

## **Deputies Revision of Liturgical Forms and Form Prayers**

5 June 2023

### **Mandate**

- To consider the recommendations and comments received and also call on the other churches to provide feedback for them to consider and incorporate in the “Viering van die Heilige Nagmaal 2” form for the next synod to consider.
- To consider the recommendations and comments received and also call on the other churches to provide feedback for them to consider and incorporate in the Form Prayers for the next synod to consider.
- To identify the missing liturgical forms approved by our federation for use in churches and have them translated and included in the Sotho version of the liturgical forms.
- To consider reprinting the Sotho version of the liturgical forms (published by NG Sendinguitgewers, Bloemfontein, 1983) incorporating the forms under mandate 4, in a suitable format for use by churches and church members.
- To add the recommendations and comments received into the report as addendum to the next report to Synod.
- To submit an interim report for discussion during an Indaba to be held more or less halfway between Synod 2021 and the next synod.
- To report to the next synod and formulate recommendations according to Article 10 and 11 of the Synod Rules.

### **Recommendations**

- Appoint new deputies with the mandate to publish Puku ya Kereke in Sepedi, to reprint the liturgical forms and prayers in Afrikaans (excluding the alternative form for celebrating the Lord’s Supper and considering comments received on the new form prayers).

### **Membership**

Br Douwe Drijfhout (convener) and br Jan Middeljans. Unfortunately, a third member was not able to participate in the work of the Deputies.

### **Summary of activities and methods employed.**

Deputies held regular meetings via video link. Activities included communication with the Mission Board of Pretoria, the Sotho speaking pastors, Rev Pieter Boon, Rev Simon Hibbert of the RCSA, Dr Gideon van der Watt and Ms Eleanor Steenberg of the Christian Literary Fund (Wellington).

### **Detailed report (material, decision, grounds)**

The publishing rights of Puku ya Kereke (Sepedi), which was published by the NG Sendinguitgewers in Bloemfontein, are held by the Christian Literature Fund (CLF) in Wellington. Puku ya Kereke (Sepedi) has been out of print and out of stock for many years. CLF is not able to reprint Puku ya Kereke (Sepedi) and is not keen to approve a facsimile reprint. The text of Puku ya Kereke (Sepedi) was scanned and reformatted by

CLF to MSWORD to enable the FRC to publish a new version. This would include new liturgical forms used by the FRC as well as the FRC Church Order in Sepedi. The form for profession of faith, the shorter form for celebrating the Lord's Supper as well as the FRC Church Order were translated by Rev Boon and Br Oscar Makobe.

A spell checker program for Sepedi was obtained from Sadilar (South African Centre for Digital Language Resources) in Potchefstroom. The MSWORD file of Puku ya Kereke (Sepedi) needed to be corrected on reformatting errors. At the Church Indaba in Johannesburg in February 2023 it was mentioned that Setswana is also used by members of our Sotho speaking churches. Due to the time, it would take to publish a new version of Puku ya Kereke (Sepedi), deputies investigated the availability of Buka ya Kereke (Setswana). Deputies purchased the last stock (46) of Buka ya Kereke (Setswana) from CLF as well as five copies of Buka ya Kereke (Sesotho). These were distributed to the Sotho speaking churches. Deputies learned from CLF that reprints in Setswana and Sesotho could be done. However, responses from pastors in the mission churches indicated a need for Sepedi and isiZulu. Deputies decided to request CLF to reprint a limited number of 250 copies of Buka ya Kereke (Setswana). Deputies requested DBU (Die Boek Uitgewers) to assist with text editing and graphic design of Puku ya Kereke (Sepedi).

Deputies considered the comments received by previous deputies on the alternative form for celebrating the Lord's Supper. The form was included in the Afrikaans liturgical booklet published in 2020 for provisional use. Both churches of Pretoria responded that the form was not suitable. Deputies recommend that the form is excluded from use on the grounds raised by the churches of Pretoria (documents attached).

Deputies sent letters to all churches to consider the use of the new liturgical prayers published for provisional use in Afrikaans and English in 2020.

Br Douwe Drijfhout (convenor)  
Br Jan Middeljans