

LUTHERAN CHURCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

KwaZulu Natal Diocese

LUTHERESE KERK IN SUIDER AFRIKA
KEREKE YA LUTERE MO BORWA JWA AFRIKA
LUTHERISCHE KIRCHE IM SUDLICHEN AFRIKA
IKERIKE NGOKOBULUTHERE ENINGIZIMU AFRIKA

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General Synod

Wartburg-Pella

10-13 December 2012

Honorable Bishop Weber, Deputy Bishop Vilakazi, Deans, and Deputy Deans,
Pastors, Deacons, Lay Delegates, Visitors,

I greet you all in the name of the triune God.

Personnel

PARISH	PASTOR	POSITION
Durban	R. Meyer, S. Chetty (Deacon)	Full Time
Umlazi	Dean Thwala, C. Weber	Full Time
Ebenezer	R. Ntsimane	Part Time
Enhlanhleni	D. Thulo	Full Time
Newcastle	A. Sibanyoni	Full Time
Ohlangeni	P. Weber, E. Mkhabela	Full Time
Pella	J. Nkosi	Full Time
Tholeni	Vacant	
Nondweni	I. Ngwenya	Full Time

KZN Diocese Members

Chairperson – Reverend Dean M. P. Thwala

Deputy Chairperson – Reverend J. A. Nkosi

Secretary – Mr. B. Zondi

Treasurer – Mr. T. Mabasa

Church Council Delegate – Mr. A. Majazi

Additional Member – Reverend P. Weber

KZN mourn with their families the loss of their loved ones:

The Reverend Dean A. Ntuli and his wife, Reverend Dean S. I. Ntuli and Mrs. Lubede and Miss T. Nyathi, our KZN Diocese secretary. We always remember them and the good work they did to serve the Lord in KZN Diocese.

KZN Personnel Retirement

In 2009 the KZN Diocese acknowledged the Reverend Lubede and Reverend A. Ntuli for their services to the church and the KZN Diocese with a token appreciation of R8300 each.

In 2010 Reverend Gule and Reverend S. Ndwalane retired after serving the church for so many years. May God bless them on their retirement and our gratitude for serving in this Diocese.

KZN Diocese Visitations

Since 2010 the Dean and the Diocese members visited all but one of the parishes in the KZN diocese. During our visits we spoke with our pastors, encouraged our church members to take good care of their pastor, worshipped with them. During our visits we discovered a number of issues most of which we were able to resolve to everyone's agreement. The common problem we find is the issue of money.

Sometimes we were called in emergency situations to intervene as a diocese. With the help of the Lord we managed to solve those problems.

KZN Diocese Meetings

KZN Diocese had two synod meetings. The pastors have five meetings a year at various parishes. The past two years we celebrated Reformation as a Diocese. In the last synod meeting these decisions were taken:

The redemarcation of the parishes:

1. Glencoe, Limehill, Somsuku
2. Enhlanhleni, Mozane, Ntili and Tugela Ferry
3. Nondweni and Vryheid (starting mission work)
4. Kranskop – No pastor will be going there because people are moving out of the rural area. Those who are there, they want the pastor to come at their own time.

Property Trust Committee

This committee has a membership of four people, which includes the Dean and Deputy Dean of KZN Diocese. It was through this committee's efforts working with the seminary that we are happy to announce Enhlanhleni now falls under the jurisdiction of the KZN Diocese.

This committee would like to ask the synod to discuss the issue of what percentage would be given to the diocese if any property is sold.

KZN Leagues

The KZN has three leagues –

The Men's League under the leadership of Reverend R. Ntsimane is doing quite well. It is meeting every year and there is a great progress.

The Women's League is under the leadership of Mrs. K. Ntsimane. This is an active league in this diocese. It is meeting every year and their fruit is well known as they are giving pastors R10,000 per year to help them to have their own shelter. To this date six pastors have benefited from their efforts.

The Youth League is under the leadership of the Reverend A. Sibanyoni. It is existing but not functioning well due to lack of youth leadership. We hope that these problems will be resolved in the near future.

Ntshongweni Project

Since the project started in 2006, 38 homes have been built. There are approximately 185 orphans living in these homes. With the help of other organizations the church is providing clothing and food. There is a trustee committee that is overseeing the project.

The project also includes the Ntshongweni Crèche which started operations in 2010/2011 with 85 children. The enrollment in 2011/2012 was 75 children. The staff consists of 3 teachers, 2 cooks, 1 volunteer and 1 gardener who all live in Ntshongweni. The crèche received government funding in April of 2012. The crèche serves the community through sewing classes, Bible camp during school breaks, three soccer teams, health and wellness clinics, and abuse awareness meetings.

Through this project I am involved in many community organizations and schools.

KZN Diocese Finance

The diocese is surviving through the donation of R100 per parish every month. Although it is not enough but we are trying by all means to use what we have to serve the diocese. We have a number of financial meetings with the treasurers and the pastors to try to encourage them to encourage their congregants to support the diocese coffers.

KZN Diocese Challenges

1. The Diocese car - It makes things difficult for the Dean to move from one destiny to another to provide for the needs of the diocese without a vehicle.
2. The high number of church members who are not working. As a result pastors are not paid well.
3. Epidemic of HIV/AIDS.

I thank you all.

Reverend Dean M. P. Thwala