



**FOR WHAT WILL IT
PROFIT THEM IF THEY
GAIN THE WHOLE
WORLD BUT FORFEIT
THEIR LIFE?**

Matthew 16:26

Watchword for September

**Christ and His Church invite you !
Christus und Seine Kirche laden Dich ein!**

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From the Pastor's Heart

Thoughts on the Watchword for the month of August 2019

"As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The Kingdom of God has come near.'" Matthew 10:7

The Bible is full of pictures and images. Jesus does not write a dogmatic book with clever teachings, but tells parables, speaks in pictures. This is the case with the kingdom of God: it is like the mustard seed, the smallest of the seeds. It grows into a big tree. From this small seed an almost 22 meter high shrub grows at the Sea of Galilee (Matthew 13:24-52). Or it's like sourdough, which sours through a large amount of flour. Every housewife and baker knows how little sourdough it takes to change a large amount of dough in such a way that bread can be baked. In the small and the little, there is the power to transform a lot. The early church, which was a minority group and experienced disappointment and persecution, understood this message of hope and consolation. A reliable and comforting image against faint-heartedness and fear.



That's why I like to be in a church that may seem small and inconspicuously from the outside. God's power on this earth does not come to the fore with force and enormous power, but begins small and inconspicuous. His kingdom in this world begins with all-too-human people, with their mistakes and weaknesses, and above all with a child in the manger, Jesus of Nazareth. God has made himself small for us, has descended into the deepest depths, because He wants to be very close to us. And then he builds his kingdom with all His all-too-human people, and that in itself is bigger than we can ever imagine. Where sufferers are healed of their emotional and physical pains through love and affection, where outsiders find contact again, where the sad are comforted and the poor re-established with new hope, the kingdom of God happens and is among us.

The Church is not what it used to be. We are also becoming a minority group. Church is no longer seen as a priority in many people's lives. It is losing its importance. And we Christians are often despondent and discouraged by this. But in the midst of such resignation, these images of the Kingdom of Heaven can encourage us and pull us out of our faint-heartedness and give us new cour-

Harvest Thanksgiving

age to continue being church in this world, in this tiny spot in PE where God has planted us. Perhaps it was precisely in response to such doubts and fears that Jesus told the parables of the mustard seed and sourdough to explain how the Kingdom of God happens within us and among us, even if we can't even see it. But we may trust it. From the small, the inconspicuous, something meaningful and wonderful can grow. Let's not lose heart!

Dear Parents & Grandparents of our Young Children

We are updating our Children's Church register and we would like to extend a warm welcome to all our children to join us on the 2nd Sunday of every month. We have been very fortunate in that we have received some wonderful Sunday School material from the congregation in East London. If you as parents have any suggestions concerning our Children's Church, we would love to hear from you. Teaching our children the Bible stories and about the Love of God is something we feel is very important and with your support we look forward to seeing our numbers grow.

With kind regards and best well wishes, Mrs. Elizabeth Koepke with Pastor Anja Spiske

Dear Friends

This year we would like to earmark our Harvest Thanksgiving Family Service on the

27th of October 2019

as an opportunity to generate much needed funds for our congregation. Therefore, this day would be a tithing Sunday, followed by a bring and share lunch to celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness.



Harvest Thanksgiving is a giving of thanks for a good harvest. Although most of us are not farmers by profession we all have much to be thankful for in terms of God's provision for and blessings over our lives. Harvest Thanksgiving is a day on which we can express our thankfulness and gratitude and give back, in the true sense of the word, a giving of thanks.

News from the Office of the Bishop

Dear sisters and brothers,

'Being Church with the people' is more than 'being a Church for the people.' That we exist as church is about more than functioning as an institution. Church is about people.

We are called to care for one another. This we do best by belonging to and being there for one another. In order to be church with the people we need to go to the people and be the Body of Christ with people and inevitably we will be there for them. Then the institution we call church serves to give us a structure in which we are church.

We come from a history where we expect the people 'to come to church' – to the building and to share in the community of believers. When they come to us we expect them to become like us in order to be one of us.

But we have been called to

"go and make disciples of all nations." (Matthew 28) Going to the people and discipling them, is our calling. Therefore, we need to ask ourselves: who are the people around us to whom we are sent to go to be church with them?

You and I were baptised into the body of Christ not only for our salvation, but to be Christ's Body

present in this world, amongst and with the people and only an NGO that does good for the people.

