

ANNUAL REPORT

2016

**Ujamaa Centre
for
Biblical and Theological
Community Development and Research**



“More than 25 years of prophetic work and witness”

Executive summary

The Ujamaa Centre is located within a University context for strategic reasons. We believe that our work with local communities of the poor and marginalized must impact how theological education is done in South Africa. We also consider the students who are studying theology and who will become future leaders in the church as part of our constituency. Because of this social location and commitment to the transformation of theological education the Ujamaa Centre played a facilitating role in the recent #FeeMustFall protests. South African students are asking for free, quality, and decolonized tertiary education.

Through our work in communities of the poor and marginalized we are deeply aware of the economic inequalities in South Africa. We understand just how difficult it is for the majority of South Africans to access university level education. We understand that the cry for free education requires a radical transformation of the prevailing global and local economic systems. This is why our Bread Theology programmes are so important. Bread Theology engages with economic systems, including the systems that make university education inaccessible to the majority of South Africans.

Unfortunately the social movements that brought about the liberation of South Africa from apartheid are not as coherent as they were in the 1980s and 1990s. Students had to forge their own social movements, and these movements often lacked the discipline that a long history of struggle creates. But it was precisely here that the Ujamaa Centre was able to contribute. The Ujamaa Centre was formed in the struggle against apartheid and we remain linked to the legacy of apartheid era social movements. Rev Sithembiso Zwane was able to share resources from this long history with the university students at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Though University lectures were disrupted throughout the second half of 2016, the work of the Ujamaa Centre continued uninterrupted. The following Annual Report offers a detailed account of our work.

Our work within the Body Theology programmes is our most substantial work, partly because this is work for which we receive the most funding and partly because African bodies are the sites of many intersecting forms of marginalization. In addition to the work we have done for many years in the areas of gender violence, HIV, and leadership, this year has seen pioneering work in two areas. First, we have done pioneering work in the area of 'sugar daddies' or 'blessers'. Medical and social researchers have made it clear that the primary driver of HIV infections among young African women in South Africa is age-disparate sex with older men. Young women are 'pushed' into sexual partnerships with older men primarily for economic reasons. Almost no biblical and theological work has been done in this area, so the work the Ujamaa Centre has done on developing a Contextual Bible

Study on 'sugar daddies' has made a significant impact. We are discovering that this Bible study is also being used in other parts of the world as well. Second, we have done pioneering work in the area of violent hate crime against lesbians. There has been a backlash by patriarchy against the bodies of women, both heterosexual women and lesbian women. The gains women in South Africa have made since the adoption of our new Constitution are being threatened by religious and cultural institutions who believe that their traditions are being threatened. So we have seen a terrible number instances of the rape and murder of lesbians in South Africa. The Ujamaa Centre has responded by inaugurating an annual lecture and workshop series on hate crime against lesbians, using the Eudy Simelane Memorial Lecture as the focal point.

As I have already indicated, our Bread Theology programmes are fundamental to our work. 'Sugar daddies' only make sense within desperate economic need. We would like to do more work in this area than we do, but financial resources are limited. Nevertheless, with the resources we do have we continue to equip the church to engage with systemic economic issues through our Worker Sunday Campaign. We have also done considerable work in the area of job creation, creating a theological context for the unemployed to understand why they do not have work and to develop their own dignity and agency in the search for employment. Our Contextual Bible Study on the parable of the labourers in the vineyard offers important resources for this.

One of the signs of our times is that the Bible and theology are evident within the South African public realm. However, how they are used is problematic. The dominant theological perspective in South Africa today is what the Kairos Document (1985) called 'Church Theology'. Church Theology tends to focus on the individual and personal piety, refusing to recognize the systemic dimensions of life. The Public Theology programmes of the Ujamaa Centre provide a different understanding. We provide resource for and training in 'Prophetic Theology'.

Earth Theology is a relatively new area for us to work within. Increasingly South African communities are recognizing the need to engage more directly with environmental and ecological issues. But the churches have few resources for this kind of work, so the work that we do in this area is vital for the future well-being of our planet.

The Ujamaa Centre recognizes that 'theology' does not belong to the University, nor to the institutional Church. Our People's Theology programmes recognize that theology is done daily in the bodies of millions of South Africans. The commitment of the Ujamaa Centre is to work with ordinary South African Christians to accompany them as they 'do theology'. It is precisely here that we find what God is doing among us!

Body Theology

Objective/Goal:

To restore human dignity, self-acceptance and strengthen resilience among those marginalized because of their disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, HIV status and ethnicity in Kwa Zulu Natal enabling them to mobilize themselves and access resources by December 2018.

Outcome Indicator:

The acceptance and empowerment of the marginalized in communities to be resilient against stigma and discrimination. The number of support \organized groups particularly in body theology, adherence to ARV treatment, decrease in cases of rape and child abuse reported in the local police stations by December 2018.

