

THE UNITING  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
IN SOUTHERN  
AFRICA

# *Presbyterian Link*

**October - November 2024**

*Edition*

Linking All Presbyterians together

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

**Dear friends,**

It is dawning on me that that this time of the year is filled with many calls to activism which I have been invited to support both within the Church and without. Each of us is called by God to advocate or push for various godly issues, whether it is advocating for the Gospel, or for social issues, political issues, or for other wellness issues. Each of us is where we are placed “for such a time as this.” Here are three free gifts that God has given us that we can harness for our advocacy – and they are power, love and a “sound mind.”

(2 Timothy 1:7)

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear/timidity, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

These can be remembered as **The Three P’s for Effective Activism:**

### **1. Power**

We need power beyond ourselves to be effective advocates of anything. Thomas Keating rightly pointed out that, “The

effectiveness of action depends on the source from which it springs.” If the *dunamis* (Gr: power) of God is upon us we will cause amazing transformation to happen at two levels. First, the transformation of people and situations that we are advocating for, and second, transformation of ourselves as we discover that we are also being reformed while in the process of reforming others.

Our source of power as advocates must come from God, otherwise when suppressed people become activists, they often become as domineering as their oppressors because the same demon of hatred or vengeance has not been driven out of them. And when privileged people become activists, they may ignore issues of oppression because they are not directly affected. This is why it is ironic that our politicians are the privileged – who use ‘fighting for the oppressed’ as currency for their popularity. What both sets of activists need is not ‘self-power’ but God’s power as the source for their activism.

### **2. Positive Energy**

As activists, we need to work from a positive energy. This positive energy is the energy of love. Love is the force that builds, creates or constructs. Working from the positive position of love allows us to let our light shine - and people are looking for light, and direction, and hope.

We need activism driven by love, not prophets of doom who can eloquently articulate what they are ‘against’ but cannot paint a positive picture of what we are to be ‘for.’ Activism must be driven by love – not by hatred, nor the need to win to look good. It must be driven by love - not by a superiority complex or political correctness or the need to please one’s ‘tribe.’ Love is not the love of control or of scoring points against opponents. These are negative motives that have caused many important

movements to fail or to self-destruct from within.

You may be a skilled and devoted activist who is advocating for issues of great earthly and heavenly importance, but if you do not have love, you are “a resounding gong.” (1 Cor 13:1) The world is looking for exemplary heroes to emulate, and it is those who advocate from a positive and constructive energy that should become our children’s heroes.

### 3. Perception

A “Sound mind” means perception – the perception to read the signs of the times with wisdom and discernment. A “Sound mind” teaches us that all those who are against us, or on the other side, are not disappearing just because we are shouting for a cause, no matter how holy the cause is. In fact, the stronger we are in our stance, the deeper they become in their own position.

A “Sound mind” teaches us deep listening. As activism requires a strong voice, activism also requires strong listening. Richard Rohr writes: “Deep listening is an act of surrender. You risk being changed by what you hear.” That is why only perceptive activists can listen.

A “Sound mind” teaches us the importance of educating ourselves not just on our area of advocacy, but especially on the content of what the opposition believes. Otherwise, we are fighting what we do not know! Educate yourself on the history of an issue and how the opposers came to take their position. Educate yourself on the contextual factors that promote their position. Educate yourself on the deeper spiritual issues at hand that are in conflict with the kingdom of God.

Without this kind of perception, many words and actions for change, justice or

righteousness are actually doing more harm than good. Think about that!

### Conclusion:

With God’s POWER as our source, the POSITIVE ENERGY of love, and the PERCEPTION arising out of a sound mind, we can become the much-needed true prophets of our time, and effective activists of our generation. We will become peacemakers, not war makers. We will ask God to show us what it is that we are specifically called to advocate for. And who knows, perhaps while we are advocating for what is right, and in humility, God’s revival will come.



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

### Editorial

The Universe will be entering into yet another era to remember all those who are victims of

Gender-based violence. Both religious and secular organizations will enter this period with one mind, that this ‘scourge’ as President Cyril Ramaphosa has characterized it, must be confronted, fought, and defeated. The Gender Desk of our Denomination, as it has done in the past, has also organized a 24-hour prayer service in remembrance of those who have

been and continue to be the victims of GBV on the 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2024. We encourage all Presbyterian to join in this prayer as it is for a good course. As we enter the **‘Sixteen days of activism against gender-based violence and femicide’** let us renew our resolve to fight and uproot this scourge from our communities. Let us also remember those men who might also be suffering against this violence and choose to keep silent. This edition of Presbyterian Link carries a poster from Church in Society with all the details of the 24-hour prayer marathon.

