

Spanish version of *Evangelical Review of Theology* launched

Beginning in spring 2022, the WEA intends to publish its theological journal in Spanish (as *Revista Evangélica de Teología*) as well as in English. Andrew Messmer will serve as editor. He is the academic dean of Seville Theological Seminary (Spain), associate professor at International Theological Faculty IBSTE (Spain), and affiliated researcher at Evangelical Theological Faculty (Belgium). Andrew has published on multiple topics including Old Testament, New Testament and historical theology. He has also written for and reviewed submissions to the *Evangelical Review of Theology*.

Spanish-language submissions or inquiries may be sent to Andrew at amessmer@worldea.org. RET may also publish some translations from the English-language version.

Joel Edwards, influential UK leader, dies

The WEA mourns the loss of Joel Edwards, who was general director of the Evangelical Alliance in the United Kingdom for 11 years (1997–2008) as well as general secretary of the African and Caribbean Evangelical Alliance. Edwards died of cancer on 30 June at age 70.

WEA Secretary General Thomas Schirmmacher commented, ‘For decades, Joel was the conscience for WEA, ensuring that we would not forget the poor, the oppressed, the marginalized, the persecuted. His advice was sought after by many ministries within the WEA, many times unofficially just because of the breadth of his network, his networking abilities and his global knowledge, but often also in official senior advisor roles to our entities, such as the International Institute for Religious Freedom. More than that, I have lost a personal friend who often inspired me to think bigger.’

As the first black Pentecostal general director of the EA in the UK, Edwards not only deepened that organization’s diversity but brought credibility and attention to evangelicals’ role in the ecumenical and secular spheres. Through his desire for unity in Christ, he sought to close the gap between the right- and left-leaning constituencies of evangelicalism.



During his 11 years of service in this role, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from St Andrews University in 2007, received the title of honorary canon at St Paul’s Cathedral and was appointed a commissioner for the UK Equalities and Human Rights Commission. The *Church Times* once called Edwards ‘probably the most influential black Christian in the country’. He received the Langton Award for Community Service from the Archbishop of Canterbury ‘for his unique contribution in uniting evangelical Christians across the UK in challenging global injustice’.

Edwards also served as international director of Micah Challenge, tackling issues of global poverty, and as a strategic adviser to Christian Solidarity Worldwide.

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