Introduction:

In this report we provide a report on the activities conducted in 2016 and in line with our objectives and outcome indicators. The theme for the report in 2016 was HIV and human sexuality, using religion as a resource for encouraging resilience among those stigmatized because of their HIV status or sexual orientation.

Date & Place	Activity	Objective	Output	Outcome indicator	Numbers
14 th February 2016 in PMB: BB EMbali Township	Candle light ceremony remembering all those who had passed on because of HIV and AIDS related deaths.	To educate the support groups about the HIV prevention strategies	Raising awareness on prevention of the spread of HIV especially amongst the infected and enhancing adherence to ARV treatment using See -Judge - Act method	PLWHA's to learn and have a better understanding of a culture of prevention and resistance contributing to living Positively with HIV	23 Participants 5 Men 18 Women
15 th February 2016 in	Candle light ceremony remembering	To educate support groups about	Raising awareness on prevention of	PLWHA'S to learn and have a better	35 Participants

EMpolweni	all those who had passed on because of HIV and AIDS related deaths.	the HIV prevention strategies	the spread of HIV especially amongst the infected and enhancing adherence to ARV treatment using See-Judge-Act method	understanding of a culture of prevention and advocate for positive living	11 Men 24 Women
3 March 2016 Pmb	CBS public lecture to theological students, church leaders, and community leaders; de Gruchy Lecture	To understand the Bible as a site of struggle, both historically and in contemporary contexts	Lecture and question & answer discussion	Recognition that not only are the church and theology sites of struggle, but the Bible itself is a site of struggle	104, including 43 women
18 th March 2016 in France (PMB)	CBS on Leadership Capacity building training for people living with HIV (Men and Women)	To build and develop the capacity of the emerging HIV support group leaders	Raising awareness on the importance of HIV prevention and as well capacitate support group leaders. infected and enhancing adherence to ARV treatment using See -Judge - Act method	PLWHA'S to learn and have a better understanding of a culture of prevention within prevention	23 Participants 5 Men 18 Women
19 th March 2016 in Mt Elias	CBS on Human Rights and responsibilities workshop on people living with HIV	To promote awareness about human rights	Raising awareness on the importance of knowing and prevention of the spread of HIV especially amongst PLWHA's and enhancing adherence to	PLWHA's to learn and have a better understanding of basic Human Rights	28 participants 3 Men 25 Women

			ARV treatment using See Judge Act method		
23-30 March 2016 in Taiwan	Lectures and workshops at two seminaries	To develop capacity to understand and work with CBS methods	Lectures, workshops, and one-on-one training sessions including staff, students, church leaders, the general public, as well as hospital staff; Yu-Shan Theological College and Seminary, Tainan Theological College and Seminary	Increased numbers of staff and students who understand and can use CBS methodology	175, including 86 women
6 th April 2016 in PMB	Workshop on Human sexuality	To conscientize community and Churches about the problem of homophobia	Acceptance and empowerment of the marginalized in communities and assisting them in creating Support Groups to offer on-going care and support to LGBTI communities using See Judge and Act methodology of the Contextual Bible Study	Community based gatherings and dialogue on human sexuality and LGBTI community to resist homophobia and hate crime	25 Participants 7 Men 18 Women
7 th April 2016 in Enseleni	Candle light ceremony remembering all those who had passed on because of HIV and AIDS	To educate support groups about the HIV prevention strategies	Raising awareness on prevention of the spread of HIV especially amongst the infected and	PLWHA'S to learn and have a better understanding of a culture of prevention within	13 Participants 5 Men 8 Women

	related deaths.		enhancing adherence to ARV treatment using See-Judge-Act method	prevention	
7-8 April 2016 in Pmb	Workshop on the Biblical and theological analysis of LGBTI sexualities; Homophobia & the Churches in Africa: A Dialogue	To conscientize and build capacity in church and community leaders concerning the problem about religious dimensions of homophobia	Workshop and small group work	Increased awareness and capacity to understand and respond to the religious dimensions of homophobia	+ 180 Participants + 60 men + 120 women
7 April 2016 in PMB	Public lecture on LGBTI hate crime; Eudy Simelane Memorial Lecture	To conscientize and build capacity in church and community leaders concerning the problem about religious dimensions of LGBTI hate crime	Public lecture	Increased awareness and capacity to understand and respond to religious dimensions of LGBTI hate crime	+ 250 Participants + 120 men + 130 women

