



# WAPADRANT

G E M E E N T E

“Elkeen Saam op God se pad”

## PUBLIC WITNESS 2020

1. The undersigned churches, being entrusted with the Gospel and as citizens of the kingdom of God, feel themselves driven to deliver this witness. As public morality in our country has reached such low levels, we believe that silence would be an inexcusable oversight.
2. We deliver this witness in the light of the gospel of the kingdom of God, characterised by peace and reconciliation, law and justice, freedom and humanity, and love and hope. This witness also links to the principles of equality, human dignity and freedom of our Constitution.
3. We deliver this witness with the conviction that abuse of national resources and mismanagement by government, disadvantages the poor, especially the poorest of the poor, the unemployed and the homeless. For this reason, such conduct is an almost unforgivable transgression.
4. We deliver this witness in all humility and with the strong realisation that we have not fulfilled our responsibility in the previous political dispensation; and this we truly regret. We also realise, however, that previous negligence does not eliminate present responsibility. (This formulation refers basically to Wapadrant congregation.)
5. We plead with government for transparency, accountability and openness, and encourage government to set an example of public morality for the citizenry. We appreciate the renewed endeavours of government to root out corruption, and are hopeful that positive results will emerge.

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## 6. We therefore bear witness against

- The massive forms of corruption in our country, that is clearly seen in state capture, mismanagement of government departments and state owned enterprises (like Eskom), and especially the widespread corruption that ensued during the recent assistance to Covid-19 victims and health care personal;
- All forms of cadre deployment, patronage, nepotism and benefits of family and friends that occur in government;
- The general inefficiency in fighting and preventing crime, and specifically the inadequate and lack of action by government (and the SAPS) to prevent and control all forms of (white and black) farm attacks and murders;
- The very poor government action to prevent and control the abuse and murder of women and children;
- The abuse of power that certain levels of government displayed during the Covid-19 pandemic;
- The poor and ineffective management on almost all levels of government, but especially at local government level;
- The increasing racism that divides the South African population and affects reconciliation negatively;
- The fact that there are no straight-forward and purposeful economic policy directions that can promote economic growth and employment;
- The behaviour of some political parties and organisations, whose actions lead to violence and damage to property, and endangers human lives; and
- The poor control by government of the creeping danger of pollution of the natural environment.

## 7. We appeal specifically to our country’s president to do everything in his power to put our beautiful country in a new direction, away from corruption, mismanagement and crime, on the road of moral responsibility and hope.

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8. In delivering this witness, we assure government of our continuous intercession and prayers for enlightenment, direction and wisdom from Above, to govern in such a way that we as a nation can co-exist in peace, freedom and justice.
9. We deliver this witness as churches of Jesus Christ, in fulfilling our mission to be salt for the earth and light to the world. We submit this in supporting the statement that the SACC issued on 25th August.

The Reformed Church Wapadrant & Olieven Christian Church

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