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FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF GOD SPIRITUAL CONFERENCE - SOME GREAT MOMENTS

MSC SPENDIDA

The Official Magazine of The Full Gospel Church of God in Southern Africa.

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Die Amptelike tydskrif van Die Volle Evangelie Kerk van God in Suidelike Afrika.

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I had the privilege of being asked to take care of his transportation along with his wife. That entire week I drove them around Cape Town and to and from the services. I need to add that this was pre his inclusion theology. I remember vividly how lives were changed and the power of God released over those services. A ministry friend called me after the passing of Carlton Pearson and reminded me of those times and the Leather Jacket (which I no longer have) that he bought for me as a thank you for my services.

It's crucial to affirm my unwavering commitment to traditional Christian doctrines. Personally, I firmly embrace the core tenets of Christianity, including the beliefs in heaven, hell, salvation through grace, and the acknowledgment of our inherent sinful nature.

While my convictions align with conventional Christian teachings, the death of Pearson have brought to the forefront a divergence in theological perspectives. Pearson's later advocacy for the gospel of inclusion, which posits universal salvation, challenges the foundational principles of my faith, emphasizing the importance of acknowledging these differences. These and other events surrounding challenges to our foundational beliefs, prompts reflection on the evolving landscape of religious acceptance and the delicate interplay between personal beliefs, institutional norms, and societal shifts.

It's essential to clarify that this exploration does not signify an endorsement of the gospel of inclusion. Instead, it aims to recognize and grapple with the diverse perspectives that coexist within the spectrum of faith

As we navigate these complexities, it underscores the diverse tapestry of modern Christianity, urging us to approach these nuanced discussions with a commitment to engaging in meaningful conversations to bring clarity where there may be confusion.

This event and others like this, highlights a broader responsibility within the body of Christ. The Gospel, as revealed in the Word of God, should not be subjective to the personal convictions of the messenger.

Leaders in the Christian community bear the responsibility of upholding the integrity of biblical teachings, emphasizing that the Gospel is an unwavering truth, unaltered by individual perspectives or emotional inclinations.

As discussions around inclusion and theological shifts persist, it is imperative to ground our understanding in the unchanging Word of God, ensuring that the message preached aligns with the timeless truths embedded in Scripture.

"Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste." – Isaiah 28:16

The prophet Isaiah, in the Scripture above spoke prophetically about the "stone" which the Lord GOD would lay in Zion, and I want you to observe the way this "stone" is described.

First, he refers to it as "a tried stone", secondly, he calls it "a precious corner stone", and then third, he refers to it as "a sure foundation".

Being a "tried stone" means it's been tested and proven; then as a "precious corner stone" it means it's the most important stone in the building; while as a "sure foundation" it means you can stake your life on it.

That's who Jesus is; He's the only true foundation upon which you should build your life.

That's why He said in Luke 6:47-49

"Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings and doeth them, I will show you to whom he is like: He is like a man who built a house and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. But he that heareth and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built a house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great". (KJV)

It matters the foundation upon which your life is built

The Bible says "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11), he is the true and firm foundation.

Make Him the foundation of your success today by employing the principles of His Word in all your dealings. That way, when contrary winds blow against you, you'll remain standing because you're found upon the Rock, Christ Jesus!

In the face of adversity, you'll be unshakable because on Christ the Solid Rock you stand.

Remember, the foundation is what makes the difference. Both houses in the illustration given by Jesus in Luke 6:47-49 were confronted by the same flood; but the one without foundations came to ruin. No wonder that songwriter wrote, "On Christ the Solid Rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand! All other ground is sinking sand."

Let Christ, the Solid Rock be the foundation and anchor of your life! Be a doer of God's Word, for that's how to build your life on the solid rock. That's what will keep you standing when all else fails. That's what will keep you on the solid foundation of success and prosperity all your life.

Stafford C Petersen

On behalf of my wife and I, we want to wish you and your family all the very best that God has instore for you. May you again be overwhelmed by His goodness and His Grace freely extended to you.

May you enter into 2024, with a fresh vigour and greater enthusiasm for the call that is upon your life. Stay true to the foundation.

God bless



THE DIVINE BLUEPRINT:

Understanding the Importance of Organization in the Church

Introduction

In the realm of faith and spirituality, the connection between the divine and earthly is profound. God, the infinite, and the intimate are powerful and personal, exhibiting organic and organized characteristics. As pastors and leaders within the church, it is crucial to recognize the significance of this divine dichotomy, for it provides us with invaluable insights and guidance on the organization of the church itself.



The Divine Creation and Organization

Consider the vast expanse of the night sky, adorned with countless stars that seem to have been carefully placed by a divine hand. These celestial bodies are a testament to God's artistry, forming patterns and constellations that we can precisely name and chart. This harmonious blend of artistry and organization is a powerful metaphor for understanding an organization's role in the church.

Organic Growth vs. Organized Expansion

We observe the difference between organic growth and organized expansion in the natural world. When a farmer scatters seeds randomly, he may yield a crop, but it will be limited in its potential. However, if that same farmer takes the time to organize and plant those seeds strategically, the crop's yield can increase exponentially, sometimes by 100 or more. This illustrates the importance of organization in maximizing potential and reaching a broader audience.





Many churches, like farmers with scattered seeds, start small and intimate. They begin as humble gatherings in living rooms with the simple comfort of a cup of coffee. These small beginnings are the seeds of a dream, representing the organic growth that characterizes the early stages of a church's life. These intimate settings allow deep connections and personal relationships to flourish.

God's Plan for the Church

However, examining the New Testament mandate and model, we find that God's plan for the church is not merely to remain small and intimate. Instead, it emphasizes growth and organization. It's about more than achieving a specific size, but everywhere, consistently reaching more people with the message of faith and love. In essence, God's plan for the church is to keep growing.

The Power of Organization in Ministry

Organization in the church does not compromise intimacy; it amplifies the church's impact and reach. By effectively organizing resources, ministries, and outreach efforts, a church can extend its reach far beyond possible with a disorganized approach. This managed expansion allows the church to serve more people, impact the community more, and fulfill its divine purpose.

Conclusion

Understanding the importance of organization in the church is essential for pastors and leaders who aspire to follow God's plan for their congregations. God's infinite and intimate nature is beautifully balanced by His sense of order and organization, as demonstrated in the heavens and the growth of crops. While every church begins with an intimate and organic foundation, its leaders must foster growth through organization, thus fulfilling the New Testament mandate to reach more people and continue expanding the Kingdom of God. In doing so, the church can embrace the infinite and intimate aspects of God's nature while effectively reaching out to an ever-widening circle of believers and seekers.



