

Archbishop Thabo Makgoba

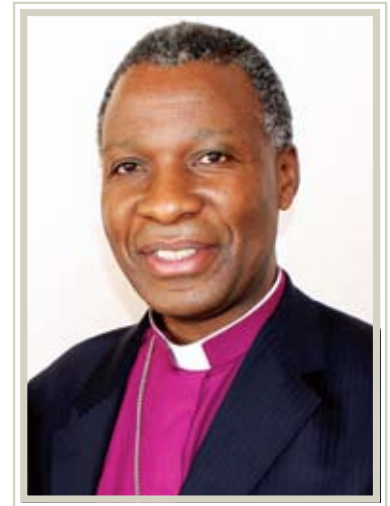
New Year Message – Bernard Mizeki Guild 1 January 2013

My dear Brothers in Christ

I greet you in the precious name of Jesus, as a new calendar year begins, with all the challenges – expected, and unexpected – that lie ahead. He is both Lord of all and Servant King, and will lead us in the good works he has prepared for us to walk in. As I think of you, my heart is filled with gratitude for the partnership we share in the Gospel, and for the way that the Archbishop's ministry is supported by the generous, dedicated, engagement of the Bernard Mizeki Guild across the Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

Looking back on 2012, I particularly call to mind how your President and Chairman, Revd Elliot Masoka and Bro Siphwe Mncube, came with me in August to Angola, both to join in celebrating the tenth anniversary of the Missionary Diocese, and to engage in detail on how to strengthen its life and ministry into the years ahead. There was similar on-going commitment to supporting the Diocese of Swaziland in its

difficult political context, expressed at the joyous consecration of Bishop Ellinah in November. Closer to home, I am always delighted by the presence of the Guild at the annual Bishops Court Christmas party for some 200 children from our Anglican orphanages and homes.



The Guild has a particular potential to contribute to our Church's life in the broad perspective that you bring. You may

recall that, within our 'Anglicans ACT' Vision, alongside the 8 specific priorities for Provincial action, we name two additional priorities that are to run through everything we do – transformation, and holistic mission. I see the Guild as playing a similar cross-cutting role: at Provincial, Diocesan and Branch level, being open to God's call, and ready to respond, through all aspects of our life both internally, and in sharing in mission.

So may Jesus Christ, Saviour and King, bless you and guide you in the year ahead, and continue to make you such a rich blessing to so many.

Yours in the service of Christ
+Thabo Cape Town

From the desk of Bishop Nathaniel Ndaxuma Nakwatumbah

Dear Brothers, God has so richly blessed our Church with the life of this Guild through which men in the Anglican Church have such great privilege to express the great yearn for God and productively bear much fruit in propagating the good news of our Lord Jesus to ourselves and to all God's people in any manner most possible and appropriate. I felt most privileged to do theology at St Bedes College in Umthatha where a number of us joined St Bernard Mizeki Guild. It was a great Imvuselelo night at St. Cuthbert's Ncolosi when an elderly Priest from Cape Town, the then

President of the Guild Father Xabazi did the investiture assisted by another prominent elderly Priest from Cradock who introduced himself as "Dumezweni Cradock" The impact made to me by being a member was great. Namibia is in the process of officially having a branch which is my great yearning and wonderfully enough my neighbor Angola. When the Guild covers the Church of Southern Africa the indicators of growth become vivid. Goodwill & blessings,

Nathaniel Ndaxuma Nakwatumbah, Bishop of Namibia.



Nathaniel Ndaxuma Nakwatumbah





Social Responsibility Day: St. John, Bongoletu, Oudtshoorn

As per the Provincial Council meeting of the St. Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild held in Qwaqwa, Diocese of Free State in September 2010 refers: All Dioceses need to prioritise Social Responsibility by putting aside a specific day where the Dioceses will embark on any Social Responsibility of their choice.

The Diocese of George St. Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild embarked on this day on the 27th October 2012.