This edition also carries the details of the launch of the Pan African Presbyterian Men Fellowship, Southern Africa Chapter. This Fellowship is an endeavors by men in the continent to come together as Christians, first to evangelize together as we proclaim our Lord and Savior in our continent, by also to work as the agents of peace in the continent and in the areas where we live. We are indeed impressed by the participation of the Fellowship of Men, who through the President, Rev Nkululeko Nojoko, presented a paper on Gender-based violence, resulting in the conference taking decisive resolutions and programs to fight against this scourge. The PAPMF Southern Africa has therefore resolved that it will be the loudest voice in this campaign, work with law enforcement agencies to bring perpetrators to book but most importantly vow never to accommodate women and children abusers within their midst.

We also carry a story from Limpopo of a white farmer who is alleged to have killed his workers and fed them to the pigs. Our church through the involvement of our Ministers, led by the Convener of Church in Society, are very active in the case, first calling upon the justice system not to grant bail to the perpetrators and secondly

following the case closely to ensure that the victims gets justice. We also commend the Presbytery of Limpopo for the assistance it pledged to give these families during these trying times. We urge all of you fellows Presbyterians to remember them in your prayers.

As we draw closer to the end of 2024, let us also put in our prayers our learners in our schools, especially the matriculants. We know that when results come out, some will be jubilant, and some will be sad to a point of depression. We as a church have a responsibility to counsel the nation in difficult times, so should be the case with these learners. Let us keep in touch with the schools around us, especially as the results are announced and comfort those who might not have done well. For those who succeeded and do not know where to go, let us play the role of advisors on the choices before them. On our side, the Presbyterian Link Team wishes all of them well. We present to you this Edition of Presbyterian Link, sharing with you the wonderful work done by our church and its members in the who of Southern Africa.





**Rev, Dr George Marchinkowski: General Secretary**

As I settled into my first month as General Secretary, I was surprised at the variety of activities the GS becomes involved in. At this point, without the benefit of experience, it is hard to make decisions about boundaries and to know who one may call upon to assist. The variety of phone calls from Presbytery officials and ministers regarding advice on matters of protocol, discipline, conflict and the like can feel rather overwhelming. There are requests for Letters of Good standing and for support on applications for conferences and events offered through the UPCSA's partners locally and across the world.

Here are some of the events and meetings that formed part of my daily activities during October. The Church Office Committee held one of its Stated meetings on 1 October, but its HR Task Team also met later in the month. Every year the Staff of the Central Office undertake two performance management appraisals, one mid-year and the other in

November. At present, we are preparing for the end of year process that will take place on 19 and 20 November. This year, a thorough review will be made of each person's Job description, making sure it is current and relevant and contains all the important aspects of their role.

The committee is also looking at the position of Clerk of Assembly since the incumbent, the Rev Vusi Mkhungo comes to the end of his second appointment (10 years) after the General Assembly next year. The Church Office committee seeks to provide, through the Central Office, an enabling environment for the UPCSA to be an effective denomination.

Inevitably there are many administrative duties that the General Secretary needs to do in collaboration with the Administrative, Financial and Ministry departments. Quite a few meetings have taken place with the Clerk of Assembly, the Chief Financial Officer and the Ministry Secretary in this first month. This can involve such routine matters as adjusting the Banking mandates, seeking areas of overlap and collaboration and working together to clarify institutional memory. I am delighted to be working with as experienced and competent a team. The Clerk of Assembly, as the most Senior member of Staff regularly attends functions and events on my behalf when there are clashes in commitments.

The highlight of October was the Annual Conference of the Fellowship of Young Women held from 3 to 6 October at Gillespie congregation, Mount Ayliff, in the Presbytery of East Griqualand. The conference was a celebration of one part of the UPCSA's life and ministry. I attended together with the Moderator of General Assembly, her husband the Rev. Paul Neshangwe, and the Convener of Church Fellowships, the Rev Thabani Masikane. What a wonderful opportunity to observe the life of the UPCSA it was, and at the end, the Moderator and I were presented with a live

sheep each! Thank you to all involved in making this such a success.

Regular meetings for the month included the Assembly Finance Committee on 8 October.

While the UPCSA struggles to maintain a steady income stream and is running at a deficit at the end of the first quarter (July to September), the expenses are being well controlled and interventions to boost income are being investigated. Thanks to the dedication of the General Treasurer, the Finance committee and the finance Staff in the office for their hard work.

The Assembly Standing Commission met online on 8 October and the Priorities and Resources Committee on 10 October. The ASC is charged with supervision and monitoring of Presbyteries and committees and responds to requests for intervention when conflict arises. It meets every second month or so and is chaired by the Moderator of Assembly. The Priorities and Resources Committee looks at the Church's strategic direction and issues that arise such as transnationality. I do hope Presbyteries in South Africa will take seriously the letter of encouragement I recently sent to discuss and discern the way forward after the Presbytery of Zimbabwe's overture on this subject. A P&R Task Team is hard at work engaging with the Presbyteries in Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The South African Council of Churches met in Bonaero Park from 15 to 17 October in its Triennial Conference. We were represented and what an inspiring conference it was. We looked at the past, considered the South Africa of today and looked with hope to the future. The UPCSA is involved in the ecumenical space in South Africa and worldwide where our Moderator serves as President of the All Africa Council of Churches and our previous General Secretary, Prof. Jerry Pillay as the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches. Many of our leaders are involved in

Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa with regional bodies and we are proud of the work we do.