INTRODUCING THE

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF GOD MODER ATEUR

2023 - 2027



Front Row (L-R): Pastors T I Mufamadi, S C Petersen, R Pelser Back Row (L-R): Pastors D D Enslin and Pstor J A Calitz



INTRODUCING THE

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF GOD EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

2023 - 2027



Front Row (L-R): Pastors D D Enslin, T I Mufamadi, S C Petersen, R Pelser, J A Calitz Back Row (L-R): Pastors J D Lefu, Dr M Hobe, G (Ben) Moodley, Dr R B Mabasa, J Theron H T Kubayi, C Govender, N M Bowers and E J Moodley



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 2023

On the 11th September 2023, the Full Gospel Church of God, Southern African National Spiritual Conference began with a powerful Women's Conference.

Multitudes of people converged onto the beautiful suburb of Phoenix in the north of Kwazulu Natal, the Zulu Kingdom, to commence one of the most memorable weeks in our calendar. "When we come together in unity and agreement, there's such a presence of God that comes." Cindy Murdock - Any time women come together with a collective intention to glorify God, it is a powerful thing. The ululating sounds of joy echoed within the walls of Bethsaida Ministries International as we ushered in the presence of God with pure praise and worship. This would be our home for the week.

First Lady Nicolotte Petersen officially opened the Women's Conference welcoming all the women of God. The place was a diversified melting pot of love and respect for one another. The atmosphere was charged with electrifying unity in the spirit, that transcended race, colour, status or domicile. We were all one in Christ.

We were honoured to have with us, an anointed woman of God share the heart of The Father through His unadulterated word. Reverend Maxine Johnson was God's chosen vessel for our Women's Conference for both the 11th and 12th September. Rev Johnson felt the spirit of The Lord leap inside of her when our First Lady asked her to be our Women's Conference speaker. She knew that is was a God appointment and she readied herself for a mighty move of God.

What a conduit she was, the Heavens opened and a deluge of the Glory of God filled the sanctuary. Rev Johnson preached with fire and authority. She spoke into our spirits on the first night to Arise and go back to our Finished Assignments. The women of God were certainly challenged and encouraged to know that their dry seasons will not last forever. What an apt message from the Book of Ruth.

On the morning of the 12th September, the women of God came together again to experience another explosive manifestation of God's presence. Rev Maxine shared from John Chapter 4, the women at the well.





MARY'S SECRET A CHRISTMAS NARRATIVE

Ps Lucy David

Come join me, as we go back in the chronicles of time to when our Lord Jesus was a boy, doing things that all ordinary little boys do.

Let's imagine His mother Mary telling Him to do some chores around the house, or washing His hands before His meals, perhaps even scolding him for not listening the first time!

Mary watched with admiration as Jesus grew into a man. He worked alongside Joseph, His earthly father as an artisan of note. Cutting, sawing, sanding, nailing, chiseling and shaping wood in Joseph's workshop.

Their home was filled with love, laughter and the delicious smell of unleavened bread which Mary lovingly prepared for their daily meals. Unbeknown to most people, veiled in Mary's heart, lay a deliberate, carefully hidden secret. Her precious son who was born of the Holy Spirit came down to earth, to fulfil a heavenly mandate, a divine mission given by His heavenly Father. He was to willingly give His innocent life for mankind as an exchange.

Mary could not forget the words which the angel spoke to her. She would be the conduit through which the Christ-child would be born. (Luke 1:26-38) The ultimate was that He would give His life on a cross, shed His blood for the forgiveness of the sins of the whole world, thus opening a portal for estranged mankind to be reconciled to God! How it must have pained Mary knowing that Jesus immaculate birth and death on the cross, was not just an act of love, but a divine transaction!

A ransom was paid in exchange for the emancipation of mankind, from the chains of satan, and for the gift of eternal life. (John 3:16) According to holy writ, mothers will lament over their children in the days ahead. We see this as predominant in the world right now!



Lucy David

Crushed spirits, fear of the unknown, broken hearts, disturbed emotions are among the many things we're faced with daily in today's mainstream society. The question is echoed, "why, why, why?" The mind cannot comprehend God's plans and purposes. All we do know and believe, is that they are good, and that we have a glorious future, as we hold onto hope in Christ our Savior! (Jer. 29:11)

During this time of Christmas, when the world is "frenzied" with parties, holidays, extravagant shopping sprees and gatherings of sorts, let's take a few minutes to remember those families who've lost loved ones.

Let's spare a thought for those who will shed tears for the child who left "too soon", let's view the empty chair at the dinner table, let's scan the extra gift under the twinkling, beautifully decorated Christmas tree, as the pain of grief consumes us, mere mortals.

Friend, may I encourage you during this Holy season of "peace, and goodwill to all men", that a day of reconciliation is soon to dawn upon us. It will be a day like no other, of spectacular celebrations, as the heavens part and we behold the dance of a million twinkling stars, of the humming of the planets as they gracefully pass each other in full colour.

Our hearts will be filled with joy as we behold the grandeur of heaven. A splendor so amazing, which cannot even be imagined by our human minds!

This Christmas time, let hope fill our hearts, for the babe of Bethlehem is soon to return as rightful King, to take us to our rooms which He so masterfully created. Come look! There's a door with your name intricately "engraved in gold" on it!

Listen for God's voice reassuring you with these words, "welcome to eternity, you've fared well my good and faithful child"!

Mary's secret heralded a new dispensation. That of grace. God's free, merciful and unmerited love, when she birthed the Christ-child.

May the Spirit of the babe of Bethlehem surround you and rest within you, giving you comfort like no other. Here's wishing you and your loved ones a Joyous Christmas and a peaceful New Year!

(I dedicate this encouragement to the families who have lost children and loved ones during the year 2023).

Christmas carries so many beautiful memories and traditions especially growing up with my larger than life grandfather, Matthew David. He was big in size and even bigger on Christmas. Nostalgia sets in as I remember those old fashioned decorthat opened up in an accordion like manner and the main feature hung in the middle of the ceiling.

The crackling sound of the LP featuring Jim Reeves in his light yet rich baritone, singing "I'd rather have Jesus" played on the turntable. The conventional yet customary way of sending greetings were Christmas cards via the postal system. I remember helping him hang these cards on string that lapped the entire room.