Agenda of the day

Opening and welcoming: Bro. Fukweni and Bro. Mandita conducted a Morning Prayer and Fr. Mnqathu gave a short Sermon. Bro. Fukweni welcomed all present.

Brief Background: The Social Responsibility Officer of the Guild gave a short background of the day, reason and the importance of it. He made mention of the difficulties that our communities are facing, lack of job opportunities and the role that this Guild needs to play in that regard. Social Services Official: Mr. Tyatya welcomed the Church and in particular the Men's Guild initiative of prioritizing the Social Responsibility. Mr. Tyatya challenged the Church to further engage in activities of this nature as they assist their Department and making their lives easy

Phase 1

The Social Responsibility Officers handed over the grocery parcels which were donated by the office of the Oudtshoorn Municipal Mayor, Hon. Gordon April and warm meal was served by Ms. Pye of St. Johns Anglican Church to the elderly citizens of the Bongoletu. Message of support from the Diocesan Bishop (Bishop Brian) was also read, which was encouraging the Men's Guild to keep up with such initiatives as

they are the core business of the Church. The Bishop himself could not attend due to his tight schedule.

Phase 2

The Men's Guild visited Huis Triomf which is the houses about 30 orphaned boys aged from 10 - 17 years. The purpose of the visit was merely to share some time with the orphaned boys, donate clothing and have a meal with them. Clothing has been donated by various parishes and the meal was donated by the Infantry School (SA Army Training Academy). The staff of Huis Triomf warmly welcomed the gesture and the boys were thrilled by what the Men's Guild has done for them.

Closure: The Social Responsibility Officer closed the day by thanking all those that were present. The Grace was said by all.



HIGHVELD PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING

The St. Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild hosts two Provincial Council meetings yearly, the first one being held in February and the second one in September. The Provincial Council is made up of Provincial Executive members and Diocesan Executive members.

The Diocese of Highveld hosted the last Provincial Council of the year on the 21st - 22nd September 2012 at the Ebenezer Farm, Delmas. In the history of the Guild, this has been the first Provincial Council meeting to be attended by almost all member Dioceses except for the Diocese of False Bay with an apology and Diocese of Umzimvubu without apology. The meeting was attended by about ± 116 members including the guests as well as the Provincial Executive members.

History has been made in the Highveld Provincial Council meeting, the newly elected Liaison Bishop, Right Reverend Bishop Nathaniel Ndaxuma Nakwatumbah (Bishop of Namibia) and Reverend Adao Francisco Alexandre, a delegate from Diocese of Angola.

Bishop Nakwantumbah was robed as a St. Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild member in 1975 by Reverend Qabazi and Reverend Dumezweni when he was still a student at St. Bedes College. The Council meeting took a turning point when it reshuffled the Provincial Executive and recalling two of its members.

Brother Mongezi Kuze and Reverend Boikanyo Tong who were elected Provincial Secretary and Social Responsibility Officer respectively in the 2011 Provincial Conference were recalled.

Brother Kuze has been recalled for none performance and Reverend Tong was recalled for his regular absence from meetings without apology. Both former Provincial Executive members were recalled in their absence and Brother Kuze did not take the news in good faith whilst Reverend Tong welcomed the decision warmly.

Brother Tsika who was elected Legal Advisor replaced Brother Kuze to become a newly appointed Secretary, Brother Nciza who was elected Training and Development Officer replaced Brother Tsika to become a newly appointed Legal Advisor. The Provincial Executive approach and co-opted Bro. Nxazonke for the Social Responsibility Officers' vacancy. Reverend Pheko Lethale (Diocese of Lesotho) has been coopted as the Training and Development Officer.

A couple of reports were tabled to the Council and those reports will include visit to Angola and Namibia by the President and Chairman, the canonization of Bernard Mizeki as a Saint and a Provincial Appeal of about R 5000.00 paid to ACSA.

The next Provincial Council meeting will be hosted by the Diocese of Ukhahlamba in February 2013.

Jubilation during PCM, newly elected Secretary, Bro. Mxolisi Tsika.



