

DIAKONIA – 35 YEARS ON Celebration programme

THE Diakonia Council of Churches' 35th anniversary marks three-and-a-half decades of working for a transformed society under the theme *A Transformed World is Possible*. In commemorating this important milestone, Diakonia is celebrating its achievements and acknowledging the challenges that remain.

Essentially, the organisation is looking back in gratitude to the fundamental changes that have happened in our country.

And more importantly, Diakonia is looking forward in the hope of continuing its work for justice, equity and reconciliation between all people, and with the troubled earth.

It is a significant moment to look at the present and at what needs doing to take us into a future which assures that a transformed world is achievable.

Schedule of events

A series of events has been organised to run from Monday, October 17 to Sunday, October 23.

The programme commences on Monday with a "Trip down memory lane" – a session that will focus particularly on the future.

A two-day conversation on *Prophetic diakonia* with Dr Kjell Nordstokke, professor of Theology at the Diakonhjemmet University in Norway, begins on Tuesday.

The celebrations will include the

annual Diakonia Lecture, which will take place on Wednesday with Professor Jonathan Jansen, Rector of the University of the Free State as the keynote speaker.

A fundraising gala dinner will then be held on Friday, with Finance Minister, Pravin Gordhan as guest speaker.

An event for the youth will be held on Saturday, and the celebrations will then culminate on Sunday with a thanksgiving and celebratory service.

With the exception of the conversation, which will be held at Mariannahill Retreat Centre, all the other activities will be held at Diakonia Centre.

Except for the gala dinner, all the other events are free.

Diakonia appeals to those who believe in its vision of a transformed society

RIGHT from its inception, Diakonia has relied on funding from overseas. In this climate of diminishing overseas support, the organisation is therefore appealing to its friends - particularly those whose lives have been touched by Diakonia.

Diakonia also appeals to those who believe in the vision of a transformed society, to invest in the long-term sustainability of the organisation, which has made a significant contribution to social upliftment and continues to make a difference in people's lives.

"Support Diakonia!"

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

The well-established tradition of the ecumenical Good Friday service has become not only the flagship of the organisation, but also a major event in the calendar of the city. Each year, the service highlights a particular aspect of national suffering and injustice. The service progressively attracts increasing numbers.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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**35th Anniversary Celebration
A TRANSFORMED WORLD IS POSSIBLE**

