 3  
18.00 Vesper  
19.00 Feast  
21.00 Compline  
22.00 Evening snack/  
Group session  
23.30 Lights out

## Thursday                      1 July

7.00 Cleaning and Check-out  
8.00 Breakfast/Check-out  
9.30 Divine Service & music  
11.00 Plenary session 4  
12.00 Seminars 3  
13.00 Lunch  
14.00 Closing words and thanks

<u>Colours/Locations</u> Campus Varberg Parish house The Church Cabin area
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## Church services

Every day we set aside specific times for prayer services, so-called Liturgy of the Hours or Common Prayer. The intention is not to be entertained but to be served by God through what is given in the church services. We sing many psalms being at the same time the Word from God himself and our words to God. We also resound the hymns of praise which the early Christians sang. Such as Mary's song of praise, Zacharias' Praise and Simeon's song of praise. These hymns have been appreciated through the centuries by people of faith as precious treasures, emerged as a response to salvation in Jesus Christ. Last but not least, we get to hear the preached Word of God!

### *Liturgy*

Action speak louder than words. All the ceremonies in the services aim at reinforcing what is sung and spoken with words. For instance, the bread and wine is treated with great respect during Holy Communion because we believe it is Christ's body and blood. The external ceremonies, though not necessary, want to reinforce the message that Christ our King, Lord and Saviour, is in our midst, talking to us, and gives his Body and Blood to us. We are in a special fellowship with all the Christians who through the centuries have celebrated Divine Services in a way that is largely reflected in the services we partake in under the conference.

### *Holy Communion*

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at the Evening Mass on Tuesday and the final Morning Service on Thursday. Our Saviour's body and blood is given to us for the forgiving of sins. Everyone is welcome to the communion table that is baptised and believe the following:

- I am a sinner in need of mercy, forgiveness and salvation.
- I believe that this salvation is in Jesus alone and he is the worlds only savior.
- I believe that Jesus is my savior.
- I believe that bread and wine are Jesus' true body and blood.
- I believe I receive Jesus' body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.

## Prayer and Confession

Take time to prepare for church services. After you have set yourself down in church, you can spare a few moments for silence and prayer - it is a great help to unwind and open up to God.

We also offer confession to those who wish. It is something we also want to encourage - the confession gives you the opportunity to receive absolution directly from the confessor as if from God Himself. Contact one of the conference pastors and ask for an opportunity for confession (for example, half an hour before vespers, etc.).

In the morning you can pray the following prayer:

*My Heavenly Father, I thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You kept me safe from all evil and danger last night. Save me, I pray, today as well, from every evil and sin, so that all I do and the way that I live will please you. I put myself in your care, body and soul and all that I have. Let Your holy Angels be with me, so that the evil enemy will not gain power over me. Amen.*

And in the evening you can pray the following prayer:

*My Heavenly Father, I thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You have protected me, by Your grace. Forgive, I pray, all my sins and the evil I have done. Protect me, by Your grace, tonight. I put myself in your care, body and soul and all that I have. Let Your holy angels be with me, so that the evil enemy will not gain power over me. Amen.*

The prayer are from the Small Catechism of Martin Luther. If you have a copy in your native tongue you will find the prayers there.

Do not forget that the conference and Corpus Christi need your prayers!

## Educational activities – Plenary session, In-depth session, Seminars

The educational activities are available in four different categories. There are:

- 1) the sermons during church services,
- 2) the keynote address that all the participants attend,
- 3) the In-depth sessions, where you select a track to follow on four occasions and
- 4) the seminars where you can choose a different interesting topic one each occasion.

In order to know which hall you should be in - see the **yellow text**. The letter indicates the building (see map below) and teaching takes place in the floor indicated by the first digit.

### Plenary session/Keynote address

"Abba" means father. Jesus prays to Abba, the heavenly father, something Gods children are allowed to do. How can I know the Father? How do I meet the Father? How can I pray "Our Father"? Can I serve him? Who is Abba? In four lectures Daniel Preus will illustrate the Bible's image of God to show the grounds upon which we may call out "Abba, Father!"

