



## KWAZULU-NATAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

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08 January 2018

### CEO New Year's message to all Stakeholders

As we begin the New Year, 2018, we proclaim "*Ebenezer*"- *Thus far the Lord has helped us (1 Samuel 7:12)*. We give thanks to Almighty God, for his constant watch over us during the year that has past. In 2018, KwaZulu Natal Christian Council commemorates **22 years** of its existence as an autonomous organization affiliated to the South African Council of Churches (SACC).

As we begin the New Year we would like to call upon all member churches and the entire community to PRAY for peace, stability and development in the KwaZulu Natal province, and the entire South Africa. We PRAY for God's love, kindness and rich blessings to all the people in the province. May we discover and enjoy God's peace even in the midst of various forms of storms.

May I take this opportunity to highlight the following urgent issues for your attention and participation:

1. **Free Education** is likely to cause problems for tertiary students. We invite church, faith and civil society leaders and activists to a crucial meeting to be held on **Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018** in the **Denis Hurley Hall** at the **Diakonia Centre** (Durban) from **09h00 to 11h30**. Our guest speaker will be **Prof Ahmed Bawa, CEO of Universities SA** – well known in Durban as the former Vice Chancellor of DUT, and Vice Principal of UKZN who is coming down to Durban specially for this meeting. **Parking** will be available on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the building behind the Diakonia Centre, which can be entered from St George's Street. The meeting will help us to get the **information** we need and to begin to **work out how we can be helpful to the process**.
2. It has been brought to our attention that so many communities are affected by the Land Tenure Act, especially the Ingonyama Trust Board (ITB) call for upgrading from Permission to Occupy (PTO) upgrade to Lease Agreement (LA). We have invited specialists (Aninka Classens and Thabiso Mbese) to share their expertise and explore solutions with us. The meeting will take place on **Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018** at the **Cathedral of the Holy Nativity** (Pietermaritzburg) from **10h00 to 12h00**. For further information, kindly contact Mr Musa Zakwe on 033 345 4819.
3. We are very concerned about the ongoing political violence and continued killing of political leaders. We are mobilizing church leaders to register so that they are part of the KZN Church based Violence monitors, Mediators and Election Observers. For further information, kindly contact Rev Siya Gidi on 033 345 4819.

On behalf of the KZNCC Executive Committee, Management and Staff, I wish you a wonderful 2018 as we roll-up our sleeves and making a difference in the lives of the people that we serve!

Best Wishes

**Dr Douglas Dziva (CEO)**

Office of the Chief Executive Officer

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