8 th May 2016 in France (PMB)	Candle light ceremony remembering all those who had passed on because of HIV and AIDS related deaths.	To educate support groups about the HIV prevention strategies	Raising awareness on prevention of the spread of HIV especially amongst the infected and enhancing adherence to ARV treatment using See-Judge-Act method	PLWHA'S to learn and have a better understanding of a culture of prevention within prevention	23 Participants 5 Men 18 Women
9 th June 2016 Enseleni/ Richards Bay	CBS/ Tamar Campaign with Traditional Leaders, Church Leaders and community Training on HIV & AIDS prevention	To create awareness on GVB and promotion of advocacy among Traditional Leaders, Church Leaders	Raising awareness on prevention of the spread of HIV especially amongst the infected and enhancing adherence to ARV treatment using See-Judge-Act method	Traditional & Church Leadership to learn and have a better understanding of a culture of prevention within prevention	19 Participants 13 Men 6 Women
10 th June 2016 in PMB (AE)	Leadership capacity building Training	To develop capacity of the emerging HIV support group leaders	Raising awareness on prevention of the spread of HIV especially amongst the infected and enhancing adherence to ARV treatment using See-Judge-Act method	PLWHA'S to learn and have a better understanding of a culture of prevention within prevention	24 Participants 2 Men 22 Women
11 th June 2016 in PMB (AE)	CBS focusing on Capacity Building of Leaders of	To strengthen resilience and indecent	Raising awareness on prevention of the spread of	PLWHA's to learn and have a better understanding	25 Participants 5 Men

	SG/Organized groups of GBV and sex workers, working with Ujamaa Centre	theology and also strengthen Solidarity and leadership capacity among PLWHA's	HIV especially amongst the infected and enhancing adherence to ARV treatment using See-Judge-Act method	g of a culture of prevention within prevention	20 Women
12 th June 2016 in PMB(AE)	Cohort Leaders of support groups	To provide knowledge and skills	Trauma Counselling skills for the participants	PLWHA'S to learn and have a better understanding of a culture of prevention within prevention	23 Participants 5 Men 18 Women
3-7 July 2016 in Seoul Korea	Lectures and one-on-one consultations on use in CBS of the notion of the Bible as a site of struggle	To trace the history and explain the concept of the Bible as a site of struggle, as a contested sacred text	Academic lectures and presentation	A fuller understanding of how CBS uses the concept of the Bible as a site of struggle	37 Participants 16 men 21 women
16 July 2016 in Durban	Workshop on 'sugar daddies' and 'blessers';	To Introduce the CBS to AIDS activists, church leaders, medical practitioners	Interfaith Pre-Conference 2016: "Faith on the Fast Track: Reducing Stigma and Discrimination, increasing Access; and Defending Human Rights NOW!" CBS workshop	Increased capacity to understand and practice CBS methodology, and fuller awareness of age-disparate sex as a primarily area of HIV transmission	+ 120 Participants + 55 men + 65 women
20 July 2016 in PMB (AE)	People with disability	Social analysis	To understand the religious	Strengthen resilience	25 participants

		training	reality of living with disability stigma & discrimination	among those with disability	
11 August 2016 in Pmb	Workshop on CBS Training	To develop facilitation skills on CBS	CBS facilitation skills using See-Judge-Act method	Increased capacity to facilitate a CBS, and experience of a CBS by high-school girls a facilitator in CBS' and the facilitator then doing a CBS on the Tamar story with high-school girls	25 women
12 August 2016 in Ashdown	Workshop on religion and human sexuality	To create space for community dialogue on religion and human sexuality	CBS training on the relationship between the Bible & Homosexuality	Reduction of hate crime and homophobia against LGBTI community	28 Participants 10 men 18 women
17 August 2016 in Kwa-Mpumuza	Workshop on religion and human sexuality	To create space for community dialogue on religion and human sexuality	CBS training on the relationship between the Bible & Homosexuality	Reduction of hate crime and homophobia against LGBTI community	38 Participants 15 men 23 women
22-23 August 2016 in PMB	Dialogue on religion & human sexuality	To create space for dialogue between pastors, LGBTI and community	CBS training on the relationship between the Bible & Homosexuality	Increased understanding of the relationship between religion and human sexuality	32 Participants 22 men 10 women
22 November 2016, Cape Town	Sex Workers partnership with S.W.E.A.T	To strengthen resilience and indecent	To understand the religious reality of sex workers stigma	Reduction of stigmatization and discrimination	8 participants 3 men

		theology and form partnership with the established organisation	& discrimination	n within the sex workers community	5 woman
24 November 2016 at Enseleni	Tamar Campaign	To build Contextual Bible Study(CBS) capacity among the Faith Based Organization	Increased capacity of Contextual Bible Study(CBS) among Faith Based Organization	Increase awareness of GBV in the community	30 participants 10 men 20 women
28th November 2016 at Kwa-Mpumuza	Tamar Campaign	To build Contextual Bible Study(CBS) capacity among the Faith Based Organization	Increased capacity of Contextual Bible Study(CBS) among Faith Based Organization	Increase awareness of GBV in the community	17 participants 1 man 16 women
29 November 2016 in Mpolweni	Tamar Campaign	To build Contextual Bible Study(CBS) capacity among the Faith Based Organization	Increased capacity of Contextual Bible Study(CBS) among Faith Based Organization	Increase awareness of GBV in the community	15 participants 14 women 1 man
29 th November 2016 at Emphophome ni	Tamar Campaign	To build Contextual Bible Study(CBS) capacity among the Faith Based Organization	Increased capacity of Contextual Bible Study(CBS) among Faith Based Organization	Increase awareness of GBV in the community	19 participants 1 man 18 women
30 November 2016 in Imbali	Tamar Campaign	To build Contextual Bible	Increased capacity of Contextual Bible	Increase awareness of GBV in the	33 participants