**Speaker:** Daniel Preus

**Language:** English

**Hall:** Campus C303

Daniel Preus is a pastor of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and Executive Director of the Luther Academy. To Swedes, Rev. Preus is mostly known for his book *Why I Am a Lutheran: Jesus at the Centre*, which has been translated into Swedish and received with much appreciation.

### 5 In-depth sessions

The In-depth sessions are smaller lectures on important topics. You choose between five different tracks that you followed all the three occasions when the session is given.

**NOTE:** *Select a track which you follow during the conference. If it is already over 40 on the track you want to select, then please choose another.*

#### 1. To become a child of Abba (about Baptism)

**Speaker:** Didzis Stilve

**Language:** English

**Hall:** Campus A209

This In-depth session in three parts address the beginning for God's children. What is baptism, which makes me something as unimaginably large as a child of Abba, the Heavenly Father? What is "the Spirit of adoption" who cry out "Abba" (Romans 8:15)? How do I stay a child of Abba? *Rev. Dr. Didzis Stilve, a pastor of the Lutheran Church of Latvia and a teacher at the Luther Academy in Riga. Received his Ph.D. in Missiology from Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft Wayne, IN.*

## 2. Who, then, is the Mother? (about the Church)

Speaker: Timo Laato

Language: Swedish

Hall: Campus B130

This In-depth track in three parts addresses the issue of motherhood. If Abba is our Father, who is our Mother? Can we talk about a mother? How is she in this case? What is "Jerusalem which is above" called "mother of us all" (Galatians 4:21-28)?

*Rev. Dr. Timo Laato, a pastor in the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Finland and a teacher at the Lutheran School of Theology in Gothenburg, Sweden.*

## 3. To live with Abba (on the first article of the Creed)

Speaker: Michael Lerche Nygaard

Language: Danish

Hall: Campus C302

This In-depth track in *two parts (Monday-Tuesday)* addresses the question of the Father as our creator. What does it mean to have been created by Abba? What does it mean for me that I was designed by Abba? What is the Creator Abba doing now?

*Rev. Michael Nygaard, Lutheran pastor in Kolding, Denmark; previously Admissions Director for the Lutheran School of Theology in Aarhus.*

## 4. Pray to Abba (about Prayer)

Speaker: Jan Bygstad

Language: Norwegian

Hall: Campus C303

This In-depth session focus on the prayer to Abba. Jesus prayed to the Heavenly Father. Can I do it? How do I do that? Why do I do it? What does it mean to pray to "Our Father (Abba), who art in heaven"?

*Rev. Jan Bygstad, widely known Lutheran pastor and author from Bergen, Norway. A leader in the Confessional movement in Scandinavia.*

## 5. To be an Abba (on being a parent, marriage, family)

Speaker: Linda Preus

Language: English

Hall: Campus E218

This In-depth track in three parts changes perspectives on the word Abba to focus on parenting in general. It has become common among children / youths to suffer from have mental disabilities, mental illnesses, depression, character disorders, etc.. What can parents, friends and those afflicted do and where is God in these difficulties? Mrs. Preus, herself the mother of a child with a mental illness, weaves these things together in her In-depth tracks.

*Mrs. Linda Preus, serves on the Lutheran Network on Mental Illness and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Disabilities Task force. Speaker for the National Alliance on Mental Illness to police, congregations, medical and seminary students.*

## 8 different seminars

The seminars are smaller lectures that provide more space for questions and discussion. The seminars are also intended to provide practical guidance in Christian living. You choose among a number of seminars on three different occasions and the idea is that these will suit young people with different language backgrounds and prior knowledge. Plan your choices well! **NOTE: Is more than 20 persons are already attending the seminar you wish to choose, please select another seminar.**

### 1. Hitchhiker's guide to the sacristy

**Speaker:** Olle Fogelqvist      **Language:** Swedish      **Hall:** Campus A208

In our services and in our churches there are a rich symbolic language where vestments, light, colours, movements, equipment, etc symbolize important aspects of what is happening in the service. Here is your guide to all this, from the vestry into the church!

