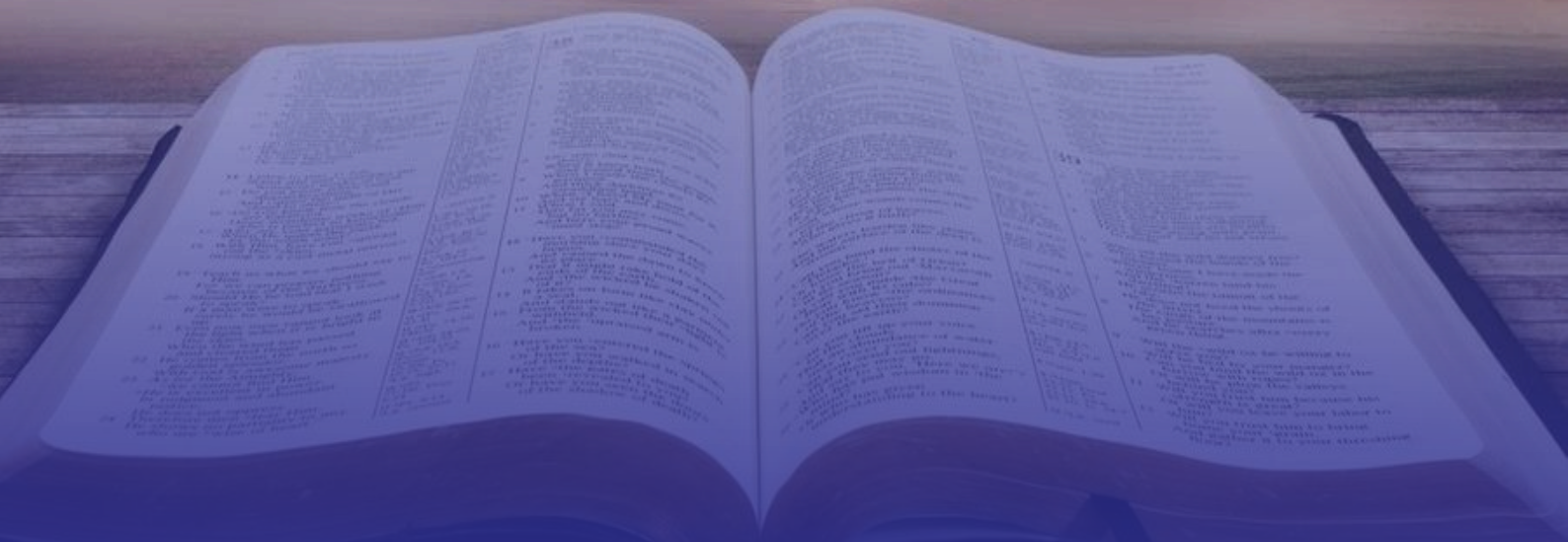




THE UNITING  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
IN SOUTHERN  
AFRICA



MAY 2024

*Edition*

## PRESBYTERIAN LINK

Linking All Presbyterians together

Website



[www.unitingpresbyterian.org](http://www.unitingpresbyterian.org)

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UPCSA

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@upcsa1999



**Rt Rev Lydia Neshangwe: Moderator of General Assembly**

## The Ultimate Confidence Booster

Everyone needs a confidence booster - even the successful, the popular, and the wealthy. This is because we live in a world that is full of confidence-killers:

- Confidence-killers in our families such as, the critics, the mockers, the ridicule masters.
- Confidence-killers in our workplaces such as, the competition, the conflict, the sarcastic, the up-and-coming.
- Confidence-killers in our lives such as, the rat race, the comparisons, the lack.
- Confidence-killers in our relationships such as rejection, opposition, betrayal, abuse.
- Confidence killers on social media such as, the show-offs and the show-ups.
- Confidence-killers in our own minds such as, feelings of inadequacy, inferiority, insecurities, low self-esteem, impostor syndrome.
- 

- Confidence-killers even in our churches such as, the superior, the judgemental, the arrogant and the degraders of others.

For every confidence killer we face, we need a confidence booster. Unfortunately there are no lasting and ultimate confidence boosters in our pharmacies or home remedies. However, the best confidence booster is available to you. Peter found it on the day of Pentecost when he suddenly raised his voice and spoke up and said:

“Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit on all people.’ (Acts 2:14-16)

Peter’s confidence booster came in the form of a non-tangible tonic called the Holy Spirit! When this tonic came upon Peter, he took on the kind of confidence that he had never imagined he was capable of. He rose up, picked up his head, raised his shoulders, looked at the crowd of scoffers, projected his voice, and spoke confidently to them.

He spoke boldly though he knew that the crowds were criticizing the manifestation of the Spirit on the believers as they were speaking in various tongues.

The Holy Spirit tonic is available to you too this Pentecost season. But not for your own benefit only; it is given for the benefit of God’s kingdom purposes. So pick yourself up, dust up your disappointed heart, raise up your once

troubled mind, shake off your shattered dreams, and take your place where God has placed you. Push back your shoulders, raise your head, lift up your voice and speak life into your context and into your surroundings. Let the Holy Spirit boost you and take over your mode of operation, so that you will be used by God for the revival that you need, and for the revival that is needed for our times, the revival for our people, the revival for our needs.

The type of confidence and boldness that you need is available from one supplier only - the Holy Spirit. Do not let yourself be bullied by the devil – ask God for the confidence booster of them all. You will not even recognize yourself because the confidence and boldness that you will have for the kingdom purposes of God will be amazing.

**Commercial break:**

The Holy Spirit confidence booster is here!

- How much?** For free.
- How to get it?** All you have to do is desire it and then ask for it.
- From where?** From God.
- Available when?** Now!
- Delivery fee?** None. Already paid for on the cross.
- Benefits?** You will do great things for the Kingdom of God.
- Who is eligible?** You.

