

## European Gathering „How can our Research make an Impact on Church Development?“

**Location:** House 30, HS 1  
Faculty of Theology  
Franckeplatz 1  
Halle (Saale)

Hotel Hey! Halle  
Rathausstraße 3  
Halle (Saale)

### Programme:

#### Sunday 22.03.2026

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ca. 20.00 Informal Pre-Gathering: Zum groben Gottlieb, Große Märkerstraße 20

#### Monday 23.03.2026

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9:00 Arrival & Coffee

9.30 Welcome and interactive introduction

10.15 Key note: “Impact in Practical Theology? – Mapping the field”  
Tone Stangeland Kaufman (Oslo)

11.00 Coffee Break

11.30 Panel discussion: Institutional Approaches to Impact

- Edward Graham-Hyde (The Salvation Army’s Research Team)
- Thomas Schlag (Zentrum für Kirchenentwicklung, Zürich University)
- Miriam Zimmer (impaekt/ Center for Applied Pastoral Research, Bochum University)

12:45 Lunch (provided)

13.45 Reflecting & Sharing Experiences

- Nigel Rooms (Leicester): The Receptive Failure of Research into a Highly Impactful Church Change Process
- Tabea Fischer & Felix Eiffler (Halle): Lessons learned from accompanying research on church innovation programmes

14.20 Working in groups

15.30 Coffee Break

16.00 Insights from Participative and Action Research Approaches

- Dorte Kappelgaard (Oslo/Kopenhagen): Participatory research in Childrens' Cathedral in Trondheim – reflections on the design of an interdisciplinary study fostering local development

- Maria Ledstam (Stockholm): Bridging Action Research and Practice Theory: Insights on Teleoaffective Orientations, Researcher Roles, and Theory-Practice Tensions from the “Together for Learning” Project
- Simon Hallonsten (Stockholm): Writing Our Way to Impact: Reflexive Narrative as a Bridge Between Academic Rigor and Practical Relevance

17.30 Free time

19.00 Dinner: Gasthaus Zum Schad, Kleine Klausstraße 3

## Tuesday 24.03.2026

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9.00 Meta-perspective: Conceptualisations of Practical Theology

- Hanna Kauhaus (Halle): Research & Impact in Ecclesiology – Different Approaches
- Theo Pleizier (Utrecht): What happened to 'applied theology'?
- Open discussion: How do the concepts relate to our experiences?

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10:30 Coffee Break

11.00 Closing discussion:

- What do we take with us?
- What could be future perspectives for follow-up networking?

12.00 Lunch „to go“