In the meantime, I work with committees of Assembly to harness the resources of CWM in its Mission Support Programme 4 which is aimed at enriching the work and mission of the UPCSA and with our fledgeling Business Unit, Pele NPC, which is identifying opportunities for additional income streams for congregations, Presbyteries and the UPCSA in developing under and undeveloped properties. Pele held its first in-person meeting on 18 October and is doing well albeit still in processes of exploration and registration. The Joint Commission on Union with the United Congregational Church is exploring ways of working together in collaboration with the UCCSA South African and Zimbabwe Synods as well as the denominational offices. I am involved in facilitating these opportunities and it is hopeful work.

Here at home, at Tiyo Soga House, we must always maintain a good relationship with our closest neighbour, Gateway Presbyterian Church, and so on 29 October, we held a first meeting that will ultimately draw up a Memorandum of Understanding, capturing how we came to be here and the terms under which we share this property owned by the UPCSA but on which Gateway has been working and witnessing for years. The split of municipal amenities and other aspects of good neighbourliness is our theme and the previous CFO, Mr Geoff Jooste has been an invaluable guide.

The month was crowned by my attendance at a Public lecture given by former Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Rowan Williams at Stellenbosch university on 31 October. He spoke inspirationally on the topic of Christian solidarity. A great way to end my first month in office. It's a pleasure to serve you. There is so much happening. November brings even more opportunities and challenges. I look forward to it.



# Amathole Presbytery

## EN Bono Children's Ministry Breakfast with camped Matrics at Mzokhanyo High School





# Presbytery Of Western Cape Town

The fellowship of men's conference in June 2024 resolved to recognize and acknowledge that we have two jackets as UPCSAs FOM. We have agreed to regulate the use of these 2 jackets at Presbytery level for all the events that will require us to wear uniform. We agreed to encourage each other to make all means to have both jackets (black and white), also being patient with each other as we accept change differently. Since the decision was taken few congregations in the Presbytery have blessed the second jacket to be used sparingly through a guided process. The following congregation have held a special service for the blessing of jackets namely, JL Zwane, Masibulele and WPT Ndibongo.







# Children's Ministry Conference

We are proud to present our Presbytery Children's Ministry conference which took place on the 13 - 14 October under the Theme: Obedience Matters, Faith All the Way from the book of Genesis 22.

It had been a struggle to get back on our feet since our last conference was suddenly cancelled due to the covid pandemic. JL Zwane Memorial Church hosted 320 children with 40 adults looking after the children.

The aims of holding a conference for the young ones are to

1. Extend a space for them to praise and worship with their age mates.
2. To build lasting friendships which will keep them in church and have them look forward to partaking in church activities.
3. To have our children take up space and showing them that they are valued and are an integral part of the church and community. Having such activities for them, makes the to feel included.
4. Most importantly, to teach them about the Word of God, Faith and Grace while introducing them to Presbyterianism.

All the above was achieved and even exceeded our expectations.

The children owned their conference and had the best of time as they rendered the prescribed music pieces during a competition, taken from the IsiXhosa Hymn book, which were Ndiyakholwa/The Apostles Creed Prayer and Hym 350.

Additional activities were, by the older group of kids, the quiz on Genesis 22 and the Bible recital of Psalm 23 by the younger kids.





# Children's Ministry Conference





**From the left: Rev Colin Campbel (Presbytery Moderator), Rev Madoda Mfene (Immediate Past Moderator) Rev Natalie Gordon (Moderator) and Malibongwe Gwele (Clerk of the Presbytery)**



# FOM JL Zwane Memorial Congregation

Part of JL Zwane Memorial Church FOM Men's Month Programme, they visited a shelter for abused women and children. They are accommodated there for a maximum of 3 months, while the shelter is trying some intervention like talking to their partners/families/looking for alternative accommodation or assisting them go back to their original homes in the EC or other Province they might come from. The JL Zwane FOM collected toiletries, baby clothes, non-perishable food and went to visit them. We had a service, then engagement with them (those who were willing to share their stories were given that opportunity) - all that we wanted to do was to show them that there are still good men out there, the few that abuse their partners and sometimes kids are a minority. We pledged our support and that we will continue to include them in our programme. It was our second year visiting the shelter and we have forged a good relationship with management.







# Masibulele Congregation FOY

The Fellowship of Youth at Masibulele, in partnership with Inathinkosi Music Entertainment, hosted a successful fundraising event on October 5, 2024, at the Masibulele Congregation in Lwandle, Strand. This Gospel Praise and Worship gathering featured performances by Mrs. Veliswa Skeyi, Inathinkosi Jimta, and other talented local artists.