		Study(CBS) capacity among the Faith Based Organization	Study(CBS) among Faith Based Organization	community	20 women 13 men
5 December 2016 in France	Tamar Campaign	To build Contextual Bible Study(CBS) capacity among the Faith Based Organization	Increased capacity of Contextual Bible Study(CBS) among Faith Based Organization	Increase awareness of GBV in the community	18 participants 17 women 1 man
6 December 2016 in Mt Elias	Tamar Campaign	To build Contextual Bible Study (CBS) capacity among the Faith Based Organization	Increased capacity of Contextual Bible Study (CBS) among Faith Based Organization	Increase awareness of GBV in the community	25 participants 25 women
8 December 2016 at Ashdown	Tamar Campaign	To build Contextual Bible Study(CBS) capacity among the Faith Based Organization	Increased capacity of Contextual Bible Study(CBS) among Faith Based Organization	Increase awareness of GBV in the community	20 participants 20 women
9 December 2016 in Mbutshane	Tamar Campaign	To build Contextual Bible Study(CBS) capacity among the Faith Based Organization	Increased capacity of Contextual Bible Study(CBS) among Faith Based Organization	Increase awareness of GBV in the community	23Participant s 4 men 19 women
8 December 2016 in PMB (UKZN)	Ujamaa Staff, Leadership from Ujamaa based community groups	Contextual Bible Study(CBS) training	To build capacity support groups on conducting CBS within the community	Increased capacity among the support	15 participants 1 men 14 women

Description

The Body Theology is the Ujamaa Centre's flagship programme and takes seriously the needs and challenges that impact the lives of people directly and attempts to create solidarity and awareness in responding to urgent needs expressed and felt by communities. This programme is critically challenging systemic and oppressive forces marginalizing the communities of LGBTI; People Living with HIV; People from diverse Sexual orientation; Sex workers and People Living with Disabilities. The programme is committed to asking difficult questions relating to preserving human rights and living with dignity. Furthermore there is a deeper probing into possibilities that can be created to nurture their well-being within this particular context. In this section we report on the challenges of living in fear of being marginalized and discriminated against because of disability, HIV status, gender, sexual orientation or sex work in South Africa.

Analysis

In South Africa 3.4 million people are living with HIV are on treatment; this is the biggest ARV treatment intervention in the world. The statistics indicate that the issue of sex and sexuality is very much relevant to the public discourse. The recent World Conference on HIV in Durban highlighted the challenges that still persist unabated in responding to the HIV as a societal challenge. The stigma and discrimination was raised as a fundamental challenge that still contribute to HIV related deaths because most people are reluctant to go to public health centres for ARV treatment.

The situation is worse for those who are HIV positive are members of the LGBTI community. They experience 'double stigmatization' based on both their sexual orientation and HIV status. The issue of stigma and discrimination has been an issue for decades and one would have thought it would be addressed by now. However, our experience in the communities we work with suggest that this is not the case with the support groups that have been part of the Contextual Bible Study (CBS). The CBS has contributed immensely towards positive living and acceptance among the LGBTI community and those living with HIV.



Leaders of HIV Support Participants attending the HIV CBS on Positive living

Outcome indicator:

We have trained 10 Support Groups consisting 15 or more participants on living Positively with HIV. **About 8 of the 10 trained support group have a better understanding of HIV and AIDS; and the need for acceptance and adherence to ARV treatment. The support groups of people living with HIV and AIDS and LGBTI community are gradually developing resistance towards stigma and discrimination and are accepting their HIV status and sexual orientation.** They are therefore able to disclose to family and close relatives that they are either HIV positive or members of the LGBTI community.



Contextual Bible Study (CBS) on Positive living and Stigmatization with HIV support groups

Planning

The programme is engaging with all the stakeholders in an attempt to challenge internal and external stigma and discrimination associated with HIV and AIDS and sexual orientation through community dialogues using Contextual Bible Studies (CBS). The process of re-reading the Bible with the HIV support groups and members of the LGBTI is non-discriminatory, focusing on the restoration of human dignity as people who are created in God's image irrespective of their HIV status or sexual orientation.



CBS group discussion with members of HIV support groups in Imbali

Story of change

All the participants felt that they needed on-going care and support, one of them shared that “her pain is more than ten years old but is still sore as if the rape took place a short while ago, and that is how she got infected by HIV.”