*Olle Fogelqvist is the parish priest in Gällinge-Idala outside Gothenburg and has been school pastor at a Christian high school. Olle passionate about bringing people into the churches liturgy so that they understand and experience that they encounter God!*

### 2. What is the Kingdom of God" really about?

**Speaker:** Markus Pöyry      **Language:** Finnish/English      **Hall:** Campus A209

A few times Jesus speaks about the kingdom of God in a rather difficult (almost offensive) way. How should we understand these texts about the kingdom of heaven? Who can enter? And how? In this seminar the participants learn about keys to interpret difficult biblical texts!

*Markus Pöyry is a pastor in two parishes in the Finnish Luther foundation (Seinäjäki) and is a leader of the Luther Foundation's youth organisation.*

**Finnish:** Tuesday, **English:** Wednesday-Thursday

### 3. Wiles of the devil

**Speaker:** Esko Murto      **Language:** Finnish/English      **Hall:** Campus B126

People say they believe in the devil because of what is written in the Bible. But if you ask what it really means that the devil exists, then the answer is ... what? This seminar provides some important answers to the question of the devil, his schemes and wile!

*Esko Murto is a priest in Tavastehus close to Helsinki in the Finnish Luther Foundation and is also a leader of the Luther Foundation's youth organisation.*

**Finnish:** Wednesday-Thursday, **English:** Tuesday

### 4. The war on pornography

**Speaker:** Russel Johnson      **Language:** English      **Hall:** Campus B127

Sex addiction and pornography are difficult challenges for Christians. How can Christians deal with this problem in our society and how we can help people who are stuck in destructive patterns? *Russell Johnson is a pastor of Trinity-St. John Lutheran School and Church, Nashville, IL.*

## 5. Being a woman (for females)

**Speaker:** Anki Lidén

**Language:** Swedish

**Hall:** Campus B128

How hard can it be to be a woman? Probably harder than ever. Traditional gender roles and gender identities are being dismantled in our societies and the question arises how a woman is meant to be? How do the Creator of woman want women to be?

*Anki Lidén is a deaconess in Gothenburg and teaches at the Bible School Gothenburg.*

## 6. Being a man (for males)

**Speaker:** Fredrik Sidenvall

**Language:** Swedish/English

**Hall:** Campus B130

How hard can it be to be a *man*? Probably harder than ever. Traditional gender roles and gender identities are being dismantled in our societies and the question arises how a man is meant to be? How do the Creator of man want men to be?

*Frederick Sidenvall is a pastor and principal of LM Engström Christian high school in Gothenburg. Sidenvall has many years experience as a parish pastor, and is now developing forms of worship, mission, and the teaching in his employment as headmaster.*

**Swedish:** Tuesday-Wednesday, **English:** Thursday

## 7. Co-wanderer?

**Speaker:** Lasse Lindegaard

**Language:** Danish

**Hall:** Campus E307

Being a co-wanderer is to follow another human with a shared faith and life, while in turn being followed by the companion. It must not be a wife / husband, but may be a brother or sister in the faith that becomes a companion, for mutual help and support, much like the two Emmaus wanderers (Luke 24). The seminar gives practical guidance to begin with!

*Lasse Lindegaard is a theology student in Aarhus and youth assistant for the Brethrencongregation Danish Mission and has been project leader in the introduction of "co-wandering" in the Inner Missions youth assembly.*

## 8. Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O LORD.

**Speaker:** Bengt Birgersson

**Language:** Swedish

**Hall:** Campus E308

Through Psalm 130 we have received a cry from a believer to God in the word of God. A cry in anxiety, depression, anguish and darkness. Many Christians can recognize themselves and others close to them. What do God answer the cry?