An important example of being Church with and not only for people is that we show genuine interest in the new members of the ELC by asking: what gifts God has given to His Church here and now in terms of talents, passions, energy and abilities to realize His Body. This includes the gifts that new members bring into our midst.

To put it differently: let us not just focus on 'hosting the stranger' (making them feel at home in our midst) but also on 'being hosted by the stranger' (creating space and opportunities for them to use their gifts to lead us and advance the Kingdom of God in that way).

Where necessary, we are called to provide the space, opportunities and support for new members to establish new ministries according to their gifts.

Partnership for Missional Churches (PMC) and Listening Process

The visit by Prof Pat Keifert in June/July was very encouraging and engaging. Through his teaching he built up on what he did 2 years ago. Two important

News from the Office of the Bishop

aspects of church life he encouraged us to focus on were:

'create learning communities'
who are on a journey to establish
'Christian communities'.

I encourage you to discuss on congregational level what such values are so that we grow stronger in what we are:

The Body of Christ here and now.

Synod 6-8 September 2019

Our synod will take place from at St Andrews Lutheran Church in East London. The Theme will be: "Biblical and socio-economic/socio-political perspectives on land." We will have different guest speakers who will give us an introduction on different aspects which then will be discussed in small groups. Enough time will be allowed for discussion and feedback.

The delegates have been elected, thus there is enough time to prepare, starting with what is happening in your own congregation. Please take note of the following important dates:

Pre-synod meetings:

- 3 August for the CCW
- 24 August for the CCE
- 4-5 September pre-synod
pastors' convocation

Let us keep the planning for the

synod in our prayers. May the gathering be a blessing to the whole church!

ELCSA (Cape Church) Webpage

www.lutherancape.org.za

On the webpage you can find important information and documents.

A number of congregations still need to provide the office with a brief history and information for the webpage. It is essential that a link to each congregational webpage is available.

Please use our webpage. If you find any mistakes or have a contribution to make, please let us know at office@elcsacape.co.za



Bishop Gilbert Filter

www.lutheran-pe.org

 **LUTHERAN PORT ELIZABETH**
Friedenskirche

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Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

The LWF is a global communion of 148 churches in the Lutheran tradition, representing over 75.5 million Christians in 99 countries.

We strive to put our faith into action within and beyond the communion, and seek God's Word and Spirit to guide us.

This action takes a variety of forms from theological reflection and dialogue with other churches and faiths, to deepening relationships, sharing about our faith, serving those in need and advocating for a more just, peaceful and reconciled world. We share a vision, purpose and values. We work to strengthen our relationships and build an inclusive, respectful communion. We are on a common journey of renewal shaped and enriched by the different contexts within which we live.

Vision

Liberated by God's grace, a communion in Christ living and working together for a just, peaceful, and reconciled world

Core Values

- Dignity and justice
- Compassion and commitment
- Respect for diversity
- Inclusion and participation
- Transparency and accountability



The LWF is on a journey.

We are moving from a loose knit federation of churches to an interconnected communion of churches.

This communion is a gift before it is a task. We hear the gospel of God's grace, receive baptism and join together in Holy Communion. And thus we are drawn to God, and to one another.

This is a spiritual journey, where God's Spirit enables us to listen to one another and share our joys and sufferings.

As we grow together, taking care of one another as members of the Body of Christ, the communion becomes more than just an organization. In so many ways we are, then, coming into a deeper relationship – ecclesial relationship – with one another.

Of course, the purpose of this relationship is to take on God's mission as our own.

We come to see the shape of that mission through Christ, especially in his cross. God is present at the margins of society, entering into the depths of human suffering and injustice, embracing those whom humanity so often excludes.

Notice Board Planned

Ladies Tea

24 August 2019 10:00.
(Saturday)
Theme: "Tea on the Beach"



Café Bingo

28 September 2019
14:00
(Saturday)



Christmas Market
2 November 2019
09:30
(Saturday)



Carols, Coffee, Cake
8 December 2019 11:00
(Sunday)

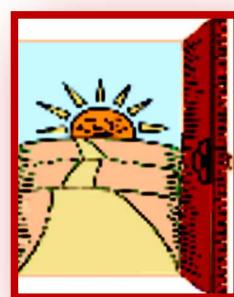


Regular

Open Door

Last Tuesday of each month
at 10:00

co-ordinator: Marita Fröhlich
041-360 3317 or
082 564 3409



Anschlagbrett
Young Adults
Every 1st Sunday of each month
Evening Service at 18:00

Children's Church



All children are invited to our Children's Services which will be held during English Divine Service on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

Children are invited to stay in the Sanctuary during the sermon on other Sundays.
co-ordinator :

Elizabeth Köpke
083 232 6624

Last Sunday of the month is Family Service and geared towards children too.