She said: “I had hoped and prayed that it can go away but the pain is deep. I never had professional counseling and taking part in this workshop has encouraged me to go for help. I raised four children without the support of my abusive husband, who continues to traumatize me up to this time.”

Furthermore, she said: “I am grateful about this Contextual Bible Study (CBS) session because it created an increased awareness that despite everything I am created in the image of God and deserve to live with dignity. I am encourage now to resist sexual violence and committed to assist other vulnerable women who are susceptible to sexual violence and abuse that contribute to high rate of HIV infection.”

Conclusion

This report have provided the synopsis of the activities done in the programme in the first part of 2016.

Bread Theology

Objective/Goal

To build leadership capacity among the unemployed youth in Pietermaritzburg to enable them to access job opportunities by December 2018.

Outcome Indicator

The number of unemployed youth with leadership capacity accessing job opportunities by December 2018.

Introduction

In this report I will provide a synopsis of the activities conducted during the period of February to December 2016 in line with our objective and outcome indicator. The theme for this report is youth unemployment and the role of religion in challenging the economic injustices.

Date & Place	Activity	Objective	Output	Outcome indicator	Numbers
17 March 2016 in PMB	Workshop on leadership and economic theory	To build leadership capacity among the unemployed youth on issues of economic justice & unemployment	Unemployed youth trained with leadership capacity	Increased leadership capacity on economic theories among the unemployed youth	27 Participants 12 Men 15 Women
13-14 April 2016 in PMB	Contextual Bible Study & Business Etiquette Workshop	To enable unemployed youth to access Job Opportunities	Training of unemployed youth using See-Judge-Act method	Increased leadership capacity on economic theories among the unemployed youth	31 Participants 11 Men 20 Women
20 th May 2016 in PMB	Follow up meeting with leaders of the unemployed youth for the Workers	To mobilize and lobby for the creation of job opportunities	Training of unemployed youth using See-Judge-Act method	Increased leadership capacity on economic theories among the	12 participants 5 men 7 women

	Sunday Champaign			unemployed youth	
31 May 2016 in PMB	Worker Sunday Campaign	To conscientize unemployed youth and Pastors about the relationship between economic justice and theologies of work	Training and Campaign tools using See-Judge-Act method	Increased leadership capacity on economic justice and theologies of work	35 participants 15 men 20 women
1 June 2016 in Estcourt, NDJ Ethiopian Church	Worker Sunday Campaign	To conscientize unemployed youth and Pastors about the relationship between economic justice and theologies of work	Service and Campaign tools using a sermon structured as See-Judge-Act method	Increased leadership capacity on economic justice and theologies of work	-+ 65 participants -+ 25 men -+ 40 women
10 July 2016 in Durban, ELCSA	Worker Sunday Campaign	To conscientize unemployed youth and Pastors about the relationship between economic justice and theologies of work	Service and Campaign tools using a sermon structured as See-Judge-Act method	Increased leadership capacity on economic justice and theologies of work	-+ 80 participants -+ 35 men -+ 45 women
11 August 2016 in PMB	PRTS 290 Module	To introduce students to critical debates on the relationship between economic justice and democracy	Lecture on economic justice and good governance	Increased understanding among students on the relationship between economic justice and good governance	6 participants 5 men 1 woman

8 September 2016 in PMB	PRTH 290 Module	To introduce students to critical debates on economic policy and prophetic theology	Lecture on economic policy and prophetic theology	Increased understanding among students on the relationship between economic policy and prophetic theology	6 participants 5 men 1 woman
25 October 2016 in PMB (Red Acres)	Mzwandile R Nunes Lecture	To build capacity among unemployed youth and Pastors on economic justice and public prophetic theology	Lecture on economic justice and Fees Must Fall Movement (FMF)	Increased understanding among students on the relationship between economic policy and prophetic theology	-+ 85 participants -+ 40 men -+ 45 women
11-13 November 2016 in Eastern Cape	Worker Sunday Service	To conscientize unemployed youth and Pastors about the relationship between economic justice and theologies of work	Service and Campaign tools using a sermon structured as See-Judge-Act method	Increased leadership capacity on economic justice and theologies of work	-+ 110 participants -+ -+40 men -+ 70 women
12-15 December 2016 in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania	Contextual Bible Study (CBS)	To build leadership capacity on economic justice and gender among the Pastors, Clergy and Laity in East Africa	Workshop on economic justice and gender using the See-Judge-Act method	Increased understanding and skill on facilitating CBS on economic justice and gender	12 participants 7 men 5 women

Description

The Bread Theology programme is critically challenging the economic structures that create unemployment and poverty among the unemployed youth in Pietermaritzburg. The economic atrocities that are committed with impunity are an indictment on our social and economic policies that are perceived to be progressive and pro-poor.



