ASI
SOUTHERN AFRICA UNION CONFERENCE

Newsletter January 2016

ASI-SAU UPDATE



Volume 5

President's Remarks

As the new year begins, we would like to share our 2015 progress highlights with our ASI constituency and associates, as well as our plans for 2016. The ASI-SAU Update Vol 5 will look at the following issues:

- ASI Call Centre
- SAUC Events
- Memorandum of Understanding – Cape Conference and ASI
- Centre of Influence Model
- Church Development Summits
- Debit Order System
- Membership
- 2016 Programme Highlights
- ASI Administrator Vacancy



Prof Themba Sirayi (ASI President)

1. ASI Call Centre

The ASI call centre has been in operation from the beginning of 2015 and this has resulted in a steady membership growth of membership. The call centre has also dispatched to both new and old members the following:

- ASI Brochure
- Evangelistic Toolkit
- Certificate of Appreciation

Some of the Evangelistic Toolkit material which is currently with the designer and which will be dispatched as soon as it is ready include the following:

- An E-Book Directory (a listing and description of Spirit of Prophecy E-Books as well as a few others from selected SDA authors)
- A CD with PowerPoint Presentations (a variety of presentations by several authors on such topics as witnessing and medical missionary work)
- A CD with Life Changing Articles on such topics as the significance of the Sabbath, how to mark your Bible, etc.
- ASI Spirit of Prophecy Abstracts (a thrilling spiritual adventure into the writings of Ellen G. White)



At this stage it must be stressed that the success of the call centre recruitment depends, by and large, on the promotion and marketing of ASI by the its leadership, members and the Communications & Marketing portfolio.

2. SAUC Events

ASI members participated in the following events organised and hosted by the SAUC Stewardship Department:

- SAUC Camp Meeting for the Adventist Business and Professional Fraternity held in Bloemfontein (SAUC Headquarters) on 18-22 March 2015
- SAUC Stewardship Ministries and Trust Services Congress held in Cape Town on 7-9 May 2015

ASI in SADC Region

It is noteworthy to mention that the latter event also provided a platform for the leadership of ASI-SAU, ASI Malawi, ASI Zambia and Stewardship directors of SAUC / Conferences to meet and agree on a collaboration strategy to foster cooperative ventures in the SADC region.



SADC Region ASI Leadership

This collaboration strategy came together when the ASI leadership in the SADC region met in Zambia on 21 November 2015, at the ASI-Zambia Convention. At this meeting a steering committee, comprised of ASI presidents in the SADC region, was formed (facilitated by the SID-ASI coordinator, Ps Gideon Reyneke, who participated in the deliberations).

3. Memorandum of Understanding – Cape Conference and ASI

The MOU signalling the readiness of the Cape Conference and ASI to engage in cooperative ventures has been signed.



ASI President (Prof Themba Sirayi) & Ex Cape Conference President (Ps Randall Gelderbloem) signing the MOU

