

NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2022

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Church Leaders Stimulated, and Other Conferences in 2022

Over forty local church leaders attended the annual Church Leaders' Conference at the KwaMhlanga Campus on Saturday 5 November.

Dr Jacob Igba, a senior lecturer at the Pretoria Campus, gave an inspiring message from three Bible passages on "Serving as Tools in God's Hand for God's Purpose". The message was clear and well applied to the African context. Many pastors today start with selfish purposes in the hands of the devil but their orientation can change so that they become faithful instruments in God's hand for His blessed purposes.

In the afternoon, Dr John Span, a senior lecturer at the Rustenburg Centre, taught on "Leaving a Spiritual Legacy through Mentoring". Sadly, some leaders, like King Uzziah (whose name means the LORD is my strength) don't live up to their names. They become strong and arrogant. Others, fortunately, faithfully and humbly serve the Lord, positively mentor others and leave a wonderful legacy. The conference was challenged by some insights as Dr Span shared his experiences with a young man he mentored some years ago.



Some of the attendees at the 2022 Church Leaders' Conference

There were times of lively interaction. One participant asked, "Do politics and Christianity mix?" It led to a series of answers and further questions. The

main response is that there is room for Christians to be actively involved in politics, but that the pulpit is for God's Word only. The pastor is God's instrument, not the instrument of politicians.

One of the last remarks of the day was, "Mentorship never ends". We can always teach, and we can always learn from others. Let us do so.

This was Mukhanyo's last conference for 2022. During the year there were several conferences at various Mukhanyo centres, inter alia for ladies, Sunday school teachers and church leaders, alumni and pastors, and also on ministry to Muslims, as well as some prayer meetings. Presentations were made on the Focus programme. Workshops were also held for local learning site tutors and administrators, not to forget the very successful annual three-day TEASA Bible College Consultation in June attended by more than 130 leaders in Africa.



Dr John Span at the 2022 Church Leaders' Conference

Vacancy: Marketing Coordinator

This important position at Mukhanyo requires the right dedicated person, based in Gauteng, to serve an average of 20 hours/week flexitime. The ideal candidate will have experience in various areas (e.g. social media, creating media, donor communication, etc.) along with a passion to serve the Lord in Christian ministry.

Visit <https://www.mukhanyo.ac.za/vacancies.html> to learn more about this position.

Musawenkosi Christian School: Vacating the Mukhanyo Premises

Since 2010, a part of the grounds at Mukhanyo's KwaMhlanga Campus has been occupied by the facilities of the Musawenkosi Christian School. Musawenkosi, which means the grace of God, is the name of a local Christian school. Now they are moving to their own premises and buildings not far away.

The school was the initiative of Prof. Flip Buys, the previous principal of Mukhanyo, together with other leaders, including Beth and Ed Rettig of North Carolina. The vision from the beginning was to be a quality Christian school, especially for orphans and vulnerable children.

Eight prefab classrooms and two wooden offices were erected on Mukhanyo's grounds. Starting with 16 children, there are now over a hundred with many having graduated in recent years. Although the prefab facilities have been maintained as well as possible, wear and tear have taken their toll. A new premises was found close by and the construction of brick buildings is nearing completion, all funded by a group of American donors.

Pastor Jeremie Havugimana, Facilities Manager at Mukhanyo and Secretary of the Musawenkosi Board, says some 55% of the learners are orphans and vulnerable children. The new facilities will enable further growth to at least 200 children. God willing, this will happen soon, and the KwaMhlanga community will have access to a larger Christian school.

This Mukhanyo initiative has now come to fruition as Musawenkosi now leaves our premise for their own. We will miss the daily chatter of children, but Mukhanyo will continue to cooperate with and support this valuable sister ministry.



Visiting Professors in 2023

Most modules are taught at our Campuses and Centres as weekly classes during two semesters annually. But sometimes Mukhanyo invites visiting

professors to present intensive modules.

The following intensive modules are scheduled for 2023:

◇ Dr James Krohn ,	BTh: BST3 Theology & Anthropology	9-13 January 2023
◇ Prof. David VanDrunen (WTS-Cal)	ThM: Reformed Christology	18-20 January 2023
◇ Prof. David VanDrunen (WTS-Cal)	ThM: Reformed Anthropology	23-25 January 2023
◇ Dr Joel Beeke (PRTS)	Seminar: Experiential Preaching	22-23 June 2023
◇ To be announced	ThM: Research Methodology	20-24 June 2023
◇ Prof. Bruce Baugus (PRTS)	ThM: Reformed Theology Proper	20-22 September 2023
◇ Prof. Bruce Baugus (PRTS)	ThM: Theology of Augustine	25-27 September 2023

Clearing the Library Deck

The 2022 scheduled accreditation visit by the Council for Higher Education of Mukhanyo's Pretoria Campus ushered in a clearing of the deck at our library complex. Simultaneously, collection growth necessitated extended library shelving at all branches.

