



**A Project of the Federation
of the Protestant Churches in Italy**

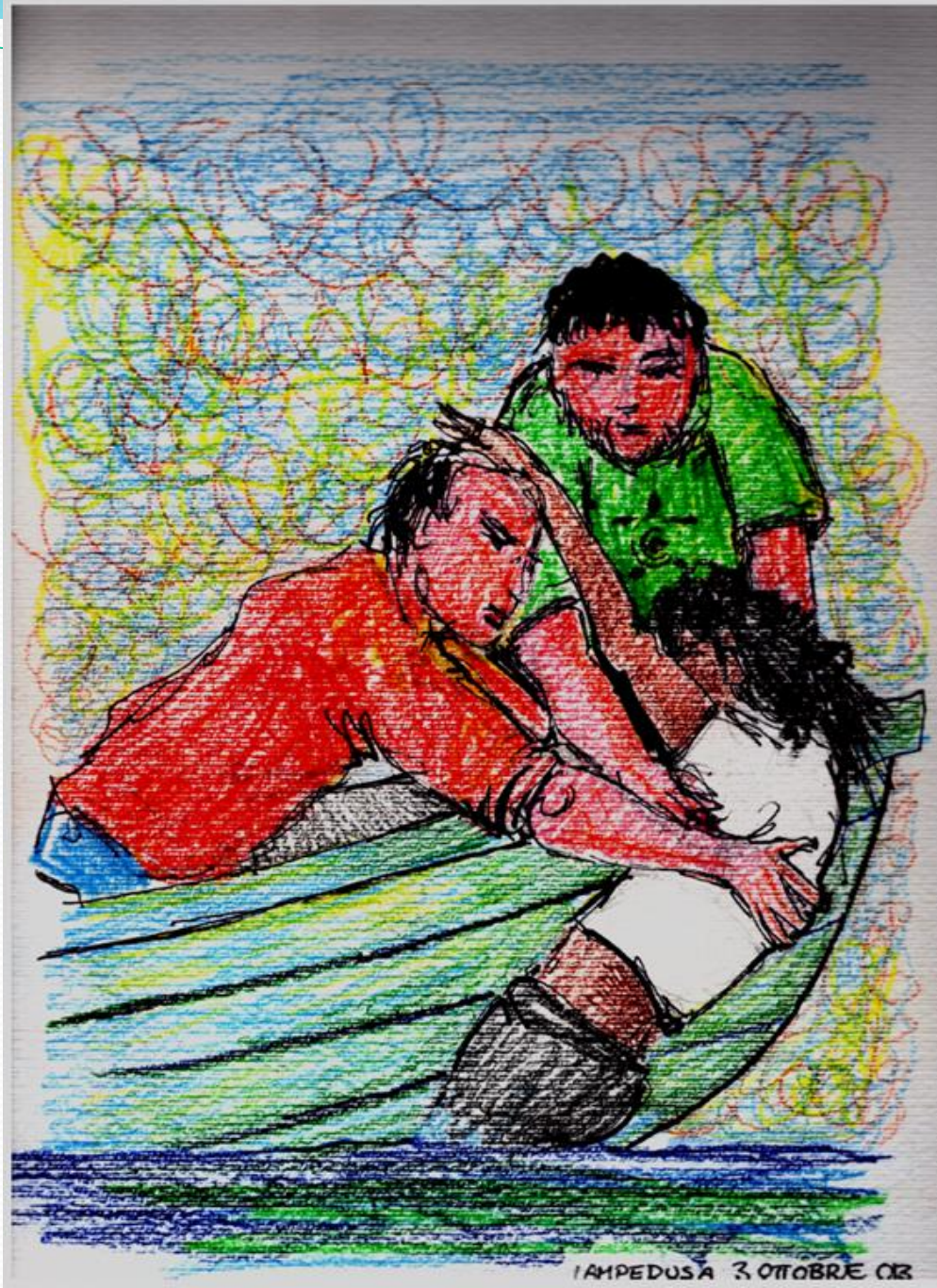
October 3rd, 2013: the turning point



**368 migrants drown a few meters
from the coast of Lampedusa**

The local population is in the front line rescuing people. Ernesto: «I never left alone who is in the sea!»

At the same time Lampedusa becomes the stage for media and politicians.



Giving rise to Mediterranean Hope (MH)

- **Being aware of how inadequate the FCEI structure is (SRM + ECI)**
- **A new project to face the new situation: migration is changing its nature**
- **A new project to convert our perspective: truth – action – politics**
- **Standing by Ernesto: «I never left alone who is in the sea!»**
- **February 2014: searching contacts in Lampedusa**
- **May 2014: Marta and Francesco move to Lampedusa**
- **October 2014: the church in Scicli accepts to work in MH**

The courage to propose

The patience to change


Many walls surround us, Lord...

**There are the walls that we build with our fear and rage
by putting distances with people around us...**


**There are the walls that we find in front of us,
the walls of those who do not want to be bothered,
those who do not care about injustice...**


**As we face all these walls, Lord,
teach us **to be patient** and not to give up,
teach us to trust your Word.**

Lord, teach us **to build bridges.**



MH: the effort to keep connected one another the courage to make new proposals for a just world with the patience to change things from within the injustices of the world.