While the primary purpose was fundraising, the event was also a celebration of faith and unity, demonstrating the joy of coming together at church in meaningful ways. It offered an opportunity to strengthen bonds within the congregation and to connect with new friends from outside the local community and the UPCSA.

All attendees had a wonderful experience, making the event a true success.

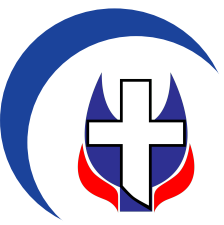




# Masibulele Congregation FOY

The fellowship of men in the Presbytery of the Western Cape organized a sports day and invited all fellowship to participate. There were four clusters that were competing in various sports. Each team needed to have men, women and youth regardless of which sport code they were playing. So we had men playing netball and women playing soccer. It was a wonderful day of fellowship, parents playing with their children.





# FOY Braai

"Let's have fun, unwind, laugh, and enjoy each other's company outside the four walls of church!" At the end of October, the Western Cape Presbytery Fellowship of Youth (WCPFOY) hosted a Braai Day at Wynberg Park, with one goal in mind: to have a great time together.

The day was filled with games, braaiing, a bit of praise and worship, and plenty of time to relax. The event began with a reading from Ecclesiastes 11:9: "You who are young, be happy while you are young, and let your heart give you joy in the days of your youth." This verse set the tone perfectly, and the youth members did just that—they enjoyed their youth to the fullest.







# Lekoa Presbytery

Dear Beloved Community,

As we reflect on the month of October, we are filled with gratitude for the vibrant activities that have taken place within our Lekoa Presbytery. This month, we witnessed two significant gatherings that not only strengthened our fellowship but also deepened our spiritual commitment to God's purpose.

## 1. Fellowship of Women's 2nd Annual Conference

On 18 - 20 October 2024, the Fellowship of Women held its 2nd Lekoa Annual Conference at the AOG Conference Centre in Henley on Klip, graciously hosted by the St Anthony UPCA Congregation. The theme for this year's conference, drawn from Exodus 1:17, was "Spirit-Filled Women, Pursuing God's Plan."

The conference was officially constituted by our Presbytery Moderator, Rev. R.M. Thema, who delivered a message of support as the CFCC. The event was marked by inspiring fellowship and spiritual enrichment, culminating in a joint Holy Communion attended by representatives from all Lekoa Congregations.

As the conference concluded, the President of the Fellowship made a powerful closing remarks, emphasizing the spirit of unity and strength demonstrated through fraternal greetings from other fellowships within the Presbytery. We rejoice in the success of this gathering and give glory to Almighty God for His guidance and blessings. We are also excited to announce that next year's conference will be hosted by St Paul Branch.

## 2. Fellowship of Men's One-Day Conference

Closing the month, the Fellowship of Men held a one-day conference on October 26th, hosted by the Stilfontein Congregation at Orkney - Umzimhle. This gathering was held in preparation for the new scheduling of their conference to align with the Denominational Conference (DC), which typically occurs in September.

The conference was constituted by the Moderator of Lekoa Presbytery honourable Rev. R.M. Thema, who shared a motivating message under the theme from Exodus 3:10, "The Call of the Ordinary by God." Despite being a shorter event, the impact was profound, reminding our men of their calling to serve as instruments of God's will, much like Moses, who was sent to free God's people.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce that the full Elective Presbyterial Conference is scheduled for March next year, hosted by the Ebeneza Congregation, as declared by our Moderator.

In Conclusion

We are grateful for the active participation and support from all congregations, which has helped make these events successful. Let us continue to uphold one another in prayer and fellowship as we pursue God's plans knowing that we are Stronger together.

Blessings,



# Lekoa Presbytery





# Fraternal Greetings

Lekoa Fellowship of Women  
Hosted by St Antony



Lekoa Fow Presbytery Annual General Meeting (Conference)



Closing of the Conference

Hosted by St Antony



# Limpopo Presbytery

## Limpopo Presbytery in Session at Blaauwberg Congregation Bochum





# The SANDF Chaplain Service



The Chaplain of the South African National Defence Force recently hosted a thought-provoking symposium under the theme "Unity in Diversity." Held at Goudini Spa in the Western Cape from October 13 to 18, 2024, this impactful event brought together chaplains, military personnel, and faith leaders to explore the significance of unity, inclusivity, and resilience within the armed forces. This is the annual event.

The symposium emphasized how spiritual leadership fosters cohesion in a diverse and dynamic environment like the SA National Defence Force. This year, esteemed guests from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the United States joined, adding an international dimension to the discussions on unity and spiritual leadership.

The official opening was marked by an inspiring sermon from guest preacher, Bishop Pumla

Nzimande, who urged attendees to embody the healing power of unity: "We need to become the healing oil, the balm of Gilead that scripture speaks about. Unity is not just a theme, but the essence of everything we do as chaplains. In all that we do, we must build community. We have come in different ships, but now, we are in one boat."