The effects of God’s confidence booster are that, like Peter:

- you will bloom in whatever personality God has given you
- you will be purpose-filled, not fear-filled
- you will make decisions based on your mission rather than on your inhibition

- you will learn to speak more deliberately and clearly
- you will let go of the shame that holds you back
- you will walk tall with an attitude of purpose not of pride
- you will declutter your mind from the negative voices
- you will gain knowledge about new things daily from the Holy Spirit

Receive your confidence booster as your Pentecost gift and together let’s start a fire – the fire of a revival. With you as a key agent. With you boldly doing the thing that you know God wants you to do in His kingdom.



**Bro. Benny Boshielo:**  
**Convener:** Communications  
**Committee**

Editorial

Once more, we are happy to present the May Edition of the Presbyterian Link to you. This Edition is released at a time when our Denomination is preparing for the 2024 Executive Commission. It also come at a time when in South Africa the country has just gone through yet another peaceful election. This, particularly exciting because the church, and many of our Ministers in the UPCSA

were playing an important role of being observers in these elections. It gives us pride, as we thank God, that we too as a church was seen playing this civic duty in the lives of God's people.

We are also alive to the fact that during this month of June, we, inter alia commemorate the **International Day of innocent children victims of aggression**", observed on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June. This is the day to remind all of us about children living in situations of war across the globe who are facing unspeakable horrors. As we remember this day, we remain shocked by the following harrowing statistics released by the United Nations Secretary General Annual report on Children and armed conflict.

- Over 8,630 children were killed or maimed.
- 7,622 children were recruited or used.
- 3,985 children were abducted.
- 1,166 children were victims of sexual violence.
- 3,931 incidents of denial of humanitarian access.
- 1,846 incidents in schools and hospitals.

The Presbyterian Link team put these harrowing statistics for all of us to see, so that we can continue to pray for peace in the areas where we live, in our countries, the continent and the world. This is the blessed generation, that God loves, and who are the future of the universe. Similarly, the month of June celebrates the Day of Parents. As we remember this day about the fate of our children in situations of war, we are also called upon to the good parents. We encourage all parents to be good parent as good

parenting is central and a critical component of our Christian faith.

The third Sunday of June is also what the world celebrate as Father's Day. Father's Day is the time to honor all that fathers do for their children. Many people observe this by showing their appreciation with cards, a special meal or just some quality time as a family. We too as a Christian family, let us spend this day in a Christ like manner, showing love to one another and indeed giving thanks to God for affording us the best of fathers. We sometimes do not see these blessings at a time when we should.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2024, we celebrated Pentecost Sunday. Christians all over the world gathered wherever they were to commemorate this gift of the Holy Spirit. In this Edition, we carry an article written by Rev James Lungu, titled 'The importance of Pentecost for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century believer'. This article was first presented in the Faith Clinic series organized by the Fellowship of Men, Synod of Zambia. We hope that this article will shed more insight into what Pentecost mean to us as Christians.

Similarly, Rev Theo Groenevald will in this edition share with us the outcome of the **Inspire Conference 2024** held on the 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024. This conference always enriches our minds with ideas to grow the church and is attended by a wide range of Christians in our Denomination.

June being a Youth month in South Africa, we wish our young people an exciting month which is spirit-filled and spirit-driven. We therefore invite you, our loyal reader, to journey with us in this Edition of our newsletter. As our motto and pay



off line dictates, we inform, we educate, and we engage. We continue to link all Presbyterians together.

Once more, thank you to all the contributors in this Edition. We become even more stronger as a Denomination as we share our work together.

May the Good Lord favor you with an abundance of Blessings as you share in this edition.



**Rev, Dr Lungile Mpetsheni:**  
**General Secretary**

### UPCSA Exercising a Prophetic Witness to Christ

The second part of the vision of the UPCSA states that the reconciled community of Christians should exercise “a prophetic witness to Christ”. So much work needs to be done by way of defining what is implied by “prophetic witness”, who should exercise a “prophetic witness”, when and in what circumstances the “prophetic witness” is called for. The answers to the questions

are not difficult and are not hidden. They lie in the knowledge of Jesus Christ holding an office of a prophet, as much as he also held the offices of a royalty and priesthood. Jesus Christ as a prophet anchored his witness on Isaiah 61: 1-2, as recorded in Luke 4: 18-19,

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.

The Kairos Document 1985 discussed state theology, church theology and prophetic theology. In the document, it was stated clearly that state theology and church theology worked to defend the status quo and did not promote the interests of the poor. Albert Nolan argued that prophetic theology had to be based on social analysis, the understanding of how social relations should be constructed, based on a new hermeneutics of the Word of God. It is a theology that brings a message of hope. The oppressed, the marginalized, the denigrated, the unemployed youth, the abused women and the child headed families are inspired by knowing that God is on the side of the oppressed.

Through prophetic theology, the masses were encouraged to understanding what God is saying at the “particular moment of time” – the Kairos, and to be able to read the signs of the times. Then, they would be able to say something about the future. Prophetic theology can predict the future catastrophes if nothing is done now, and it can promise great blessing if

the present opportunity is taken seriously.

Prophetic theology must be a theology that begins in action, and not as mere theory, and ends in a new kind of action. The document called for the people to take part in shaping the events and realizing their liberation. It called for transformation of the churches' activities and the development of programmes of empowerment. The church must also take part in the moral transformation of the society and promote the "ministry of involvement and participation."

The UPCSA congratulates the South African nation for conducting free and fair elections. It appreciates the populace for exercising their right to elect the government of their choice. The voice of the people has been heard. The request goes to the politicians and the political parties to respect the will of the people.

With the results of the recent South African elections, the geopolitics of the Southern African region, in which the UPCSA exists and operates is set to change considerably. The region is going to see a different sociopolitical, economic, and even spiritual landscape.

The UPCSA is called to exercise a prophetic witness at such a time as this. The Church in Society Committee has been requested to facilitate sessions that will determine the involvement and participation of the UPCSA in the explorations of the new terrains and frontiers. We cannot spectate in this

venture. Our interests should be that of the gospel, the poor (and all) should hear the good news, freedom should be proclaimed to the prisoners, the blind should recover their sight, the oppressed must be freed and the year of the Lord's favour must be proclaimed.

The UPCSA is forging ahead with the preparations for the CWM Assembly in Durban and the Executive Commission. The denomination is called to prayer for the two events.



Happy World Environment Day

The theme for World Environment Day 2024 is 'Land, restoration, desertification and drought resilience'.

We are a #Generation Restoration".

This theme underscores the urgent need to safeguard our ecosystems which are essential for sustaining life on earth.

Presbyterians let us join hands to protect and safeguard our environment.

'The earth is the Lord's and all it contains. The world and those who dwell on it, (Psalm 24:1)



**Rev, Vusi Mkhungo: Clerk of Assembly**

## Executive Commission

In our last article we wrote about what was happening as we prepare for the Executive Commission. We are now in the final stages of the preparations with less than three weeks before the actual sitting.

The main papers are already with the Commissioners, and we encourage them to study these carefully to be able to participate fully at the Executive Commission. We have already done two Dry Runs with most Commissioners joining and getting themselves familiar with technology.

The next and the final Dry Run will be at 19H00 on Monday, 10 June 2024. All

Commissioners MUST join so that we make sure that any possible challenge in terms of connection, showing of blue and orange cards, voting etc. are eliminated for the smooth running of the Executive Commission.

Supplementary papers are currently being prepared and will go out by Friday, 7 June 2024.

Once again, we call upon all the members of the UPSCA to pray for the Executive Commission and all participants BUT most importantly to pray for the will of God to direct and lead the UPSCA.



**Inspire Online Conference.** Wed 15- Thu 16 May 2024 9h00-12h00  
**Be the CHANGE you want to see!** Pentecost Week!

Join us for fire-lighting inputs from  
Lupia Mthangwa, Rod Botsis,  
Tom Jord, and others.

**Keynotes:**  
Light the fire!  
Keep the fire going!  
Pass the fire to the next generation!

**Workshops:**  
Trends in Church Growth and Planting  
Implementing Discipleship in the Congregation  
Partnering with God in Mission

**MISSION AND DISCIPLESHIP**  
PROMOTED BY THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF THE UPSCA

More details on  
[www.upcsa-mad.org.za](http://www.upcsa-mad.org.za)

## Inspire Online Conference

The Inspire Conference was held on Wed 15 and Thursday 16 May. This was the sixth Inspire Conference run by the Mission and Discipleship Committee.

We were very excited to offer this in Pentecost Week and were thrilled at the positive responses we have received.

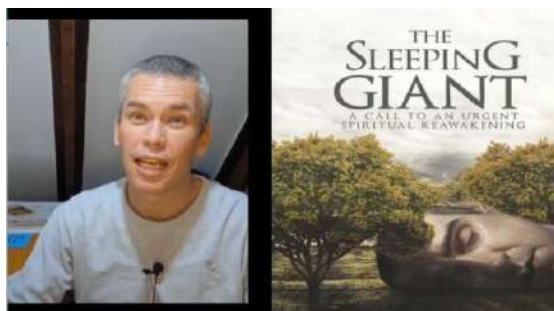
We had over 90 people who attended the feedback Sessions but, because the talks and sessions are available on You Tube, the influence of the conference continues and you can see the videos on <https://wp.me/p8nC5n-uG>. Some of our videos have had over 250 views.

Our first keynote was by Rev Rod Botsis who spoke about the Spirituality of Leaders, placing emphasis on the fact that we find ourselves in the same place as the first century church and that we need to be "with Jesus", filled with the



Spirit and ready to boldly proclaim the Resurrected Christ.

Our second keynote was by our Moderator, the Rt Rev Lydia Neshangwe, who spoke about keeping the fire going in our hearts and the need for REVIVAL. Tom Jordi, a familiar friend of the UPCSA and youth specialist, gave the third keynote and spoke about how we reach our young people in the context we find ourselves in today. His talk focused on four fundamental areas: Identity, Grace, Purpose and Influence. It's a vitally important talk to listen to if we are serious about our young people.



We had three workshops and people could attend two:

1. George Marchinkowski hosted a discussion about trends in church growth and the shifts needed in our changing society and the core values of acceptance and hospitality that will play a key role.
2. Stewart Gordon and Theo Groeneveld hosted a discussion about the need for Discipleship (Spiritual Formation or Christian Education) in our congregations and practical ways to implement this.
3. Amon Kasambala hosted a discussion about Partnering with God in Mission and the key principles of being a missional church.

In the final session Theo Groeneveld reported on the UPCSA Going for Growth

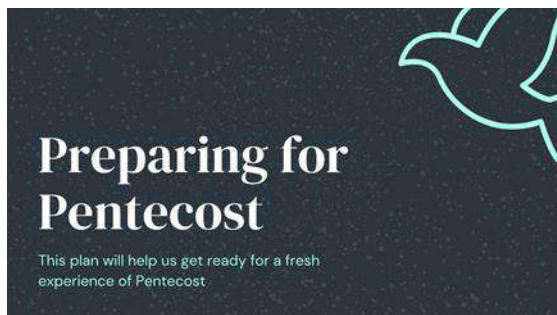


Project and the work of the Mission and Discipleship Committee.

Very positive feedback was received:

- I must say this is so profound....a spiritual revival indeed.
- Thank you team for excellent work. Presbytery conveners must be charged to take the messaged down to congregation. Presbytery conference using the same material might be helpful.
- Well done to the team. Thank you
- Thank you to the Committee. Always inspirational.
- Thank you M&D for an excellent conference. thank you to all the speakers for excellent presentations.

We are grateful to God for His blessings and look forward to bringing more Inspire Conferences to the Church.



