

# Bonner Querschnitte

## Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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## BQ 505 – No. 44/2017

### Theologian thanks two Deaconesses

(Bonn, 20.10.2017) 50 years ago the Associate Secretary General of the World Evangelical Alliance, Thomas Schirmmacher, who is responsible for theological concerns, decided to move Jesus Christ into the center of his life. The place where this happened was the diaconal facility Diakonissen-Mutterhaus Lachen (Neustadt an der Weinstraße), Germany, and it is there that Schirmmacher gave a sermon in a worship service upon the anniversary of this occasion and thanked the two deaconesses who looked after him at that time and explained the gospel to him.

The congregation of the Diakonissen-Mutterhaus Lachen belongs to the Deutscher Gemeinschafts-Diakonieverband based in Marburg, Germany (German Fellowship – Diaconal Federation), which in turn belongs to the Evangelischer Gnadauer Gemeinschaftsverband based in Kassel, Germany (Evangelical Gnadauer Community).

In his sermon, Schirmmacher pointed out that his childlike faith, which was kindled and shaped by the deaconesses, splendidly abides with his scholarly tasks and research work in theology and the sociology of religion. On the one hand, this is due to the fact that the New Testament requests us to become as children (Matthew 18:3). However, we are not to judge as children do but rather as adults, “who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish” (Hebrews 5:14). Adults in the faith, through the renewing of the mind, should be in a position to test what God’s will is and to independently decide for what is right (Romans 12:1-2). This, Schirmmacher maintained, is simultaneously done in the childlike awareness that God’s peace stands protectively over our understanding (Philippians 4:7).



Thomas Schirmmacher with both deaconesses through whom he came to faith © BQ / Warnecke



A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance  
[www.ead.de/akref](http://www.ead.de/akref)

Culture and Science Publ.  
[www.vkwoonline.com](http://www.vkwoonline.com)

Giving Hands – International Charity  
[www.gebende-haende.de](http://www.gebende-haende.de)

Help Worldwide – International Charity  
[www.hilfe-weltweit.de](http://www.hilfe-weltweit.de)

Institute for Pro-life and Family Studies  
[www.bucer.de/institute/ilfw.html](http://www.bucer.de/institute/ilfw.html)

International Institute for Islamic Studies of the World Evangelical Alliance  
[www.islaminstitute.net](http://www.islaminstitute.net)

International Institute for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance  
[www.iirf.eu](http://www.iirf.eu)

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Pro Mundis e. V.  
[www.thomasschirmmacher.net](http://www.thomasschirmmacher.net)

Theological Commission of “Hope for Europe” (European Evangelical Alliance)  
[www.hfe.org](http://www.hfe.org)

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance  
[www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/](http://www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/)

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### Downloads and Links:

- [Photo 1](#), [Photo 2](#) and [Photo 3](#): During the sermon © BQ / Warnecke
- [Photo 4](#): Thomas Schirrmacher with both deaconesses through whom he came to faith © BQ / Warnecke
- Diakonissen-Mutterhaus Lachen: <http://www.lachen-diakonissen.de>

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