

# **Memorandum of Understanding between Harare Baptist Church and Connect Church**

## **The Background**

In 2017 we were approached by the pastor of Harare Baptist church, Rev. Johannes Lata, with a request for us to assist them in the construction of a building on their church site. After serious and prayerful consideration, we have decided that we would like to assist the Harare Baptist Church in the development of their facilities.

## **Our Motivation**

Our desire is to see the Kingdom of God grow and spread in the Khayelitsha region and beyond. We desire to see people reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ and for the church to have a strong and vibrant presence in that local community. Our desire is to see healthy flourishing churches everywhere.

People are far more important to us than buildings and growing a strong and Bible-based church community is far more important to us than having buildings. We recognize however, that having a multi-purpose church building can be a great help in developing a church community, spreading the gospel and being a witness and influence in a community.

## **Our Commitment**

Our commitment with you is to develop a long-term partnership in ministry. Developing relationships and authentically working together are important to us. This requires a great deal of honesty with one another and transparency. The responsibility to develop deeper relationships and cooperation lies equally with both churches. Both churches are equally responsible to develop and outwork this partnership. We don't want a situation where one party is doing most of the initiating and communicating.

We understand too, that from time to time, in any normal relationship there may be disagreements and even conflict. We both commit ourselves to amicably resolving any tension and differences between us, that may arise, in the spirit of our Lord's teaching in Matthew 18.

## **Building Project management**

Our endeavor will be to assist with the raising of funds for the completion of the building project. We recognize that the land, on which the buildings will be built, is owned by the Western Province Baptist Association / Baptist Union of SA. We are supporting this project, in part, because this is a Baptist church ministry and one where there is wider denominational accountability and oversight.

## Building management

As the primary funder, Connect Church will manage the building project. This will involve the appointment the building contractor, managing the finance for the project and may even entail making some changes to the initial design. Construction will always, be done in keeping with all the relevant building regulations and safety practices.

## Use of the Buildings

Though the building will legally belong to the Baptist Union of Southern Africa it will serve as the primary place of worship for the Harare Baptist church. We agree that it is not good stewardship for a building to be used for only a few hours on a Sunday therefore we agree that we both need to be involved in ensuring that the buildings are used throughout the week. We agree that activities that result in social and community development should take place in the building during the week and that other evangelical, Bible-based churches may at times also use the buildings.

It will be the responsibility of Harare Baptist church to drive, oversee and manage all these kingdom-advancing activities.

Harare Baptist church agrees to keeping the leadership of Connect Church informed as to how the buildings are being utilized.

It will be the responsibility of the Harare Baptist Church to both maintain and insure the premises.

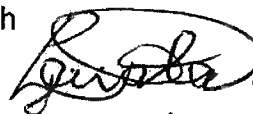
## Conclusion

We look forward to entering into a fruitful partnership with you for the glory of God and the advance of His Kingdom.

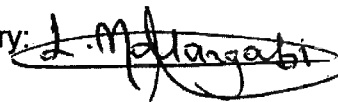
A copy of this memorandum of understanding will also be given to the WPBA and Baptist Union.

Signed on behalf of Harare Baptist Church

Pastor:



Church Secretary:



Signed on behalf of Connect Church:



Signed on behalf of the WPBA:

Signed on behalf of the Baptist Union: