



Centre for Contextual Ministry

at the University of Pretoria

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – APRIL- JUNE 2017

“Just faith” – where faith and justice connect in God’s household

The month of August is always a busy one in the Centre for Contextual Ministry.

In 2017 we use this month to explore our annual theme of a Just Faith in different ways.

Our annual certificate ceremony in May heard the inspirational voice of medical doctor and novelist, Dr Kopano Matlwa Mabaso (author of *Coconut*, *Spilt Milk*, and *Period Pain*), speaking about this theme. We also conferred more than 650 certificates on this day. In June we hosted a one-day Consultation on Spatial Justice, Ubuntu and Reconciliation, considering the challenges of spatiality and justice, from a theological perspective. Developing recommendations for how faith communities can contribute to a spatial justice agenda. Some of our courses deliberately explore mission as justice, and justice in the city.

In August we host a number of exciting events, colloquiums and papers. We consider social restitution; play and protest; and a wellbeing economy.

Social restitution: On 4 August Prof Sharlene Swartz is speaking about her book, *Another country: Everyday social restitution*, in which she brings into conversation black South Africans’ experience of dehumanizing racism, with white South Africans’ shame about the past and anxiety about the future, exploring daily practical, financial and symbolic acts to help “make right”. How can this be embodied in cities, companies, universities, churches and mosques, and other spaces of social, economic, political and spatial exchange?

Play and protest: Between 13 and 19 August the Centre once again partners with the annual Feast of the Clowns, engaging different themes in ways that could help foster a consciousness – and citizenship – for social justice. We are launching our Urban Studio on the Mamelodi Campus with a concert and exhibition on Sunday night 13 August, and we host a colloquium on the Hatfield Campus on Thursday 17 August – reflecting on the topic “Caring and just citizens, city and university” in the light of the challenges of mental health, gender justice, substance use and homelessness. On the Saturday we participate in the March of the Clowns in the inner city. Through play and protest we seek to advance a discourse of faith and justice. This will also mark the formal presence of the Faculty of Theology on the Mamelodi Campus and in the Mamelodi community.

Wellbeing economy: Prof Lorenzo Fioramonti will speak about his new book, *Wellbeing Economy*, on 25 August, with a response from Prof Vuyani Vellem. Advocate Thuli Madonsela says of this book: “Possibly disruptive but certainly worth considering... in response to our troubled world that cries out for social justice”. Fioramonti exposes how the ‘growth mantra’, as he calls it, results in “damage, inequalities and conflicts” instead of wellbeing.

Just faith – whether expressed spatially, in everyday actions of restitution, in play and protest, or in a daring search for alternative economies – will contribute to shalom in God’s household – the kind of wholeness marked by peace and justice; sustainable livelihoods and restored relationships; deep care of the earth, the most vulnerable among us, and the integrity of creation.

- ☐ How is our faith translated into on-going, bold and creative actions of justice?
- ☐ Do we have only a little bit of faith – the faith of a mustard seed – that, combined with deep immersion, sound and critical analysis, and bold imagination – can overcome some of our society’s greatest challenges?

Or are we simply complicit, in spite of our jargon and nice-sounding vision statements, in the destruction of God’s household?

Stephan de Beer

CCM DIRECTOR

WE ENVISION HEALTHY COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE FORMATION
OF COMMUNITY AND CHURCH LEADERS

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News: April, May, June, 2017

CCM has finally opened up another office on the Mamelodi Campus of the University of Pretoria. It has been a long time ambition of the Centre to locate itself back in Mamelodi. With our new Urban Studio Project, this dream is now a reality. The office will be looked after by Lance Thomas and Timson Mahlangu who will be on the campus every Thursday.



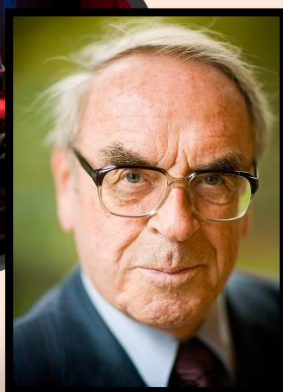
Welcome



CCM Welcomes into its fold Mr Timson Mahlangu. Timson takes on the position of Research Administrator for our Urban Studio Project and is based in Mamelodi. It has long been CCM's ambition to open up an office on the Mamelodi Campus of the University of Pretoria. Timson is a professional Social Worker who works part-time with the Tshwane Leadership Foundation and we are excited to have him as part of our team at CCM as well. We wish him a happy future with us.



The Faculty of Theology, which houses the Centre for Contextual Ministry, is celebrating its Centenary in 2017. CCM participated in the Centenary Conference titled **Deconstructing the Past**. The theme for the Centenary is **Open Gates**, in which the Faculty seeks to make itself more relevant to the society in which it finds



itself and that nobody will be excluded from it. The special guest at this celebration was Prof. Jürgen Moltmann who also received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Pretoria.

On the 12th of May CCM celebrated our annual Graduation Ceremony with nearly 900 students receiving certificates for the various courses completed throughout the year. It was a great occasion for everyone involved. The guest speaker was Dr Kopano Mabaso who spoke very eloquently about the role of her faith in her work as medical doctor and Humanitarian.



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SAVE THE DATE!

THE UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA'S CENTRE FOR CONTEXTUAL MINISTRY AND THE TSHWANE LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNISA ARE HOSTING A WEEK LONG CELEBRATION CALLED THE **FEAST@UP** AND THE FEAST OF THE CLOWNS

DATE: 13TH TO 19TH AUGUST 2017

Enrol in a Course Today!

JULY

Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution

Location: Pretoria

Date: 17-21 July

Cost: R1 000

Introduction to Urban Ministry

Location: Pretoria

Start Date: 24th-26th July

Cost: R500

AUGUST

Church Based Care Centre Management

Location: Cape Town

Date: 01st-03rd August

Cost: R1 700

Pastoral Care and Counselling

Location: Hospivision Training Centre

Date: 14-16 August 2017 (this is a one year Course)

Cost: R5 000

Radio Ministry

Location: Pretoria

Date: 14th-16th August

Cost: R1 800

Faithful Witnesses

Location: Pretoria

Date: 24th-26th August

Cost: R1 220

Crisis and Trauma Support

Location: Pretoria

Date: 29th August 2017

Cost: R1 200

SEPTEMBER

Starting and Sustaining Community Projects

Location: Pretoria

Date: 11th-13th September

Cost: R900

God's Money: Stewardship and Financial Management

Location: Pretoria

Date: 12th-14th September

Cost: R1 450

Trauma Counselling

Location: Pretoria

Date: 20th-22nd September

Cost: R1 100



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