Diocesan Media Officers



Diocese of CTK President and Media Officer.



Morning Prayer during PCM with Bro. Xolani Nciza, the newly elected Legal Advisor



Newly elected president of Christ The King Rev Gijimane Radebe

Archbishop, Provincial President and Provincial Chairman's Visit To Luanda

The Diocese of Angola was visited by the President (Revd. Masoka) and Chairman (Bro. Mncube) in August when they accompanied the Archbishop and a special visit by Revd. Adao to the Provincial Council meeting held in Delmas by the Diocese of Highveld inspired the Diocese of Angola to launch the Fraternal Association Bernard Mizeki from the 01st - 6th August 2012. The Diocese of Namibia has also shown an interest of launching the Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild soon.

Report:

It was a great pleasure and privilege for us as members of BMMG to be part of the delegation that accompanied the Archbishop to Angola, when they were celebrating their 10th anniversary as a diocese. We left South Africa at about Lunch time and landed in Luanda in the late afternoon.

There was such a welcome to Archbishop Thabo Makgoba, Mrs Lungi Makgoba, Provincial Executive Officer Revd Alan Kannemeyer, the Provincial President of BMMG Revd M. E. Masoka and Provincial Chairman of BMMG Mr Siphwe G. Mncube and the representatives from an organization called ALMA which means (Angola London Mozambique Association). When we arrived at the airport we were received by a huge crowd of Clergy and their spouses and other members of the church in Angola, Bishop Andre, the Bishop of Angola was leading the Team.

We were soon taken in a convoy of cars to a welcoming church service that was held at St Joseph's Rocho Pinto. The service was so much moving, in that when we arrived at the church there were so many people singing. Archbishop Thabo was given a time to introduce the team that was accompanying him, he also shared with the people of Angola as to how the church in South Africa is involved in the ministry of Angola. There after we were invited to a buffet in one of the big school rooms. Soon After the fellowship we were taken to our accommodation, to go and rest.

On the following day on Thursday the president and the chairman were given time to meet the members of the man's society of Luanda, the meeting was well attended, we shared with the man's group the vision of BMMG and the purpose of our visit. The members who attended the meeting showed an interest in joining BMMG. After the meeting we were taken for a rest, for we were to leave Luanda very early, to travel to the province Uige.

A very early departure from Luanda to Uige took us through the spectacular landscapes of Angola, we arrived in the province of Uige midmorning for a Eucharist service at the parish of the Martyrs, when we arrived we were

met by people who were wearing T-shirts that had image of Archbishop Thabo. The church was full to capacity with about ± 1000 people who were singing so vibrantly that you could not resist following in the music that they were singing. During the service Archbishop Thabo installed two archdeacons, Ven Augusto Domingos as the new Archdeacon of Uige and Ven Garcia Kazayilawoko, as the archdeacon of Lukunga Loge. There was such a memorable singing from the girls' choir, the man's choir and the mother's union choir. One thing I can share with you is that the Mother's Union in Angola is very much organized and is playing a meaningful role in the life of the church.

The church service was also attended by the Premier of Uige, the ambassador of U.K. and the representatives of UNITA political Party. The church service ended with the handing of the presents to the Archbishop and his wife.

On Saturday we had an opportunity to meet the deputy President of Angola who was also at the same hotel we were accommodated, and then there after we had a more leisurely return to Luanda, we visited St Phillip church in Uige. On our way back we visited the Lake of the Evil, where we were told of the story of the drowned village. We also visited a village called Quibaxe, the camps where Umkhonto Wesizwe training camps were during the time of armed struggle in our country, we even saw the house where the current President of the country Mr Jacob Zuma was staying in.

We reached Luanda late in the afternoon; we were taken to Bishop Andre's house where we were treated to a buffet as well. On Sunday morning we were in one of the churches in Luanda, in this church as well we were given an opportunity to address members of the men's society soon after the service and this meeting was well attended, interest was shown by the members to join BMMG. In the early evening we were hosted by the ambassador of the United Kingdom at the embassy where we had a privilege of meeting the deputy ambassador of South Africa Mr Mokwena from Pretoria.

