



014 ACSI From The Director's Desk | **25th April 2024**

Dear Principals

On Saturday, the ACSI team spent a memorable day with the teachers and leaders of the KZN area at the KZN Central Teacher Conference. This was the second of nine teacher conferences which we will host around the country – the first was an equally happy time spent in (a very hot!) Mahikeng back in February. Both occasions were a reminder of the very special people we are privileged to have serving Christian education in schools across South Africa.

We appreciated the positive feedback from delegates after the conference, especially as we have tweaked the programme this year, with an additional round of workshops, in place of one of the plenary sessions. The workshops were varied in topic and excellently presented, and teachers spent a happy day socialising and connecting with colleagues from other schools in the province. We look forward to visiting your province during the year, and to presenting an equally engaging and enjoyable programme for your teachers! Please see below for the upcoming dates in Limpopo and Gauteng.

ROUNDTABLE EVENT - RE:STORYING EDUCATION

We would like to promote the 'Love Our City' initiative, which is an outreach of the New Covenant Church Bryanston. Specifically, I would encourage you to consider attending their upcoming conference, Re:Storying Education. It will be a roundtable event aimed at forging meaningful connections and fostering collaboration amongst public and private education leaders and businesspeople. The focus will be on providing a platform for problem-solving and collectively envisioning a new narrative for education in South Africa. This inaugural event is being held on Tuesday, 4th June 2024 at New Covenant Church Bryanston, Gauteng, and the speaker is Professor Jonathan Jansen. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

PRAYER HOUR - FEEDBACK

The Prayer Hour online prayer meeting, held on Tuesday, was a meaningful time of connecting with educators, leaders and service providers across South Africa. This particular time of prayer was devoted to praying for our country, as we edge ever closer to the elections on the 29th of May. The tone of the meeting was both sombre and hopeful, as we recognised the seriousness of raising up leaders who will serve the citizens of our country with humility – and we prayed too that the whole process would be peaceful and effectively run. Thank you to those who joined us for this important time of prayer. The next ACSI Prayer Hour will be on the **23rd of July 2024**.

NEW SERVICE PROVIDERS

Life and Wellness Support

The following comes from Tom Miles: "As a social entrepreneur, I partner with My Walk, a non-profit organisation which manufactures school shoes for underprivileged children. I support charities, schools, churches, and other organisations in hosting and participating in events and supporting these children in need. What is unique about these shoes and what attracted me to this initiative is that the shoes are made from plastic medical waste." To learn more, please consult the Social Issues category on our Service Providers page.

Coffee the Bible

Did you know that out of more than 7 300 languages in the world, fewer than ten per cent (728) have access to a full Bible in their mother tongue? Coffee The Bible dreamed of a way to eradicate Bible poverty, and to make it ridiculously easy to invite people to join hands with them to do so. As they put it, "Coffee has become a verb".

"We have God-sized dreams that are impossible – without God. Our vision: 1000 full Bibles translated by 2050. How can you help? Drinking Bible translating coffee helps a little; buying our Bible translating blend helps a bit more, and subscribing to the cost of a cappuccino monthly helps the most. Join the movement in eradicating Bible poverty, and help us as we make the Bible accessible to all."

Hartbeespoort Conferencing CC T/A Harties Boat Company

This company provides cruises on Hartbeespoort Dam with an educational focus, combined with a safe and exciting day out for children. The "Water is life" excursion aims to create an enjoyable and interactive environment for children to learn about the importance of water conservation. It focuses on the water hyacinth pollution in the Harties Dam, its impact and what action is being taken to address the matter.

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Events in May:

- **Limpopo Principal Meeting**, Wednesday, 8th May 2024. [Click here](#) to register by close of business 2nd May 2024.
- **Limpopo Teacher Conference**, Saturday, 11th May 2024. [Click here](#) to register by close of business 3rd May 2024.
- **Gauteng Principal Meeting**, Tuesday, 21st May 2024. [Click here](#) to register by close of business 14th May 2024.
- **Gauteng Teacher Conference**, Saturday, 25th May 2024. [Click here](#) to register by close of business 17th May 2024.
- **National Principal Conference, *Encouraging Faith***, 30th May – 1st June 2024. Contact nicole_thomas@acsi.org with any questions.

"And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Matthew 4:19

God Bless

Neil Malherbe

ACSI Director