Synod of Zambia Fellowship of Menfaith  
Clinic Presentation

**PRESENTED BY:** REV. JAMES LUNGU  
(M.Th. & B.Th. – Stellenbosch University)

**HOST:** RAPHAEL MVULA

**TOPIC:** THE IMPORTANCE OF  
PENTECOST FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
BELIEVER

ACTS 2:1-4

**THEME BREAKDOWN:**

- a. The word 'importance' from an oxford dictionary means

something of great significance or value.

- b. The word Pentecost and what it means: Pentecost comes from a Greek word 'Pentecostes' which simply means the 50<sup>th</sup> day or day 50 from the day of Jesus resurrection.
- c. Why look at a believer in a 21<sup>st</sup> century? A believer is a follower of Christ or a follower of God the creator. The day of Pentecost is about those that believe in Jesus Christ but also those who will later on believe.

What then does it mean when we say "the importance of Pentecost" for the 21<sup>st</sup> believer?

- ✓ Pentecost is about the importance of the 50<sup>th</sup> day when the Holy Spirit was introduced to the believers in the world.
- ✓ This is not to say that the Holy Spirit has not been around. In fact, the Bible gives a clear account about the presence of the Holy Spirit in the world. In Genesis 1:2 the Holy Spirit is mentioned as being present on earth hovering over the water's surface.
- ✓ Other scriptures that talk about the presence of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament includes: Psalm 51:11; Judges 14:6; 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16:13; Psalm 104:30; Judges 14:6; 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16:13; Psalm 104:30; Numbers 27:18; Genesis 6:3....

Instead Pentecost as a day the Holy Spirit came is simply the beginning of a new era in which the Holy Spirit is given full charge to operate from God the Trinity. As generally observed by Biblical scholars this is a third era after the era of

God the Father and the son (Jesus Christ). In Isaiah 9 we hear the echoing of God the Father announcing the coming of Jesus, while in John 16 Jesus announces the coming of the Holy Spirit as our helper. Therefore, this topic on “the importance of Pentecost for the 21<sup>st</sup> century believer” gives two impressions:

1. The first impression is that it points to the importance of the day of Pentecost as the day when the Holy Spirit came.
2. The second impression is that it suggests addressing ‘the importance of the Holy Spirit’ (though in an indirect way to a believer).

NOTE: in this Presentation my focus is on the first impression of the day of Pentecost. I know that they could be some expectation by this audience that I talk about the “importance of the Holy spirit” which I think can be another topic on its own. But I think understanding the importance of the Day of Pentecost is also very important before we can even look at the importance of the Holy Spirit in terms of his role, task or work in a life of a believer.

**FOCUS OF THIS PRESENTATION:**

Therefore, this presentation is about the importance of the day of Pentecost to a believer today. As earlier indicated before Pentecost the Holy Spirit had been working on earth and using different kinds of people. Looking at the day of Pentecost as a new era means acknowledging that believers can now embrace the Holy Spirit in their lives. And since the Holy Spirit has the spirit nature he is everywhere impacting whoever believes across the globe. Jesus had to leave the earth because upon completing his mission in the fresh through his birth, passion, death and resurrection he was

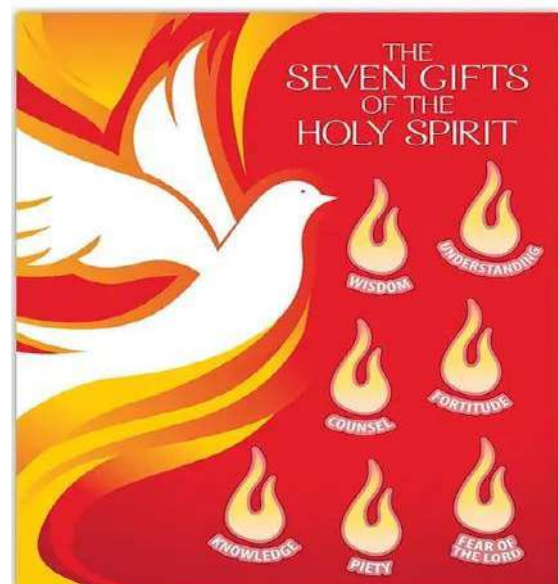
limited in physical location. The coming of the Holy Spirit means being limitless to reach out believers across the globe.

**WHY THEN IS THE DAY OF PENTECOST IMPORTANT?**

1. **IT IS A BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA;**
  - A new era has characteristics of influencing new ways of looking at life or things.
  - New era demands new ways of doing things or thinking.
  - New era demand readiness to embrace change.
  - New era means aligning ourselves to the demands of the Holy Spirit.

**CHALLENGE:**

“Today we still have churches and believers that are not willing to embrace



change and new ways in which the Holy Spirit operate.”

**A story of a Zambian Presbyterian Church:**  
 \*\*\*\*The Church lost a number of young men and women (most especially Youths) to other churches through

resistance to what the Holy Spirit does when given the Space. These young people went after Pentecostal Churches that embraced mass prayers; churches that embraced miracles and deliverance services; churches that embraced worshiping in tongues and many more ways of operating in the Spirit.

It is also important to understand that amidst the Holy Spirit Era Satan has also embraced this era by duplicating the operations of the Holy Spirit in some ways. In our 21<sup>st</sup> Spirit era believers have witnessed the worst forms of abuse. And these includes: abuse of women in the name of the Holy Spirit; Some people have been made to eat grass; to drink detergent for healing; miracle money; being stepped upon for deliverance these and many more.

**QUOTION:**

There is a possibility that the mainline Churches could focus on these negativities and became extreme in traditions that hinder the operation of the Holy Spirit. And to borrow the words of Dr. Amon Kasambala (2024 @ Faith Clinic) that all we need is a balance between tradition and embracing the new era of the Holy Spirit.