Our observation about the church situation in Angola is that, the church is very poor, this we saw because all the churches that we visited are incomplete and that most churches do not have a window or door frames and some do not have even a concrete floor. Some of the clergy shared in confidence with us that they do not even get a stipend at the end of the month.

One was saying ever since he was ordained he has been wearing the only one clerical shirt for a period of 5 years. But one thing I have observed is that though that they are poor, they are rich in spirit.

We left Angola at about 07h30 on Monday the 6th, Bishop Andre and his team saw us through at the airport. We are so grateful to the members of our church in Angola, and we thank God for the wonderful way that they have received and hosted us, I thank you.

Editorial

Dear members of this noble and prestige organisation, fellow Church members.

The year 2012 came and passed leaving us with joy and pain. It is the same year, 2012 that has left us wondering where our country could be heading to after the incidents such as the Marikana and Western Cape Farm Workers Strikes. In both these incidents, the intervention of the Church was much needed and appreciated where it emerged.

It is in these instances that the Men's Guild must prove to be more alive than ever, assisting the Church as well as the Country in finding amicable solutions that directly affect the Government, Workers and all other important stakeholders. This Country and the Church, need men of integrity with high morals and values, 1 Timothy 3:2,3 "Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money."

Whilst mourning the death of Marikana Strikers, the Church also lost Revd. Livingstone Ngewu, Emeritus Bishop Duncan Buchanan, Mother of Revd. Masoka (Guild's President). But all of these painful times did not hold back the Guild's strength and growth. In 2012 the Guild welcomed warm

heartedly the appointment of Bishop Nwakantumbah of Namibia as the Liaison Bishop of the Guild, the launch of Men's Guild in Angola after the visit by the President and the Chairman, the ordination of two women Bishops in our Province, Swaziland and False Bay Dioceses.

The Guild also went through a painful period where it had to recall two of its Provincial Executive members, Revd. Tong and Bro. Kuze, may the Lord be with them in favour and in love.

Last but not least, as we start the new year, 2013 with refreshed minds, wounded as we are by the previous year, we ought to worship Him with pure hearts and love one another as we love ourselves. Matthew 6:33 "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." In order for this organisation, St. Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild, to grow from strength to strength, it needs each and every men in the Parishes to become members.

It is hoped that all of you will have a wonderful and prosperous 2013 and please do not forget to furnish us with your Diocesan/Archdeaconry/Parish stories with photos with caption.

May the Lord Be With You All.

Fezile Maki
Provincial Media Officer

- ANGLICAN CHURCH - DIOCESE OF ANGOLA FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION BERNARD MIZEKI

Diocesan Constituent Conference of
Fraternal Association Bernard Mizeki

Place:

St. Joseph Parish - Luanda, Angola

Date from:

14 to 15 December, 2012

SUBJECT:

List of Executive Committee Members
Elected at the Diocesan Level

PRESIDENCY

Venerable Dacosta Emmanuel - President
Antonio Pedro - Chairman

SECRETARIAT

Mario Antonio dos Santos - Secretary
Rafael dos Santos - Deputy Secretary

TREASURY

Antonio Raul - Treasurer

CHAPLAINCY

Revd. Adao Francisco Alexandre - Chaplain

SOCIAL WORKER OFFICER

Venancio Mussualo

COMMUNICATION & MEDIA OFFICER

Neves Dala Guerra

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Nelson Antonio Mbianda

LEGAL AFFAIRS OFFICER

Antunes Mario



BERNARD MIZEKI PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS



Bro. Andile Hlahla
Provincial Deputy Secretary



Bro. Fezile Maki
Provincial Media Officer



Bro. Mziwonke Nxazonke
Co-opted Social Responsibility Officer



Bro. Tsika & Bro. Mncube
Provincial Secretary & Provincial Chairman



Bro. Frans Malema
Provincial Treasurer



From afar, **Bro. Kuze** (the former Secretary), **Bro. Hlahla** (Deputy Secretary) and **Bro. Malema** (Treasurer)