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- **The horizon of the kingdom of God**
 - **Mercy and faith have come together; righteousness and peace have given one another a kiss (Psalm 85,11)**
 - **I am making a new heaven and a new earth...
And they will be building houses and living in them;
planting vine-gardens and getting the fruit of them.
They will no longer be building for the use of others, or
planting for others to have the fruit (Isaiah 65,22-23)**

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- **Going beyond the mere action of assistance and the «myth» of the goodness of «civil society»**
 - **Fighting against the structures of sin and for a «just society»**
 - **MH: an attempt to move along the line of «new heaven and a new earth» being open to those who recognize themselves as hungry and thirsty for justice and are willing to take their responsibility to change the situations in which they live**

1° leg: Observatory in Lampedusa



20 Km² – 6.000 population



A natural paradise...





**...with many
daily life problems**







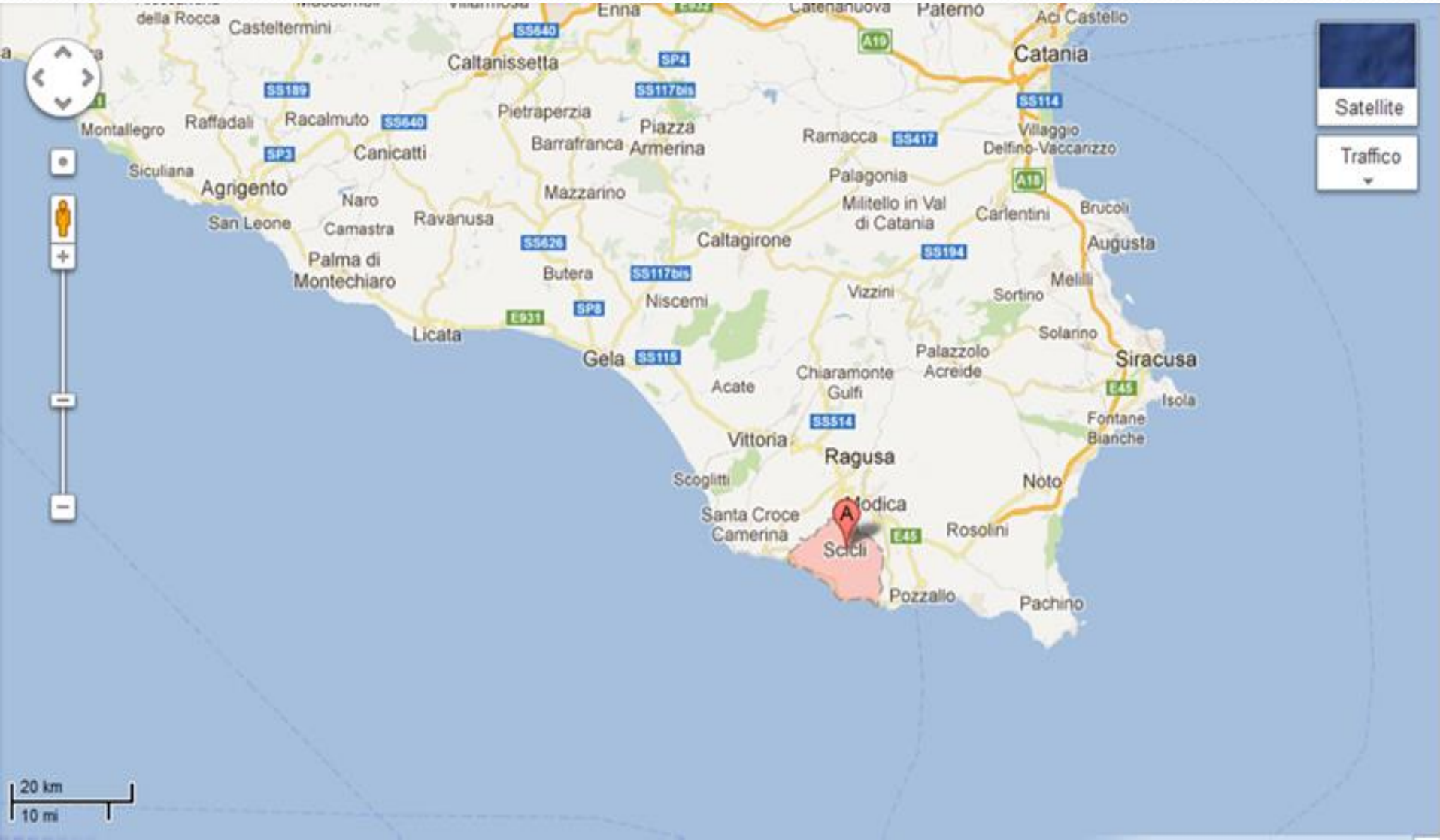
Lampedusa is a symbol



- The southern border of Europe
- The frontier between the North and the South of the World