**2. PENTECOST IS A DAY OF PROMOTION/ UPLIFTMENT FOR A BELIEVER ACROSS THE GLOBE:**

- John 16:7: “But very truly I tell you, it is for good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the advocate/ helper will not come to you, but if I go, I will send him to you.”

**\*\*\*\*\*Pentecost is the day of believer’s empowerment.**

Yes, Jesus came physically on earth, he was born, he suffered, died and rose. The Holy Spirit came in a spiritual body and he is omnipresent (he is everywhere). In the remarks by Rev. Richard Makandawire (2024 @ Faith Clinic) the importance of Pentecost is also based on the power that comes in the life of a believer, that enabling ability to do exploits as emphasized in Romans 8:9 and Acts 1:8.

**3. PEOPLE THAT EMBRACE PENTECOST CHOOSE TO BE EXTRA ORDINARY:**

Acts 2:7  
Vs. 7. Utterly amazed, they asked; aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Yet they could hear them in all their own languages. The Holy Spirit is able to make us reach out to people of various background and needs. He is God and is not limited by human boundaries of race and ethnicity.  
In a new era:

Sons, daughters, men and women are extra ordinary:

- o Sons and daughters will prophesy - Acts 2:17-18
- o Young men will see visions
- o Men and women will be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

According to Madam Songelo Mkandawire (2014 @ Faith Clinic) the importance of Pentecost reminds us of how often time as believers we do confess our faith in God yet deny the power of the Holy Spirit which should affirm that which we claim to profess. This resonated with the question that Mr. Sunga Mkandawire asked (2024 @ Faith



Clinic) on **“How could we possibly embrace being extra ordinary as believers through the Holy Spirit working in our lives?”** For me I think there has to be a deliberate approach within us as believers to desire to see the Holy Spirit work in our lives but this begins with accepting that we are in a new era of the Holy Spirit. We can allow the Holy Spirit to use us in an extra ordinary way by the way we pray; the way we use our gift and even the way we present ourselves at the work places.

**4. FINALLY, PEOPLE OR THE CHURCH THAT EMBRACES PENTECOST AS A NEW ERA THEY DO EXPERIENCE:**

- Spiritual and Physical growth
- The presence and power of the Holy Spirit.
- Extra ordinary operations of the Holy Spirit.

**NO DOUBT WE ARE IN A NEW ERA OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND IF WE CAN EMBRACE THE ERA WE SHALL EXPERIENCE THE WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES.**

As rightly pointed out by Rev. Chala Habasila (2024 @ Faith Clinic) there is consistence in God the trinity leading to the new era of the Holy Spirit. For example in John 16 Jesus announces the coming of the Holy Spirit in affirming what the Father had already mentioned and promised in the book of Joel 3 that in the last days he shall pour out his spirit on all fresh, which is later mentioned in Acts 2 at Pentecost.

**Further Study on the Pentecost and the Holy Spirit:**

There is still a lot of what we need to learn regarding the importance of

Pentecost day and the Holy Spirit as presented in the four gospels. For example, one of the questions that came from Mr Kasalu, Mr Chirwa and Rev.



Lazarus Chirwa as to whether the day of Pentecost was the only time or day that the Holy Spirit was given to Jesus disciples or believers considering John 20:22 which talks about Jesus breathing on his disciples so that they can revive the Holy Spirit?



**Inviting All to Join the Faith Clinic - An initiative of FOM, Synod of Zambia**

Purpose:

The purpose of the Faith Clinic Bible Study is to create a safe and supportive community where individuals can deepen their understanding of God's word, grow in their faith, and find healing and restoration in their spiritual and emotional lives. Through the study of the Bible, we aim to:

- Encourage spiritual growth and maturity
- Foster a deeper understanding of God's love and grace
- Provide a supportive environment for sharing and prayer
- Equip participants with biblical tools for everyday life

- Promote a culture of compassion, empathy, and service to others

Scope:

The Faith Clinic Bible Study will focus on:

- In-depth study of the Bible, book by book or topic by topic
- Exploration of relevant themes and issues, such as forgiveness, healing, spiritual growth, stewardship and evangelism.
- Discussion of practical applications and life experiences
- Sharing of testimonies and prayer support
- Guest speakers and special events (as scheduled)

Our scope is inclusive, welcoming individuals from all walks of life, regardless of their background, denomination, or level of spiritual maturity. We strive to create a safe space for questions, doubts, and exploration, as we seek to grow in our understanding of God's word and its relevance to our lives. Thank you.



1 “These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling. 2They will make you outcasts

from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God. 3These things they will do because they have not known the Father or Me. 4But these things I have spoken to you, so that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them. These things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you.

### The Disciples' Grief Will Turn to Joy

16Jesus went on to say, “In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me.”

17At this, some of his disciples said to one another, “What does he mean by saying, ‘In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,’ and ‘Because I am going to the Father’?” 18They kept asking, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We don’t understand what he is saying.”

19Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, “Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, ‘In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me’? 20Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. 21A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. 22So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. 23In that day you will no longer ask me anything.





*Burnshill Congregation had a 123RD Anniversary celebration which started on the 11-12 May 2024, The weekend was a success, there were artists who entertained all those who attended, during that weekend*



*RZ Notshe Outstation Children's Ministry giving out rewards for those children who took part in a 6 weeks bible study program, assessments was done, and all these beautiful children passed with flying colours. They all showed enthusiasm. This beautiful programme would not have been possible without the support of the Sunday School Teacher who always show commitment and dedication....  
....Nazi Graduates*







## *Ministers and Elders who served at Burnshill were honoured*







*Duncan Village Congregation held its 1st parenting workshop, Guest speaker mam Sibeko who is also a Pastor giving parents advices on parenting she emphasized on the fact that parenting or grooming children, being a strict parent does not mean that one has to beat up children, Children need love, to be natured parents need to know that they are grooming tommorow's Parents.*