Bro. Nciza
Legal Advisor



Revd. Elliot Masoka
Provincial President of the Guild



Bro. Mongezi Kuze
The former Provincial Secretary



Bro. Mzo Mncube
Provincial Chairman



Revd. Kutaone Molefi
Provincial Chaplain



Revd. Pheko Lethale
Training and Development Officer

St. Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild Questionnaire

- For The Compilation of Guild's History

1. Who is the founder of the St. Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild?
2. When was it first initiated?
3. Where was it first initiated?
4. What was the name of this guild when it was founded?
5. What was the purpose of initiating this Guild?
6. Are there any members who are still alive, who founded this Guild?
7. Where and When was the first Conference of the Guild?
8. How many Dioceses formed part of the first Conference and which Dioceses are those?
9. Who were the first Executive members of the Guild?
10. Which Diocese first launched its Diocesan Guild?
11. What were the requirements for becoming the guild's member?
12. What challenges did the previous Guild had and how does these differ from today's challenges?
13. What kept the Guild strong that it is still much alive till to date?
14. Who played an important role in the life of this Guild?
15. Who played an important role in the life of this Guild whilst he/she was not a member of the Men's Guild?
16. Why is this Guild named after Bernard Mizeki?
17. What role did the Guild play during the times of Apartheid socially?
18. Are there any old photos of any events of the Guild or of former founder members?
19. What is the relationship between the Guild and Aliwal North?
20. What changes did the formation of this Guild brought to the Church and in the life of Men?

Pexco Contact Information

Portfolio	Name	Portfolio	Diocese	Contact nrs (Cell)
President	Re. Mnyamezeli Elliot Masoka	President	Port Elizabeth	079 492 7806
Chairman	Bro Siphwe Gabriel Mncube	Chairman	Natal	072 575 8133
Training and Development	Rev Pheko Lethale	Training and Development Officer	Lesotho	C26657027351/ 0781004911 H0026628700203/W0026628700219
Social Responsibility	Bro. Mziwonke Nxazonke	Social Responsibility Officer	Cape Town	082 067 2851
Deputy Secretary	Bro Andile Caswell Hlahla	Deputy Secretary	Johannesburg	083 483 7539
Treasurer	Bro Frans Matloka Malema	Treasurer	Johannesburg	073 088 3820
Chaplain	Rev Kutoane Emmanuel Molefi	Chaplain	Free State	083 534 7812
Media Officer	Bro Fezile Maki	Media Officer	George	083 571 5693
Legal Officer	Bro Xolani Prince Nciza	Legal Advisor	Highveld	082 823 3770
Secretary	Bro Mxolisi Tsika	Secretary	Grahamstown	072 599 7039

Consecration of First Woman Bishop in the ACSA

some 380 employees, having previously served as the City Planner. She returned to Swaziland in 1990, having worked as a Planning Officer for the Government of Kenya from 1978 to 1990. She met her Kenyan husband, Okwaro Henry Wamukoya when, after completing a BA in Geography and African Languages at the University of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, she furthered her studies in the Netherlands. The couple have three married adult children, and a fourth younger child.

Having long been active in the Anglican church, she was ordained in 2005, and has served as assistant priest, then priest-in-charge, at UNISWA (the University of Swaziland). Bringing her planning and people skills to bear, in the difficult financial

situation of a country where so many live in considerable poverty, she helped her congregation develop a strategic plan, which has led to their numbers growing beyond staff and students to include also members of the surrounding community.

In this, she has been a firm believer in developing lay ministry across the life of the church. 'She is someone who will set a direction, both operational and spiritual, and develop a vision for the future' said a friend, of her potential to provide leadership as a Bishop. 'She is a restorer of hope, faith and love in the hearts of God's followers, who has helped believers to



Ellinah Wamukoya, Bishop of Swaziland, was Consecrated on 18th November 2012 in the Diocese of Swaziland.

