



Remarks by the Mayor, Cllr Fawzia Peer, at Arch Fellowship Church 17 June 2017

Programme Director,
Apostle BP Ndlovu,
Church leadership,
Councillors
ANC Leaders present and other parties
Members of the church
Members of the community,
Stakeholders,
Invited guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,
All protocol observed,
Sanibonani,

We would like to thank you for inviting us to be part of this important initiative and walk against social ills. We will have peace and stability in this country once we begin to work together. We need to stop to work against each. We need to stop folding our arms and think that government must do everything on our behalf. When we campaigned in 2014 – we said by working together we can build a better South Africa. This has always been the message of President Zuma that we should all work together. President Zuma emphasized that government alone will not succeed.

We would like to thank the church for recognizing that it needs to play its part. We wish that all the churches could do the same.

In the book of 1 Timothy 2 verse 2 – **“Pray first for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ”**

We need a church to pray for us as leaders so that we can govern by wisdom from above. We are again at the most difficult time in the history of our young democracy. Those who were defeated through ballot in 1994 are trying by all means to take that away the power from us.

They want to see instability in this nation. They are feeding our communities with drugs so that they could destroy the future of this nation. Youth is our future and whoever that feeds them drugs is trying to destroy us. We need to all pray and do something about it. We need to come together and device strategies at the ward and street corner level.

Programme Director,

As you know this is Youth Month, President OR Tambo said – “A nation that doesn’t take care of its youth doesn’t deserve its future.” We need to protect our children and declare war on drugs and abuse. The enemy of the people is not only destroying our children and youth but they are now killing and abusing the women. This is a demon that is seeking to destroy our nation. Our women are being raped and killed in their homes. We are not feeling safe at home. Sometimes we are being abused by those who are supposed to love and protect us. Senzeni na?

This is the reason we would like to thank this church for organizing this march. We call all the pastors from different denominations to organize more big marches. We are saying enough is enough! We saying no to crime, no to abuse, no to rape, no drugs and by working together we will succeed.

One of the reason we have so much instability is due to unemployment and poverty. We are working hard as this government to create job

opportunities and create some interventions for the poor. We understand that this is not enough. We are experiencing resistance from those who control the economy. The bigger chunk of the economy is the hands of the rich. Our economy is controlled or monopolized by white men.

Our 1994 breakthrough was like entering the promise land of Canaan. We thought by winning elections we will automatically get our land and economy. We thought we will have milk and honey as promised.

President Zuma is now fighting for us to get honey and milk but the bees and cows are fighting him. They are refusing for us to share the milk and honey. They want us to sit in the promise land and die in poverty, unemployment and underdevelopment. This is one of the reason President Zuma is attacked everyday. He spoke about the economy and land. We need to pray for him and the entire leadership of this country. Pray for kings, councilors, ministers, and premiers of this nation.

Programme Director,

We have many plans that will assist young people in this area. We have many opportunities that will be aimed at assisting young people. The mayor announced many initiatives at our last Council meeting when we adopted the people's budget. I urge the church to get closer to us – we need each other.

The following is a summary of these initiatives to provide an overview of the programmes in place:

- 199 learnerships relating to business administration, CCTV cameras, disaster management, contact centres, and payroll administration at a cost of R5.48 million.
- 190 skills programmes relating to firefighting, life guards, business processing, IT, educators, early childhood development practitioners, and professional driving at a cost of R3.5 million.

- 92 artisan development programmes relating to fitters & turners, boilermakers, diesel mechanics, welders, automotive electricians, electricians, plumbers, and air conditioning & registration repairmen at a cost of R3.3 million.
- 1 000 graduate work experience opportunities at cost of R36.8 million.
- On libraries and heritage we will be spending over R33 million besides building New City Library and Amaoti Library. In Hammisdale there is now a library and in Umnini Thusong.
- About R34 million from EPWP set aside for youth work opportunities which are above 5000 – we are targeting the poor
- About R58million has been set aside youth skills development
- Ithala will be employing about 325 youth from eThekweni who will enrolling the bill payment system. They will be earning about R4000

We have many opportunities and the Mayor's office will be busy monitoring the implementation. We have others that we will be doing with private sector and other spheres of government such as the Province and National departments.

In her book about Born Frees – Malakia Mahlatsi says, (I quote), **“When you vote for a party, you vote for the future of your country. You give powers to a few individuals to decide on the fate of millions, some of whom are too young or too powerless to speak for themselves. When you vote for a party, you give them the responsibility of guarding the gains of our liberation struggle.”**(close quote)

I want to assure you that we will continue to guard the gains of the liberation struggle. We will ensure that we lay solid foundations which will ensure that you achieve economic freedom. We have a clear and achievable

projects for our youth. We don't want to over promise and under deliver but we will under promise and over deliver.

We care about youth – continue to pray for us.