**REMEMBER  
YOU HAVE:  
PARACLETOS who is  
your:  
- Helper/ Umncedi.  
- Advocate/ Ummeli.  
- Comforter/  
Umthuthuzeli.  
FOREVER.**

**St. John 14: 16 - 18**

**It is in you to alter  
your situation.  
Power lies within  
you. Use it wisely.**

**ALEICHEM SHALOM  
ALLAN NYONI**





## *2nd Anniversary of the DR Congo Church as UPCSA*







## *Ordination and induction of elders and Deacons at Mpharane Congregation, East Griqualand under Rev Pitso Moletsane*











The Fellowship of Women, Kagiso Congregation, held a successful fundraising event on the 2nd of June 2024. The event was held under the theme "Sips of Hope High Tea". Kagiso Congregation is under the care of Rev Lesego Lawrence Mokeng. Hearty congratulations to FOW Kagiso Congregation



**SATURDAY**  
**1**  
**JUNE**

**12 p.m.**

**Kagiso FOW presents**  
**Sips of Hope High Tea**

**VENUE:**  
**4110 Tholame, Kagiso**

**Ticket R100**

*Dresscode Hat on Heels*



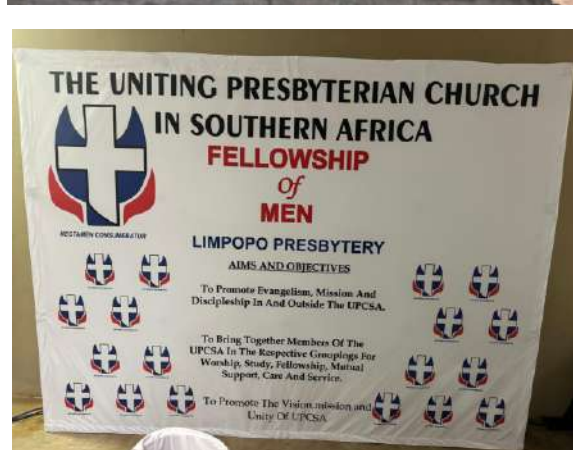




The Fellowship of Men in Limpopo held its 4th Presbyterian Conference on the 25th-26th May 2024 at the Makwarela Congregation. The Conference was also graced by delegates from Lekoa and Highveld Presbyteries who are part of the cluster







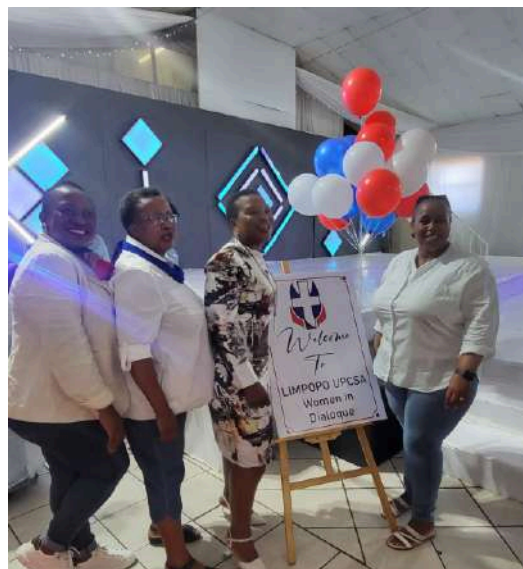








The Fellowship of Women in Limpopo organised a Women's Dialogue which was attended by women from across the Province. This event gave women an opportunity to exchange ideas on a wide range of issues, especially on leadership and of women in our society of importance was how women can support each other to tackle the challenges facing them. almost 200 women were in attendance, and the event was blessed by the presence of the moderator of the Presbytery, Rev Mary-Ann Molifi







*The Presbytery of Limpopo marked another epoch in the history of the UPCSA with a merger between Weirdale and Phalaborwa Congregations. The event took place on the 2nd of June 2024 in Namakgale Township, Phalaborwa. The Presbytery of Limpopo Presided over the event*











*Ordination and induction of Rev Tebogo Patrick Mkwandwini at St Andrews Vergenoeg, within the precincts of the Presbytery of Trans-Xhariep. Hearty congratulation and well wishes to Rev Mkwandwini*







The Faith Clinic had some very interesting to reflect on for month of May  
The Faith Clinic continues to grow in bits and bounds, reaching all corners of our continent and the globe

Presbyterian Link commends the Fellowship of Men in the Synod of Zambia Meeting every Thursday we are encouraged by the depth of teachings which are taking place on this platform

The following topics were presented this week

1. Stewardship of God's handiwork presented by Rev R Mkandawire
2. Two types of influences according the Book of John 21:1-14 presented by Rev L Lungu
3. The importance of Pentecost for the 21st century presented by Rev James Lungu
4. Diabetes management - heart health and cardiovascular decease, cancer awareness and prevention presented by Dr Soka Nyirenda

We say big up to the brothers for the wonderful work done

**SYNOD OF ZAMBIA  
FELLOWSHIP OF MEN**  
PRESENTS

**FAITH CLINIC EXTRA HEALTH MATTERS**

**THEME**  
**Chronic Diseases:**

- Diabetes management
- Heart health and cardiovascular disease
- Cancer awareness and prevention
- Stroke

