



# URCSA CAPE REGION SYNOD



## DIACONIA

GEE VAN JOUSELF | BE A GIVER | YIBA NGUMPHI



**The church makes a  
life-giving difference  
during COVID-19**



**This issue serves as a feedback report of a quick research done to discover the involvement of the church during the COVID-19 lock-down state.**



## Through How we live and let live

Psalm 16:5: "Lord, You are my life, You take care of me. What I receive, everything comes from You."



A group of synodical staff have contacted a number of DRC (148) and URCSA (59) congregations over the past week to hear how the Lord is leading them to respond to the visible need around them during the lock-down.

There are some of our congregations that still live with the community around them in the reality of the ongoing drought. Then there are those congregations that share very intensely the challenges of their members - those who have no income at this time, people who are really in need of bread or growing concerns about losing a job, a small business and the loss of income security.

There are congregations who share that they are extremely concerned about how long they will be able to support or reach out to the community around them. However, there is also a large percentage of congregations (up to 72% DRC and 30% URC congregations) who are actively involved in nutrition programmes for people in the community who are in need.

Quite a few URC congregations say they need to help with data for students who have to start online classes, and there are DRC congregations who say they help pay homeworkers who do not have a fixed income.

**MEER AS NET KOS**

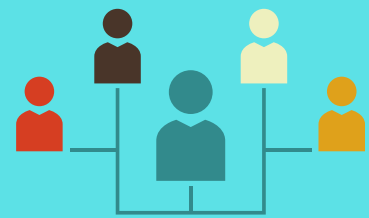
Uit 207 gemeentes wat aan die navorsing deelgeneem het, is 132 gemeentes by die voorsiening van voedsel betrokke, hetsy sopkombuise, kospakkies of koopbewyse. Daar is egter ook ander behoeftes van mense waarmee gemeentes in hierdie tyd help.

- Klere
- Komberse
- Babaprodukte
- Lugtyd & Data
- Veevoer
- Maskers
- Handreiniger
- Gas/Elektrisiteit
- Kontant

*liefde*



# Travel along if you want to go far



While the SA Council of Churches encourages **the formation of networks across ecumenical boundaries** and with other stakeholders in the community, our quick research shows that our congregations are already building on existing and new networks.

All indications are that the economic aftermath of COVID-19 will be with us for a long time. It is simply a fact that a community where there is good networking and coordination of care will be able to continue to help. Out of the 207 more than a third NGO and URC congregations indicate that they are part of comprehensive networks in their communities. There are also many (15%) congregations where at least the DRC and URC join forces in one town. There are also congregations who testify that they work with the local Badisa programme.

|                              |  |  |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>KOMMER &amp; VERTROUW</b> | <b>MATTEUS 6:33-34</b><br>...beywer julle allereers vir die koninkryk van God en vir die wil van God, dan sal Hy julle ook al hierdie dinge gee. "Moet julle dus nie oor môre bekommer nie, want môre bring sy eie bekommernis. Elke dag bring genoeg moeilikheid van sy eie."       |  |
|                              | <b>VGK LEIERS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kos kom nie by die regte plekke uit nie</li><li>• Donasies droog op</li><li>• Alkoholmisbruik</li><li>• Veiligheid van essensiële werkers</li><li>• Gebrek aan kennis by mense</li><li>• Sterftes en begrafnisse</li></ul> | <b>GEDEELDE KOMMER</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Besorgd oor bejaardes wat eensaam is in isolasie</li><li>• Kommer oor magsvergrype</li><li>• Sentralisering van voeding deur regering</li><li>• Gemeentes se inkomste wat afneem</li><li>• Volhoubaarheid van hulpverlening</li><li>• Onwilligheid van mense om saam te werk</li><li>• Koördinering van hulpverlening</li></ul> |

## Shared concerns - shared trust

We are grateful to be able to offer our congregations a joint strategy of support during this time as NG and VG Church. Leaders of the two churches meet three times a week to watch the development of the situation and to think together about the next steps.

As part of the quick research, we asked our congregation leaders what the concerns are in their hearts. See the results in the graphic on the left.

# What does the future hold?

Join us for this Zoom talk hosted by the Centre for Public Witness. André Roux of the Institute for Future Research at the University of Stellenbosch leads the talk on Thursday 14 May from 19:30 - 20:30. Contact Annelie at [spg@kaapkerk.co.za](mailto:spg@kaapkerk.co.za) for inquiries or reservations.



**"ONS PROBEER DIE REGTE KOLLETJES VERBIND..."**

**14 MEI 2020**  
**ZOOM GESPREK:**  
**WAT HOU DIE**  
**TOEKOMS IN?**  
19:30-20:30 | ZOOM



**Aangebied deur**  
**SENTRUM VIR PUBLIEKE GETUIENIS**

In gesprek met  
Prof André Roux van die Instituut vir Toekomstnavorsing, Universiteit van Stellenbosch

**"Ons is nie kristalbal  
voorspellers nie, maar werk  
met die ontwikkeling van  
scenario's en modelle..."**

Inskrywings en navrae by Annelie [spg@kaapkerk.co.za](mailto:spg@kaapkerk.co.za)