



# SOLA 5 E-NEWSLETTER

an association of God-centred evangelicals in southern Africa

No 13-2013

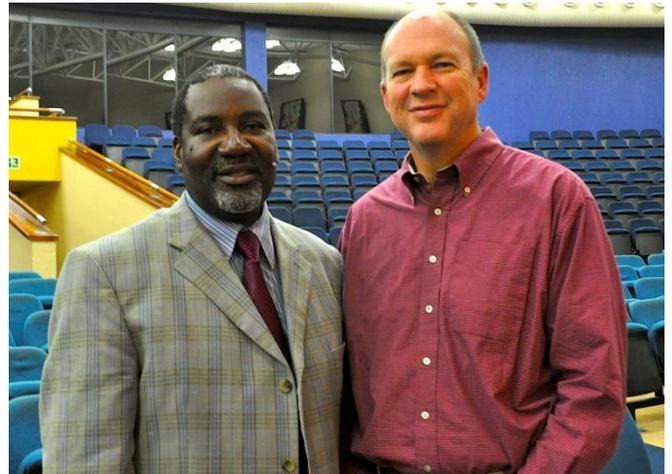
November 2013

## NEWS FROM MEMBERS

*Conrad Mbewe about his PhD Thesis*

A number of my Facebook friends have asked what my PhD Thesis was about. It was about one of the most difficult phases in the work of church planting missions, i.e. the handover process from pioneer missionaries to indigenous leaders. This is often fraught with suspicions and fightings. Having observed a different story in the relationship between Olive Doke (pioneer missionary) and Paul Kasonga (indigenous leader) at the commencement of Baptist work in Zambia, I unearthed various archived materials and conducted key interviews in the region where they once laboured together (1931-1954). This formed the core of my research and, upon subjecting it to biblical and historical analysis, it proved the thesis that the success of their working relationship and handover process at the Kafulafuta Mission lay in their mutual respect and admiration. Paternalism gave way to true partnership. Finally, in the Thesis, I have offered a model or strategy to ensure that what happened between Olive Doke and Paul Kasonga is nurtured among missionaries and indigenous leaders today.

And what is this photo about? The man next to me is Dr Gerhard Venter, former principal of the Cape Town Baptist Seminary. He is the man who got me seriously thinking about undertaking formal theological studies. I lost touch with him for some years and, in the Lord's providence, met him this year on the eve of my graduation. It was an opportune time for me to thank him for that nudge he gave me over a decade ago. Isn't the Lord amazing in his timing?



## NEWS FROM MEMBERS (Wayne Jardine)

*Wayne Jardine (Associate Member) reports from Tzaneen Baptist Church*



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ It is a privilege to declare to you by the grace of God that which our Saviour Jesus Christ has accomplished in His vineyard here in Tzaneen Baptist Church this present year 2013.

It is drawing close to two years now that I have been the pastor of this wonderful congregation and count it an absolute privilege to be able to shepherd this flock by God's written Word.

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Although this year started off slowly it did gain momentum and we have seen a nice growth both spiritually and numerically especially the later part of the year. Most of the folk have been relatively healthy and happy and we have had no major incidents at all.

During the course of this year we lost two families. As always it is not easy as a Pastor to say goodbye to members of his flock. Anita & Johann immigrated back to New Zealand, whilst the other sons left to go to the biggest Charismatic church in Tzaneen. Bobbi was part of the worship team and played the piano and has an incredible voice. However, in God's great providence He has brought two new pianists to our church during this time.

We have conducted two separate baptismal services during this year and with great joy have just recently brought 14 new candidates into membership for which we praise the Lord. We also have a number of adherents who have been faithful in church attendance and hopefully next year that would see the need to join as members.

Cosmetically we painted the interior of the church and managed to put in new carpets in the worship hall. We also removed three large trees and one large stump to make the parking lot bigger and cleaner. Unfortunately our gardener of 20 years, Thomas resigned due to medical reasons and managed to employ a young and strong gardener by the name of George, who is doing a great job keeping our property clean. We have also managed to waterproof the church manse just before the rainy season.

In the beginning of the year I got my Marriage Licence from the Department of Home Affairs which allows me to conduct official weddings and also become a Commissioner of Oath in South Africa. To date, I have conducted two weddings with another scheduled for March 2014.

## DEACONS

In the beginning of the year we also appointed three new deacons who are serving alongside the existing deacons. They are Brian Rajoo (Finances), Felix Hacker (Music) and Kelvin Fowler (Care Group).

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## FELLOWSHIP

We have had a number of church family braai's and sing-spirations & giving of testimonies which has really united us as a church and we will have our last function on the 1<sup>st</sup> December where we will join together for our Christmas lunch.