See also article on page 3

Watchword for this month:

*Go, proclaim the good news,
“The kingdom of heaven has come near.”*
Matthew 10:7

Monatsspruch:

*Geht und verkündet:
Das Himmelreich ist nahe.*
Matthäus 10,7

So. 04.08.2019

7. Sonntag nach Trinitatis

- 09:30 D Gottesdienst mit Abendmahl
Johannes 6,1–15



Su 04.08.2019

7th Sunday after Trinity

- 18:00 E Evening Service
John 6.1–15



Su 11.08.2019

8th Sunday after Trinity

- 09:30 E Divine Service with Holy Communion
Matthew 5.13–16



Su 18.08.2019

9th Sunday after Trinity

- 09:30 E Divine Service with Holy Communion
Matthew 25.14–30



Su 25.08.2019

10th Sunday after Trinity - Israel Sunday

- 09:30 E Family Service with Holy Communion
Luke 19:41–48



Watchword for this month
*For what will it profit them
 if they gain the whole world
 but forfeit their life?*

Matthew 16:26

Monatsspruch:
*Was hülfe es dem Menschen,
 wenn er die ganze Welt gewönne und
 nähme doch Schaden an seiner Seele?*

Matthäus 16,26

So. 01.09.2019

11. Sonntag nach Trinitatis

- 09:30 D Gottesdienst mit Abendmahl
 Lukas 18,9-14



Su 01.09.2019

11th Sunday after Trinity

- 18:00 E Evening Service
 Luke 18.9-14



Su 08.09.2019

12th Sunday after Trinity

- 09:30 E Divine Service with Holy Communion
 Mark 7.31–37



So. 15.09.2019

13. Sonntag nach Trinitatis

- 09:30 D Gottesdienst mit Abendmahl
 Lukas 10,25-37



Su 22.09.2019

14th Sunday after Trinity

- 09:30 E Divine Service with Holy Communion
 Luke 17.11–19

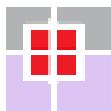


Su 29.09.2019

15th Sunday after Trinity

- 09:30 E Family Service with Holy Communion
 Matthew 6.25–34





Church Committee

2019

Kirchenvorstand

Rev Anja Spiske	33 Luke Avenue, (Manse) P.O. Box 5039 pastor@lutheran-pe.org 041-367 1986 H	Springfield Walmer 6065
Reinhard Walle (Chairman)	4 May Way chairman@lutheran-pe.org 041-360 6769 H	072 734 9995 Sunridge Park 6045
Gerhard Fröhlich (Treasurer)	63 Boundary Rd, treasurer@lutheran-pe.org 041-360 3317 H	063 685 0263 Morningside 6025
Henry Newman (Membership)	81 Villiers Road, membership@lutheran-pe.org 041-581 3907 H	Walmer 6070 078 703 7003
Carol Buschhold	25 St Louis, Nerina Ave	Kamma Park 6070 071 6376 372 Lovemore Heights 6025
Auke Brand	52 Bernard Road warden1@lutheran-pe.org 041-367 5287	082 824 7345
Desmond Fillis	12 Speyers Road warden4@lutheran-pe.org 041-367 2788	Walmer Downs 6070 072 399 3574
Elizabeth Köpke	33 Walker Gardens Montrose Street warden5@lutheran-pe.org	Sherwood 6025 072 399 35
Sicilia Welcome	13 Loton Street warden2@lutheran-pe.org 041-452 3095	Young Park 6001 082 862 8609



Contributions, Donations

The congregation's Levy is paid to the Cape Church each month.

The recommended contribution per family is R500 per month, however, all contributions, small or large help to our commitment.

Please make your payments to the church by means of a deposit into the church's bank account or via electronic fund transfer (EFT) and provide your details under the reference section

Die Abgabe der Gemeinde wird jeden Monat an die Kapkirche gezahlt. Der empfohlene Beitrag pro Familie beträgt R 500 pro Monat, jedoch tragen alle kleinen oder großen Beiträge zu unserem Engagement bei.

Verwenden Sie bitte für Zahlungen an die Kirche das untenstehende Bankkonto (Einzahlungen am Schalter oder Überweisungen), als Referenz: Namen und Verwendungszweck angeben.

