

# Dumisani – How YOU can help

## Dumisani Theological Institute & Bible School

### Address:

15 Leopold Street,  
P.O. Box 681,  
King William's Town, 5600  
South Africa

### Telephone etc:

Telephone / Fax: 043 642 4737  
e-mail: dumisani@border.co.za

### Bankers:

First National Bank,  
King William's Town  
Sorting Code: 21 05 19  
Account No: 52640008506

### Who we are and what we do

The primary goal of Dumisani Theological Institute is to prepare pastors and other leaders for the Xhosa-speaking churches of the Eastern Cape.

It does this in a variety of ways, such as through basic Correspondence Courses and through literature – Daily Bible Reading Notes, booklets for preachers and Bible-women, Youth leaders and Sunday School teachers. Especially it does this through classes at Certificate and Diploma level and, in cooperation with North-West University (formerly Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education), at Degree level.

- Everything is offered at a price that the people can afford to pay, rather than at cost price.
- In 2006 we had a record intake and there is now a record number of students – 79 full-time and part-time.



- We have three properties on a quiet but fairly central street in King William's Town – an important centre in the Eastern Cape. There is an Administration Building, a Study House and a Teaching Centre.

- Dumisani is sponsored by four churches: the Free Church of Scotland, the East London congregation of the Gereformeerde Kerke, the Free Church in Southern Africa and the Xhosa-speaking Reformed Church.

For example, the Free Church of Scotland is committed to supplying three teaching staff and helps to meet certain running costs. Other churches lend the services of part-time teaching staff.

- Despite this support, Dumisani has always depended on other donations and, as the teaching programmes have developed in recent years, we have become increasingly dependent on the goodwill of our supporters.

***This leaflet outlines our present financial needs and seeks committed support from individuals or congregations who would like to help us.***

### The General Picture

Dumisani's projected expenditure for 2006 is R383,530.

- Approximately 30% of this is covered by the financial commitment of the Free Church of Scotland, the fees of students, payments received for literature, and the interest on our reserves.
- This means we will need about R267,000 in other donations towards our work. (The South African Rand fluctuates so we cannot say exactly what this is in other currencies – but, to take one example, at R10.60 to the Pound Sterling, that means we need approximately £25,200 in donations.)

### The Opportunities

Among the items on our Budget are the following costs (identified in both Rands and Pounds Sterling for the benefit of international supporters):

#### **Literature – R100,000 (£9,435) for paper, computers, postage etc.**

This item does not sound very interesting, but consider what it covers:

- **Correspondence Courses.** A Course of ten lessons costs us about R45 and, at most, we take in R10. So R35 will help someone to study a basic Correspondence Course with us. And many of the Correspondence Courses go out to prisoners, who don't pay anything.

Here's part of a letter from a student: "I lost contact with you after I posted Lesson 8 and I would like to start again because your lessons are really building me spiritually and am happy to find such fruitful lessons."



- **Daily Bible Reading Notes:** A short reading and comment, a thought or a prayer for each day of the year. Plus three sermon outlines and a couple of Questions and Answers. We produce more than 500 copies of these notes, in English and Xhosa, each quarter. They go mainly to our students and staff; to some Free Church congregations; to some other churches and

individuals; and to some bookshops. We probably subsidise each of them by two or three rands.



- **Sunday School Work:** We publish Sunday School Teachers Notes and other helps, in English and Xhosa, at three levels. We run an exam scheme with prizes for over 1400 children. The exam/prize scheme, in particular, is heavily subsidised.

- **Other Literature:** *Bible Themes, One Hundred Bible Studies, Marriage and the Christian Home, Comfort ...* and so on. All these are little booklets sold at a subsidy.

**To give to this aspect of our Budget helps to get the word out to needy people in prisons, in churches and elsewhere.**

#### **Library – R75,000 (£7,075)**

The annual budget is R24,000 per year, plus any unspent figure from the previous year. It is essential that we are able to provide our students with the resources which they need so that they can develop the skills they need for future ministry.

This figure also includes the salaries of the administrative assistants who handle the day-to-day operation of the Library and who help to ensure that this valuable resource is protected and used to the fullest extent.

**If we teach people the good use of good books, we have taught a skill that can stand them in good stead for a life time of study.**

#### **Scholarship – R10,000 (£945)**

Many of our students have very limited income and could not afford to study unless they received help from the Institute. All students are invited to submit applications for scholarships, which are then carefully evaluated to ensure that those students who are most in need of help can receive it so that they can continue their training.

#### **Book Fund – R6,500 (£615)**

We are, of course, always confronted with the argument: what is the point of teaching them to use books? When they leave Dumisani, they no longer have access to books.