What beautiful thoughts of my darling grandfather, my Thatha, as I affectionately called him, with his famous nutcracker, carefully cleaning the assortment of nuts and him sitting and waiting anxiously for the Christmas Carollers. What a palaver he made about giving them refreshments as they ended at our home every year. Whilst we absolutely love the spirit of Christmas, we have to understand that Christmas is not about how we celebrate, Christmas is about WHO we celebrate. We may not know the exact day Jesus was born, but we know the reason He was born. He came into the world to seek and to save that which was lost. The spirit of Christmas must be driven by the Spirit of Christ.

24 hour News is filled with such strife and anxiety. Is Covid back? What is the exchange rate? Will we recover economically? When will the war in the Middle East end?



Tragic accidents, unacceptable murders, the violation of home invasions, the trauma of hijackings, that is the order of the day in our world...

Well....things were somewhat similar on that night in the tiny town of Bethlehem when angels visited the shepherds. Israel was occupied by Roman soldiers. A godless, uncaring king sat upon the throne in Jerusalem. Tax collectors defrauded the people of their hard-earned and much-needed incomes. Disease and demon possession were everywhere. Hypocritical religious leaders had control of the worship. The earth itself was in spiritual darkness.

And in a lowly stable, the most beautiful miracle ever, was that human flesh was able to contain the God of all creation in the form of a baby. His birth brought the opportunity for a remarkable and eternal change to the lives of those willing to embrace the One born that night.

This Christmas, our goal is to embody and reflect the Spirit of Christ. We need to lift up our eyes and see beyond the hustle and bustle of this world and the, sometimes crazy period called the "Christmas season".

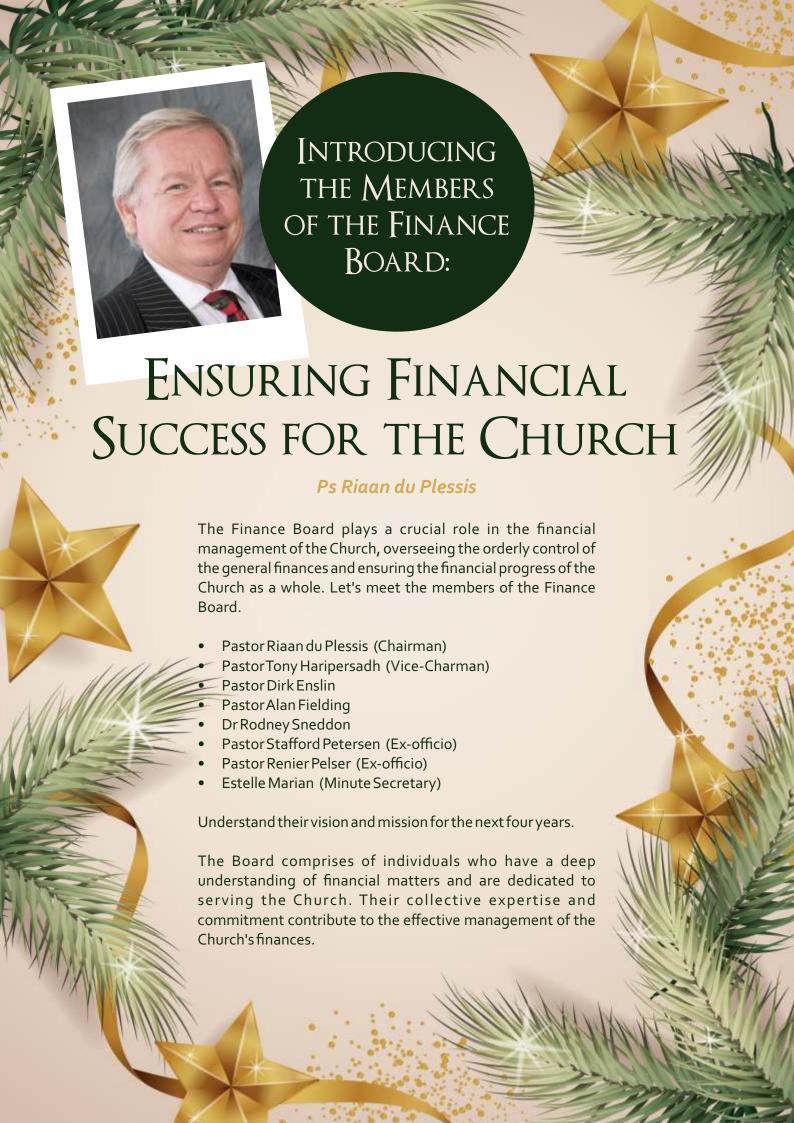
The Spirit of Christ lifts us from the mundane to the miraculous, from a pandemic to praise, from riots to rejoicing, from wars to worship. The True Spirit of Christmas should cause us to respond to the Spirit of Christ and accept the melodic invitation of, "O come let us adore Him." Christmas should cause us to pause on bended knee and gaze in wonder at the manner at which the love God was bestowed on us. This should leave us in awe of Him.

So while the headlines are calling for the cancellation of Christmas, or the orthodox way of celebration may be somewhat hindered, and the theological debate of whether or not we should be even celebrating Christmas, goes on and on, when the world is trying to shut Christ out of Christmas, it is our responsibility to emulate the Spirit of Christ.

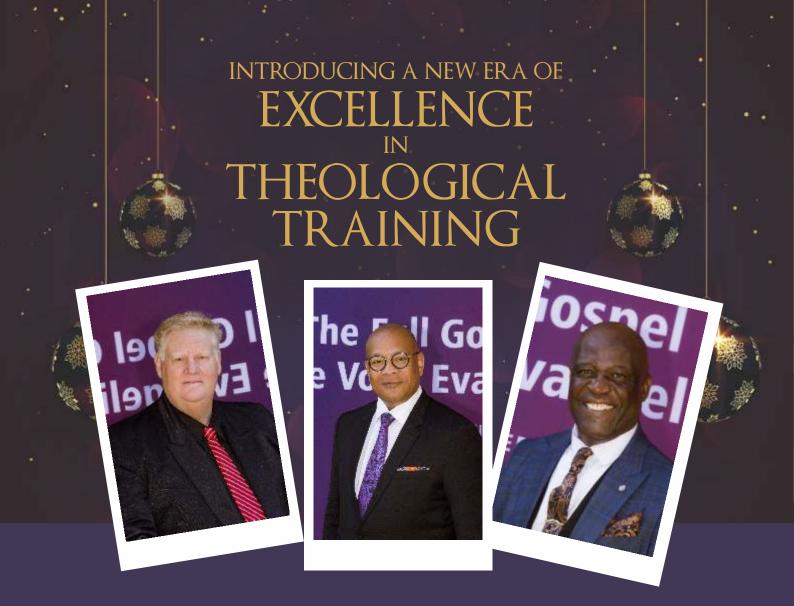
As the shepherds left the manger, they noised abroad about what they had heard and saw. They could not be quiet. Christmas is a time for voices to sing, for bells to ring, for Christians to bring to the world the message, "Unto to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord."