The Gala evening, held on October 17, was attended by the Chief of the South African Air Force, Lieutenant General Wiseman Simo Mbambo, and his spouse. The evening was a celebration of excellence and professionalism, with certificates and awards presented to Chaplains, Level 2 to 3 Chaplains, Chief of Chaplains, and Headquarters Senior Staff Officers in recognition of their dedication and commitment to their service. From UPCSA, Chaplain Zungu and Chaplain Mpafi were awarded with the silver certificate, respectively, and Chaplain (Ret) Nkayi was awarded a gold certificate. We thank God for the positive contributions that our Chaplains are adding in the SANDF.

**Cpln (Rev) Sibusiso Zungu**

**UPCSA Liason Chaplain**







# Synod of Zambia

The Fellowship of Men attending the launch of the Pan African Presbyterian Men Fellowships, Southern Africa Chapter in Livingstone, Zambia. The Chapter comprise amongst others by men Fellowships/Guilds belonging to the UPCSA South Africa, UPCSA Zambia, EPCSAs, CCAP Synod of Livingstonia, Malawi, LECSA, Lesotho, CCAP Synod of Zambia. The launch adopted programs on campaigns against climate change, gender-based violence and taking care of the boy child. The FoM delegation which was led by the President, Rev Nkululeko Nojoko, also included Bro Benny Boshielo and Bro Joseas Chokoe.





### The definition of GBV

- The term 'GBV' is used to underscore how **systemic inequality between males and females** acts as a **unifying and foundational** characteristic of most forms of violence perpetrated against women and girls.
- The term highlights the gender dimension of these types of acts — the relationship between the subordinate status of women and girls in society and their increased vulnerability to violence.
- Acts of GBV violate a number of universal human rights protected by international instruments and conventions.
- Many — but not all — forms of GBV are illegal and are viewed as criminal acts in national laws and policies.



### GBVF in South Africa

**A chronic crisis!**

- 3 Women killed by their intimate partner everyday
- Femicide rate 5 times the global average
- Over 23000 sexual offences against children: 2016/17 SAPS
- Women not safe in homes, workspaces, public spaces
- GBVF is a daily lived reality for many women!
- Second pandemic to CoVid-19: President Ramaphosa, June 2020

Pan African Presbyterian Men Fellowship







# Bible Study: "The Power of Purpose"

Introduction: Purpose is the reason for which something exists or is done. It is what sets us apart and gives our lives meaning. Without understanding our God-given purpose, we risk living a life without direction, meaning, or impact. Today, we will explore the power of purpose and also look at the dangers of living without it.

Text: Jeremiah 1:5, Jeremiah 1:5 God says, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I sanctified you; and I ordained you a prophet to the nations." This is one of those verses that a lot of people hate because it clearly brings to our attention the sovereignty and control of God. Many people think of themselves as being autonomous, in control of their own lives and destiny; God says that He is in control

Romans 8:28, Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose".

Proverbs 19:21 Proverbs 19:21 says, "Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails".

## 1. Purpose Gives You Identity

Scripture: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." — Jeremiah 1:5

God created each of us with a unique purpose in mind. Our identity is rooted in this divine calling.

When you know your purpose, you understand your identity. You are not defined by your circumstances or by the world's opinions, but by God's plan for your life.

Illustration: Just as an inventor knows the purpose of each tool he creates, God designed each of us with specific intentions. We were created on purpose, for a purpose.

Application: If you are struggling with self-worth or feeling lost, remember that your value is tied to God's purpose for you, not to the shifting standards of society.

## 2. Purpose Fuels Passion and Resilience

Scripture: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." — Romans 8:28

Purpose gives you the strength to persevere through difficulties because you know God is working all things together for good.

When you understand your purpose, it ignites a passion within you. Passion is the fuel that keeps you moving forward, even in the face of adversity.

Example: Jesus endured the cross because He understood His purpose — to bring salvation to mankind (Hebrews 12:2).

Application: If you feel weary or discouraged, reconnect with your God-given purpose. It will reignite your passion and provide the motivation you need to continue.

### 3. Purpose Brings Clarity and Direction

Scripture: “Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.” — Proverbs 19:21

Without purpose, we are like a ship without a rudder, drifting aimlessly in the sea of life. Purpose gives us a clear direction and a sense of priority.

When you know your purpose, you make wiser decisions and live with intentionality, focusing on what truly matters.

Illustration: Imagine an archer aiming at a target. Without a clear purpose, it’s like shooting arrows without a target — there is no direction, no aim, and no impact.

Application: Seek God’s guidance to understand and align your actions with His purpose for your life. This clarity will lead you to a more focused and fulfilling life.

### 4. The Dangers of Not Having Purpose

Scripture: “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” — Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)

1) Lack of Fulfilment: Without purpose, life feels empty. You may achieve worldly success, but it will never satisfy the deeper longing of your soul.