At her election, Archbishop Thabo said, "The election of Revd Ellinah Wamukoya as Bishop of Swaziland, the first woman to be a Bishop in the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, is a great joy' said Archbishop Thabo Makgoba. 'When it was announced that she had received the necessary votes, there was great rejoicing both that a person of undeniable skills and personal qualities had been chosen, and that it was Ellinah herself, who obviously commands considerable respect and affection across the Diocese of Swaziland."

Revd Wamukoya was one of five nominated candidates. She obtained the necessary two-thirds majority among both clergy and laity in the twelfth ballot, as the electoral assembly met late into the evening of 18 July.

'It is rather fitting that the Diocese of Swaziland should elect our first woman to be a Bishop, since it was here, 20 years ago, that, amidst both tears and joy, our Provincial Synod agreed that both the priesthood and episcopate should be open to both men and women' the Archbishop noted. 'We have waited a long time for this moment!'

With a Master's degree in Town and Regional Planning, Revd Wamukoya, aged 61, was until recently the Town Clerk of Manzini Municipal Council, overseeing an organisation with

connect to Christ, the church and their communities.' Revd Wamukoya succeeds the Rt Revd Meshak Mabuza, who retired at the end of 2011, as the fifth Bishop of Swaziland, the Diocese having been created in 1968.

Both Diocese and country have faced difficult times recently, with the Synod of Bishops of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa frequently calling for political reform, and for open dialogue between government and civil society to decide the nation's future. 'We ask for the prayers of all for Revd Ellinah and her family, as she prepares to take on this new and particularly challenging calling, to lead the Diocese of Swaziland into a new chapter' said Dr Makgoba, 'yet we are confident that wherever God calls, he also equips and provides.'

'I am humbled by the trust and confidence placed on me by the people of Swaziland, a person like me of humble beginnings' said Revd Wamukoya after the election. 'My prayer is to be able to listen and be guided by the Holy Spirit in everything I do. My vision is to see that the people of God are restored and transformed, in order for them to be a church in mission, for, as it is said, "a church that does not reach out, passes out".'

The St Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild Provincial President, Fr. Masoka and Provincial Chairman Bro. Mncube attended the consecration by invitation from the Archbishop office.

New Archbishop for Canterbury



The Queen has approved the nomination of the Right Reverend Justin Welby for election as the 105th Archbishop of Canterbury.

He will succeed Dr Rowan Williams who retired at the end of December 2012, after ten years as Archbishop.

The Right Reverend Justin Welby, aged 56, is currently Bishop of Durham. He will be enthroned as Archbishop of Canterbury in Canterbury Cathedral on 21st March 2013. He said today: "To be nominated to this post is both astonishing and exciting. It is something I never expected, and the last few weeks have been a very strange experience.

It is exciting because we are at one of those rare points where the tide of events is turning, and the church nationally, in-

cluding the Church of England has great opportunities to match its very great but often hidden strengths. I feel a massive sense of privilege at being one of those responsible for the leadership of the church in a time of spiritual hunger, when our network of parishes and churches and schools and above all people means that we are facing the toughest issues in the toughest place."

Dr Rowan Williams issued the following statement: "I am delighted at the appointment of the Right Reverend Justin Welby to Canterbury. "He has an extraordinary range of skills and is a person of grace, patience, wisdom and humour. He will bring to this office both a rich pastoral experience and a keen sense of international priorities, for Church and world. I wish him - with Caroline and the family - every blessing, and hope that the Church of England and the Anglican Communion will share my pleasure at this appointment and support him with prayer and love."

The Rt Hon the Lord Luce, chair of the Crown Nominations Commission said: "I am delighted that Bishop Justin has accepted The Queen's Invitation to become the next Archbishop of Canterbury.

I believe that we have found that person in Bishop Justin who has a deep commitment to the faith and a significant breadth of experience and I am confident that there are many gifted leaders in the Church who will do their utmost to work with him and to support him."

