

# Missional Ecclesiology

what can we learn from John Calvin the Reformer from Geneva?

# Calvin on the church

- We should take the reformation as a church reform movement very seriously and try to learn from it

# Calvin on the church

- As a church reform movement they (esp. Luther and Calvin) did not believe ecclesiological issues to be the fundamental problems for reflection and reform: it was always in the first place about God, Jesus and the Gospel

# Calvin on the church

- Having said that, we also have to admit that Calvin (more than Luther) in a growing way gave more and more attention to ecclesiological and pastoral issues in Geneva...

# Calvin on the church

- Structuring the church in Geneva...

# Calvin on the church

- Strong emphasis on the unity of the church

# Calvin on the church

- Was Calvin a missional theologian?

# Michael Root said about Luther what I think applies to the whole Reformation:

- “Lutheran Ecclesiology was not systematically worked out in the abstract and then applied to concrete cases. Rather, it was developed piecemeal within specific historical contexts, which often shaped its content more than later generations have been willing to admit.”



# Lukas Vischer:

- Calvin was a brilliant visionary who saw all the doors we need to get through with the Gospel very clearly; the tragedy of his life was that the plans he made to help him do this did not always succeed...