



1. Dumisani Awards and Graduation Ceremony:

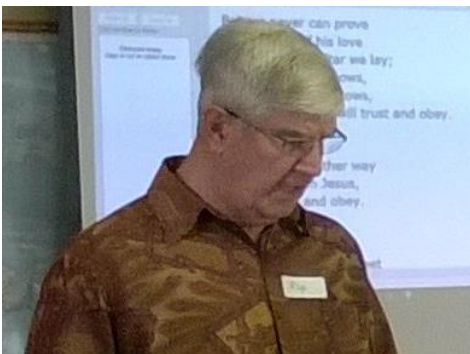


Twelve students received awards recognition at Dumisani on February 27th. We had six in the BMS, three in the AMS, and three recognised as receiving their B.Th. degree through North-West University facilitated through Dumisani. Eighty-five attended and our guest speaker was Dr. Flip Buys, missiologist, theological educator, missionary, and International Director of the World Reformed Fellowship.

It was great to see many family and friends attend and support these students. Two of our students spoke as student responders, Mrs. Landingwe and Mr. Rubushe. Special thanks to the organisations which helped sponsor graduation gifts for those graduating and to our student volunteers (pictured here).



2. Christian Leaders' Workshop:



Our first public workshop at Dumisani in 2016 for local Christian Leaders was held on Friday February 26th. The topic was on the biblical principles for strategic planning. It was six hours in length and Dr. Flip Buys led the plenary session then we also broke into four small groups and applied what we were learning back to our local church context. The goal was that then the leaders could take this back and conduct similar meetings with the leaders in their churches or districts or denominations.

The event was also a way for people to learn about the World Reformed Fellowship from Dr. Buys and literature was passed out to all who attended about this world-wide body of churches, individuals, and institutions.

3. Student Pre-Easter Service for the Seven Sayings from the Cross:

It was very encouraging to see the students organise and conduct a special Pre-Easter Service on Friday March 11th. They had seven students preaching and this was also opened to the public to attend. A special student-led lunch was also organised. Close to 100 attended. Well, done students! Booklets were also made available of the Seven Sayings in Xhosa which can be used during the special conventions for Good Friday around the Eastern Cape and beyond.



4. New Lecturers/Facilitators at Dumisani:

Staffing changes for Dumisani in semester one 2016 include welcoming two new part-time lecturers. Dr. Paul De Bruyn the pastor at the East London Reformed Church is teaching Homiletics and Rev. John Koning the pastor of Grace Bible Church in East London is teaching Foundations of Bible Study Principles. Welcome brothers. Dr. De Bruyn recently completed his Ph.D. in church leadership and Rev. Koning recently completed his Master's in missiology and is beginning a Ph. D. in a contextual study of Church Planting in South Africa.



Rev. Deon Lombard accepted a call to the Victoria Park Baptist Church in Port Elizabeth and he and Shelley took up this new post at the beginning of February. Shelley is helping us transition with our records presently as we restructure as a college. May the Lord bless them in this new ministry in Port Elizabeth. The Lombards have served in a variety of capacities at Dumisani over many years.

5. World Reformed Conference and board Meetings in Jakarta, Indonesia:

Our acting principal and his wife, Dr. and Mrs. Whytock, attended the Board meetings of the World Reformed Fellowship (WRF) in Jakarta, Indonesia in March and the conference which was held in conjunction with the board meetings. The Board appointed a new Director Designate to commence formally his duties in October 2017. This is Dr. Davy Gomez the chancellor of MacKenzie University in Brazil and a minister of the Presbyterian Church in Brazil. The Board conducted strategic planning for the future advancement of this global evangelical and Reformed fellowship. The meetings were hosted by the Evangelical and Reformed Church of Indonesia and were held in the church and seminary complex in Jakarta. It was a tremendous opportunity to learn about the work of the Christian community in Indonesia not to mention the global church. Dr. Whytock serves on the Theological Education Commission of WRF.



Dumisani has applied to become an institutional member of the World Reformed Fellowship and has been received into membership in WRF.

6. Library Updates:



Three new shelving units have been completed and the catalogued books in boxes have now been shelved. We had our first Book Sale for 2016 in mid-March. Praise the Lord for the addition to our library of the new expository bible commentary series recently published through P & R.



7. Canadian Volunteers:



We all thoroughly enjoyed having John and Philip Stam for three months at Dumisani serving as volunteers. They were involved in many things: carpentry, IT support, assisting in the library, chapel, Sunday ministry in the villages, and baking, and we have likely forgotten a couple of things! Thank you, John and Philip, it was great having you with us. On April 21, God willing, we have another volunteer coming for one month. He is a professional plasterer and painter.

8. Meet one of our students, Mrs Luse

Mrs Siphokazi Luse is one of our new Certificate of Christian Foundations (CCF) students who seems to radiate happiness and willingness to serve and to learn. She is in the library most days, never misses our weekly devotions, and is always quick to volunteer whenever any help is needed.

Mrs Luse is very excited to have begun her studies as a full-time CCF student. Already she can say, "Before I could not analyse what was being said in an English Bible, but now I am starting to analyse it and figure out the meaning and get a much better understanding." She says being at Dumisani is "a triple 'wow' experience."



9. Watch for News About a Teacher Training Short Course in Term Four

We are now making plans for a special Short Course in Term Four here at Dumisani. It will be about acquiring skills in lesson planning, lesson preparation and lesson delivery. This will be an excellent short course for Sunday School leaders and teachers and all who lead Bible study groups in homes and schools. Watch for more news about this short course.



10. Update on the Launch of the New CCF programme

Term One was very encouraging with over 30 students enrolling in the new Certificate of Christian Foundations (CCF) programme – equipping for Christian ministry and service. We praise the Lord as we start Term Two with student changes and new students we have maintained 30 students! This is a one-year full-time programme or two-year part-time programme. It has eight required core courses and the students can choose four elective courses from a possible eight.

The CCF is designed to provide foundational teaching in key areas:

- Christian Life
- Skills
- Bible
- Ministry
- Christian Beliefs

11. Update on Dumisani Student Bursary Fund

As reported in our October 2015 Newsletter we have begun a dedicated Dumisani Student Bursary Fund for which we began receiving contributions. Thank you to all who have made donations to this fund in any amount. The goal is that in the second semester (July, 2016) this new dedicated Bursary Fund will be able to start to assist qualifying diploma and degree students at Dumisani. We are close to half way on our goal for July. There is still a need for more sponsors. If you are interested in learning more about our sponsorship programme please contact Dr. Whytock at: jcwhytock@gmail.com

12. Seeking a Full-Time Administrator at Dumisani:

As Dumisani restructures this year we are now seeking a full-time Administrator to work in four areas: human resources, property management, student records, and financial management. We have created a vacancies sub-tab on the Dumisani website.

For more information, contact our office on (043) 642 4737, or view our website at www.dumisani.org

Dumisani Theological Institute & Bible School P.O. Box 681 King William's Town 5600 South Africa	Bank Details: Account Number: 52640008506 Account Name: Dumisani Theological Institute & Bible School Bank Name: First National Bank Branch/Sorting Code: 21 05 19 (King William's Town)
---	---

Dumisani Theological Institute & Bible School

**is authorised to issue a tax certificate for donations subject to Section 18A of the Income Tax Act
Non-Profit Company (NPC) Number 2002/025719/08**

Approved Public Benefit Organisation (NPO) in terms of Section 18A—Registration Number 9541624145