

GtC UPDATE



Our vision: To be a God-centred Anglican Church, clearly growing spiritually, numerically and holistically

SECOND QUARTER – JULY 2018

Bishops prioritise Discipleship Training

DIOCESE OF NATAL

IN May GtC ran a Discipleship Training Course in the Diocese of Natal. The first part of the training conference was mainly for clergy and it focused on the first module of the J-Life material which is a discipleship framework viz. Strategy for Discipleship. This training was given by Dr Johann and Louise van der Bijl, both missionaries from SAMS.

The second part of the discipleship training conference was to train clergy and laity in “Rooted in Jesus” and “The God who is There” discipleship courses. The implementation of these courses is done through formation of small discipleship groups.

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Above: These trainees were trained to make disciples who make disciples.

Above left: Clergy and some laity who were trained in the J-Life Strategy Module on discipleship in the Diocese of Natal.

Above right: + Dino Gabriel hands a Certificate of Completion to Anele Langa. On the left is Canon Dumisani Shezi, the Discipleship Coordinator for the diocese.

AA2018 Good News: Early bird deadline extended!!

THE Early Bird deadline has been extended to 31 AUGUST 2018! This decision was made to give more people the opportunity to join us at the AA2018 conference. Please register as soon as possible.

Please also secure your accommodation as soon as possible.

Accommodation at **Tre Fontane** is now fully booked. Other accommodation venues are Vuleka Trust Centre (for the youth), St Mary's DSG, Kearsney College and Glenwood Boys School and Concord Centre (which is good for singles and couples.)

Please be aware that transport will only be provided between the accommodation points mentioned and the conference venue.

More good news...

The Most Reverend *Ng Moon Hing* who is the Anglican Bishop of West Malaysia and also Archbishop of the Province of South East Asia, will be one of the keynote speakers. He will also be bringing along a team who will run missions in parishes after the conference.

He leads up the communion-wide task team for [motivating and resourcing] discipleship.



Archbishop Moon Hing

Bishops prioritise Discipleship Training

DIOCESE OF NATAL cont.

Delegate comments:

"I can't thank you enough for the spiritual armaments that you have imparted into my spirituality as well as ministry through this (Strategy) training. The material is so divine to extent that I have waited for such since 2008, but I really would not put my head around to formulate anything like that, even though I knew that something is missing in the way I teach the children of God. But now with this material everything will be so easy. I would like to read the *4 Chairs* book mentioned."

- *Phiwa Mahaye*

"Thank you for equipping us with the tools to utilise in teaching and discipling many as Christ's followers. The Rooted in Jesus training was a phenomenal experience. In between sessions we received testimonies that were heart-warming and encouraging.

"We thoroughly enjoyed all the sessions and in a way one noticed God activating gifts of teaching His Word, evangelism, healing and counselling.

"I am confident that we have deepened our faith in God. There is hope for many who will follow us, as we invite them back to Jesus.

"We will hold feedback sessions with Revd Canon Shezi, to carve the way forward. I would certainly love to sharpen my facilitation skills and contribute to the body of Christ.

"God willing, we shall come to the Anglican Ablaze conference to be further equipped and empowered."

- *Dr Zama Mtshali-Dlamini*

"On behalf of our Diocesan Bishop, Dino, I wish to pass a word of gratitude to the GtC Team for coming in our Diocese to lead J-Life for the clergy and Rooted in Jesus for the laity.

POST CONFERENCE DEVELOPMENTS:

Bishop Tsietsi will be meeting those who were in our training team on the 22nd for follow up. The people who attended the workshops will be helpful in the Diocese in training more people.

"The next project we have to start soon is the translation of Rooted in Jesus courses into Isizulu [*Only Book 1 is available in Isizulu*] so that those in rural parishes may benefit.

"I am looking forward to Sunday schools using Rooted in Jesus junior too."

- *Fr Canon Dumisani Shezi*

DIOCESE OF FREE STATE

THE Diocese of Free State ran a Discipleship Course using *Rooted in Jesus Adult and Junior and The God Who is There* resources.

The conference of 3-5 May 2018, was a miracle from its very inception. Organized within a very short period of time, with no budget and no visible support. The Lord really showed His faithfulness and reliability as we depended entirely on Him.