The spirit of Christmas presents us with a divine opportunity to say to someone "I have got news for you!" Jesus loves you, and that is why He came as a baby in a manger and died as the Saviour on a Cross for your sins and mine! In His First Coming, He came to the earth as a Lamb, in His Second Coming, make no mistake, He is coming as The Lion of the Tribe of Judah. So let us Live Ready!









The Board of Christian Education (B.C.E.) is tasked by the Executive Council with the vital role of overseeing education within the Full Gospel Church of God in S.A. Although the scope of this task is not limited only to the Full Gospel Church of God College, our beloved College requires our foremost attention at all times. It is the vision and mission of the B.C.E. to ensure that quality, Christ-centred, Pentecostal education is available for everyone who wishes to study at the Full Gospel Church of God College, more specifically so for those who wish to enter into the ministry of the Full Gospel Church of God in S.A.

As is well known, we are currently in the application process for accreditation with the Council for Higher Education (CHE). This proved to be a mammoth task, but we have many qualified and hard-working individuals that form part of the greater team. These exceptional people all want to see, in addition to our accreditation, our College excel in every necessary area. As chairman of the B.C.E. I am therefore very thankful to all our board members as well as all the facilitators and all other staff involved at the College.

The current College principal, Prof Irvin Chetty, along with his great team at the College is working tirelessly to ensure that all CHE requirements are adhered to as they are earnestly preparing for an expected site visit early in the New Year. Because of this process, a lot has changed at the College over the course of the past year. For example, at the beginning of the first semester of 2023, the College started with online evening classes for all our students. This was a huge step in the right direction as it speaks directly to the vital requirement of support for distance learning students. In addition the College also introduced a state of the art invigilation app that ensures quality examinations.

In closing, I want to assure you that our College is in good hands and on the right track. Please continue to pray for our College and all the wonderful people involved in taking it to new heights.

God Bless! Pastor Jacques Theron BCE Chairman



Dr Bubulu



Dr Jacobs



Dr Mabasa



Pastor A.S. du Plessis



Pastor J. Theron



Pastor N.G.M. van der Vlies



Pastor Swana



Prof Chetty

OPERATION COMPASSION SOUTH AFRICA (OCSA)

being the Welfare wing of the Full Gospel Church of God has much to Praise the Lord for.

VISION

"TO STRIVETOWARDS EMPOWERING OTHERS TO EFFECTIVELY IMPACT ON THE SOCIAL NEEDS OF SOCIETY."

The words that are of vital importance in the vision are "strive towards," "empowering others," "effectively impact" and "social needs of society."

MISSION

"WE UNDERTAKE TO ACHIEVE OUR VISION THROUGH DEVELOPING, MENTORING, MOTIVATING, SUPPORTING, AND CONSCIENTISING LOCAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH CARE INITIATIVES THAT PROVIDE FEEDING SCHEMES, JOB CREATION OPPORTUNITIES AND OTHER RELEVANT PARTNERSHIPS."

Our success is attributed to the commitment and dedication of numerous local churches and regions within the Full Gospel Church that engages in these much needed welfare initiatives on a continuous basis. Furthermore, regular Workshops and Training Seminars are conducted by our Director Pastor Les Sanabria. This has proved to be very effective in empowering local churches and regions in welfare ministry. All Praise and Glory goes to our Lord Jesus Christ for their ministry in the local communities.

The National Welfare Board consists of:

- PastorTony Haripersadh (Chairman)
- Pastor Dirk Enslin (Deputy Chairman)
- Pastor Les Sanabria (Director)
- Pastor Frank Booysen
- Sister Michelle Narayan
- Sister Lindah Masinge
- Sister Noma Sejake
- Pastor Simon Iver



From left to right front:
Sister Lindah Masinge, Sister Michelle Nurayan, Pastor Les Sanabria,
and Sister Noma Sejake
From Left to Right back:
Pastor Renier Pelser (Secretary General) Pastor Dirk Enslin, Pastor Tony

Harripersadh, Pastor Stafford Petersen (Moderator) and Pastor Simon Iyer.

Absent: Pastor Frank Booysen

WHO IS THE BOARD

PASTOR R. (TONY) HAR IPER SADH - CHAIR PER SON

Was a former Accounting Officer for the Department of Social Development in KZN Natal. After leaving that position he entered the ministry and now pastors Agape Christian Fellowship in Phoenix, north of Verulam, in Natal. He is a person who leads by example and during the drought in Natal, secured 75,000 litres of water for the Vryheid area of Natal. Each week he has an evangelistic outreach linked to a feeding scheme to the informal settlement near his local church. Prior to him becoming our current chairperson, he initially served as the Treasurer of our Council. As a person he has a firm but loving disposition not allowing anything to dishearten him.

PASTOR DIRK ENSLIN- DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

As the Senior Pastor of the Brits assembly Pastor Dirk has initiated the Royal Kids Programme which cares for children in need. As the Third Deputy Moderator he is also learning to take over the role as our next welfare director.

PASTOR LES SANABRIA - SECRETARY

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Has been the Director of programmes and Residence Secretary of the Johannesburg YMCA, as well as the founder of New Nation School, a special needs school for street children. He is a current member of Section 11 Committee for Older Persons and Disability of S.A.H.R.C. and our incumbent welfare director.

SISTER MICHELLE NUR AYAN

Her husband is currently a presiding elder of one of our churches whilst she is the CEO and Business MD of a company dealing with medical matters. She is able to provide us with insight into current health trends. At present Sister Michelle is the Treasurer of our Council.

PASTOR FRANK BOOYSEN

Is the local pastor of our Dinwiddie assembly and is the Chairperson of the S.A.V.F. East Rand as well as our own Ebenhaeser Old Age Home

SISTER LINDAH MASINGE

Is the wife of Pastor Masinge of our Chiawelo Soweto assembly. As an employee of S.A.R.S. she is able to ensure that we as a Council adhere to the rules and regulations as prescribed by the State when dealing with donations. She also operates a feeding scheme.

SISTER NOMA SEJAKE

It is stated in the Bible that he who does not work must not eat. To make this happen people need to have skills and it is here that Sister Noma as the C.O.O. of P.R.A.S.A. SETA is able to provide guidance to teach young people these skills.

PASTOR SIMON IYER

He is the newest member of our Council and is the senior pastor of our Bayview assembly in Durban. Currently he is operating a daily feeding scheme from his local assembly.

