

Dumisani Theological Institute

PO Box 681
King William's Town, 5600
South Africa

Phone: +27 (0) 43-642-4737
Fax: +27 (0) 86-530-5179
E-mail: admin.dumisani@gmail.com
Web: www.dumisani.org

Serving the South African church

New Partners?

We have appreciated the support of various churches over the years, but we need to build additional support and so we plan to work on new relationships, especially in South Africa.

Please help us.

1. Please pray that the Lord will provide the people he has chosen to join the Dumisani team in the coming year and that he will provide the necessary finance to support them.
2. Please pray for John and Elizabeth Ross and Victor Nkatha as they come to the end of their time at Dumisani and as they move on to whatever the Lord has for them next.
3. Please pray for a good intake of students for 2012 so that we may serve as many people as possible and so that fees can boost Dumisani's finances.

"Dumisani uYehova!"
("Praise the Lord" - Psalm
148:1 in isiXhosa)

Conferences

The Principal attended the International Reformed Theology Institute meeting held at North-West University in July. Deon and Shelley Lombard represented Dumisani at the regular PanTheol conference, also in Potchefstroom, in August. Alistair Wilson and Deon Lombard are registered to participate in a consultation for curriculum development organized by Mukhanyo Theological College. The consultation will take place in November and will involve more than thirty educators from Africa and beyond.

Make the difference!

Through stringent cost-cutting measures, Dumisani is operating with as low costs as possible. Just a small increase in our income at the end of the year would make a significant difference to our ability to balance our budget and to move into 2012 with our facilities in reasonable order. Can **you** make the difference?

Dumisani News

September 2011

The Way Ahead ...

... may be tough; ... is unknown by us; ... may bring fruit which we can only dream of now; ... is known by God. We have experienced significant challenges in Dumisani over the past few years. We have known times of great provision and we have also known times where resources of every kind were scarce. Yet we remain confident that the ministry of Dumisani during more than thirty years has been used by God for the benefit of his church in the Eastern Cape of South Africa and beyond. We would like to thank all the denominations, congregations and individuals throughout the world who have prayed with us and supported us (in all kinds of ways) through every situation. In this issue of *Dumisani News*, we will share with you some of the decisions which, seeking God's wisdom and direction, we have taken recently and which we hope will shape the future of Dumisani Theological Institute.

New Governors

We are delighted to announce that uMfundisi (Rev.) Mason Nkwelo has been invited to join the Dumisani Board of Governors. Mr Nkwelo brings much competence and experience in various areas to the Board and we are sure that he will make a significant contribution to our work. We expect others to join him soon.

New Vice-principal

Following the retirement of Dumisani's Vice-principal, Rev. Norman Reid, in June 2011, the Dumisani Board approved the appointment of Rev. Deon Lombard as Vice-principal with immediate effect.

New Staff?

We continue to pray for suitable replacement staff and funds to support them. We are encouraged by several promising discussions and we hope to be able to indicate some developments soon.

Please continue to pray for us as we take the next steps on the way ahead.



Rev. Mason Nkwelo—Graduate and Governor!

Rev. Mason Nkwelo is a model of quiet perseverance. When the Principal arrived at Dumisani in 2005, Mr Nkwelo had already begun his part-time studies. He completed the requirements for his BTh degree in June 2011 and he will receive his degree at the next Awards Ceremony in March 2012. Mr Nkwelo is not unique in pursuing his studies over a number of years, but what sets him apart is the fact that he travelled each week from Mthatha to King William's Town, a drive of more than three hours on demanding roads to attend classes—and still managed his various business and church responsibilities. With a consistently positive attitude, Mr Nkwelo has worked hard and achieved good grades and we congratulate him for completing his BTh. All we have learned about Mason Nkwelo during these years makes us delighted that he has agreed to serve on the Dumisani Board of Governors. His business skills and connections, combined with spiritual maturity and theological understanding, make him an ideal addition to the Board.



Staff Changes

In just a few months, we will experience more changes in our staff team:

John and Elizabeth Ross fly back to the UK on 16 November 2011 after just over three years of service at Dumisani. We will miss John's teaching skills and expansive knowledge and enthusiasm for numerous subjects, both theological and more general, his regular updating of our website and Facebook pages as well as his more recent work in our Library, while we will miss Elizabeth's contribution to the Bible Women meetings, Sunday School Teacher Workshops, correspondence course marking and (very importantly) making sure we get a cup of coffee at coffee break! We wish them well in their next sphere of service.

Victor Nkatha's two-year contract as Sunday School Worker/ Junior Lecturer comes to an end at the end of December 2011. We are grateful to Victor for the work he has done as part of the Sunday School Team, as well as for his contribution to teaching at Dumisani, and wish him well as he moves on.

Deon and Shelley Lombard in Scotland

Deon and Shelley Lombard, Dumisani's Vice-principal and Registrar respectively, will be in the UK from 28 September until 26 October 2011. They hope to visit several churches around Scotland. We are very excited at the prospect of our supporters in the churches in Scotland having a chance to meet these key South African members of the Dumisani team in addition to the missionary personnel whom they will generally know better.

If Deon and Shelley are speaking in your area, please do try to take the opportunity to meet them. (Keep an eye on our web site for details.) If you have any questions about recent developments in the work of Dumisani or would like to know how you can help us, they would be happy to speak with you.

Coinciding with their visit, there will be a special fund-raising project which will highlight the significant role of Shelley Lombard as Registrar of Dumisani. While the role of lecturers in a theological college is fairly self-evident, some supporters may not realize how important proper administrative systems are for accounting, recruitment and academic record-keeping, etc. Shelley Lombard, as Registrar (working with her administrative colleague Hlalanathi Hombie Mathiso) does a great job of keeping the administrative systems of Dumisani efficient and transparent, and we hope supporters will be willing to provide finances which enable us to support her position.

Visiting Lecturer and Awards Ceremony

We are pleased to announce that Dumisani expects to welcome Dr Jack Whytock, Director of Haddington House (www.haddingtonhouse.org), Prince Edward Island, Canada, as a visiting lecturer from 18 February to 23 March 2012. Dr Whytock will be accompanied by his wife Nancy. Dr Whytock will also be the guest preacher at the Dumisani Annual Awards Ceremony on 10 March 2012.

Dr Whytock has studied theology at Regent College, Vancouver, the University of Glasgow and Highland Theological College. His PhD was awarded by the University of Wales. He has written several books and numerous articles and he has taught internationally, including numerous teaching trips to various parts of Africa. We are looking forward to Jack and Nancy's visit greatly.