4. Centre of Influence Model

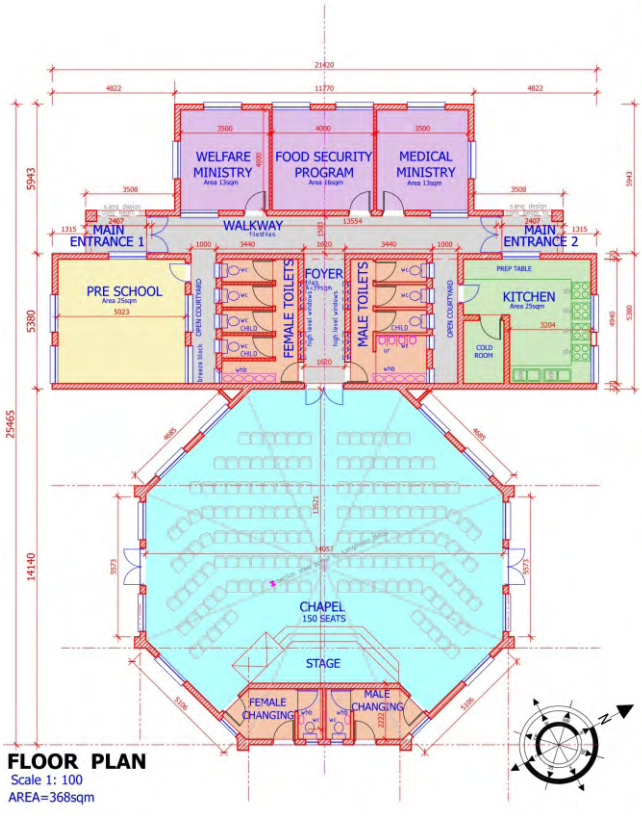
4.1 GC Advocates Centres of Influence

The General Conference (GC) is advocating the construction of Centres of Influence, which are holistic urban ministry centers, called Centers of Influence that connect the church to the community. These centers are designed to offer a variety of activities such as lifestyle education, treatment rooms, bookstores, restaurants, literature ministry, seminars, small groups, cooking demonstrations, and more.

Centres of Influence follow Jesus' holistic method of ministry. Ellen White supports this idea when she says, “It is through the social relations that Christianity comes in contact with the world.”

4.2 ASI Centre of Influence Model

ASI has seen it fit to adopt the Centre of Influence Model. To this effect, a model plan has been designed as can be seen below:







4.3 Centre of Influence Piloted in the Cape Conference

On 3 March 2015 ex Cape Conference President, Ps Randall Gelderbloem led the Sod Turning Ceremony signalling the official commencement of the Scenery Park Centre of Influence (East London).





Sod Turning Ceremony

It must be noted that prior to ASI's intervention at Scenery Park, worship services were held in a dilapidated and repellent structure. All the efforts to build the church had been a fiasco. Note the following gleaned from the correspondence of the church pastor who applied on behalf of the church:

> *Seven years back church members managed to build the walls up to the roof level. Unfortunately due to several reasons the walls fell down. As a result people were discouraged, and that negatively affected the rate of collecting building offering. However, with time, we were able to encourage the people to give. As a result the walls were rebuilt to a roof level. But, due to the long time it took to collect money for the next phase, and our financial condition which make professional help impossible, recently the walls fell down a second time.*
>
> District Pastor
> MG Made



Old Structure (Prior to ASI Intervention)



Construction in Progress



Centre of Influence Phase One (Chapel) Completed

5. Church Development Summits

5.1 Rationale

Our historical interaction with the church in the entire SAU territory has highlighted the need for a cooperative and collaborative road map guiding the church and ASI in the advancement of its church development mission.

5.2 Aims and Objectives

- To provide a platform for churches to systematically communicate their development needs
- To allow various church stakeholders the opportunity to discuss church development needs
- To emerge with a needs assessment and skills audit/report
- To develop a plan and strategy aimed at addressing the needs of the church systematically
- To form a volunteers' corps that would assist with provision of skills whenever the need arises in any part of the SAUC
- To consider and develop funding models that will respond to the various needs of the church

5.3 Summit Focus Areas

- Church Growth
- Infrastructural Development
- Education
- Research
- Training and Development
- Medical Missionary Ministry
- Human Resources Mobilization

5.4 ASI-KwaZulu Natal Free State Conference (KNFC) Summit

The Summit was held at Mount Edgecombe Country Club on 25 July 2015 and attended by approximately 100 delegates.