CBS on Economic Justice and Gender in Tanzania

Analysis

There is high rate of unemployment in the country, estimated at 25.2%, which means more than 5 million people are without work, the majority being young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET). The majority of the people who are unemployed are young women in the townships and rural areas. These young people have become disillusioned as a result of their unemployment. Some have stopped looking for work and are idling at home without any form of income or formal studies which makes them susceptible to crime and drug abuse. The dominant capitalist economic system has deliberately marginalized unemployed youth and kept them outside of the mainstream economic activity.



Contextual Bible Study (CBS) session with the unemployed youth

It is also important to reflect on the role of religion and spirituality of the unemployed, that despite their unemployment, they remain faithful to their religion and spirituality. Even in the midst of religious and biblical distortion manifested in dominant church theological appropriation, the young unemployed seldom challenge or blame God for their situation. On the contrary, the dominant church theologies appropriated by the prosperity gospel movement subject them to the dominant narrative that suggest that their unemployment is a result of their inability to communicate with God. The Contextual Bible Study (CBS) is used to challenge this distorted dominant narrative that subject the unemployed to unnecessary blame. The CBS within the See-Judge-Act method interrogate this view and provides alternative reading that brings hope to the hopeless.

Outcome indicator:

Among the 30 unemployed youth trained, 20 unemployed youth have a better understanding of leadership and economic theory. **The reports from the unemployed group indicate that the KwaNxaamalala unemployed group has 2 of its members accessing job opportunities through learner ships in the Nursing and Plumbing sectors after they were included in the data base of social development in 2016.** We initially identified 5 unemployed youth who participated in the CBS training for recommendation with various institutions and departments in the country. The two unemployed youth among the 5 identified have job opportunities.

Planning

The programme is engaging with all the stakeholders in an attempt to challenge economic injustices and unemployment in Pietermaritzburg.

Story of change

A group of 30 unemployed youth, attended the workshop mainly focused on the “SEE” part of CBS, which focuses on socio-economic development that address the systemic structures behind unemployment and poverty in South Africa. The “Judge” was based on Mt 20: 1-15, the parable of the workers in the vineyard to engage with unemployment. The text has been used to demonstrate that it can be read both from a socialist or a capitalist perspective depending on the context. However, the text has been used in the past mostly to advocate for a socialist reading, and not so much the capitalist perspective within the text.



Economic Justice Workshop with unemployed youth

One of the participants from a conservative pentecoastal church, who had been part of the previous CBS noted that this text is not focused so much on socialism, and challenge the view that the text can be read from a socialist perspective and argued that it promotes capitalism.

He argued that: “the vineyard owner focused on employing more people so that he could gain more profit, not to create jobs; because by employing more workers, the employer would maximize the profit quicker at a low salary rate. Furthermore, the high rate of unemployment, according to the participant, deprives the unemployed the bargaining power in salary negotiation which makes potential workers susceptible to exploitation.” It was the first time that a participant had noted this from the text especially someone from a conservative church tradition that emphasizes evangelical church theology. This was a major paradigm shift from traditional church theology to liberal prophetic theology.

Conclusion

In this report we have provided the synopsis of the activities done in the programme. We have also shared some of the highlights through this report.

Public Theology

Objective/ Goal

To build prophetic and theological capacity among Church leaders on religion, good governance and democracy.

Outcome Indicator

The number of Church leaders who will have strengthened the understanding of Church – state relations.

Introduction

In this report I shall provide a précis of the activities done throughout the year of 2016 pertaining to Public Theology programme.

Date	Activity	Objective	Output	Outcome Indicator	Numbers
29 th April 2016, (AE) Conference Centre in Pietermaritzburg	Workshop/ training of Church leaders on religion and democracy.	To build prophetic and theological capacity among Church leaders on religion, good governance and democracy.	Training of Church leaders using the “See-Judge-Act methodology.	Increased capacity among the church leaders on church and state relations	30 Participants 20 men 10 women
15 th September 2016, Colin Webb Hall, Pietermaritzburg Campus, UKZN.	J L Dube lecture. Topic: “South African Intellectual and Political Culture enabled by John Langalibalele	To promote dialogue on religion and governance among Church leaders, politicians and the academy.	Training of the clergy in a lecture format on the notion of the compatibility of the Church and politics as exemplified by J L Dube	Increased understanding and participation by church leaders to engage in dialogues with politicians and the academy on issues of religion and politics.	120 participants 44 men 76 women

	Dube in founding Ilanga lase natal (The Natal Sun) newspaper in 1903". The lecture was delivered by Prof. Masilela.				
26 th October 2016, Red Acres Conference & Retreat Centre	A Contextual Bible Study on Public Prophetic Theology; Luke 4:18-21	To enable church leaders/ clergy to participate actively in the development of democracy and good governance	Training of Church leaders using the "See-Judge-Act methodology	Increased capacity among the church leaders to participate in the development of democracy and good governance.	50 participants 20 men 30 women

Description:

Due to the perception that education and dialogues are the cornerstones of democracy and good governance, Ujamaa Centre tries by all means to contribute to their development. Public theology program within Ujamaa in its operatives concerns itself in the abolition of the popular culture among the clergy that politics/ governance in relation to religion is incompatible.