Kirchbeiträge, Spenden

Bank: First National Bank,
Account: 534 200 32476

Branch Code: 211217 Walmer Branch
Account Name:Lutheran Church Springfield

02-Aug Renée Sternberg
 06-Aug Colin Lentz
 06-Aug Edelgard Krieg
 09-Aug Kirsty Fillis
 10-Aug Callum Bosman
 11-Aug Gerry West
 13-Aug Christa West
 13-Aug Sharon Walle
 21-Aug Jarrid Angloher
 24-Aug Mandy Septoe
 24-Aug Uwe Stodtmeister
 25-Aug Gabi Weder
 26-Aug Gisela Mahlert
 28-Aug Stefan Koch
 30-Aug Chris Bürger
 31-Aug Dieter Lokotsch



Alles
Gute zum
Geburtstag



01-Sep Henry Newman
 02-Sep Brunhilde Koch
 02-Sep Carol Buschold
 04-Sep Branson Bosman
 04-Sep Olga Breitfeld
 06-Sep Wolfgang Paetzold
 08-Sep Ophelia van Rensburg
 12-Sep Sydney Rudolph
 17-Sep Linzi Thompson
 19-Sep Craig Bürger
 21-Sep Nicole Wright
 22-Sep Nerina Reiff
 23-Sep Anthea Bürger
 25-Sep Melissa Fillis
 26-Sep Esther Siegmund-Heineke
 28-Sep Lorinda Koch
 29-Sep Christine Paetzold
 30-Sep Brenda Lentz
 30-Sep Warrick Bürger

Congregational Information

Ladies Retreat



The ladies from our congregation spent time together at the Humbleways Retreat Centre in Lovemore Heights on Friday 5 July and Saturday 6 July.

We looked at Richard Rohr's Daily Meditations and discussed our own situations within this context.

We remembered that St Paul tells us in various scripture passages that we are all tabernacles of God.

Richard Rohr explains this further – “You are the dwelling place of God. Your deepest DNA is divine. God is not out there. Your deepest you is God, is good, is okay”.

The “Belltower” Project 2019

It was agreed at the Special General Meeting held on the 25 February 2018, that the congregation is asked for additional donations to be used for: Repaying the outstanding debt to the Cape Church, repaying the Congregation's Car Loan and getting funds for the 5-year Maintenance Project.

Received by

Target 2019

Medium Term Loan (MTL) Project

30.06.2019 R 21,300 R 49,000

Maintenance Project

30.06.2019 R 1'550 R 17,000

Car Loan Project.

(30.06.2019 R 4,420 R 23,000)



Was Frau Pastorin am Herzen liegt

Gedanken zum Monatsspruch für August 2019

“Geht und verkündet: Das Himmelreich ist nahe.“ Matthäus 10,7

Die Bibel ist voller Bilder. Jesus schreibt kein Dogmatik-Buch mit gescheiten Lehrsätzen, sondern erzählt Gleichnisse, spricht in Bildern. So ist das mit dem Reich Gottes: Es ist wie das Senfkorn, das kleinste der Samenkörner. (Matthäus 13:24-52).

Es wächst zum großen Baum. Aus diesem kleinen Samen wächst am See Genezareth ein fast 22 Meter hoher Strauch. Oder es ist wie beim Sauerteig, der eine große Menge Mehl durchsäuert. Jede Hausfrau und jeder Bäcker weiß wie wenig Sauerteig, unsichtbar in einer großen Menge Teig, diesen so verändert, dass Brot gebacken werden kann. Im Kleinen liegt die Kraft, alles zu verwandeln. Die Urgemeinde, die Enttäuschung und Verfolgung erlebte, die eine Minderheit war, verstand diese Trostbotschaft. Ein verlässliches Bild gegen Kleinmut und Angst.

Darum bin ich gerne in einer Gemeinde, die von außen her vielleicht als klein und unscheinbar erscheint. Gottes Macht auf dieser Erde kommt nicht gewaltig daher, sondern beginnt klein und unscheinbar. Sein Reich in dieser Welt beginnt mit allzu menschlichen



Menschen, mit ihren Fehlern und Schwächen und vor allem mit einem Kind in der Krippe, Jesus von Nazareth. Gott hat sich klein gemacht für uns, ist in die tiefsten Tiefen hinabgestiegen, weil er uns ganz nahe sein will. Und dann baut er aus vielen kleinen Menschen sein Reich, und das ist grösser als wir es uns jemals vorstellen können. Wo Leidende von ihren seelischen und körperlichen Schmerzen geheilt werden durch Liebe und Zuwendung, wo Außenseiter wieder Kontakt finden, wo Traurige getröstet werden und Arme wieder neue Hoffnung schöpfen, da beginnt das Reich Gottes zeichenhaft auch bei uns.