The Summit recommendations included:

- The establishment of a District/Regional Church Development Desk to escalate development needs of the church to the Conference and ASI.
- That the Summit be an annual event in the KNFC
- The formation of a Church Growth Task Team to consider the establishment of an Adventist radio station
- The creation of an Infrastructural Development Task Team to consider, among other things, the:
    - o Compilation of an asset register
    - o Development of a property management system
    - o Auditing of all properties in the KNFC

- The setting up of a task team to look at starting a high school and give recommendations on how to improve our education system
- The formation of a Research Committee Task Team to assist with fostering a culture of research, and also to compile a database of researchers
- The establishment of a Medical Missionary Ministry Task Team to facilitate a medical missionary training programme and set up lifestyle and wellness centres
- The formation of a Training and Development Task Team to do a training and development needs audit and run concomitant training programmes
- The establishment of corps of volunteers that would assist with the provision of skills whenever the need arises in the Conference and beyond



Attendees at the KNFC Church Development Summit Planning Session

5.5 ASI-Cape Conference (Eastern Region) Church Development Summit

The Summit took place on 24 October 2015 at the East London Convention Centre and was attended by approximately 160 delegates.

The Summit recommendations were practically the same as those of the KNFC Summit with the exception that the Education Task Team in the Cape Conference was not tasked into looking at the establishment of a high school.



6. Debit Order System

The ASI Debit Order System is now fully operational, with 75% of our membership on the system. The ASI Call Centre will be taking over the management of the debit order system as from January 2016. Already, the Call Centre is managing all the debit orders for new members they have recruited. We urge all ASI members to consider opting for the debit order system as it fosters efficiency and reduces administrative costs associated with manual membership fee processing.

7. Membership

We cannot stress enough that ASI is a self-supporting ministry, and as such, it relies on membership fees, pledges and donations in order to fulfil its mandate. ASI members are therefore urged to settle their dues. The good news is that we will not increase membership fees for 2016. All members who use EFT/Cash are reminded to settle their membership dues by or before the end of February 2016. Here is a breakdown of the fee structure:

Individuals	**Once off** Annual Contribution	Monthly Debit Orders
When intending to start a supporting ministry	R600	R50
When intending to start a business	R600	R50
When in the employ of a business at non-managerial level	R600	R50
When in the employ of a business at managerial level	R660	R55
When in the employ of a business at executive level	R780	R65
When providing a professional/community service at entry level	R576	R48
When providing a professional/community service at management level	R660	R55
When providing a professional/community service at executive management level	R780	R65
Organisations		
For a supporting ministry	R660	R55
For a small business (2-9 employees)	R840	R70
For a medium sized business (10-25 employees)	R1 560	R130
For a large business (26-39 employees)	R2 040	R170
For a corporate company (40+ employees)	R3 600	R300

8. ASI Ministries in Action

8.1 Gospel Commission

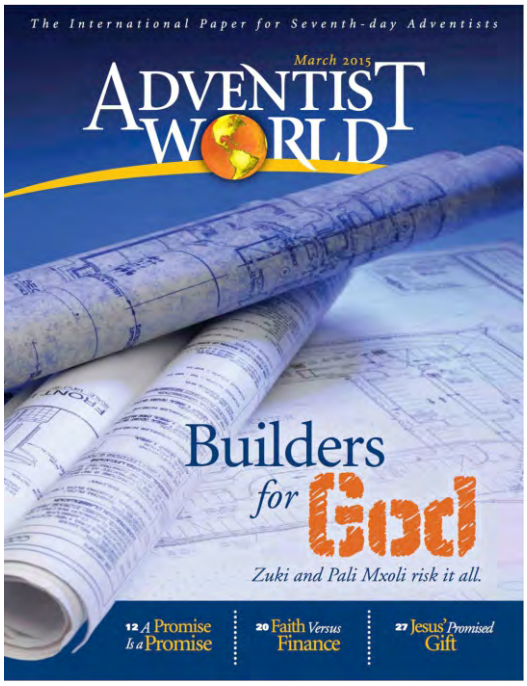
A national seminar at the University of Fort Hare (East London) was conducted by Ps Thula Nkosi from 23-26 Sept. Ps Nkosi focused his presentations on the Sanctuary message and showed how all our other beliefs revolve around this one very important one. There were also workshops to discuss different fundamental beliefs, strategies given on how to best share Christ with each belief, etc. The participation of the attendees was remarkable, and the engagement of the audience contributed greatly to the success of the programme.