The GtC team, Estelle Adams, Amanda Ohlsson and Fr Trevor Pearce who lead the intense, challenging and interesting programme were assisted by ten coordinators of the diocese.

In total 45 people attended the conference, including the Bishop, +Dintoe, and his wife, Zanele. The group included ten clergy from various parishes. Though most of the attendees were members of the AWF, there was a sizeable number of Youth, lay ministers and Sunday school teachers.

We were also joined by two clergy from the Diocese of Lesotho; Revd Dr Joseph Morenammele and Revd Dr Ntsiuoa Rathabaneng.

Dr Joseph comments: "What can one say! I left that place very encouraged and inspired. For many years since I came to Christ in 1985, I have been longing to see my Anglican Church in Lesotho sold fully



+Dintoe and Mrs Zanele Letloenyane gave their full support throughout the discipleship conference.

to the preaching of the saving Gospel through Christ. The training in Bloemfontein gave me a great hope that things are now at the doorstep in our own diocese. For me it was a strategic training on discipleship and fulfilment of the Great Commission. Rooted in Jesus is an excellent programme helping us to deepen our faith in Christ and equipping us life-long discipleship leading to the growth of the church. I am truly excited with what took place in Bloemfontein and I cannot wait to see the seminar take place in our Diocese."

In between the sessions delegates expressed sincere appreciation and thankfulness for the programme. I was impressed by the discipline of the delegates, who were in time for the sessions and participated excitedly in all the sessions and activities.

The sessions also brought to the surface some deep underlying emotions and pain in some, and therefore granted healing, blessing and deliverance to many.

At the end of the conference, all delegates felt inspired to go back to their respective parishes and organisations, and to implement the Rooted in Jesus Programme.

In addition, three delegates, Zanele Letloenyane, the Revd Hectorina Tsotetsi (Priest in Charge, St Bernard the Martyr, Namahadi) and myself were designated as trainers.

POST CONFERENCE DEVELOPMENTS:

- The Bishop runs his group with five of his staff members;
- Fr Itumeleng Pooe has a group with some of the members of the Fellowship of Vocation.

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58th ASF Provincial Conference

Photos by provided by ASF

ASF invited GtC to speak on Discipleship



Interesting slogans on T-shirts and Jackets worn at ASF conference reflect some of the characteristics of a disciple. The joyous dancing and bonding amongst the youth was so uplifting.



Slogans, dancing, camaraderie, and competitions — enhanced the concept of Discipleship



Revd Trevor Pearce (GtC) who presented an interactive seminar on the Rooted in Jesus Discipleship Course, engage some of the delegates. ASF also hosted a Mr & Mrs ASF competition!

Growing the Church and the Anglican Students Federation

THE REVD Trevor Pearce joined us for a seminar on the work of Growing the Church. He provided so much needed information on GtC and how we, as young people can get involved as the Anglican Students' Federation (ASF) and also in our respective parishes back home.

We were reminded of the fact that we are commanded to make Disciples of Christ, and GtC equips us for that task by providing training resources on discipleship, mission and evangelism, youth development, preaching, church-planting, children's ministry, leadership development, social development and a lot more. It is an effective tool in growing the Anglican Church of Southern Africa and the fact that each of these resources can be implemented into the unique context of each diocese makes it even better.

It was great for us as the ASF to learn that we can become even bigger agents of positive growth within the church and in our communities.

During the seminar with Revd Pearce, we were split into smaller groups to have discussions on a number of questions that he asked such as the kind of workshops we would like to create if we were given the opportunity. We also had brief discussions from some of the answers that were given such as improving student ministry, influencing other young people from other Christian denominations, ASF learning more about being Rooted in Jesus and in terms of spiritual growth, we spoke about how it is important to create well-rounded individuals that fully understand what it means to be rooted in Christ and are willing to influence others to do the same.

Lastly Revd Pearce told us about the Anglicans Ablaze conference taking place from 3-6 October in Durban this year. We were told of how impactful the last three conferences were and we were encouraged to attend as this is a special time for Anglicans all over the country, continent and the world to spend time together. It is a time where we celebrate our diversity as Anglicans and become one in Christ. We cannot wait to experience it ourselves!

