

## Regional Association Report – 2021 BU Assembly Handbook

### KwaZulu Natal Baptist Association

The Association has 112 churches affiliates (36 Fellowship and 76 full member churches). KZNBA was able to be led by the interim President Rev Brian Anderson in 2020 after Rev Ivan Haylock vacated this position after serving zealously and faithfully. The year 2020 ended on a high note when the KZNBA Indaba was held in the Westville Baptist Church in November 2020, where several resolutions were made, and task teams were nominated. One of those teams was that of recommending a way forward for KZNBA to be presented at the 2021 AGM. Again 2021 started on a high note when the AGM was held in the Durban North Community Church on the 27 March 2021. The theme of the year was on unity, highlighting the challenges of unity and missions out of unity. The elections were held, and the results were as follows:

The KZNBA President /Chairman was Rev Clive van Rooyen, he would serve without President Elect for time being.

The KZNBA Treasurer, (Mr Zola Luswazi) the Pastoral Care Coordinator and the Missions Coordinator positions were ratified for the year ahead.

The vision of the KZNBA was presented by Rev Duncan Muller on behalf of the Way Forward Task Team. The vision was summarized as follows:

KZNBA exists to facilitate co-operation between Baptist churches in KwaZulu Natal to:

-achieve the **Great Commission** (Matthew 28:18-20) and to live out **Great Commandment** (John 13:34-35)

In this MISSION endeavour we aim to primarily assist and promote **Healthy Pastorates** by:

-facilitating life-giving local Fraternal, -hosting inspiring equipping events, -nurturing personal development and soul care of church leaders.

We also want to assist and promote **Healthy churches** through:

-building networks among churches for partnership in ministry, -equipping members in evangelism, discipleship and best practice, -assisting with conflict resolution in local congregations, -the ongoing ministry of our KZNBA Women's department

The KZNBA Executive would unpack this vision in due course.

Unity was taken to the next level when the leadership of KZNBA (KwaZulu Natal Baptist Association) and KZNBF (KwaZulu Natal Baptist Fellowship) agreed to begin a walk towards meaningful reconciliation and purposeful unity. This was expressed in the form of Apology from KZNBA to KZNBF due to the past actions and attitudes, whether intentionally or unintentionally that had caused some hurts over the years. The representatives from both sides had established the sub-committee of KZNBA that meets every quarter.

The covid -19 had affected the various departments and ministries of the KZNBA. As a result, most of the activities have been put on hold. The KZNBF has not held the Easter/Passover Conference in 2020 and 2021 respectively. There were several lessons and experience gained during the pandemic both negative and positive. The situation was made worse by unrest and looting that occurred in KZN and GP. The KZNBA Executive and Missions Committee contributed to alleviate food plight and general suffering our people experienced. We are grateful to the BU for an allocation towards relief as well.

The Association is currently going through the financial challenges. Please pray with us as we recover from that situation so that we wil practically fulfil the role of serving all KwaZulu Natal Baptist churches in a sustainable way.

The Association is looking forward to participating in the new era of the Baptist Union of Southern Africa and is committed to implementing whatever is achievable for sustained ministry unto the lord in our region.