Second Anglican Woman Bishop Elected by Southern Africa, - Rt Revd Margaret Vertue

A South African woman has been elected as the second female Anglican bishop in Africa. Canon Margaret Vertue, the senior priest in a diocese which includes most of the poorer suburbs of greater Cape Town, was elected bishop of the Diocese of False Bay. Her consecration took place on Saturday 19th January 2013.

The second of two women elected to the episcopacy in recent months, Canon Vertue was one of the two first woman priests to be ordained in Cape Town by Archbishop Desmond Tutu 20 years ago. Primate of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa Archbishop Thabo Makgoba said, 'I am absolutely delighted that the Revd Canon Margaret Vertue has been elected the next Bishop of the Diocese of False Bay'.

'Margaret was my junior when we were both training for ordination at the College of the Transfiguration - then St Paul's, and I have worked closely with her on the board of HOPE Africa.

She is well known, respected, and liked throughout Southern Africa, and we thank God for this new chapter in her life and ministry, and the life of False Bay Diocese.' Canon Vertue will replace Bishop Merwyn Castle.

The Archbishop of Cape Town said 'In the last few months, we have had four episcopal elections, electing two women and two men. It seems the Holy Spirit is not finished with us, but is taking us further onwards into this new stage of our Church's life. We give great thanks to God.' The Venerable Steve Moreo will succeed Bishop Brian Germond in the Diocese of Johannesburg, and the Revd Steven Letloenyane will follow Bishop Paddy Glover in the Diocese of the Free State.



Anglican Church of Southern Africa, St. Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild Provincial Executive Committee Report To Council 21 - 22 September 2012



Front (Left to Right):

Chaplain (Fr. Molefi); Treasurer (Bro. Malema)

Back (Left to Right):

President (Fr. Masoka); Deputy Secretary (Bro. Hlahla); Media Officer (Bro. Maki); Legal Advisor (Bro. Nciza) and Training and Development Officer (Fr. Lethale)

A. Decision taken by PEXCO:

1. At the 2011 conference it was decided that the new executive should attend to the issue of Liaison Bishop. This was an issue because Bishop Mlibo Ngewu was absent at the conference without apology. At its strategic session earlier this year PEXCO considered the issue and resolved to engage the Archbishop office in this regard. After careful consideration it was decided that the Bishop of Namibia, the Right Reverend Nathaniel Ndaxuma Nakwatumbah be the appointed Liaison Bishop of the Guild. It was decided that new Liaison Bishop should be invited to the council. PEXCO has since congratulated him on this appointment (for noting).

2. The strategic session in February also decided that a history of the Guild should be documented. Pursuant to this decision the President and Legal advisor visited a senior lecturer who is an Anglican Priest at the University of Stellenbosch. He agreed in principle that he would lead the project but requested support from the Guild. What is left at the moment is to agree on a process plan and work on the budget require-

ments for the project. (For consideration by Council).

3. The strategic session resolved that there should be a delegation to see the Archbishop. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the new leadership to him and share expectations from both sides. Among pertinent issues discussed with the Archbishop was whether St BERNARD MIZEKI is a Saint or a Martyr. The Archbishop advised that he is not a Saint. He referred us to Bishop Mervin Edwin Castle who also echoed the Archbishop's view. Documentation in this regard will be handed over to delegates in the council meeting. Other issues discussed with Archbishop shall be presented at the council meeting; those include a request by the Archbishop that we assist and support some of the programmes/ activities in his office. (for consideration by council)

4. PEXCO received progress report from the Diocese of Highveld in regard to council meeting preparation and checked on the state of the Guild in the Diocese. (for information)

5. Provincial Appeal there was a request for funds/donation from ACSA and the meeting agreed on a donation of R5000.00. Details will be presented at the council meeting (for information).

6. The President and Chairman visited Angola and Namibia. The President and Chairman will present a report at the Council meeting. (Their reports will be for consideration by council).

7. An invitation to the Provincial Standing Committee was considered. The President prepared and submitted a report to the standing committee. (For information).