*Bengt is a pastor and education secretary of the foundation (PIBUS, sponsor of this conference), that run LM Engström high school, Gothenburg Bible School, and Lutheran School of Theology, Gothenburg. Bengt is also chaplain at LST.*

# Group sessions

At the evening snack we gather in mixed groups to get to know each other, ventilate thoughts and reflect. Here is room for both play and reflection. Here are the groups and group leaders:

## **Group 1**

**Group leader: Magnus Perming**

Philip Andertuun  
Viktoria Andersson  
Solveiga Jegere  
Rudolfs Jascenko  
Eveliina Sallinen  
Reeta Ruohonen  
Marjareetta Laato  
Anssi Ollilainen

## **Group 2**

**Group leader: Andreas Karlgren**

Jonas Andersson  
Lina Fjällström  
Liga Radzina  
Janis Malnieks  
Jouko Makkonen  
Kirsi Rönkkönen  
Sanna Jämsä  
Fredrik Nilsson  
Richard Skollevoll

## **Group 3**

**Group leader: Kerstin Sidenvall**

Sara Andertuun  
Matthias Hermansson  
Mara Eglite  
Girts Driksna  
Juhana Saloma  
Mirjam Dahlskog  
Suvi Ristolainen  
Vidar Lyrstrand  
Henrik Vestergård

## **Group 4**

**Group leader: Silje Kiil**

Janne Haukrog Bruhn  
Mia Bruhn  
Katrina Nesenberga  
Edgars Jegers  
Touko Vaarnamo  
Tanja Huuskonen  
Jenni Leino

## **Group 4 (continued)**

Malene Holmgaard Nielsen  
Lise Vestergård

## **Group 5**

**Group leader: Rebecka Eklund**

Kristin Jönsson  
Petri Linnala  
Juho Jääskeläinen  
Mirjam Virtanen  
Petra Laato  
Eeva Pitkäranta  
Anders Svensson  
Salome Tobin

## **Group 6**

**Group leader: Elisabeth Eklund**

Bengt Andersson  
Sebastian Grünbaum  
Marta Virtanen  
Johanna Sandberg  
Ida Jungner  
Marie Jönsson  
Kristina Svensson

## **Group 7**

**Group leader: Tiia Kalliola**

Nikolaj Christensen  
Krista Ziemele  
Zane Gotlube  
Markus Pöyry  
Jani-Matti Ylilehto  
Lina-Koroliina Karhulahti  
Suvi Jääskeläinen  
Cornelia Larsson  
Eva Regine Wiik

## **Group 8**

**Group leader: Niina Marjamäki**

Sannie Christensen  
Lasse Lindergaard Iversen  
Guna Zandere  
Andris Ivanovs  
Ville Huuskonen

**Group 8 (continued)**

Matilda Saarisalo  
Armi-Elina Karhulahti  
Johanna Lundberg

**Group 9**

**Group leader: Kristoffer Norbye**  
Tomas Eklund

Annija Ziemele  
Everita Hanna Alpe  
Jukka Pasanen  
Ville Partanen  
Rebecka Dahlskog  
Linnea Jönsson  
Gabriel Karlgren

## Recreation

For the leisure hours, we relax, take a break from learning and just have fun. Sunbathe and swim at the beach, play soccer and volleyball, or take a walk around town! For those who labour and are heavy laden, a simple nap is alright. Hopefully we will have sunshine every day. *In case of bad weather we will show movies on campus.*

### *Feast*

On Wednesday night we party! We gather in the cabin area, eat and sing together, play, talk and have fun. This is the last night so take the opportunity some have fun. Before the feast we have a so-called *candy collection*. We leave a bag of candy to the communal bag; and share it at the feast.

If it rains, the feast will be held on campus, at the place where we eat our meals.

## Conference locations

During the conference, we will move around different locations in the town of Varberg. Foremost we will be at Apelviken Camping & Cabin Village, Campus Varberg, Varberg Parish Church and parish house. It is possible to walk between sites that are centrally located, but to get to the Cabin and Camping Village it is preferable to travel by bus, car or bicycle. Here are two maps of the city and places that we will move between.

