

2022 URCSA 8TH GENERAL SYNOD



4 OCTOBER 2022, DAY 2



MESSAGE OF THE MODERATOR



Craig Lemboe



Morning Devotion



GS Staff

URCSAGS2022 STAFF



THE BELHAR CONFESSION TRUST



ELECTION COMMITTEE



REFLECTIONS ON THE MORNING DEVOTION



GOD'S PRESENCE DURING THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

God was good for us during the difficult days of COVID 19. Although many of our beloved ones were taken away we thank God that He still loves us and still looks after us.

Dr Sgz Mbambo

Namibia Regional Synod

GOD'S PRESENCE DURING THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

The COVID 19 pandemic exposed the inadequacy of all human resources, economic, scientific, political, etc.

The pandemic reminded humankind of our dependence on the sustaining power of God, himself and God alone.

God turned us towards this and met us in various ways. He comforted, strengthened, created new hope, generated trust, build mutual support among the people. God demolished the closed universe of the secular world and opened the spirit of humankind for the sovereign presence of God in Christ.

Rev Peter Grove

Cape Regional Synod



GOD'S PRESENCE DURING THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

I saw the power of God as creator and sustainer of our life and I learnt to trust God, my faith is strengthened, it was a time to strengthen my faith in God.

I also saw the compassion of God and it was the time to read scripture and have a repentance life. To continuously trust in God and not on materials.

Rev Dr Ernest William Kadiva

UEM Africa Dar-es-Salaam



REFLECTIONS ON THE MORNING DEVOTION



GOD'S PRESENCE DURING THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

The day I received a message from the doctor that I have tested COVID 19 positive, was the day my closest church elder has just passed-on.

Thereafter I got complications and felt my last breath. I felt right on top of the graveyard fence (either in or out).

But here I am today, safe and sound.

I thank the Lord for being my refuge in those difficult times.

Elder Tiny Keebine

NortThen Regional Synod

GOD'S PRESENCE DURING THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

During the COVID pandemic I decided to start writing my own psalms about God and the pandemic. It was a wonderful experience how I found comfort in word, comfort in writing out my fears and feelings. The comfort in connecting with God in this special way, through words, poetry and art.

I experienced the presence of God during the pandemic. My hope is that everyone can create their own unique ways of connecting with God in creative ways, especially in difficult times

Rev Karlie Liebenberg

Cape Regional Synod



URCSA NEWS TEAM

JOURNALIST

MRS KEFILOE FOKASE
fokasek@gmail.com

REV LYSANDER PRINS

REV HENDRY TROMP

LAYOUT DESIGNER

Rev KK Mokoena





THE MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR OF THE UNITING REFORMED CHURCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA GENERAL SYNOD

I am humbled by the confidence and trust the members of URCSA have in me as their humble servant. I was trained and produced by this church to service it with dedication and diligence. The way forward from the 8th General synod in Stellenbosch, the GSE needs revisit the Strategic plan of 2016-2024 by focusing on URSA mission: “To affect the renewal of creation through the proclamation and witness of the kingdom of God as co-workers and followers of Christ”; with the strategic goals:

- The edification and extension of the church;
- Promotion and extension of church unity;
- Effective ecumenical and partnership relations

- Program for civil and social responsibility;
- Effective communication resources.

The URCSA mission and strategic goals will be the guideline for GSE to lead the church forward, with the help of God who has called us to this position of leadership in His church.

We will draw our strength from the spirituality of our church order in the words of Rev DP Carelse in the forward of the Church Order of URCSA: “The content of this book also defines healing and restoration: healing of the brokenness in the persons and communities. And not just “spiritual” healing but a church law that draws the attention of URCSA to the altogether

er real conditions of the dispossessed, the refugees, the victims of exploitation, the stranger, the oppressed, and the sick.

Throughout our journey in leadership we will be stronger and united more than ever because of the echo of Paul’s words to Philippians in Phil 4:13&14 “**I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles.**” United we stand, divided we fall, productivity we live!





The fragile cultural and social order in SA and globally

Craig Lemboe, Senior Economist (BER- Bureau for economic research at Stellenbosch University) gave an excellent presentation on issues affecting the church on the fragility of the cultural and social order in SA and globally.

He further continued to elaborate on political dissatisfaction also reflected in social rage and worsened global geopolitics adding to local woes.

The summary of the presentation will be shared with the delegates.

Members were given an opportunity to engage the presentation.

Interview with Deacon Andrea Arendse from VGK Die Goeie Hoop, Ebenezer Presbytery, Cape Regional Synod.

1. Have you attended a GS sitting before?

No, this is my 1st time at any Synod sitting

2. What has been your experience been since your arrival?

A very welcoming, friendly and blessed experience thus far. Very professional team that helped with logistical arrangements.

3. What were your expectations before attending the URCSA 8th GS sitting?

Unity in Christ.

4. What are your expectations now?

Synod: Is greek for 2 words
Syn = together
Hodas =way

So together we are seeking the way of God

5. Any words of wisdom for the sitting?

We hope and pray that God will guide us in making decisions according to His will and plans for URCSA. Isaiah 58:11