Prof Smanga Kumalo gave a lecture on Religion & Democracy

Analysis:

At the start of the workshop on “Voter education and moral ethics in the electoral process” judging from what the participants were sharing, a big number of the clergy was still thinking that their role has got much to do with pastoral work rather than politics. In the second activity which was the J L Dube memorial lecture, the speaker presented Dr. John Langalibalele Dube, as a firm believer/ pastor who in the freedom of all people and the imperativeness of democracy dedicated his life and work to the struggle for democratization of the South African society. In his footsteps, walked Mandela fighting the apartheid government for the freedom of all people, as clearly seen in the film “Mandela” which was screened to the participants during the 3rd workshop (CBS on Public prophetic Theology). These two likewise Jesus in Luke 4:18-21 really set the oppressed free. In the same film, we see some of the later political leaders after Mandela deviating from the theme laid by J L Dube and Mandela. Injustices and corruption is what they practice and this is indeed a paradox.



Religious leaders who attended the Religion and Democracy workshop

Outcome indicator:

According to the pre and post workshop questionnaire on the first workshop there was a clear indication that at least 25 of the number that got trained got a better understanding of the relationship between religion and politics and also their role as pastors in public life. The J L Dube memorial lecture enabled the participants, especially the clergy to take J L Dube as an exemplar. In their dialogue with the government authorities for public transformation the pastors should draw from the kind of leadership portrayed by Dube, Mandela and Jesus as well.

Among +-30 pastors trained on religion and governance, reports indicate that 10 are using sermons to encourage participatory democracy. **One of the Pastors who has been consistently attending public theology training, Rev Zuma has requested for assistance in registering for a theology qualification in practical theology, with interest in religion and governance.**

Story of Change:

From the evaluations conducted, it's clear that the workshops/ trainings have effectively contributed towards the knowledge of the pastors on the notion of church and state relations. Those who didn't know their role as pastors in the public life now do understand better than before.

Planning:

In the evaluations, one participant expressed the importance of the programme and thus suggested that programmes of this nature are very educative and thus need to be done more often and also for the organization to start visiting schools, churches and community through people who have attended the workshop. The programme therefore is making effort to start visiting various churches so as to meet more people as many of them can't afford to come to the venues.

Conclusion:

In this report, a summary of the activities done so far in the programme has been provided and some of the highlights through outcome indicators have been shared.

Earth Theology

Objective/Goal

To develop African theological resources for faith-based communities in Kwa-Zulu Natal to enable them to engage constructively on the issues of land and environment by December 2018.

Outcome Indicator

The number of African theological resources developed by enabling faith-based communities to engage in land and environment by December 2018.

Introduction

The Earth Theology programme had three activities planned for 2016 but only 1 activity was achieved due to unplanned disruptions to the activities. First, it was the Gunther Wittenburg seminar. Second, Workshop with organizations working on environmental issues Third, to facilitate a Contextual Bible Study (CBS) on environment and religion as planned. We were not able to organize the former due to disruptions within the University with student protests and the unavailability of the speaker and organizational representatives to give presentations. The latter was organized outside the University with Pastors from Nigeria participating.

Date & Place	Activity	Objective	Output	Outcome Indicator	Numbers
10 August 2016 in PMB, UKZN	PRTN 290 Module	To develop theological and biblical resources for Pastors on religion and the environment	Contextual Bible Study (CBS) on ecological sanitation (Deut 23: 10-15) using the See-Judge-Act method	The number of CBSs developed on religion and environment for Pastors to use and disseminate	12 participants 7 men 5 women

Description

The workshop was attended by the students of PRTN 290 with Nigerian Pastors attending the Ujamaa Centre community based service learning module. The focus of the Contextual Bible Study was on Deuteronomy 23: 10-15 dealing with human waste; pollution of water and ecological sanitation.

Analysis

The Earth Theology programme is critical in terms of our context because of the number of people without access to water and land in the rural areas. The lack of clean running water creates challenges for communities who drink contaminated water that is polluted with waste. The Contextual Bible Study (CBS) on waste and pollution was relevant to the contextual realities of the communities. The focus of the text was primarily on access to 'clean' water that is not contaminated by human waste.

The use of chemicals by the commercial companies is a major challenge to environmental justice. It is incumbent upon the environmental justice activists and organization to critically engage the private sector and government on issues such as nuclear energy and climate change to ensure environmental justice for the poor.

Outcome Indicator

The students and pastors who participated in the CBS training indicated that they will organize events to create awareness about the importance of access to clean running water and dangers of waste and pollution of the land and environment. There is more work to be done in this area of our work in engaging pastors on religion and environment, 2017 will be critical in developing African resources on environment. **A publication on Earth Sunday was published to assist pastors with the understanding of the connection between religion and environment.**

Planning

The plan for 2017 is to ensure that organizations working in the area of environmental justice are engaged and brought into the discussion on issues of environmental justice and alliance. This will provide the basis for collaboration and campaign on environmental and socio-economic justice issues.