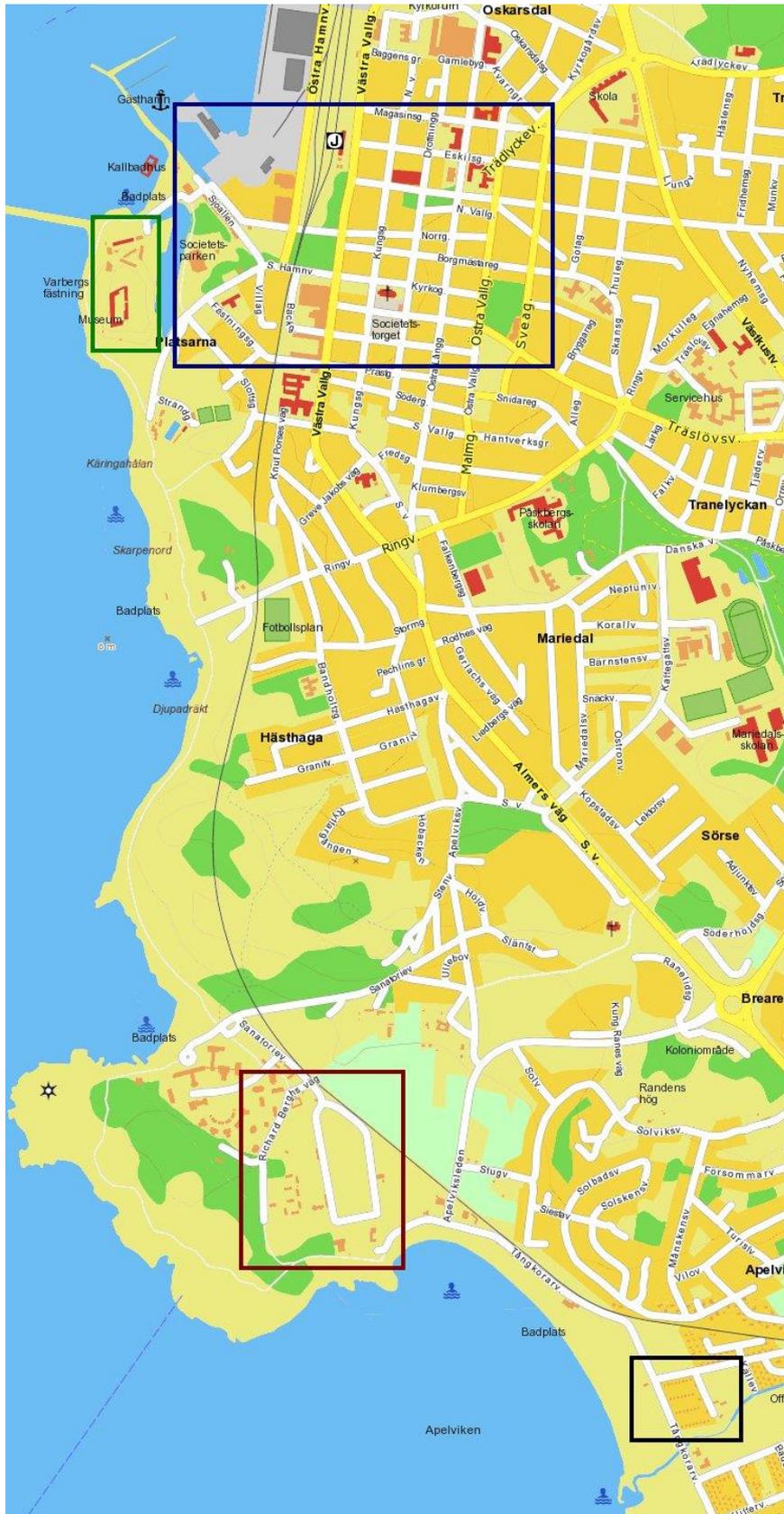


Campus Varberg

Kyrkan (the Church)

Varbergs fästning (the Fortress)

Församlingshem (Parish House)



Centrala konferensområdet  
(Central Conference Area)

Varbergs fästning  
(the Fortress)

Apelvikens camping  
(Camping Site)