Die Kirche verliert an Bedeutung. Und wir Christen sind oft verzagt und mutlos. Doch mitten hinein in solche Resignation können diese Bilder vom Himmelreich uns Mut machen und uns aus unserem Kleinglauben herausreißen. Vielleicht hat Jesus gerade auf solche Zweifel hin die Gleichnisse vom Senfkorn und Sauerteig erzählt. Aus Kleinem,, Unscheinbarem kann Großes, Kraftvolles erwachsen. Lasst uns den Mut nicht verlieren!

Nachrichten aus dem Büro des Bischofs

Liebe Schwestern und Brüder

Um eine Kirche "mit Menschen" zu sein, ist mehr als "eine Kirche für Menschen" sein. Das Vorhandensein einer Kirche ist mehr als die Funktion einer Institution. Kirche hat mit Menschen zu tun. Wir sollen uns um Menschen kümmern und für einander da sein. Um eine Kirche mit Menschen zu sein, sollen wir als Leib Christi für Menschen da sein. Wir leben mit der Haltung, dass die Menschen "zur Kirche kommen", zum Kirchgebäude und in der Gemeinschaft der Gläubigen sind, dies meint, dass sie wie wir sind und eine Gemeinschaft bilden.

In Matthäus 28 werden wir jedoch aufgefordert: "Gehet hin und lehret alle Völker". Unser Auftrag ist: zu den Menschen zu gehen und sie zu Jüngern zu machen. Darum müssen wir uns fragen: wo sind die Menschen um uns herum zu denen wir gehen sollen um eine Gemeinde zu bilden?

Du und ich, wir sind getauft im Namen Christi, nicht nur zu unserer Rettung, sondern um Christi Wort in dieser Welt zu verkündigen. Ein wichtiges Beispiel ist, dass wir echtes Interesse zeigen, auch den neuen Mitgliedern der

ELK und jetzt und hier müssen wir uns fragen, welche Gaben hat Gott der Kirche heute gegeben mit Talenten, Liebe, Energie und Fähigkeiten.

Dies schließt die Gaben ein, die neue Mitglieder zu uns bringen. Wir sollen also nicht darauf achten, Hausherren für Fremde zu sein, sondern uns von Fremden "bewirten" zu lassen, ihnen Gelegenheit geben, uns mit ihren Gaben zum Reich Gottes zu führen.

Partnership for Missional Churches (PMC) and Listening Process

Der Besuch von Prof. Pat Keifert im Juni/Juli war sehr bereichernd und ermutigend.

Seine Dnkanstöße bauten auf seinen Ausführungen vor zwei Jahren auf. Er betonte zwei wichtige Aspekte: schafft wachsende Gemeinschaften die auf dem Wege sind "christliche Gemeinschaften" zu werden. Werdet ermutigt, dies in eurer Gemeinde zu leben und dadurch stärker zu werden im Wachsen zu einem Leib Christi hier und jetzt.



Nachrichten aus dem Büro des Bischofs

Synode 8. September 2019

Unsere Synode findet in der St. Andrews Kirche in East London statt. Das Thema ist: Biblische und sozio-ökonomische/sozio-politische Perspektiven der Landeignung. Verschiedene Gastredner geben den Teilnehmern eine Einleitung in die unterschiedlichen Aspekte dieses Themas, welche dann in kleineren Gruppen diskutiert werden.

Die Abgeordneten zur Synode sind schon gewählt und haben genug Zeit, sich vorzubereiten und auch über ihre Gemeinden zu berichten.

Es finden folgende Vor-Synode Treffen statt:

- 3. August für die BKW
- 24. August für die BKO
- 4-5. September Pfarrkonvent

Bitte nehmt die Planung und die Synode selbst in eure Gebete auf. Möge sie ein Segen sein für unsere ganze Kirche.

ELKSA (Kapkirche) Webpage
<http://lutherancape.org.za>

Dort findet man wichtige Informationen zur Kapkirche und deren Gemeinden

Einige Gemeinden müssen dem Bischofsbüro noch kurze Informationen für obige Webpage bereit-

stellen. Es ist auch wichtig, dass jede Gemeinde einen Link zu deren eigener Webseite hat.

