# WOMEN IN ORDAINED MINISTRY - POLAND



#### Lutheran Church in Poland

- circa 70 000 members
- 6 dioceses
- 133 parishes
- 124 filial
- 158 ministers (14 deacons, 13 female)

Poland - 38 437 000 citizens



- The twenties of the twentieth century Polish women entered theological study
- 1934 the first Polish woman Cecylia
  Gerwin finished theology



■ 1938 – Irena Goller (Heinze) during the ordination of her male colleagues received "blessing" to the ministry and after war she shortly worked in some parishes





■ 1963 – women theologians in Poland have access to the catechetical office.



- nineties women
  ordination questions
  came back to the Synod
  of the Church
- 1995 first congregation turned to the Synod for a change of the internal law and the ordination of Małgorzata Gaś.



1999 – Synod introduced women ordination to deacons







2008 - Synod Commission on Theology and Confession declared there were no obstacles of theological nature for women to be ordained as pastors

- 2010 voting at the Synod– majority against
- 2013 first deacon
  ordination after 13 years







#### New discussion

 2014 – at the autumn Synod of the Church bishop Jerzy Samiec introduced the discussion again



#### New discussion

- april 2016 majority of the Synod voted for the introduction of women into full ordained ministry 38 members were "for" and 26 "against", 4 abstainers (majority wasn't 2/3 to change Primary Inner Law (the motion needed 46 votes to be passed
- □ 1 January 2017 deacons can celebrate Holy
  Communion (Synod's decision from October 2016)