NETWORKING-PARTICIPATE WITH OTHER STRUCTURES IN THE SECTOR.

OCSA is involved in the Gauteng and Johannesburg structures of the National Welfare Social Services Development Forum. Our director currently serves as the chairperson of the Gauteng Provincial structure as well as its Johannesburg branch.

COMMUNICATION TO THE LOCAL CHURCHES

This has been dealt with via the office of the Secretary General and articles written by the national director have been placed on our website and our Facebook pages. On a more personal level our director conducts regional and local workshops.

FUNDRAISING

FOOD SUPPLIES

Retail stores throughout the country continue to support localised projects. The chief donor is Woolworths and annually our director is required to furnish branches in Durban and Nelspruit with certified copies of our NPO certificate to ensure that that our local societies are able to assist the poor.

One of our welfare societies has initiated a fundraising weekend which includes a fun run and a cycling race linked to an ecumenical service. Our director was able to attend the awards ceremony for the winners of the cycling race.

B.B.B.E.E. DONATIONS

This is operated through the office of our director and all business persons can benefit as well as make use of the services provided through the church and also receive tax relief for all their donations. One of the most recent benefits to OCSA is a solar heating system for our children's home in Fichardt Park. OCSA as a result of its status is therefore a vital tool in providing qualifying projects with funding.

CORPORATE DONORS

As a result of the Covid 19 pandemic it has not been possible to do effective fundraising. However without naming or forgetting to name a donor I would like to thank all those who have assisted us.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Fichardt Park – Bloemfontein

The local welfare society has been instrumental in developing 2 child and youth care centres which at present have 19 children but has the capacity to accommodate 20 children. Professional staff such as a clinical psychologist and a social worker have been appointed.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Local churches are realising the need to be more involved in the care of the community.

Food relief amounting to over 1000 meals a day was given to poverty stricken people in the Galvandale area.

The Parys Welfare Society has developed a very positive relationship with local businesses in their area and as a result local farmers are delivering dairy products as well as vegetables for their feeding scheme.

VAT recovery claimed on behalf of projects through our head office has increased to over R130, 000 for every two months. This has been ploughed back into the projects.

BENEFICIARY SATISFACTION

In attempting to provide a summary of what is being done by the church it is acknowledged that the statistics continue to relate largely to the reports from local churches that are participating and cooperating with our national department. Whilst not mentioned specifically it has been noted that poverty and our feeding schemes have revealed a continued increase in substance abuse which has a major negative impact in that more women and children are experiencing sexual abuse. As an organisation we do expect an increase in poverty figures during the next few years bearing in mind that there is an ongoing trend to retrench people in all sectors of the economy. At the present moment we have a 34% unemployment rate. In looking to the future we have noted that there has been an increase in number and intensity of natural disasters. From a demographic perspective we have noted that more floods are affecting parts of KZN, Eastern Cape, Gauteng and Western Cape. At the same time we have noted increased drought patterns in Northern Cape, Free State, Limpopo, KZN and the Eastern Cape with its dams serving the Nelson Mandela Metro at less than 20% capacity.

Xenophobia and fires in informal settlements and townships based on the lack of service delivery by the State are issues that have also impacted on our ministry to marginalised communities.

NATIONAL PROFILE OF WELFARE PROJECTS UNDER OPERATION COMPASSION SOUTH AFRICA

Feeding Schemes	224	514265
Counselling	53	5569
Medical Support	26	65200
Job Creation	46	465
Older Persons	21	6404
HIV	25	2288
Creche	32	1552
3/Children Youth Development	13	5469
Computer/Literacy	8	515
Total	448	601727









BBBEE RATIO OF PROJECTS

Black		White	
194	4442277	30	71988
46	4902	7	667
22	55169	4	10031
38	372	8	93
18	5489	3	915
21	1922	4	366
28	1273	4	279
11	4628	2	841
7	451	1	64
385	516483	63	85244
86.24%		13.76%	

