

# Lord's Move to AFRICA

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## SOUTH AFRICA

No. of localities: 10

No. of saints in church life: 500

No. of saints attending the Table meeting: 350

### Direction of the Lord's move in South Africa

As mentioned in the August 2020 newsletter, we in South Africa are still focused on strengthening the Lord's existing testimony in 3 strategic cities — Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg. The population in these three cities combined is estimated at more than 12 million people. We believe that churches in each of these cities should be made up of at least 200 saints meeting regularly. What follows is a brief report from each of these localities.



### The church in Cape Town

Last year certain events brought about a number of changes in the church in Cape Town not only due to the pandemic but more so due to the passing away of two dear saints. First, an older sister and then one of the leading brothers went to be with the Lord. Both had been in the church life in South Africa for many decades. We praise the Lord that the church in Cape Town found peace to go on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit. A few brothers are being raised up to bear responsibility in the church life, to take the lead and to coordinate with the three full-time serving ones.



Approximately 70 saints meet together as the church in Cape Town including children and young people in 2 districts. Some are breaking bread in the homes while others continue to meet on Zoom. There are also a number of saints meeting regularly in the town of Stellenbosch, close to Cape Town, who also join the Cape Town meetings. Furthermore there are about 11 saints who live further away from Cape Town who try to join the meetings and who are visited regularly by the saints.

In 2020 the student work at the University of Cape Town suffered greatly during the lockdown. Online meetings between the serving ones and students, however, gave us the opportunity to labor together nationally in the Body. In 2021, most students are required to be physically present at the university again and we have started to receive small groups of students into the homes of the saints. A group of core students are emerging to pick up the burden for their campus. With the support of the full-timers they are endeavoring to pray and work together to reach other students at the university. We are also grateful for the addition of a home near the UCT campus after the recent migration of a couple from Pretoria.



## **The church in Cape Town (Cont'd)**

Due to the pandemic, the children's meetings also changed from physical to virtual meetings. The children have been enjoying these times and have been inviting their friends to join. They were also able to attend via Zoom an international Bible camp, the European Young People's conference and an ongoing national weekly young people's prophesying meeting.

## **The church in Durban**

Towards the end of 2014 one couple moved to Durban and began to take the way of the Lord's recovery, meeting with some seeking ones and contacts. Later in 2017 two other couples and a single sister migrated to Durban which led to the first Lord's Table meeting in 2018. At the end of

November 2020 another couple, one retired sister and one student brother moved to Durban. This has meant that our Lord's Day meetings have increased from about 8 adults and 4 children, to about 13 adults and 7 children. Being small in number, we are grateful that the Lord has sovereignly made a way for all the saints to live very near to one another. There is a lovely day by day church life in one another's homes as well as regular church meetings including various prayer and fellowship times and the Lord's day meetings.



A weekly children's meeting has shifted to become more of a neighbourhood children's meeting as a number of the saints' children's friends and even some parents have been joining us. These meetings have grown from our own 7 children to 15-16 children. The young working ones/student age have also started meeting to fellowship in a regular way. Between 5 and 7 saints of this age group join regularly and this has provided a way to shepherd some of the new contacts that the trainees from the FTTP met at the end of last year during a gospel trip.

There have been various informal times with warm doors and contacts and small Bible studies starting up. It seems that the world situation has made some contacts more open and seeking of fellowship.

## **The church in Johannesburg**

The church in Johannesburg is currently made up of approximately 70 saints. There is a very strong burden for small groups where the saints are vitally related to each other. With this in view, the church is reading through ministry on the vital groups once a week with the intention to bring

the saints into the desperate need to be living and active through the groups. We don't only want to have meetings, but we desire that the saints be vitally connected and related in their daily living. Through these groups we are praying for the saints to further bear fruit and perfect new ones. Also, we desire not only that the groups bear fruit but also would pray and recover many of the saints who have become discouraged and isolated during the last year. Lord Jesus, the vital groups!



Although there are two large university campuses in Johannesburg with approximately 100,000 students in total, there is currently no labor on these campuses due to the pandemic and due to a lack of workers.

### ***The church in Johannesburg (Cont'd)***

A large percentage of the church comprises young couples of below forty years of age. Many of these have very young children or are expecting children. We have 13 children in the church, with three new arrivals expected, and all of them are under the age of 7! There is a burden to labor on the children regularly and to endeavor to group them so that they can be companions growing up in the church. May these children grow up to have companions like Daniel had!



The leading brothers also desire strongly to be vitally related to each other and to begin practicing blending at least once a month with the leading brothers from other localities. We are not just local churches but we are the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27).

### **For Prayer**

#### **Cape Town**

- That the brothers taking the lead will be released to pray, fellowship, and coordinate to be built up and blended together.
- That the saints would be built up in their faith and grow in life and not be content to remain in their current experience of Christ.
- That despite living very far apart geographically the saints would endeavour to enter into the God-ordained way through a house-to-house church life by being blended together to be living and active.

#### **Durban**

- The blending of the saints in Durban with one another so that the Lord could bless the oneness and gain the one accord.
- The Lord to use and bless the neighbourhood children's meeting and also the student age meeting, to gain fruit and to keep the young ones encouraged and growing.
- Finally, for the Lord to vitalize the saints to make us living and active so that we would give the Lord the way to carry out an intrinsic and organic work according to His leading.

#### **Johannesburg**

- The saints to be made vital through the groups so that we can grow unto maturity, bear fruit and help others to grow; and to recover the isolated and discouraged saints.
- The labor on our children to be regular, full of life, and an enjoyment to the children; for the children to be companionised from a young age.
- The leading brothers to be thoroughly blended into a vital group and to blend with other churches through regular visitation.