Bitte verwenden Sie die Homepage der Kapkirche. Sollten Fehler vorhanden sein oder besteht Interesse an weiteren Beiträgen, melden Sie sich bei office@elcsacape.co.za

Bischof Gilbert Filter



Patrick R. Keifert

Professor Emeritus and Olin S. and Amanda Fjelstad Reigstad Chair of Systematic Theology

- Ph.D. (University of Chicago)
- Ordained (ELCA)
- M.Div. (Christ Seminary-Seminex)

Patrick Keifert was named an instructor in systematic theology at Luther Seminary in 1980 and was made associate professor in 1986. He has also been an adjunct professor at the School of Law, Hamline University, St. Paul, since 1984. His teaching experience began at Christ Seminary - Seminex where he was a teaching assistant in 1976-77 and instructor in systematic theology in the summer of 1980. Keifert is currently President and Director of Research of Church Innovations Institute, a church related non-profit institute seeking to "innovate your church's capacities to be missional."

**1 Communion
2 Million Lutherans
10 Countries
15 Member churches**



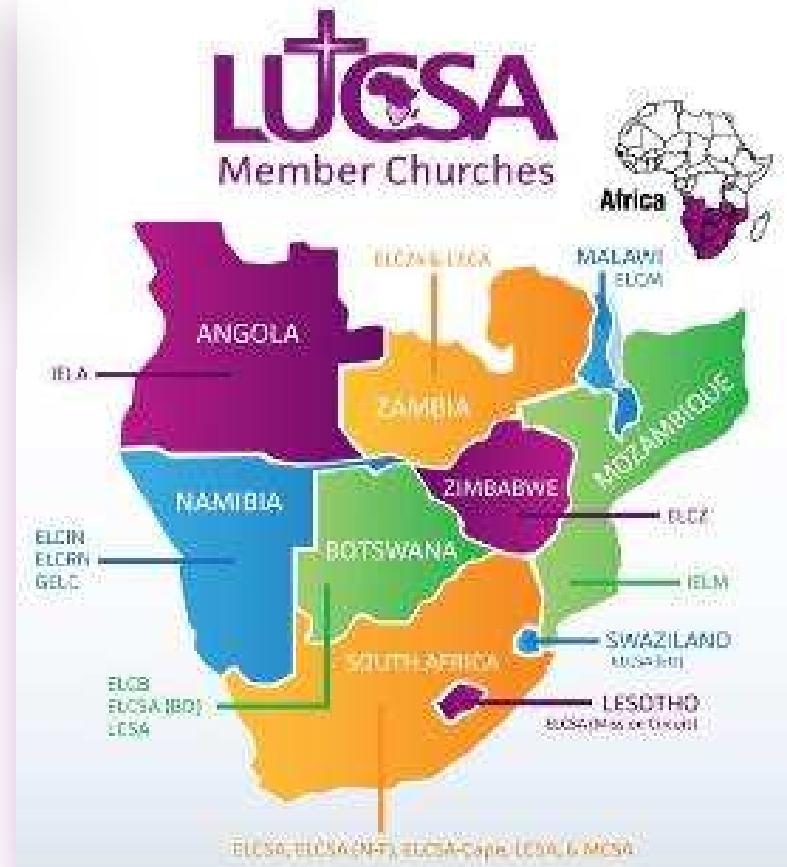
**Evangelical Lutheran Church
in South Africa (ELCSA)**
Bishop Molefe Ditlhale
580,000 Members

ELCSA-Cape Church
Bishop Gilbert Filter
4,270 Members

ELCSA-NT
Bishop Horst Müller
9,650 Members

**Lutheran Church in
Southern Africa (LCSA)**
Bishop Modise Maragelo

**Moravian Church in
South Africa (MCSA)**
Rev. Brian Abrahams
50,000 Members



LUCSA was founded in May 1991. It is the legal successor of the Federation of Lutheran Churches in Southern Africa (FELCSA) which was formed in 1966 as the need for communion within the Lutheran churches across racial lines was felt. LUCSA is one of the three sub-regional expressions of the Lutheran World Federation within Africa, which understands itself as a communion of churches (see pg 6). LUCSA was inaugurated in a constituent assembly which met at the Lutheran Church Centre in Kempton Park in 1991. Since then LUCSA has developed into a platform which enables its member churches to collectively respond to the challenges and the needs of the sub-region.