Example: King Solomon, despite his wealth and wisdom, declared, “Meaningless! Meaningless! Everything is meaningless!” (Ecclesiastes 1:2), because he strayed from God’s purpose.

2) Vulnerability to Distractions: When you lack purpose, it’s easy to get caught up in trivial pursuits and distractions. You waste time on things that don’t add value to your life or the kingdom of God.

Illustration: It’s like a traveller without a map — easily lost and led astray by every detour and side road.

3) Prone to Fear and Doubt: Without purpose, you lack the anchor that holds you steady in storms. Fear and doubt take over when you don’t have a strong sense of why you are here.

Example: The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for 40 years because they lost sight of their purpose and promise from God.

4) Risk of Living in Sin: Without a God-given purpose, we may be tempted to live according to the flesh rather than the Spirit, pursuing selfish desires instead of God’s will.

Application: If you feel aimless or disconnected, it’s a sign to realign with God’s

purpose for your life. Ask God to reveal His plan and commit to walking in it.

### 5. Purpose Brings Fulfilment and Legacy

Scripture: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." — 2 Timothy 4:7

Paul's life was marked by a strong sense of purpose. He fulfilled his calling and left a legacy that continues to inspire Christians today.

True fulfilment comes not from material success but from living out God's purpose for your life. Your purpose will have an impact beyond your lifetime.

Application: Think about what kind of legacy you want to leave. A life lived on purpose creates a ripple effect that touches the lives of others and brings glory to God.

### Conclusion:

The power of purpose cannot be overstated. It gives you identity, fuels your passion, provides clarity, and leaves a lasting legacy. On the other hand, a life without purpose is marked by confusion, dissatisfaction, and missed opportunities. God has a plan for each of us, and it's never too late to discover it and walk in it.

### Call to Action:

Spend time in prayer this week, asking God to reveal or reaffirm His purpose for your life. If

you have been feeling lost, ask the Holy Spirit to guide you back to the path of purpose. Make a commitment to pursue God's calling with all your heart.

### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for creating us with purpose. Help us to recognize and walk in the unique calling You have placed on our lives. Give us clarity, passion, and the courage to fulfil our purpose. Protect us from distractions and give us the strength to persevere. May our lives be a testimony of Your grace and love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**SYNOD OF ZAMBIA**  
PRESENTS  
**FAITH CLINIC**  
TOPIC:  
**THE POWER Of PURPOSES**  
*(Jeremiah 1:5, Romans 8:28)*  
SPEAKER  
THE REV. CHEZRON KATOPE  
HOST  
ELDER JULIUS I. NGWIRA  
DATE  
**14TH NOV, 2024**  
TIME: 20:00hrs (CAT)  
VENUE: ONLINE (GOOGLE MEET)  
FOR MORE INFO: 0977 377 574 / 0977 811 556 / 0977 806 818

**FAITH CLINIC**  
Presents  
*Dealing With An Egyptian Mind in Canaan*  
Tonight, Thursday, 31st  
October, 2024 @ 20:00hrs on  
Google meeting  
With Rev. Pepulani Mtonga



SYNOD OF ZAMBIA

PRESENTS  
**FAITH CLINIC**

TOPIC:

THE **POWER** Of  
PURPOSES

(Jeremiah 1:5, Romans 8:28)

SPEAKER  
THE REV. CHEZRON KATOPE



HOST  
ELDER JULIUS I. NGWIRA

DATE

14TH NOV, 2024

TIME: 20:00HRS (CAT)

VENUE: ONLINE (GOOGLE MEET)

FOR MORE INFO: 0977 377 574 / 0977 811 556 / 0977 806 818



Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa  
SYNOD OF ZAMBIA

PRESENTS



REV. RICHARD  
MKANDAWIRE



HOST  
MRS. SONGLO  
MKANDAWIRE .M

**Faith**  
**CLINIC**  
THEME

THE MAKING OF A  
GODLY LEADER

DATE

10 OCTOBER

TIME: 20H 00PM

MORE INFO: +0977377574 / 0977811556 / 0977806818

**Faith Clinic Bible Study**

Topic

*Biblical Visionary Leadership*

*Text: Exodus 3, Ezekiel 16 and John 3:16*

on

Thursday 24 October  
2024

@ 20 : 00hrs - 21 : 30hrs  
On Google meet



With Rev. Lazarous Chirwa



**FAITH CLINIC**

Presents

*Dealing With An Egyptian Mind in  
Canaan*

*Tonight, Thursday, 31st  
October, 2024 @ 20:00hrs on  
Google meeting*



With Rev. Pepulani Mtonga



Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa  
SYNOD OF ZAMBIA

**FAITH**  
**CLINIC**

TOPIC

" Where Faith  
Manifests, Leadership  
Excels"

SPEAKER

Mr. Kingston Ogango  
Author, Trainer, Minister,  
and Designer, from  
Kenya

22  
NOV.  
THURSDAY

8:00  
PM



THE UNITING  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
IN SOUTHERN  
AFRICA

CIS (GENDER DESK)