Just recently we have had Doug & Ann Forsyth from Weltevreden Chapel fellowship and worship with us at Tzaneen Baptist Church. They enjoyed their 3 month sabbatical in our neck of the woods and were deeply encouraged by their friendship and fellowship.

## "BAND OF BROTHERS"

In the beginning of 2014 we will start a men's fellowship group called: Band of Brothers. We will meet on Saturday mornings. The point of this group is spiritual fellowship and accountability together with edification from God's Word through encouragement.

The theme for the year will be: "Caring Hearts & Calloused Hands".

In the future we will draw out of this group potential leadership.

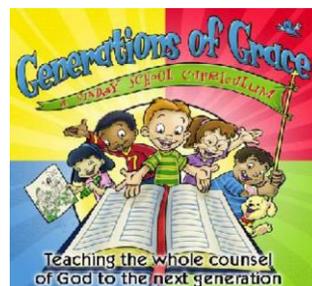
It is by mutual agreement that we will occasionally meet with Iron men from Christ Baptist church in Polokwane for joint fellowship.



## "GENERATIONS OF GRACE"

We have also had an opportunity to be able to secure the Generations of grace Sunday school curriculum, which will be implemented in January 2014.

This curriculum was designed and developed by Grace Community Church which is headed up by John MacArthur. Christ Baptist Church in Polokwane was kind enough to put our Sunday school teachers through four one hour long lectures which will enable them to be ready to implement the curriculum.



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## "THE MARKETING OF MADNESS"

This last year I have encountered so many people who have been diagnosed with depression and/or bipolar. So I have been spending many hours studying this subject from a secular and scriptural point and am planning on putting a seminar together for all the churches in Tzaneen early next year. I am hoping by God's Grace that I might be able to take this seminar beyond the bounds of our town and province. The conference will be entitled: The Marketing of Madness.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

We have a number of prayer requests for 2014:

1. Numeric & spiritual Growth.
2. Financial Stability & growth.
3. Strength, love & protection for pastoral family.
4. Leadership will have wisdom in leading the church.
5. Leading in preaching & teaching.
6. Sunday school teachers for strength & patience.
7. Time & wisdom to put the Depression seminar together.

Trust that your ministries and Christian walk this year has been to God's glory & honour and that not only will you have a blessed festive season but also a prosperous 2014.

The point of this newsletter is to encourage you with what the Lord is doing with His church in Tzaneen. Thank you for your prayers, support and friendship toward us and for the ministry work here in the Limpopo Province.  
Yours Faithfully



**Wayne, Michelle & Kirsten Jardine  
Pastoral Family**

## SOLA 5 WEBSITE

**We are currently experiencing problems with our  
SOLA 5 Website  
and would like to convey our sincere apologies  
for any inconvenience.  
We are however in the process  
of creating a totally new website**

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## NEWS FROM A MEMBER CHURCH (Lynwood Baptist Church)

*Due to the fact that our Website is not fully operational, we have decided to repost Lynwood Baptist Church's news in this E-Newsletter as well.*

2013 has been an exciting year for us in many ways. We are pleased to share with you how God has been working in His church at LBC thus far.

The year kicked off with a celebration of the 40th anniversary of our founding. This wonderful celebration was well-attended and many travelled far to commemorate the occasion with us. In preparation for the day, a detailed historical overview of the life and ministries of LBC was compiled into a soft-cover book format. The day included powerful testimonies of how God has worked in and through LBC. For example, Mrs



Holland, who has been deeply involved in LBC since its inception/year, shared about Tuesday Chapel, a Tuesday-evening ministry targeted at domestic workers which has been in existence for the last 40 years.

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The day was also marked by recalling many fond memories of pastors like Wilhelm Odendaal and Ronald Kalifungwa, and the significant influence they played in the life and ministry of LBC.

Dr John Temple, one of the original members of LBC, gave an overview of the first 11 years of LBC. He shared that the day held special significance to him because of his long-standing acquaintance with Dr Wayne Mack, who, along with Albert Martin and Walt Chantry, was instrumental in the early stages of the Reformed Baptist church movement in America. Dr Temple related that before LBC began, his family toured the USA and visited numerous Reformed Baptist churches in order to gain as much insight as possible to aid the founding of a new church. Dr Mack and his wife Carol hosted them for several days and introduced them to a number of Reformed Baptist churches, including the one at Media that Wayne had been used of the Lord to plant and develop.



Dr Temple commented that the 40th celebration was a fitting time to

remind the church of its inception and Dr Mack's significant role in the formation of LBC. How serendipitous it seems that many years later, the very same Dr Mack is (since May 2012) serving as an elder at LBC!

## SMTI

We are excited to have Dr Mack as part of our church. In light of his extensive background in training others to use the Word of God to help people, we at LBC decided to start the **Strengthening Ministries Training Institute**.