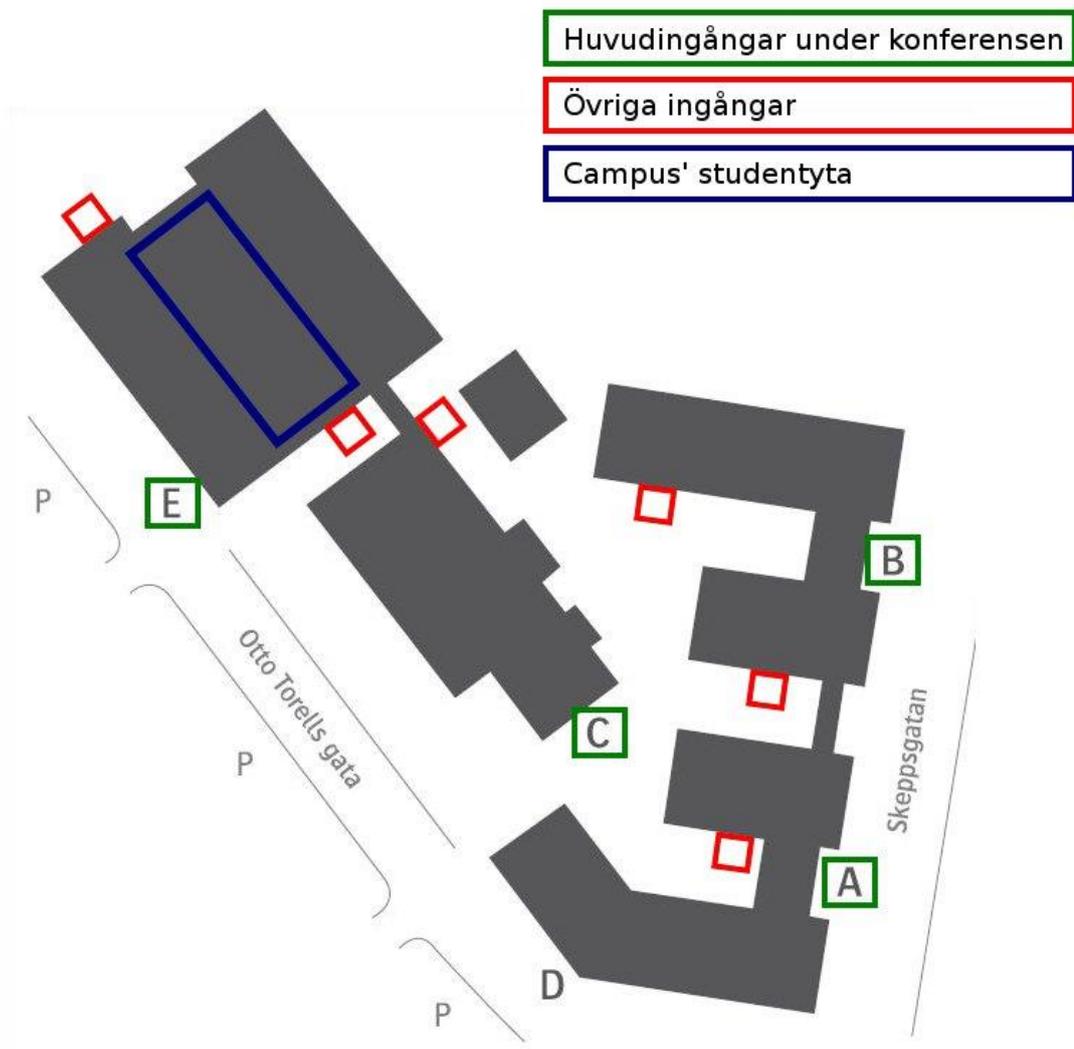
Apelvikens stugby  
(Cabins)

## Campus Varberg

Campus Varberg is located at the port about 300 meters from the church. The seminars, In-depth sessions and keynote speech are held here. Lunch and dinner are served at the **Campus' student area**. Should the weather be bad, there is also opportunity for watching movies in the lecture halls.