It makes us even happier that the hosting Regional members are involved in the planning and assisting GTC where it's needed as the KZN ASF Chairperson Mandisa Zwane sits in the Natal Diocesan Council. All in all, this was an amazing seminar. We enjoyed having Revd Pearce with us and look forward to being with the full GtC team in future.

- Basetsana Makena
ASF General Secretary

GROWING the Church has once again secured the special rate of R420 for Anglicans wanting to attend the 2018 Global Leadership Summit.

The regular rates from 1 July is:

R630pp (1 – 9 Delegates)

R570pp (10+ Delegates)

Code for special Anglican Rate is

AngRates18GLS

Dates & Venues

5 – 6 October 2018

Johannesburg – Mosaïek Teatro

East London – Christian Centre

12 – 13 October 2018

Durban Amanzimtoti – Sweetwaters Church

Vanderbijlpark – River of Life Family Church

Somerset West – New Generation Church

Richards Bay – Outlook Church

Dates & Venues cont.

19 – 20 October 2018

Cape Town – Baxter Theatre –

DATE & VENUE CHANGED!

Durban Kloof – Kloof Harvest Church

Durban Ballito – Linc Church

Port Elizabeth – Harvest Christian Church

Rustenburg – Agapé Gemeente

26 – 27 October 2018

Durban Westville – Westville Baptist Church

Bloemfontein – Doxa Deo

Knysna – Knysna Vineyard

Pietermaritzburg – All Saints United Church

Cape Town – AFM Friend of God

Klerksdorp – Oase Gemeente

Dates & Venues cont.

27 October 2018

Kimberley – Taberna Dei

Diamantstad

2 – 3 November 2018

Witbank – New Life Church

Graaff-Reinet – The Botanics

9 – 10 November 2018

Pretoria – Hatfield Christian Church

For more details about the summit

please visit website: <https://willowcreeksa.co.za/gls2018/>



Bishops prioritise ...

DIOCESE OF FREE STATE

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- In the Diocese the programme is also taking root, especially in the Far Eastern Free State, where the Revd Tsoetsi, on her own, is coordinating four groups!

Despite the apathy amongst some of the clergy, the Lord has assured us that He has chosen those whom he wants to touch and transform.

My own ministry has changed remarkably. I'm am so much more at rest in His presence, as I learn to rely more and more on the guidance of the Holy Spirit. I am experiencing such peace I am, a peace as I've never known before.

Amongst the highlights of my week are the Saturday evening Rooted in Jesus Junior sessions with my wife and three kids (to the accompaniment obligatory Pizza, of course !!!)

I'm also so grateful that the Lord is mightily using our Bishop. Firstly, his support from the beginning has been unequivocal; even though the programme was not in the Diocesan plans or budgets for the year.

Secondly, he fully attended the conference, sitting and participating in each session; he even received the certificate! Following the conference he issued a fiery charge, asking all to participate in the programme.

- Canon Itumeleng Poee

DIOCESE OF NAMIBIA



The training at St Michael's Anglican Church in Katatura, offered to a small group of four, Fr Lazarus, Fr Immanuel, Fr Paulus, and sister

Eunice, pictured above, and a pre-med student, Fillemon, for the first day. The training was done by Dr Johann and Louise van der Bijl, SAMS Missionaries.

All agreed that this material, the J-Life Discipleship training, was what they had been waiting for a long time.

We took three days to complete the training. It is such a huge paradigm shift from the maintenance method (or attractional model) to the missional method (or disciple making model) that one has to allow time for questions, discussions, and reflection.

At the end of three wonderful days, we decided we needed to start making plans to return next year, but not only for three days in Windhoek but in as many areas as possible. Such a feat would take about three months... but it would be well worth the effort!

- Dr Johann van der Bijl

Thank you! Dankie! Enkosi! Siyabulela!

THANK YOU to all our donors who support us by prayer and donations. If you wish to pledge via **Debit Order**, we need a signed GtC Response Form authorising us to load your details as a debit order contributor. Please contact Estelle Adams at office@growingthechurch.org.za or 021-763 1315 to ask for a form. For other ways to give, [click here](#).