An introductory class in biblical counselling was held in October 2012, with close to 50 people from 12 different churches in attendance. Our intensive two-year biblical counselling programme officially began in February 2013 and we have about 20 regular students from several churches from Gauteng and Polokwane provinces attending. You may find information about the SMTI classes on the Lynnwood Baptist Church web site. Several pastoral training institutes in the USA have agreed

to accept credits from all of courses toward a Master's Degree in biblical subject

These schools include Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, Faith Bible Seminary in Lafayette, Indiana, Christian Heritage Seminary in Grand Rapids, Michigan, The Master's College in Santa Clarita, California and Montana Bible College in Bozeman, Montana.

We have received much encouraging feedback about the classes. For example, a pastor who attends the classes sent us a mail as follows:

"I'm a pastor in a church in the southern Johannesburg township of Katlehong. I've been attending the SMTI classes with Dr Mack since February. As a pastor, I am often called upon to counsel and it has been an ongoing frustration for me to feel the inadequacy of my ability to counsel. The courses I have taken so far from Dr Mack have genuinely revolutionized my ability to counsel people biblically.

The homework assignments alone have made the classes extremely helpful. As I've been forced to counsel myself, it has helped me to understand how to counsel others. I am now beginning to feel like I can help people get their lives back together and have even seen some progress along those lines in several counselling situations I'm currently involved with. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you, the members of Lynnwood Baptist Church, for allowing us to



use your beautiful facilities for these classes. May the Lord bless you in your service to Him."

In July Pastor Sybrand had opportunity to go to Harare, Zimbabwe to teach a Biblical counselling course at Central Baptist Church in that city.

In October 2013 SMTI will host the Pilgrims Progress Conference. For more information go to <http://lynnwoodbaptistchurch.co.za/>.

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## **NEW CURRICULUM FOR MEMBERSHIP**

In the last year, we changed the curriculum for membership classes at LBC to use the 1689 Statement of Faith and Salvation – A Work of God, Active Membership and Life in the Father’s House: A Members Guide to the Local Church by Wayne Mack and Dave Swavely and To Be or Not to Be A Church Member by Wayne Mack. This membership class was successfully completed by Tebogo Seate, whom we welcomed into membership in May.

Our next church membership class starts in

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## **EQUIPPING FAMILIES**

We have been excited to see God adding families with young children to our body of believers. In light of this, the elders decided to begin a Bible Study class entitled Your Family, God’s Way on Thursday evenings from 18:00 to 19:30. This meeting aims to strengthen relations between spouses, their parents, their children and their extended families. Within the first few weeks of Your Family, God’s

September 2013. In the last year, we changed the curriculum for membership classes at LBC to use the 1689 Statement of Faith and Salvation – A Work of God, Active Membership and Life in the Father’s House: A Members Guide to the Local Church by Wayne Mack and Dave Swavely and To Be or Not to Be A Church Member by Wayne Mack. This membership class was successfully completed by Tebogo Seate, whom we welcomed into membership in May. Our next church membership class starts in September 2013.

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## **MENS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP**

As spiritual leaders of their homes and in the church, we seek to develop men according to the principles outlined in 2 Timothy 2:2, ‘The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.’



We desire to see men disciple their wives and children in the ways of the Lord. We have a group of faithful men who regularly attend this meeting on Saturday mornings at 08:00. After 4 years of discipleship classes the men that went through the discipleship are beginning to come into the leadership. Two men have been faithful at serving and their names are brought forward at the next QGM in September.

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## **FAMILY BIBLE SCHOOL**

This ministry aims to integrate the truth of God into the lives of young and old through evangelism and discipleship, as stated in 2 Timothy 3:15-17, ‘And that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.’

In the first half of 2013, the FBS ministry focussed on how to resolve everyday conflict, using material from the American-based Peacemakers Ministry.

Running concurrently was a children’s programme on peacemaking. Parents later remarked on how helpful it was to have their children learning the same principles as they were.

In May, we embarked on a long-term series of classes based on the 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith. After receiving extensive guidance from Errol Hulse on suitable material to be used in these FBS classes, Pastor Sybrand de Swardt began teaching the Confession with a strong focus on its everyday, practical application. Nick and Sheila Court are in the process of developing Sunday school material to teach the 1689 to children 6-9 years. We hope to make this material available to others churches.

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## LOCAL OUTREACH

It gives us great joy to witness fruits of our evangelistic endeavours, most recently with a man named Gilbert from the DRC. Following the evangelistic outreaches by a group of church members, Gilbert started attending our Tuesday Chapel meetings and Your Family, God's Way on Thursdays. He seems eager to be discipled.

In July we had another evangelism outreach after the service and invited outsiders to join us for lunch. 9 people came. At that meeting as well as when talking to them in our evangelistic outreach street endeavors the gospel was shared with them and gospel tracts and eleven Bibles were given to them. Out of this Jabulane and his family started to attend Tuesday chapel and the morning services.

