



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in
Southern Africa
ELCSA (NT)
Southern Circuit**



Report on the IMPACT Music Ministry in the Southern Circuit

Music workshops have been held in the southern circuit since 2007 to promote modern Christian music, which is growing in popularity with a large number of congregation members in our church communities.

Until recently, this ministry was known as the “Contemporary Music Ministry”. At our last workshop, the musicians voted to have this name changed to “IMPACT Music Ministry”. This new name reflects our vision and purpose within our church community. You can read more about this vision and purpose in the addendum at the end of the report.

The biannual music workshops continue to be a great blessing to the congregations of the southern circuit. About 50 musicians from all over KZN regularly attend these workshops, which serve to facilitate the sharing of music material and help with the exchange of ideas. They are also a great source of joy to all participants.

The highlights of our ministry are our biennial Music Festivals. The second “Contemporary Music Festival” (as it was still known at that time) was held in New Germany on 24 July 2016. The theme for this Festival was the Watchword for 2016, which is found in Isaiah 66v13:

**“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you;
and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.”**

We had a wonderful service with 45 musicians taking part from congregations from all over the southern circuit. The support from the local community was most encouraging despite the very cold weather we had on that day. Some church members, who usually attend more traditional services, commented on the touching service and the depth of the content of the songs we sang that day. Many hearts were moved by the message of comfort.

Our next festival is planned for the weekend of the **17-18 March 2018**. This **IMPACT Music Festival** will be hosted by the Hayfields congregation in Pietermaritzburg, under the theme **“We stand forgiven at the foot of the cross”**. We extend a warm welcome to all to attend this service, which promises to be a moving and reflective build up to the Holy Week in our church calendar next year.

Several congregations of the Cape Church have approached us for impetus and support by hosting workshops to encourage them to start their own contemporary music teams and to help them build up their repertoire. We are challenged by financial, time and distance constraints and at this stage we don't have a clear vision how to take this further.

We are also toying with the idea of recording a few popular songs for distribution among congregations that would like to offer modern music in their services, but lack adequate numbers of

musicians to pull this off on their own. We ask you to keep this ministry in your prayers, since there is clearly a need for growth in our church.

We extend a warm welcome to 2 new committee members, who joined our team in June 2016. We are delighted to have Pastor Manfred Müller-Nedebock from the Hillcrest congregation and Linda Reibeling from the Hayfields congregation on board. May this ministry be a blessing to you both.

For more information regarding this ministry, please contact Pastor Rolf Schmidt (pastorrolfschmidt@gmail.com) or any of the members of the committee.

Your IMPACT Music Committee:

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Inclusive

Music ministry in the

Praise and worship style

Across congregations, focusing on

Contemporary music

to the glory of God!

We are an **I**nclusive **M**usic ministry, welcoming musicians of all abilities and all ages that play any instrument. Our music is in a **P**raise and worship style. We invite members from **A**ll congregations in our greater Church community to take part. Our focus is on **C**ontemporary music, so that our services are modern and fresh and always

to the glory of God!