- To meet that need, the Book Fund has been instituted. Successful students can gain some “credits” for each Course that they pass. These credits can then be traded in for books, from a list selected by Dumisani. Thus a student might get R400 credits in the course of a year’s work. This allows them to buy books worth R400 for only R40. Wise use of this credit will allow a student to build up a good Library. He or she will leave Dumisani with a love of books and some books to love.

It is quite a costly scheme but we think it will be very helpful.

**So this is a very good way of helping poor students.**

This Book Fund also finances Bibles, which we give away to prisoners doing our Correspondence Courses. And it finances small book prizes at the Graduation.

#### **Student Aid – R2,300 (£215)**

Some full-time students are so poor that they wouldn’t eat during the day, because they wouldn’t have the money to buy food. We give a small amount to the students to buy bread, tea, sugar and milk each day. Then they share it out among themselves.

In case of bereavement, we would give a little from this fund and the students themselves would all get together to help the bereaved student.

#### **Equipment – R12,000 (£1,130)**

There’s always the need for new equipment. If a computer fails, then our printing or administration gets behind and we fail in our service to the students and the wider community. Heaters (in the winter) and fans (in the summer) and clocks (to try and get a regular programme of work done) in every room. Chairs and desks for the growing number of students. These are the sort of items covered by this.

**This is not glamorous, but still very necessary.**

#### **Sunday School Teacher Training/ Biblewomen Events – R4,600 (£435)**

Twice a year around 80 Sunday School Teachers meet. These teachers come from a variety of churches and they use our Teachers’ Notes in their Sunday Schools. Every month the Free Church Biblewomen also meet. These are times of fellowship, encouragement and training.



**This fund meets the expenses of such meetings.**

#### **Conferences – R5,000 (£470)**

Dumisani is represented at an annual meeting of all colleges associated with North-West University, which is an opportunity for keeping up with latest educational developments and for learning from good practice in other colleges.

Dumisani staff also participate actively in the South African academic societies for biblical and theological study. This fund ensures that Dumisani can continue to make a constructive contribution to these events.

#### **Administration – R24,270 (£2,290)**

Administration is an essential aspect of the running of the Institute. The demands of Government-imposed educational regulations and financial accountability demand that a considerable amount of time be devoted to such tasks. The more administration that can be done by administration staff, the more the teaching staff can devote themselves to the core tasks for which they have been trained and appointed.

**Again, this sort of need does not have a high profile, but Aaron and Hur were as important as Moses!**

#### **Rates, Electricity and Maintenance – R45,500 (£4,290)**

The buildings which provide the context for all the activities of the Institute must be kept safe and in good condition and all bills must be paid. Without appropriate accommodation, the work of the Institute could not continue.

## Your commitment

We are delighted with the financial support we have received from so many. But as we expand, we need to seek that support more widely. Hence we are asking you to consider what you might do to help us on a regular basis. Can you make a regular donation to us? If so, we would like to hear from you, so that we can let you know more adequately how your support is being used and how the Institute is developing. Fill in the appropriate boxes below.

Send this Form to us at PO Box 681, King William's Town, 5600, South Africa.

You can send your donation in various ways:

- **Either** pay it to the Free Church of Scotland and send it to the Free Church Offices, 15 North Bank Street, Edinburgh EH1 2LS. Mark clearly as a "Special Donation to Dumisani". This is the preferred option. If you are a British tax-payer you may be able to donate this under Gift Aid.
- **Or** send it directly to our Bank account (see details at top of front page) and send us your details to say what you have done.
- **Or** if these arrangements are not convenient, get in contact with us and we shall suggest some other means of getting your contribution to us.

## Our commitment

We thank you for your interest in supporting us. We will send you our regular *Updates* about the work and, from time to time, we will send you any other information about the area of work in which you are specially interested.

## Form

<input type="checkbox"/> I will be happy to pray regularly for the work in Dumisani.		<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to contribute to the work (amount) _____ (frequency eg, quarterly, annually) _____	
I would like my contribution to go, in the first instance, to: (tick one of the following)		Title, Initials, Surname:	
	<b>Literature</b>	Address:	
	<b>Library</b>		
	<b>Book Fund</b>		
	<b>Student Aid</b>	Country	Post code:
	<b>Equipment</b>		
	<b>Sunday School Teacher Training / Biblewomen</b>	Telephone Number:	
	<b>Administration</b>	Fax:	
	<b>General</b>	e-mail	

If these funds are oversubscribed, I am happy that it should be put to whatever area of work is most needy.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_