As we continue to evangelise, we pray that God will use our outreach as opportunities to bring others to Himself. We started regularly evangelising in the Hatfield and Lynnwood areas after our Men's Discipleship Group meetings on Saturdays and our morning services on Sundays. We have been much encouraged to see young men at LBC join us in reaching out to present the Gospel to people in public by speaking to them, giving out Bibles and tracts and by inviting them to attend our church and Tuesday Chapel meetings.

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## VISITING MISSIONS TEAM

A supporting church from Atlanta, Georgia came on a week mission's trip to assist Lynnwood Baptist Church. The 9 people on the team helped with some urgent work at LBC to make our classrooms more useable and user friendly. What was especially encouraging was the day trip that was made to a church in Modimolle whose pastor's wife has been involved in the biblical counseling classes taught by Dr. Mack. Todd Guthrie, an elder from Providence Church in Duluth, Georgia who was part of the USA missions team preached in the morning and Pastor Billy Mahoia of the Modimolle Church translated. After tea time the team moved out and joined in the outreach of the church to families in great need in the area who are not part of the church. 6 vegetable gardens were planted while encouraging the people with the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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## HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB

Nick and Sheila Court have been a great help at LBC. Their skill in working with children has been such a great blessing to our church. They are currently involved in helping with FBS and the crèche at LBC. In July we had a three day holiday club run by the Step Wise Youth Ministry <http://swym.org/>. It was a great success.

On the 25th -27th of September we will have our second children's club for the year in conjunction with Living Hope Church in Sunnyside where Dr Joshua Mack pastors.

<http://www.livinghopechurch.co.za/>.



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In the afternoon the team led a children's outreach at the church. 60 children attended. These photos can be seen on the gallery of the LBC website.

It came to our attention that there are families in the Modimolle church without water. Sadly, their neighbors do not want to assist them with water any longer. Since the rainy season is coming we thought perhaps we could assist in installing one or two water tanks to help provide water for the families. Folk who heard about this are eager to help and two tanks will be installed by the men of LBC in September.



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## PRAYING FOR CHURCH GROWTH

While 2013 has seen some changes at LBC in terms of attendants that left, we praise God for those whom He has brought. We have been blessed to minister to some new individuals and families who have started and continued to attend LBC. We have also had a

few people joining us at LBC from other churches in the area. Please pray for us and thank God for the work that He is doing at Lynnwood Baptist Church by maturing members and His adding to our numbers. We are thankful for the way in which God has chosen to bless His work.

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## PERSONAL

Personally Dr Mack just returned from a successful trip to the United States where he had the opportunity to minister in many churches in Georgia, Arkansas, Texas, Ohio and Pennsylvania. We are thankful for the way God has sustained him and Carol and their example of faithful ministry.

As for the de Swardts, we are thankful to God for sustaining our health. There has been a significant change for the better in my health after 4 years of great immune problems. Beth is doing well after her foot surgery in February. Carol-Marie is still going from 0-120 kl in 3 seconds. It is also with great joy that we can share that we will soon have a second child. Our interviews with social workers have been completed and we are waiting to have a child placed with us.

Thank you for reading this report. It is always privilege share news of what God is doing at LBC with friends and like-minded churches. We are eager to partner with any church in the spreading the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Please contact us at:

[sybrand@lynnwoodbaptistchurch.co.za](mailto:sybrand@lynnwoodbaptistchurch.co.za) if you would like to join in with us in any of the ministries mentioned. We are looking forward to having fellowship with you. We thank you for your continued prayers and trust that God's name will be glorified in all that we do.

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

The members at LBC will increase in having an outward focus for the gospel.

- Members to be FAT, Faithful, Available and Teachable in the Word of God.
- Ask for an increased sense of working together and for unity as a church family.
- Our Combi , a VW1975 model, is a key to our Tuesday Chapel and Children's Ministry. It is also very unreliable and often needs repairs. Please pray that God may provide a vehicle for these ministries to continue.
- Pray for the men we are considering to serve as deacons.

- We have had many new families in the last 6 months visiting and staying at LBC. Pray that they may be fully integrated into the life of the church.
- Ask the Lord to provide LBC with a qualified person who can serve as Ministry coordinator.
- For contributions toward the Modimolle outreach please see banking details below.

*Reference number: Water Project  
The Lynnwood Baptist Church  
Account Number: 012219398,  
Branch: Lynnwood Ridge  
Standard Bank*

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**We need your help:**  
Please send us your SOLA 5 Church's NEWS and other short ARTICLES, PHOTOS, etc.  
to enable us to send out interesting E-NEWSLETTERS  
Please submit it to: [kobus.vanderwalt@sola5.org](mailto:kobus.vanderwalt@sola5.org)