Conclusion

The Earth Theology programme will focus on the activities that were not organized in 2016. This is a strategic programme for Ujamaa Centre and will be supported with personnel to ensure capacity in the future.

People's Theology

Objective/ Goal

To recognize the capacity of the marginalized African Independent Churches (AICs) and Social movements to do theology that enables them to become part of the prophetic public realm.

Outcome Indicator

The number of AICs and social movements recognized to do theology participating in the prophetic public realm by December 2018.

Introduction

In this report I shall reflect on the activities done in 2016 in relation to the objective and outcome indicator. The theme for this programme is based on the prophetic theologies of AICs and Social movements.

Date & Place	Activity	Objective	Output	Outcome Indicator	Numbers
10 May 2016, Estcourt	Workshop on AICs theologies	To recognize the capacity of the marginalized AICs to do theology	Training on prophetic theology using See-Judge-Act method	An increased number of Leaders of AICs trained on prophetic theology participating in public prophetic realm	42 Participants 25 men 17 women
17 July 2016, Eshowe	Workshop on theologies of social movements	To recognize the capacity of the marginalized social movements to do theology	Training on prophetic theology using See-Judge-Act method	Increased understanding among members of Rural network and Abahlali trained on prophetic theology	25 participants 15 men 10 women
20 July- August 2016 in PMB (UKZN)	Studies in African Initiated Churches (AICs) THEO 707/807	To build and strengthen the religious prophetic movement	Training on prophetic theology using See-Judge-Act	Increased theological capacity among of Leaders of AICs trained on	8 participants 5 men 3 women

			method	prophetic theology participating in public prophetic realm	
12 November 2016 in Eastern Cape	African Independent Churches (AICs)	To build and strengthen the prophetic theological movement participating in the public realm	Presentation on prophetic theology using See-Judge-Act method	Increased theological capacity among the Leaders of AICs trained on prophetic theology participating in public prophetic realm	45 participants 26 men 19 women
28 November 2016 in PMB	Isaiah Shembe Seminar	To produce theological and biblical resources to capacitate religious and social movements	Seminar on the contribution of Africa Initiated Churches (AICs) to African Christianity: The case of 'ENyonini'	Increased theological capacity among the Leaders of AICs trained on prophetic theology participating in public prophetic realm	+ 55 participants + 40 men + 15 women

Description

The People's Theology programme focus primarily on the theologies from the margins, the inchoate people's theologies that contribute to prophetic theology. The primary sources of this theology are African Independent Churches (AICs) and Social movements in the community. The relationship between the struggles of 'dignity' and 'inclusion' are central to these religious and social movements in our context. The Isaiah Shembe seminar series reflect the contribution of African leaders to African Christianity and scholarship especially on People's theologies.



Church of Sweden delegation participating in a Shembe Service

Analysis

The marginalization of the African Independent Churches (AICs) manifest itself in various forms compare to their counter-parts in historical and pentecoastal/charismatic churches who are funded externally. The battle for access to land is of the major issues that are central to both religious (AICs) and Social (Abahlali) movements. The AICs are struggling to have access to land to establish their own space and identity because of financial resources. This is not the case with historical churches who own land and are able to finance the maintenance of the land. This is based primarily on the economic resources and power that these churches have which is supported by their mother churches in other parts of the world. The government also acknowledges the economic strength and power of such churches because of their international links and does not do the same with African Independent Churches (AICs) which subject the AICs to new forms of colonization and marginalization under a democratic government.

Outcome Indicator:

The Isaiah Shembe seminar series has pioneered the work on African Initiated Churches (AICs). **Among the leaders of African Independent Churches (AICs) trained on Prophetic liberation theologies are Revd Gumede and Revd Ngubane who are actively involved in the development of incipient theologies within their African churches in Pietermaritzburg. Revd Ngubane has also applied to study theology at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.**



Annual General Meeting (AGM) presentation with AICs leaders in the Eastern Cape.

Story of Change

The reading of the story of Naboth in 1 Kings 21: 1-16 created a platform for AICs and Social movements to begin to deliberate about the forceful removal from their ancestral land by the white political hegemony. The leaders of the AIC “appreciated the re-reading of the story in the context on land dispossession and abuse of power” by the authorities to further their selfish interests. The resistance was seen as offering resources to “people’s theologies of protest against political hegemony and abuse.” The AICs and Social movements were transformed by this contextual re-reading of the text in the CBS session.

Planning

The plan is to consolidate the work already done with these groups for the next 3 years to ensure that people’s prophetic theologies are developed and nurtured to challenge dominant narratives in the public realm.

Conclusion

The report reflects the dialogue with AICs and Social movements aimed at developing people’s prophetic theologies from the margins of society.