**SPEAKER**  
DR. SOKA NYIRENDA  
PHYSICIAN / CONSULTANT  
ZAMBIA

**HOST**  
Elder Inonge Kasaro  
Health & Wellness Convener  
Synod of Zambia

**DATE**  
**26th MAY, 2024**  
**TIME: 16:00HRS (CAT)**

**VENUE: ONLINE  
(GOOGLE MEETING)**

**MORE INFO: +0977377574/0977811556/0977806818**

**SYNOD OF ZAMBIA  
FELLOWSHIP OF MEN**  
PRESENTS

**FAITH CLINIC**

**THEME**  
**The Importance of Pentecost for the 21st century believer Acts 2:1-4**

**SPEAKER**  
REV. JAMES LUNGU (Mth, Bth,  
M'chinga Presbytery

**HOST**  
Elder Raphael Mvula

**DATE**  
**23RD MAY, 2024**  
**TIME: 20:00HRS (CAT)**

**VENUE: ONLINE  
(GOOGLE MEETING)**

**MORE INFO: +0977377574/0977811556/0977806818**





SYNOD OF ZAMBIA  
FELLOWSHIP OF MEN

PRESENTS

# FAITH CLINIC

Theme  
**FAITH**  
IN THE  
MARKET PLACE  
PART 3



**SPEAKER**  
DR. REV. AE KASAMBALA  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
MODERATOR DESIGNATE  
SOUTH AFIRCA



**HOST**  
ELDER DR. GUMBO  
PRESIDENT FOM M'CHINGA

DATE

**09TH MAY, 2024**  
TIME: 20:00HRS (CAT)

VENUE: ONLINE

MORE INFO: +0977377574/0977811556/0977806818



SYNOD OF ZAMBIA  
FELLOWSHIP OF MEN

PRESENTS

# FAITH CLINIC

THEME  
Two (2) Types of  
Influences according to  
book of John 21 : 1-14



**SPEAKER**  
REV. I. CHIRWA (Bath,  
Convenor, Mission and  
Discipleship,  
Copperbelt Presbytery



**HOST**  
ELDER MWANGALA MATAA  
ZAMBIA

DATE

**2ND MAY, 2024**  
TIME: 20:00HRS (CAT)

VENUE: ONLINE (ZOOM MEETING)  
Meeting ID: 829 1343 6101  
Passcode: 145053

MORE INFO: +0977377574/0977811556/0977806818



SYNOD OF ZAMBIA  
FELLOWSHIP OF MEN

PRESENTS

# FAITH CLINIC

THEME  
**STEWARDS OF GOD'S  
HANDIWORK**  
Gen. 1 : 26 - 28  
Eph. 2 : 10



**SPEAKER**  
REV. R MKANDAWIRE (Bth,Mth)  
Moderator  
Copperbelt Presbytery  
Convenor, Mission and  
Discipleship,  
Synod of Zambia



**HOST**  
ELDER MWANGALA MATAA  
ZAMBIA

DATE

**25TH APRIL, 2024**  
TIME: 20:00HRS (CAT)

VENUE: ONLINE  
(GOOGLE MEETING)

MORE INFO: +0977377574/0977811556/0977806818



SYNOD OF ZAMBIA  
FELLOWSHIP OF MEN

PRESENTS

# FAITH CLINIC EXTRA SUNDAY HEALTH MATTERS

THEME  
**Chronic Diseases:**  
- Diabetes management  
- Heart health and  
cardiovascular disease  
- Cancer awareness and  
prevention  
- Stroke



**SPEAKER**  
DR. SOKA NYIRENDA  
PHYSICIAN / CONSULTANT  
ZAMBIA



**HOST**  
Elder Inonge Kasaro  
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DATE

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TIME: 16:00HRS (CAT)

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THE UNITING  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
IN SOUTHERN  
AFRICA

## *Rev and Mrs Mthetwa*

On behalf of Team Presbyterian Link, we take the opportunity to congratulate our Past Moderator, The Rev Sipho Mthetwa and his spouse on the occasion of their 39th celebration of their marriage. Indeed they remain a true inspiration to the Presbyterian family and society in general. Now we know that our Denomination is well led. Thank you Rev and Mrs Nyambose

Benny Boshielo

Convener: Communications Committee



THE UNITING  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
IN SOUTHERN  
AFRICA

# 39<sup>th</sup>

ANNIVERSARY



**REV AND MRS SIPHO MTETWA**

**You two are a true inspiration! Cheers to making marriage look easy.**

**Since 08 June 1985**



Plot 18 Dann Road, Glen Marais  
1619 Kempton Park  
Tel No 011 727 3500  
P.O. Box 12355  
Aston Manor 1630.  
Email: pef@unitingpresbyterian.org

Empowerment
Through
Education

PRESBYTERIAN EDUCATIONAL FUND

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

13 May, 2024

**TO ALL MINISTERS AND SESSION CLERKS**

*PEF Sunday, June, 2024*

Greetings from the PEF Task Team of the Education and Training Committee in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

The General Assembly decided the third Sunday of June, or Congregations may choose any Sunday, as PEF Sunday, and requested all Congregations to hold a retiring offering for the PEF on that Sunday or another of the Congregation's choice.

**The PEF needs your help!**

The PEF Task Team wishes to thank all the Congregations who managed to make donations during the 2022/2023 financial year. Your support is invaluable to us and to the young Presbyterians who have benefited from this worthy cause.

We hope that those who could not donate in previous years will make an effort to support us this year. Of course, we are still about six weeks away from the financial year end and we are hoping to receive some donations before closing the year. This is so as to close our financial year with a good bank balance and enough to pay for the beneficiaries. Of course, donations are still welcome after June.

So far in the 2023/2024 the PEF has made 9 awards, totaling R 82 180.00, and are hoping to make more payments before the end of the 2023/2024 financial year end. This will include payments for Zambia and Zimbabwe.

As can be seen above, there was a drop in disbursements made compared to the previous years because of a drop in donations received.

However, we were able to pay out this amount because we received support from the congregations, the Robert Niven Trust and larger donations from individuals, Fellowships, specifically FOY . These have made a huge difference in payments for Presbyterian children, yet the need is even greater than before. It grows each year! Congregations and Presbyteries have donated over R 57 830.00 in 2023/2024 and Individuals, Trust and the Fellowship of Youth (FOY) R 82 355,25, so far this current financial year. A total of R 140 185,85 and is a 44.0% drop from the last financial year.