8. The GTC conference is scheduled for October 3to 6 2012. Details will be provided at the council meeting. (For consideration).

9. The issue of the Pilgrimage was considered and resolved to keep on engaging the Archbishop. It was also resolved that the Presidency and Chaplaincy should work together on issue. (for consideration)

10. The non -attendance and lack of participation by Rev. Tong in PEXCO was considered. It was decided that the President should contact him and this regard and raise PEXCO concerns before reporting to council in September. (for consideration)

11. The finalisation of constitutional amendments was considered and the legal advisor reported that there was virtual no response from the Diocesan legal advisors and was therefore not much to report. However if there was no progress until the council meeting in September the legal advisor committed himself to finalize the project before February 2013 council meeting. (For consideration).

12. PEXCO also discussed a possibility of buying a car for the Archbishop. It was decided that we engage Dioceses and request them to fund raise for this initiative. Brother Nciza assisted by Tsika were requested to spearhead the project. Details will be considered at the council meeting. (for consideration).

Anglicans Ablaze: 'Anchored in the love of Christ, Committed to God's Mission, Transformed by the Holy Spirit'

Johannesburg, 3-6 October 2012. We came, close to 1400 of us, because we wanted to be, and wanted the Anglican Church of Southern Africa to be, Anchored in the love of Christ, Com-



mitted to God's Mission, and Transformed by the Holy Spirit – believing this is not just our vision, but God's vision for us. We came with excitement, anticipation, commitment; even if a little unsure of what to expect, perhaps a bit lost or fearful, or aware of obstacles in our lives and in our church. But we have tasted and seen that the Lord is good, and has done far more than we could ever ask or imagine! God is love, and has met us in love, and called on us to abide in his love.

We have been here to learn, and God has blessed us with some wonderful speakers. We have learnt that 'the plural of disciple is church', and that we need to move from being 'welcoming' to 'inviting' churches. We have learnt to have courage in God's love not to minister from the damaged, wounded, places of our lives (which so often leads us to damage and wound others) but to live out of a brokenness that finds its place in the brokenness of Christ upon the cross, and shares in the weeping of God the Father for his children and his world.

We believe our time together has delighted the heart of God. God has given us a fuller vision, not only of being 'Anglicans who ACT', but of what we might become if we dare to live into the fullness of all that Anglicanism can be in Southern Africa, under God's grace. In this way, he is calling us to become more, not less, Anglican! We have been the largest, and most diverse, gathering from across ACSA that anyone can remember: we have enjoyed being together as Archbishop and 12 more bishops and bishops-elect, as clergy, as religious, as laity, and as young people (we acknowledge that we have not had children among us, but affirm that the promise of God's vision is for our children also). We have experienced

God's love breaking down the barriers of the social, political and historic divisions within our nations, and breaking down the differences of tradition, style, and labelling within our church. 'God's love is the glue that holds us together' the Archbishop told us on our first evening, and we have come to know the truth of this for ourselves.

Our time together has been significant. It has truly become a turning point. We have been changed, and our church has been changed. We have received a wonderful vision from God for our future, 'a vision for the appointed time; and if it seems to tarry, we will wait for it, for it will surely come, it will not delay.' We know we will face many challenges when we go home, even within ACSA.

We also believe that God is calling us 'to bless and not to curse': to step back from the critical habits of contemporary society and stop complaining about our church, our societies and our governments. Where we see faults and failings, we should instead be beacons of light and hope, and bearers of God's redemptive promises.

We are learning we need to be increasingly anchored in the love of Christ. We have learnt not only to say 'God is good, all the time', but also 'God is love, all the time' and 'God loves us, all the time' and 'God loves me, all the time.' And, having learnt this lesson, we have heard the voice of God coming to us as it came to Moses and the ancient Hebrew people, 'You have been in this place long enough – it is time to break camp, and move on.' Amen.

This is an edited extract, for the full version contact Editor, Fezile Maki at fezmaki@gmail.com