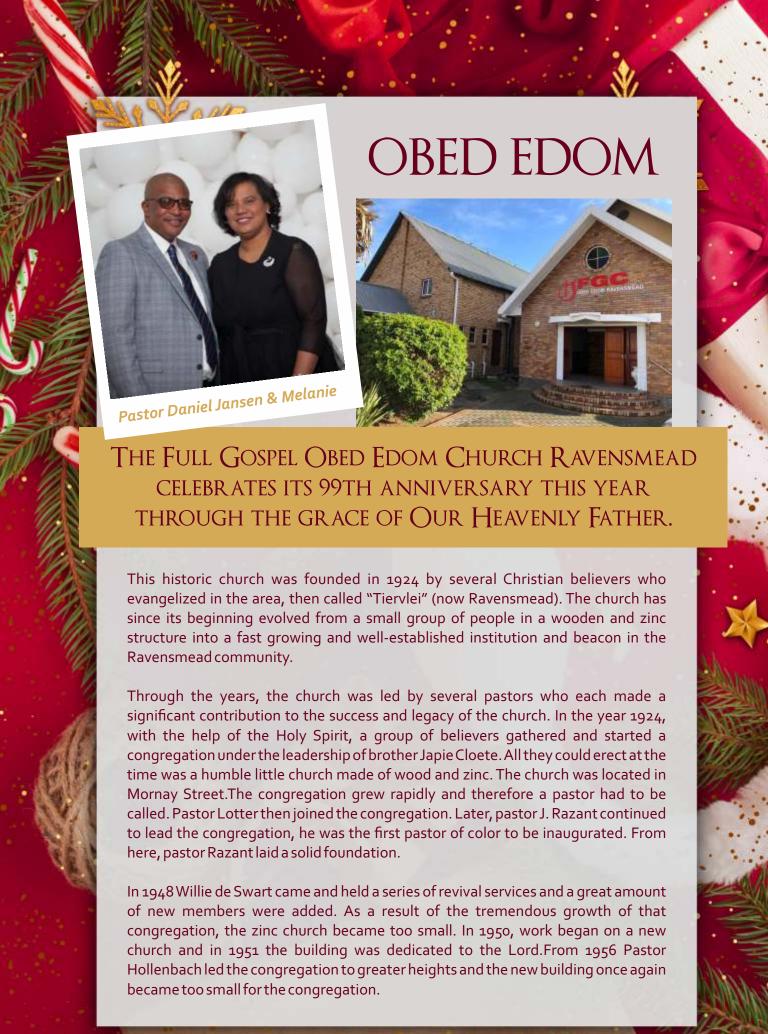




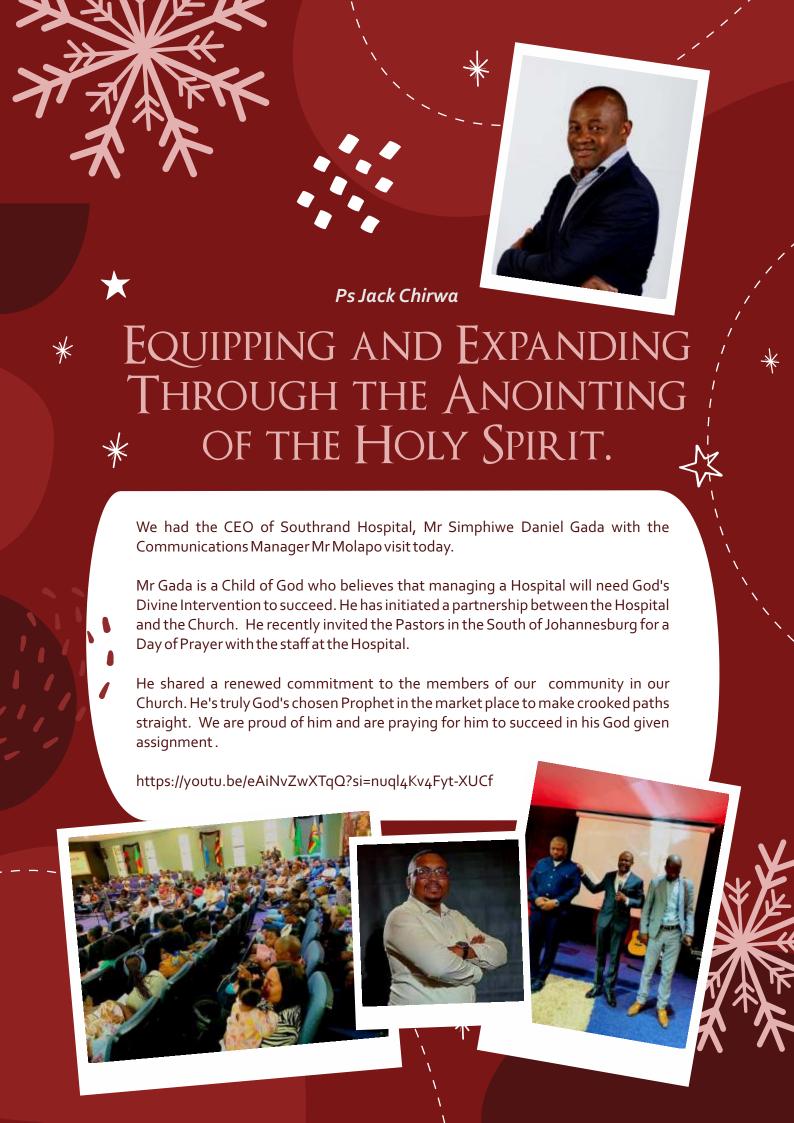
















But what they did not realize was, as a Savior He was more interested in taking theirs and the sins of the world upon Him. The description of His assignment reminds us that He meets us in our sin, but His purpose is to be our Savior. The wages of sin is death, Jesus saved us from the PENALTY of sin. The desire of sin is to have power over us, but we have the authority to rule over it {Gen. 4:7}. Jesus saves us from the POWER of sin. And finally, he saves us from the PRESENCE of sin through His redeeming blood.

As Bible believing Christians, we are looking beyond calculations of the exact date of Christ's birth. Our walk with God starts with our faith, believing in the historical and divine birth of Jesus Christ. That He is the Son of man, God with us. That He is the Savior King. His birth is not a celebration on a particular day, it is a daily walk of faith in victory over sin.

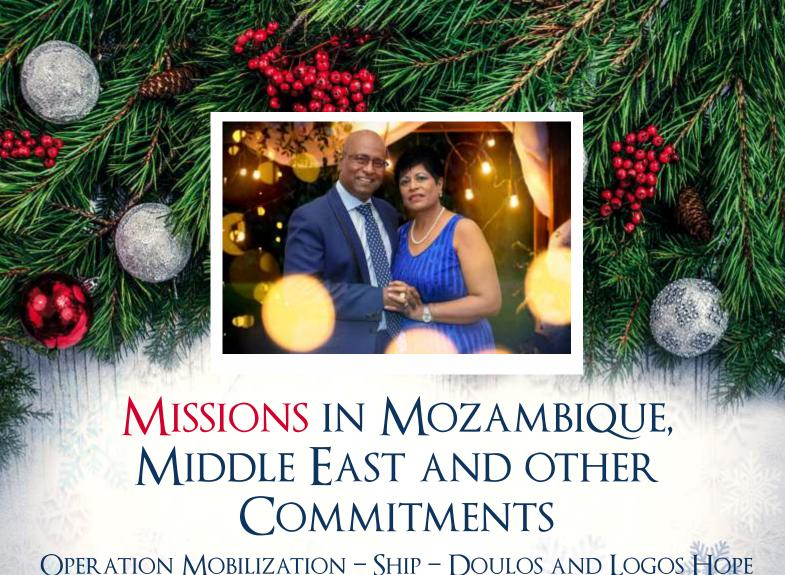
The relationship between mankind and God was so important to God, in that the only way that He had foreseen this relationship to be restored, was to bring His son down here, God among mankind. No one can take the place of another to atone for their sin. He was born without sin. The feast of Tabernacles is the third Jewish festival which God commanded. The annual pilgrimage in which the Jewish people remembers God's provision in the wilderness. It is also to look to the promised Messianic age when all the nations will flow to Jerusalem to worship the Lord. At the time of Jesus' birth Joseph and Mary were taking this journey to Jerusalem. Mary carried the promise of the Messiah on that pilgrimage in her womb.

And I cannot begin to try and anticipate the emotions they felt on that journey. Everyone around them was so rushed and occupied with their thoughts to get the best places to stay, that they did not even care to offer to assist a pregnant woman on this tiring journey.

The sacrificial blood of animals to atone for mankind's sins is no longer needed. He was proclaimed to have come and to take away the sin of the world. To Mary the Angel said, in {Luke 1:31 – 33} "You will conceive and bear a son, and you will call him Jesus." From the thirty second verse he was proclaimed to be the son of the Highest. He came from his heavenly kingdom and was seated on the throne of David. His kingdom, the angel said, will have no end. We must embrace the birth of the Son of man and the divine purpose of His birth among mankind. His birth navigates us on our way back to God.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father Prince of Peace." {Isa.9:6}





OPERATION MOBILIZATION - SHIP - DOULOS AND LOGOS HOPE

Living Waters Church Durban – Pastor Christian Kisten

We have been the hosting church for the previous visit of Logos Hope. During dry dock, the school for the children was held at our Church. We have a very close association with Operation Mobilization and Dave and Joy Skinner are now members of our Church. We will be hosting the Logos Hope when she arrives sometime in the near future. We have always given our vehicles to line up teams since the 90's, having housed many missionaries in our home and in our Church.