On Campus' student area there is an information bureau with a book sale where you can get answers to your questions about the arrangement, etc.

If you are in desperate need of a computer it is possible to use the computer room at Campus Varberg. In this case contact information red shirted conference staff.

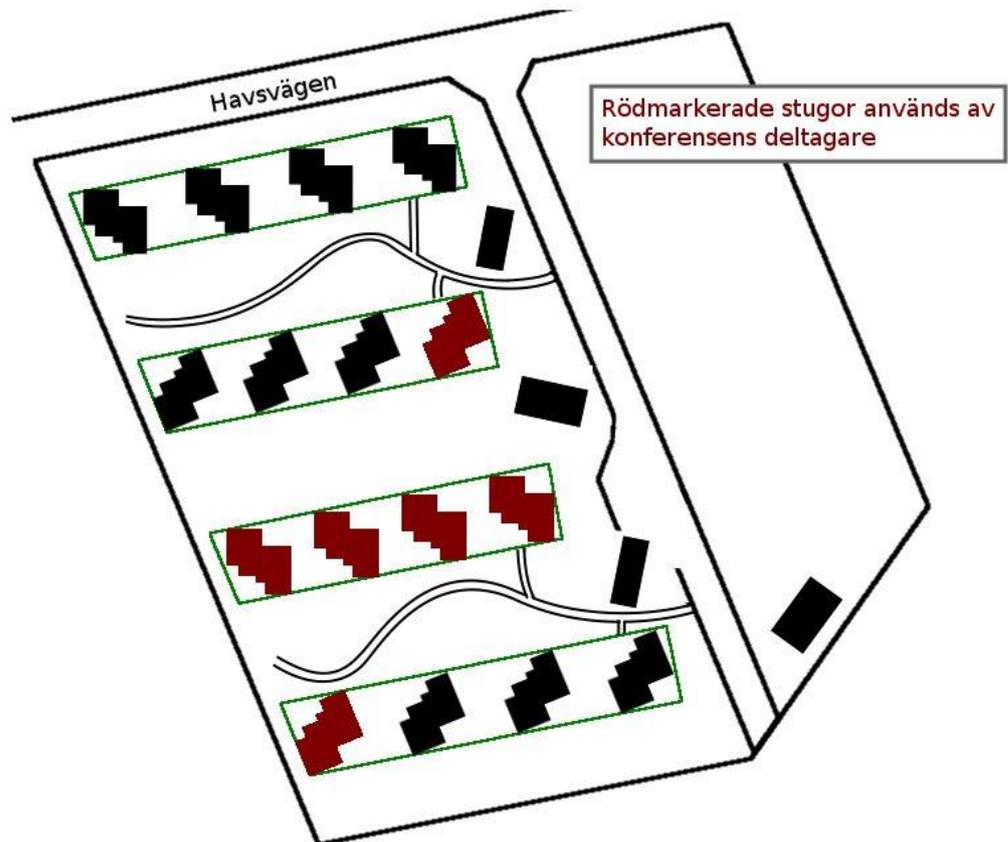


## Apelviken Camping & Cabin Village

Those of us that sleep in cabins do so at the Apelviken Camping & Cabin Village, in the newly built cottages. Each cottage has eight beds. A certain person in each cottage will be assigned as key carrier.

*Tip: check with the people living in your cabin if you can fetch a ride with them from the Cabin Village to town centre and vice versa. If you have a car: make sure there are no empty seats.*

This is what the cabin area looks like:



## Bus Timetable

In order to carry those of us who do not have a car with them, we use a bus. The bus leaves at the following times:

### Monday

*From the church to the Cabin Village:* 16:30  
*From the Cabin Village to the church:* 17:15  
*From the church to the Cabin Village:* 23:00

### Tuesday

*From the Cabin Village to the parish house:* 07:45  
*From the Campus to the Cabin Village:* 14:00  
*From the Cabin Village to the church:* 17:30  
*From the church to the Cabin Village:* 23:00