Gospel Commission

8.2 The Word Lives Ministries

In March 2015, Adventist World, the General Conference's official weekly magazine, published a front cover story called 'Builders for God: Zuki and Pali Mxoli risk it all', a touching story of suspense and sacrifice of two ASI-SAU members who run a 'construction ministry' called The Word Lives Minstries. Zuki has always been involved in evangelism and found it difficult to balance church and business. “On one hand, I had to rush about to try to make money, to make a living for my family and me; on the other hand, I needed to prepare sermons and preach. It was a big dilemma,” Zuki confesses.



Zuki & Pali's Cover Story in Adventist World

The couple took this problem to God and ask Him to resolve it for them. They were impressed to continue their construction business, but henceforth to use it as a missionary tool. They felt the perfect outlet to combine construction and minstry, was to build churches. God led them to a church that acquired property, had a basic steel structure but could not afford to construct a building. The Mxolis offered to build the church at no cost, using money from profits they had gained from other construction projects. After committing to the project, business soon dried up. Things went so bad that they could not afford their own bond and car repayments, and had even fallen into arears by 3 months. What should they do? Abandon the church project, or press ahead in faith?

They decided on the latter. It was a tough decision but God did not abandon His builders. Three days before their goods were to be repossessed, Zuki got a call from a KZN businessman who happen to drive pass the Katlehong church, and stopped to take a look. He heard of this sacrificial Christian developer who was building the church out of his own pocket. He thought, “Wow! If there is anybody I can trust, it's someone who will give their money for a church.” He contacted Zuki to oversee a huge construction project for him in Johannesburg, flew up from Durban that same day, and concluded the deal (a negotiation which normally takes months). Then instead of paying a 5-10% deposit the KZN businessman transferred 50% into Zuki's bank account. The timing was perfect – just in time to avert the repossessors!! What a miracle!! God had again proven faithful to those who seek first His kingdom (Matt 6:33).

Zuki and Pali continue to construct buildings for God's honour. Here are some of the projects they have either fully or partially funded:

- Maluti school of nursing (Lesotho)
- Maseru SDA church hall (Lesotho)
- Helderberg annex building (Cape Town)
- Zambia SDA Union Conference
- Emmanuel SDA school dormitories (Zambia)
- Libala SDA church (Zambia)
- Rusangu University science building and staff houses (Zambia)
- Ngweze SDA church (Namibia)
- Kanye SDA hospital library & chapel (Botswana)
- Malawi SDA Union

May God richly bless the sacrificial ministry of Zuki and Pali – who are a sterling example of laying up treasure in heaven.



Maluti SDA School of Nursing



Helderberg College Annex Building (Before and After)



Zambia SDA Union Conference



Rusangu SDA University Science Building & Staff Houses



9. 2016 Programme Highlights

The programme highlights for 2016 are as follows:

- Completion of Cape Conference Scenery Park SDA Church Centre of Influence
- Construction of KNFC Ingwavuma SDA Church Centre of Influence
- Northern Conference Church Development Summit
- Cape Conference (Western and Eastern Regions) Church Development Summits
- KNFC Church Development Summit
- ASI Convention

10. Vacancy

Applications are invited for the following vacancy:

Administrator

Duties:

- Day-to-day administration, management and coordination functions
- Financial Management

Requirements:

- Member of the SDA Church
- Graduate or equivalent qualifications
- MS Office and typing skills (minimum 20 wpm)
- At least four years work experience
- Medical missionary experience is a definite plus

Deadline: 31 January 2016

Applications accompanied by a CV, academic certificates and contact details of 3 referees, are to be forwarded to:

- Fax: 046 645 1805
- Email: president@asisuministries.org.za

11. Acknowledgement

The progress highlighted in this newsletter would not have been realised without the support and commitment of the ASI Board. We are most grateful for their invaluable input. Our heartfelt thanks and appreciation are also extended to:

- All the ASI councils and subcommittees who contributed to the ASI programme
- Businesses and professionals whose pledges and donations enabled ASI to deliver the above mentioned projects. May you all be richly blessed!



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