MISSIONS TO MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES

This information is confidential to protect our Missionaries abroad. If exposed, they may be deported. So, unfortunately, their names or the area that they are in has to be kept a secret. Names and places may be changed if there is a publication.

Kerry Sprunt and Nadine Moonsamy are being sponsored by our Church to serve in this area. The Population is 5 million, with a very small percentage of Christians.

Currently, the Lord is moving in a miraculous way and staunch religious people are giving their lives to Jesus. This is the 3rd year that these Missionaries are in the Middle East. The Russians also have a presence there with the Russian Orthodox Church being in operation but is highly regulated. Kerry is teaching the locals skills to make and sell products and is reaching many people that way. Nadine is teaching English and has been adopted by a local family. We are so excited to see staunch people coming to the Lord.

MOZAMBIQUE

Living Waters Church has been sending food, toys and various other items to Mozambique. Currently, we are in the process of building ablution facilities in the Village, where we live, when we go on Mission trips to Mozambique. We have sent a team to oversee the buildings. They arrived back on the 19 March 2023. We contributed R32 000 towards these facilities.

We work particularly in the Gaza province and service 4 villages, namely: -

Nyansambeni Eteteni Salaveni Chongeni

We will be there at the end of July 2023 to erect 4 play pens in the 4 villages. All the swings and other equipment is already made and will be transported in kits that we will erect at these 4 Villages for the children, who have never had this type of entertainment.

KERR HOUSE – THE DURBAN HOSPICE FOR WOMEN (ABUSED)

We have taken them as one of our 'commitments' so we sponsor them regularly. We distributed shoes and gave groceries to the facility on the 12 March 2023. Lynn Pienaar, is the person that we are in contact with.

Impilo - Pastor Lez

We are actively involved with Impilo, a Mission organization that hosts all its meetings at our Church. We have very close ties with them.

House of Life - Petra Luna

Petra Luna is a member of our Church but she is unable to attend our services because she has services in Peking Street in Durban (notorious for drugs and prostitution). We have members of our Church working there and we fully support the organization.

Christmas meals are provided by our church, to at least 400 – 500 people annually. We supply all clothing and blankets for the winter months. Petra ministers to the downtrodden and the people that are literally on the streets. We are the responsible Church for that Mission outreach.

FEEDING THE HOMELESS/ WOOLWORTHS.

Every Tuesday, we feed the Homeless at our Church. These people are literally off the streets. We provide them with blankets and shoes. We also make approximately 30 food hampers that is donated by Woolworths every Friday. This week Wednesday, 22 March 2023, we will be baptizing 10 of these homeless people who have committed their lives to Jesus. Maria van Niekerk will be doing the baptism at the Blue Lagoon.

THE NEST - A SHELTER

Our Church is actively engaged with The Nest, regularly supplying them with Bibles, food etc

BRIADENE INFORMAL SETTLEMENT

We conduct services at this settlement and supply them with food and clothing on a regular basis.

HOSPITALS - KING GEORGE AND ADDINGTON HOSPITAL

We have adopted these 2 hospitals. The above Hospital Outreach Programs consist of Praying, Distributing of Bibles and New Born Baby hampers at the Maternity Wards for underprivileged Moms. The teams also go through all general wards ministering, praying, and distributing Bibles to the sick. At any visit, we distribute approximately 200 Bibles, regularly bought from the Bible Society.

ABANDONED BABY HOME - RAY OF HOPE

Over the years LWC has adopted to support the Ray of Hope Abandoned Baby Home. Twice a year we donate Baby items to the Value of R5000. This includes baby food, nappies, clothing, and toys. We take the opportunity to spend time playing with the abandoned babies and praying for them.

These are some of the ministries that we are engaged in, outside of the walls of our building. I am so grateful to you Pastor as we sometimes need someone to know what we as a Church are doing.











Dr Raymond Lombard, bekende plaaslike Leraar van die Volle Evangelie Kerk van God in SA Parow gemeente, het onlangs sy Ph.D suksesvol voltooi aan die Noordwes Universiteit se Missiologie (Sendingwetenskap) Fakulteit, Potchefstroom Kampus. Prof. Flip Buys was sy studieleier in die navorsing oor die impak van die Formele en Informele Teologiese opleiding aan die hand van die "Wheels for God's Word" en "Word on Wheels" modelle. Klem was gelê op die Kerk se Mission Dei opdrag kragtens Mattheüs 28:19.

Dr Lombard se 28 jaar betrokkenheid met opleiding in die wêreld en veral in Afrika, is daar waardevolle navorsing inligting bekom wat die opleiding van ongeveer 93% onopgeleide of onvoldoende opgeleide Leraars tot voordeel sal strek. Dr Raymond dien op die Afrika Raad van die Church of God World Missions en is ook die Direkteur vir Evangelisasie en Kerkplanting in 44 lande vir Church of God World Missions, Cleveland, Tennessee, V.S.A.

Dr Lombard is in 1960 in Zimbabwe gebore. Sy ouers verhuis na Suid Afrika en die meeste van sy kinderdae bring hy deur in die Oos Rand. Na sy Vloot opleiding het hy eers 'n ambag, as Diesel Elektro Tegniese Passer voltooi by die S A Spoorweë waarna hy 'n Teologiese kwalifikasie bekom. Hy het alreeds 14 boeke geskryf waarvan sommige vertaal is in verskeie tale. Berea Teologiese Universiteit Kollege in Zambia maak dikwels van hom gebruik as gas lektor.

Die Volle Evangelie Kerk, Lewende Woord, Parow gemeente, spreek hulle gelukwensing uit teenoor Dr Lombard met die suksesvolle voltooiing van sy Ph.D. (Missiologie) by Noordwes Universiteit.





EMBRACING THE GIFT OF THE LOVE OF GOD

"She will give birth to a Son, and you shall name Him Jesus (The Lord is salvation), for He will save His people from their sins."

(Matt1:21).