The Pretoria branch seized the opportunity for its anticipated - and modelled - metamorphosis. Straight rows of shelving were rearranged in shorter, compact assemblages. Now, accessible sub-collections are derived from the foundational collection. The suitable furniture to support browsing and ready reference was

accessorised. Typical library infographic posters now brighten up the interior, while DDC (Dewey Decimal Classification) signage directs users precisely to discover relevant information, and thoughtful expressions on the importance of reading and libraries welcome users.

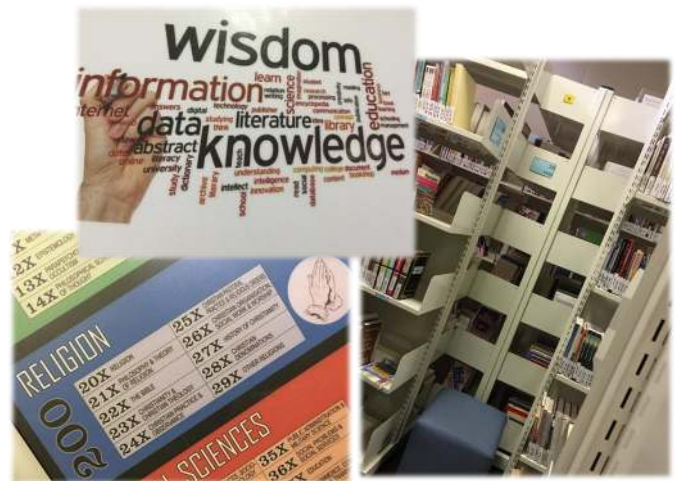
Amid library staff's regular information provisioning tasks, users were guided to find information for study and research purposes. Typically, almost 4 500 descriptions – some tricky - were added to Mukhanyo's

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record of information resources. Complementary works were selected from the output by valued publishing houses, to strengthen the academic component of this theological collection in Africa.

A novice experience occurred when users joined in reading awareness events such as World Read Aloud Day, South African Library Week, and World Book & Copyright Day – the latter produced quiz winners. From here, the user community's information fluency will only grow.

The deck is now cleared for a structured library programme, scattered with several fresh items to look forward to.



Thanks to Donors, Big and Small

Once again in the past year, finance enabled Mukhanyo not only to function normally but also to continue financing growth and development. This was possible as a result of numerous donors, some large, some medium and many smaller ones. The Lord has put it in the hearts of many faithful Christians to support Mukhanyo and the many students who receive bursaries.

The South African economy and recent economic expectations are rather negative. Economic growth is minimal, employment is well over 35%, and the majority of authorities on all levels as well as the many parastatals have found it impossible to maintain services. The result is that many potential students, also the hundreds at local learning sites, are finding it increasingly difficult to find support to partially finance their studies, either through their families, churches or donors.

At present Mukhanyo is looking at ways and means to develop additional support systems. One recent initiative is the establishment of the Up-in-Africa Fund. Newly registered local learning sites located outside of South Africa can apply for funding through subsidised student fees. This seems like an ideal way for congregations and individuals to take responsibility for students at a local learning site. Details on the Up-in-Africa Fund are available from Glyn Williams at glyn.williams@mtc.ac.za.

Another creative way to support is to remember the Mukhanyo ministry in your will. For example, recently a lady at an advanced stage in her life enquired if she could include Mukhanyo in her will. Of course, this is

possible. The following sentence can be inserted in a will: "As a special bequest, I/we bequeath an amount of R. to Mukhanyo Theological College, KwaMhlanga." It can also be added if a person wants the legacy to be used for a specific purpose, programme, or centre.

Most of Mukhanyo's annual income comes from donations, about half of which comes from international Christians. Some of these international donors have promised to give more... if local donations are increased. So every donation of any size makes a big difference for Mukhanyo!

You can now give online at <https://www.mukhanyo.ac.za/donate.html>.

You can also give via EFT to:
Mukhanyo Theological College
Nedbank, branch 155345
Cheque account, 1553 033 205.

Please see <https://www.mukhanyo.ac.za/support.html> for more information.

Donate to Mukhanyo

Scan the QR code to visit the Mukhanyo donations page.