**24** HOUR  
PRAYER

22 - 23 November

18:00 - 18:00



Meeting ID: 87691920106  
Passcode: 047672



Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa  
SYNOD OF ZAMBIA



**SPEAKER**

Mr. Kingston Ogango  
Author, Trainer, Minister,  
and Designer, from  
Kenya

# FAITH CLINIC

**TOPIC**

"Where Faith  
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# Synod Of Zambia

## Zambia new Presbytery of the Eastern Province

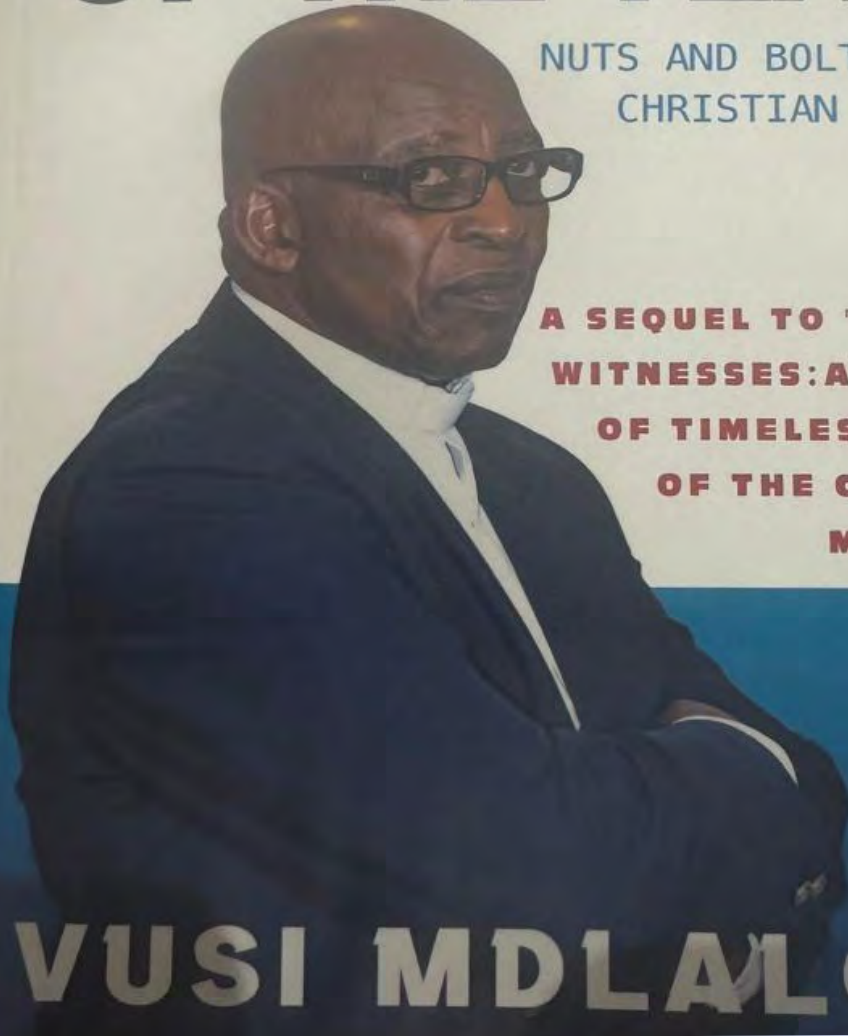






# WHAT DOES A MINISTER DO IN THE 365 DAYS OF THE YEAR?

NUTS AND BOLTS OF THE  
CHRISTIAN MINISTRY



A SEQUEL TO 'CLOUD OF  
WITNESSES: A CHANNEL  
OF TIMELESS VALUES  
OF THE CHRISTIAN  
MINISTRY.'

**VUSI MDLALOSE**

Book review : The only best way to explain Rev Vusi Mdlalose's recently published book is 'what a master piece'. This book is published within two years of the publication of yet another book by Rev Mdlalose. Titled 'What does a Minister do in the 365 days of the year'. Rather than just being an academic book, this piece of work is more of a manual for old and new Ministers, detailing the intensity of being a Minister. It exposes the extra -ordinary work that 'a Minister entails'. For those who lacks inside knowledge into the daily lives and chores of Ministers, we encourage them to read this book. Again Rev Mdlalose shares his valuable insights into Ministry.

by **Elder Benny Boshielo**  
**Stuartville Congregation**



# Presbytery Of Zimbabwe

Youth Unite in Pride: Presbytery of Zimbabwe Fellowship of Youth Uniform Day a Resounding Success

Youths Across Congregations Don Uniforms, Gear Up for December 2024 Conference

PRESBYTERY OF ZIMBABWE November 4, 2024

The Presbytery of Zimbabwe Fellowship of Youth (POZ-FOY) successfully hosted its 2024 Uniform Day on November 3, 2024, with youths from various congregations and stations participating nationwide.