We need every congregation in the UPCSAs to consider their gifts to the PEF, and to donate **at least R 1000.00** per congregation to ensure that we have enough to cover the amounts still to be paid out before the end of the year, and to form the basis of the amounts that will be paid out in the 2024 academic year.

We urge the Congregations to please make every effort to make some donation, and if your donation has remained at the same amount for the past number of years, please prayerfully consider increasing the amount.

It would also be advisable to include the PEF Sunday in the Year Plans and not make PEF a 'by the way' when a PEF Sunday letter arrives.

It must be remembered that the PEF is the only social responsibility project of the UPCSAs, so your donation is important to realize this cause.



The PEF Task Team members are available to do presentations at Congregations or at any gathering when invited. Please feel free to invite us by calling the Administrator at the Central Office number below, or by emailing your request for an invitation on the email address below.

A special thanks to the individual donors who are consistent in their monthly donations by making sure the debit orders go through every month without fail.

A big thank you to the Tiyo Soga Memorial Presbytery for taking the lead in their donations for 2024. They are consistent in their support. We received R11 671.50 from 19 Congregations on the 23 April 2024. Keep up the good work Tiyo Soga Memorial

With your help the PEF can make 2024 a better year with the amounts and number of applicants assisted. Please help the PEF realize our applicants' dreams to better so many lives!

**All donations to the PEF, whether raised by way of a special offering or given out of the regular tithes and offerings of the congregation, are assessment free.**

A master copy of the [PEF Sunday flyer](#) is attached. Please make copies of the flyer available for distribution on PEF Sunday. Check the PEF webpage at: <http://unitingpresbyterian.org/ministry/presbyterian-education-fund-pef/> or contact the PEF administrator for more information about the PEF or answers to any queries you may have.

Banking details and information required for deposits appear at the bottom of this letter. Please bring these details to the attention of your Treasurer and whoever will be assisting in making the deposit to the PEF account. Please forward details of deposits to the administrator on this email address, [pef@unitingpresbyterian.org](mailto:pef@unitingpresbyterian.org)

May our dear Lord and Savior bless you and your congregations abundantly and touch your hearts to respond to the PEF's appeal.

In His Name,



Rev P.S. Mbanjwa  
Convenor  
Education and Training Committee

*Rev Dr Lungile Mpetsheni  
(Rhadebe)*  
UPCSA General Secretary

**CELEBRATING MORE THAN 40 YEARS OF EDUCATION**

Please address correspondence to: The Administrator, Presbyterian Educational Fund

**PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO THE ATTENTION OF YOUR TREASURER / PAY CLERK:**

In order to ensure that your congregation's donation is recognized as a gift to the PEF, please deposit it into the PEF bank account, and then notify the PEF administrator by email giving the details of your congregation and the deposit.

Phone: 011-727-3500

Email: [pef@unitingpresbyterian.org](mailto:pef@unitingpresbyterian.org)

The PEF banking details and reference to be used are:

<b>Name of account:</b>	UPCSA - Presbyterian Educational Fund
<b>Bank:</b>	Standard Bank
<b>Branch Code:</b>	000355 (Norwood)
<b>Account Number:</b>	20 085 175 6
<b>Reference:</b>	Name of congregation and Town

e.g. St Peters, Tembisa

*PEF  
SUNDAY*

*June, 2024*

*Please give the PEF  
Financial  
And  
prayer support today*

~~~~~  
*The Presbyterian Educational Fund  
assists qualifying learners & students  
aged 13 to 25  
with a contribution towards  
Tuition fees.*

~~~~~  
*Get an Application Form  
from your minister in July*

~~~~~  
*Submission Deadline:  
30 September, 2024*

~~~~~  
*Enquiries: Tel: 011-727-3500*

*email: [pef@unitingpresbyterian.org](mailto:pef@unitingpresbyterian.org)*

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email: [pef@unitingpresbyterian.org](mailto:pef@unitingpresbyterian.org)*



# COUNCIL FOR WORLD MISSION ASSEMBLY 2024

## *Opening Service*

VENUE

**Grace Family Church**

ADDRESS

**400 Umhlanga Rocks Drive. Umhlanga**

DATE

**13 June**

TIME

**16:00 – 19:00pm**





PUBLIC WORSHIP  
*with*  
**COMMUNION**

Venue:

Olive Convention Centre

Time:

09:00 – 12:00hrs

**Youth Celebration**

Date:

16 June

Time:

13:00 – 16:00pm

UCCSA-UPCSA Organisations and Fellowships to wear their church uniforms.  
Clergy to be vested in Black Gown and Red Stole.



RISE TO LIFE: TOGETHER IN TRANSFORMATION



CWM ASSEMBLY 2024  
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA, 12-19 JUNE 2024



# AFRICA NIGHT CULTURAL EVENING

VENUE: GRACE FAMILY CHURCH

ADDRESS: 400 UMHLANGA ROCKS DRIVE, UMHLANGA

DATE: 15 JUNE SATURDAY

TIME: 18:00 - 21:00PM

LOCAL DELEGATES ARE ENCOURAGED  
TO WEAR THEIR TRADITIONAL REGALIA



## **DISCLAIMER**

The views and opinions expressed in the Presbyterian Link may not necessarily represent the official position of the UPCSA.

## **SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES**

We welcome submissions of articles from anyone. Please submit with pictures if possible. The Editors of the Presbyterian Link reserves the right to edit or adapt the articles.

## **FEEDBACK**

Presbyterian Link is happy to receive feedbacks regarding any article. This will help us to improve on our future editions.

## **COMPILATION AND GRAPHICS**

Bro. Solly Maluleka

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence and all articles should be directed to.

## **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

Rev., Dr Lungile Mpetsheni – General Secretary

## **EDITORIAL**

Elder Benny Boshielo – Convener: Communications Committee

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Elder Christine Kasambara – Coordinator

## **CORRESPONDING EMAIL**

[gensec@unitingpresbyterian.org](mailto:gensec@unitingpresbyterian.org)