



THE UNITING
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
IN SOUTHERN
AFRICA

20th December 2021

Let's Journey Together (LJT) (2/2021)

TO ALL IN THE UPCSA

Dear Fellow Presbyterians,

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Corinthians 12: 9-10NIV)

Compliments of the Festive Season.

On behalf of the leadership of the UPCSA, I write to commend and congratulate you for holding firm to your faith and daring to hope, even when everything said NO. You did so, trusting not in your might. On our own, we are weak and frail. But Christ, who strengthens us, has been our pillar. His power has been made perfect in our weakness and when we were weak, we were strong.

We are coming to the end of 2021. It is needless for me to state how challenging the year has been. We are grateful to God that we remained afloat and the UPCSA continued to be a missional church. Thank you to technology, we were able to achieve the following, among others:

- The General Assembly was held successfully in June 2021, and important resolutions were taken.
- We journeyed together with the leadership of the Presbyteries through the monthly consultations. The consultations served as information sharing sessions that have been used for communication and for strengthening the officials of the Presbyteries. They were also used to drive the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly.
- We held the meetings of the Conveners of the General Assembly Committees, and the GA Committees held their meetings successfully.
- We held webinars to address important issues for church and society, especially gender justice, and health and wellness issues.
- The Gender Desk conducted roadshows to the Presbyteries to assist the Presbyteries in establishing/strengthening the Desks.
- Two memorial lectures were conducted in honour of the late Rev Prof Vuyani S Vellem.
- We conducted an unprecedented 24-hour prayer marathon whereby the UPCSA was united in prayer and fasting.
- We came together in a memorial service to remember our fallen members. We were surprised by a high number of the Presbyterians who have passed on since the outbreak of COVID-19 in March 2020 (but not all COVID-19 related deaths). This afforded the Moderator of the General Assembly an opportunity to comfort those who were still grieving the loss of their loved ones.
- The UPCSA was represented in meetings of the ecumenical partners and ecumenical forums.
- The revival services were held and the worship services by different congregations were shared.