The event, themed "My Uniform, My Pride," aimed to promote unity, identity, and pride among POZ-FOY members, while gearing up for the highly anticipated 2024 Conference. Youths enthusiastically donned their full combat uniform regalia, showcasing their allegiance and commitment.

National Executive members expressed delight at the overwhelming response. "We're thrilled to see our youths embracing their identity and taking pride in their fellowship. This unity will propel us forward as we prepare for our December Conference."

The Conference, scheduled for December 11-15 at David Livingstone Primary and High School in Bulawayo, promises to be an unforgettable experience. Themed "A New Creation: Out with the Old, In with the New" (2 Corinthians 5:17), it will feature inspiring speakers, workshops, and worship sessions.

POZ-FOY leaders emphasized the significance of the Uniform Day and Conference. "As a new creation, we're called to shed old habits and mindsets, embracing a renewed spirit. Our uniform represents this transformation."

Youths shared their experiences on social media using WhatsApp (+263776157777), flooding the platform with vibrant photos and videos.

## TESTIMONIALS

"It wasn't just about the fabric; it was a celebration of our faith and community, igniting a deeper connection among us all." Tadiwanashe Kaduya POZ-FOY Member

The uniform day reminded us that we should not just wear uniforms but rather represent Christ. Our uniforms totally tells us that we are ambassadors of Christ.

It was so beautiful seeing how the uniform brings all Youths together. " Francis Mangwirow, POZ-FOY Leader

## LOOKING AHEAD

As POZ-FOY gears up for the December Conference, expectations are high. Youths are encouraged to continue embracing their identity and spreading the message of transformation.







29 October 2024

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## GRAPE Media statement in support of SRD grant court case

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The Global Reformed Platform for Engagement (GRAPE) supports the introduction of a Universal Basic Income as a guarantee (UBIG) in South Africa to provide essential income support to individuals aged 18-59. South Africa is plagued by high levels of poverty, inequality and unemployment. Therefore, urgent action is needed to effectively address hunger and deprivation while at the same time advancing economic empowerment and social justice for all.

The Social Relief of Distress (SRD) grant has proven effective in providing much-needed income support during the pandemic and in alleviating its negative economic and social consequences up to today. The SRD grant is a step in the right direction for a universal basic income guarantee in South Africa. The SRD grant must be administered justly and fairly for all eligible people.

In this light, GRAPE wishes to express its wholehearted support for the issues raised and remedies sought by the applicants in the Social Relief of Distress (SRD, R370) grant matter, set to be heard by the Pretoria High Court this week.

The applicants—the Institute for Economic Justice and #PayTheGrants, represented by the Socio Economic Rights Institute—are challenging the procedural barriers to access this critical lifeline which have been put in the way of eligible people. They are also challenging the real-terms retrogression of the grant value and income-eligibility threshold, which have fallen far behind inflation and the cost of meeting basic needs.

Approximately 50% of the programme's target population (adults living below the food poverty line) are unable to access it due to the fact that grant applications can only be lodged online, the government's flawed methods for assessing eligibility and disbursing payments, and an appeals process that is not fit for purpose.

The declining level of support provided by the grant runs counter to the government's Constitutional obligation to progressively realise the right to social assistance within available resources.

The government has signalled that the SRD grant will be improved and expanded into a much-needed system of basic income support for economically-excluded adults. GRAPE

supports this policy direction. However, we have yet to see concrete steps taken to implement this policy, and instead, the SRD grant continues to be limited and undermined.

Archbishop Thabo Makgoba said in July 2024: "A Universal Basic Income is the yardstick of the new government to achieve tangible results and to improve the lives of many millions of South Africans. A Universal Basic Income is the starting line a prerequisite which provides a platform to kickstart equitable and sustainable development for all South Africans." (Archbishop Thabo Makgoba 2024)

GRAPE urges the government to take the voice of the faith-based community seriously and take all necessary steps towards introducing a universal basic income. The first step is to ensure the right, fair, and equitable administration of the SRD grant and increase its level, taking account of inflation and cost of living increases.

The SRD grant court case, taking place on 29 and 30 October, represents a pivotal moment in the fight for dignity and socio-economic justice in South Africa.

Further information and resources related to the court case can be found [here](#).

**GRAPE is an advocacy programme of the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) and the press statement is endorsed by the following member churches of the GRAPE platform:**

***Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa (UPCSA)***

***Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa (URCSA)***

***United Congregational Church of Southern Africa (UCCSA)***

***Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa (NGK)***

***Calvin Protestant Church (CPC) of South Africa***

***Rhenish Church South Africa (RCSA)***

**For media enquiries or further details, please contact:**

Rev Dr Bukelwa Hans: +27 - 82 - 651 5070 or [stukie@iafrica.com](mailto:stukie@iafrica.com)

**For more information on GRAPE, please consult the following web pages:**

Grape: [www.grape-wcrc.org](http://www.grape-wcrc.org)

WCRC: <https://wcrc.eu/>

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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.

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