### Wednesday

*From the Cabin Village to the parish house* 07:45  
*From the Campus to the Cabin Village:* 14:00  
*From the Cabin Village to the Campus:* 16:30  
*From the church to the Cabin Village:* 18:45  
*(From the Campus to the Cabin Village: 23:00)\**

### Thursday

*From the Cabin Village to the parish house* 07:45

*\* In case of bad weather the feast and the rest of Wednesday's program will be held on campus.*

## **Check out**

On Thursday morning we will check out. Keys are returned at breakfast at which time the Cabins are supposed to be cleaned and emptied. Cleaning instructions are available on site. Luggage can be kept at the same place as before check-in.

## **Corpus Christi conference 2011**

Next year, Corpus Christi is organizing a new conference, the week after midsummer (v.26). We hope that Matthew Harrison from USA will accept our invitation to be our keynote speaker. Corpus Christi International conferences are designed to rotate between the various Nordic countries. We would therefore like to invite to Finland! Corpus Christi will arrange bus travel from Denmark and Norway through Sweden.

Registration begins in February 15, 2011, take this opportunity to inform about the conference in your parish, among your friends and invite even more people to join!

## Evaluation

Please enter your opinions on the conference, tear the page out and hand it to your group mentor! The data will be used anonymously, and writing your name is

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optional.

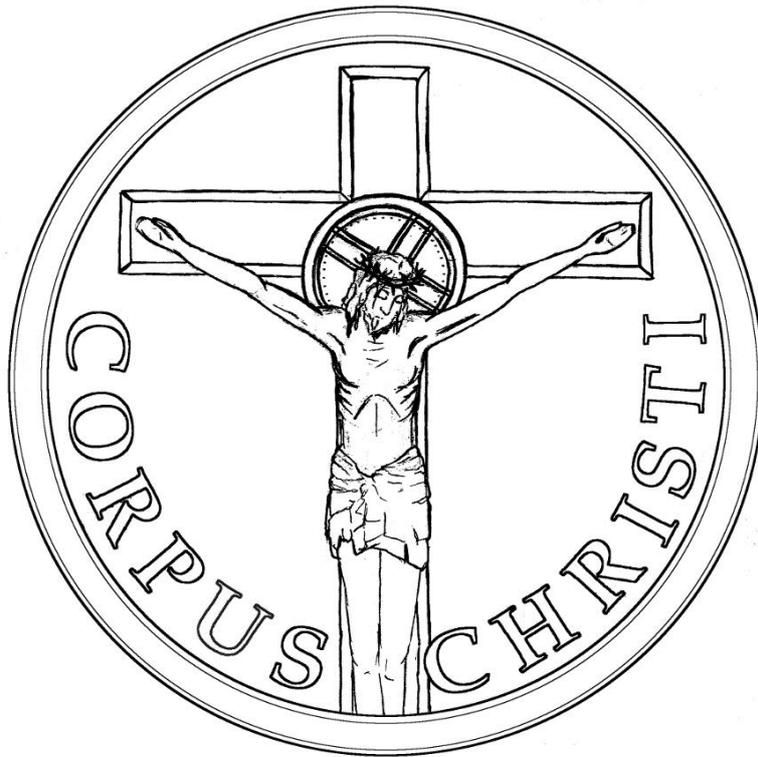
	Very bad	Bad	OK	Good	Very good
What did you think of the residence?					
What did you think of the food?					
What did you think of having the conference here in Varberg?					
What did you think of the Services?					
What did you think of the main lectures?					
What did you think of the in-depth sessions?					
What did you think of the seminars?					
What did you think about the group meetings?					
What did you think of the leisure activities?					
What did you think of how you were received by those who worked with the conference?					
What did you think of the way language needs were handled?					
What did you think of the information you received about the conference?					
What did you think of the conference as a whole?					

	Yes	No
Would you like to come again next year? (not binding)		

What could we who worked with the conference have done better?

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Did the conference give you something special that you want to share with us?



[www.corpuschristi.se](http://www.corpuschristi.se)