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- **Developing our own narrative about migration**
 - **Push factors for thousands of asylum seekers**
 - **Mare nostrum vs Triton**
 - **Dublin regulation**
 - **The need for a broad range coordinated advocacy**

2° leg: the House of Cultures in Scicli








Emergency – Business - Corruption



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- **Italy: immigration without integration**
 - **The need for a new democratic covenant**
 - **Speaking of migrants instead than migration – Caring about people instead than statistics – Recognizing the neighbors instead than fearing the strangers**



Buona Pasqua - Happy Easter
Joyeux Pâques

mediterranean
HOPE
federazione delle chiese
evangeliche in Italia
**CASA DELLE
CULTURE**

Corso Mazzini , 7- Scicli - Infoline 0932 1838807

mhscicli@feci.it

facebook

MH - Casa delle Culture

3° leg: Relocation Desk

**Do you have any project
for your life?**



4° leg: Humanitarian Corridors

- **Taking the responsibility to make a practical and realistic proposal concernig the tragedies in the Mediterranean**
- **The humanitarian visa is not the solution of the issue of migration**
- **1000 people are almost nothing**
- **Other european governments may be willing to adopt this «good practice»**





Ecumenical and International Dimensions



- Joint venture with the catholic «Comunità di S. Egidio»
- Appreciation and solidarity from several european churches

Lampedusa, October 2nd, 2014

«Memory between
Sea and Sky»

Mediterranean Hope, Federazione
delle Chiese Evangeliche in Italia,
Arcidiocesi di Agrigento,
Parrocchia di S. Gerlando

MEMORIA TRA MARE E CIELO

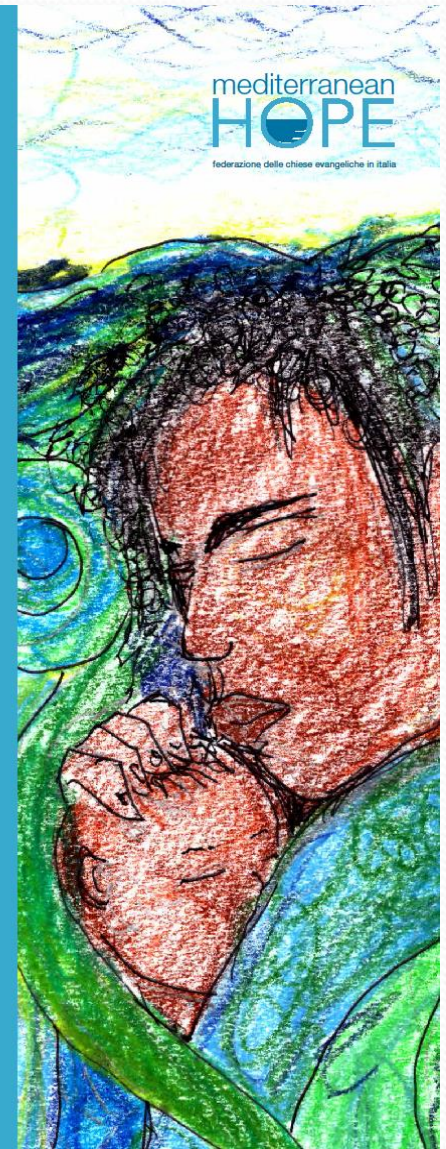
Parole e gesti della fede
per ricordare le vittime del
3 ottobre

**Cerimonia
interreligiosa
Giovedì 2
ottobre 2014
ore 17.00**

Presso il Santuario
Madonna di Porto Salvo

Lampedusa

Per info: mh.lampedusa@gmail.com
Facebook: Mediterranean hope



mediterranean
HOPE
federazione delle chiese evangeliche in Italia







A new compass



The North of Solidarity
The South of Justice
The East of Hope
The West of Welcome

Not only the Sea!







In the desert



Filling gaps – Bringing hope

Lord, teach us to build bridges

- **MH: a concrete bridge for churched and unchurched people to mutually exchange their social, political, civil engagement to recover hope once again.**
- **MH: a tool for european churches and people to become aware of the heavy responsibility that the european politics has in building walls and gaps**
- **MH: a witness to God's promise of «new heaven and a new earth» in Christ that challenges those who are in power.**

Do not forget about MH

You may want...

- **To send to Lampedusa a correspondent to speak to your cultural and political context**
- **To send youths or skilled adults to work in Scicli**
- **To establish a direct channel with our office in Rome to take care of the migrants who want to live in your country**
- **To be in partnership with the Humanitarian Corridors Program to lobby with your government for this «good practice»**



**Cowardice asks the question:
is it safe? Expediency asks
the question: is it politic?
Vanity asks the question: is it
popular? But conscience
asks the question: is it right?**

**«Those who save one
life save the whole
world»
(Talmud)**



Sampetayq, Hole fovaloto, luglio 2014, acqua.



**«and be ready at any time when you are questioned about the hope which is in you, to give an answer in the fear of the Lord and without pride»
(1Peter 3,15)**

Cerca
Mediterranean Hope
www.mediterraneanhope.org
(ISCRIVITI ALLA NEWSLETTER!)

