

EASTERN PROVINCE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION Report 2021

The Eastern Province Baptist Association had a challenging year in serving our Eastern Province Baptist Family of Churches due to Covid 19.

EPBA FRATERNALS: Fraternal was the best Meeting place for Pastors. Most of them attended regularly. However due to Covid we could not meet, but regular contact was made with Pastors / Leaders. This year we were blessed by Pastor Barry Thomas and Pastor Jordan Theron who was sharing on “How God used Covid 19 to change their ministry”. 2nd Fraternal William Blaauw was sharing his Challenges in ministry during Covid 19 and how God has used these challenges to rethink Ministry in moving forward.

PASTORAL CHANGES IN EPBA: We also lost a few Pastors due to natural causes and some due to Covid 19, Rev Fungile Langbooi (Welsch Estate), Rev Madolo (Convention Baptist Church), Bob Benjamin (Missionary, Iraq-Marsh – Arabs) Mr Noel Cook (Koinonia Baptist Church) and Pastor Mongesi Makhanya (Ismael Baptist Church). Pastor Zolile Kalani of Kwalanga Baptist Church and Pastor Edie Tom of Graaff Reinets Baptist lost their wives.

CHURCH MATTERS: In June Pastor Gavin Basterman of Malabar Baptist Church retired from Ministry. Pastor Jonathan Galant helped with the Amalgamation of Barcelona and Malabar Baptist Church. Pastor Stuart Mortimer is leading the work and so far, things are really going well. We had several fellowships who applied to EPBA, but we still in the process of finalizing their applications. Elder Jeremy Sampson was inducted as the Leader of Goodwin Park Baptist Church in Bedford. The Bethel Baptist Church had a split in 2019. However, some of the members who left have returned to the church. Some Churches used WhatsApp or Facebook to share God’s word. Others had Drive-in by Services like Living Hope Baptist Church.

PASTORAL CARE: The President Xolani Kalani assisted by Executive members visited some Churches and had meetings with Pastors who are experiencing problems and who are struggling. EPBA would like to thank the BU for their kind donation during the tough times of Covid 19. EPBA EXECUTIVE was also privileged to help some of the struggling Pastors and Leaders.

EPBLM MINISTRY: Due to Covid the Ladies could only had virtual meetings. The Ladies camp in March 2021 did not take place, but the Ladies Renewal Conference in May 2021 was in the form of home meetings. The past was difficult for everyone. We missed the fellowship with our sisters in Christ. The Induction Service of Juanita Johannes, President of The EPBLM was held at Rosedale Baptist Church on 9 August at Rosedale Baptist Church. She was able to share her theme. “My testimony, My worship My song”.

EPBA EXECUTIVE: The new Executive Members was elected at our AGM in March 2021. Ps Xolani Kalani (President). Ps Lungile Mama (Vice President), Mrs Juanita Johannes (Treasurer), Ps Jonathan Galant, Ps William Blaauw, Ps Josh de Witt, Co-opted Members are Ps Jason Jacobus, Ps Eugenio Nel, Arnold Johannes and Secretary Millicent Galant. We hope and Trust that God will continue to Lead us in the New Year.

God Bless from the EPBA