Have you ever noticed that a gift in many instances, comes encased up in some decorative wrap? One would never enjoy the gift without first uncovering to see what it really is. Also, whenever you are to give someone a gift, you plan and think well in advance as to what it is that you want to bless the person with. Additionally, in the planning (thought) process, you would wish that the recipient be satisfied, enjoy to the fullest and be happy about the gift (the aim).

To me the birth of Jesus is unwrapping the gift of God. It is about embracing the full package- His Divine plan. I learn that embedded within the Divine package is — Christ the Hope of Glory, The Prince of Peace. "For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you, says the Lord, plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster, to give a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11). When our Heavenly Father planned good about mankind He came down through the womb of the virgin Mary to give the precious, unperishable seed, the Saviour, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

"A child has been born for us. We have been given a son who will be our ruler. His names will be Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God, Eternal Father and Mighty God, Eternal Father and Prince of Peace. His power will never end; peace will last for ever... The Lord All-Powerful will make certain that all of this is done "(Isaiah 9:6-7). Why don't we then embrace this perfect plan in its totality so as to partake of the peace that transcends all understanding and Glorify the Name of the Lord. We are blessed to be a blessing!

In the process of preparing this piece of writing, I was reminded of how our curriculum, pre-1994, in South Africa, was designed. In our Foundation Phase Sub A classrooms, first thing in the first period we would recite some biblical passages amongst which would be the one extracted from Matthew 2:6. A definite and obvious question that would be posed thereafter would be about the names of gifts that the wise men brought to honor the born king. Almost all the learners of that era know those rich gifts by heart. "And after entering the house, they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, after opening their treasure chests, they presented to Him gifts [fit for a King, gifts] of gold, frankincense, and myrrh" (Matt 2:11, AMP).

It is not about the quality nor the quantity of the gifts that I pray we focus on. Instead, what stood out significantly is the attitude of a thankful heart that demonstrated reverence and appreciation of the Gift. In essence we are reminded of our first Love. We used to pang after souls to come and embrace the Love of God.

Be intentional in being generous this coming Christmas. As we navigate through the lines of this article, may the Grace of God enable us to yield to the Holy Spirit right now in the Name of Jesus to be zealous to do good to others. May the Grace of God enable us to embrace the Gift of our Generous God who freely gave to us this Great Gift of abundant life. May we be enabled to adopt the attitude of Praise, Worship and Thanksgiving in a way we have never demonstrated before.

In conclusion, as it has been revealed to us that God has freely given us the complete plan of Love, Mercy, Grace, Holy Spirit, ...let us embrace the gift by giving and sharing His saving Grace to others to bring the Peace, Hope and Abundant life to them as well.

MAY YOU EXPERIENCE TRANQUILITY AND SUPERNATURAL JOY THIS CHRISTMAS.

GRACE ABOUND!



Full Gospel Church of God in SA Spiritual Conference

























































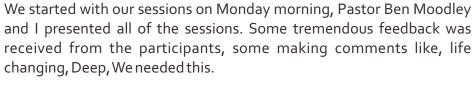


MSC PASTORAL MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER 2023





The cruise started on Sunday Evening 26th November with a most amazing dinner. The excitement was high from our 30 couples and we sensed that some good was coming.





These comments warmed our hearts tremendously because it is exactly what we were hoping to hear.

One couple in particular came up and confessed to a strained relationship with another Pastor present, they celebrated the reconciliation of that relationship onboard. We can only thank The Lord for allowing deep, real conversations to happen. Tuesday we enjoyed the beautiful weather and rather warm ocean water on the Pomene Island.



On Thursday morning we concluded our sessions with Holy Communion and the renewal of our Marriage commitments to our spouses. We enjoyed a song written by Pastor Nishan Rooplal that he wrote for his wedding day but never had the opportunity to sing it until that Thursday.

We stood amazed as Pastor Kubayi and Pastor Mashakeni whipped out new wedding rings for their wives and renewed their vows.

This was truly a blessing from The Lord. Most of our couples, requested the new 2024 dates, they wanted this to be an annual event.

TESTIMONIALS



We give God all the praise and honor for granting us the Grace to be part of the enriching, fulfilling experience in the MSC SPLENDIDA. The beauty and splendor took me back to wondering how it must have been in Noah's ark that was patterned according to God's specifications. The details that was unique to each room were so amazing.

Also, the profound words of our Moderator "You are safe with me" when we were partaking of the Holy Communion, stood out significantly for me. That blood is thicker than water, and therefore I cannot speak badly about my spouse, my family, my brethren, my church and everyone else that I break bread with.

What a deep revelation knowledge this is to me!

More GRACE and WISDOM, our Moderator!

DrThandiwe Bubulu

"Ohhh what a great time we had at the Pastoral marriage encounter Cruize!! A flexible program that allowed us to tour the ship and service our marriages at the same time.

Remember you can't give what you do not have, now after the phenomenal session we had from Bishop Stafford Petersen and Dr Gabriel Moodley we going to be an overflowing stream! Thank you team, can't wait for the next one"

Pastor Dennis & Keletso Blok





"Morning everybody, arrived home safely last night, but let's be honest I did warn you even before about the food that would be too much. We are very appreciative to the leadership for having chosen the cruise as the venue of the encounter, and I am of the opinion that we do it again in the same fashion."

"Thnx to everyone involved to make this boatcruze an absolute memorable experience. Our Moderator and Dr. Ben's presentations were spot on and practical. Everybody else; You are so special and be blessed"







"What a cruise!!! It will be difficult to mention one individual because I may make a mistake of omitting others. To sum it up thanks a million to the leadership of our church. I am proud of you especially the way you display the spirit of oneness. Your thoughtfulness in coming up with such memorable lectures!!! Keep it up!!! It was excellent!!!"







"This sea cruise with a Pastoral Marriage Encounter at the core, heralds yet another epoch-making tradition in the Full Gospel Church. For this cutting-edge initiative, our Moderator and the Secretary General must be commended, together with the excellent support of Mrs Christine Langely"

"Hierdie vergadering op een van die mooiste kruis-skippe het ons nog 'n ander geleentheid gegee om ons saam te bring. Die geselskap was spesiaal en ons ken mekaar a bietjie beter"





"May our dear Lord bless these newly forged relationships as we charter ahead in the power of the Holy Spirit as yeast and salt to influence our nation with its challenges and opportunities"

"Asifuni ukukhuluma ngezindawo zokudla. Kwakuhle kakhulu nezenzo ezahlukene zokudla. But we have to mention the deep conversations with our Moderator and pastoral colleagues. Ons waardeer hierdie kosbare aanleiding"











Please prayerfully consider if you would like to join us in 2024. Send us your name.

God bless you all, Pastor Stafford Petersen.

















