

Client Profile

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Story of Moreleta

Vision: Ezekiel 47:1

“The man brought me back to the entrance of the Temple. And I saw water coming out from under the threshold of the Temple toward the east (for the temple faced east).” (NIV. 1985:1294)

Moreleta sees the throne of God and a Temple, a congregation kneeling in prayer before the King, a congregation living in the presence of God and making Him King on earth. (Moreletapark NG Church. 2002.)

The story of Moreleta:

In 1985 Moreleta NG Church is born with 1 200 members dividing from Pretoria Oosterlig Church. Without a proper church building they gather in a school hall. Between 1986 and 2002 various pastors are taken in. In 1992 a site is bought and the current church building erected. The number of members increased from 3 400 in 1992 to 12 000 in 2002. On the same site a pre-primary and nursery school, youth center, prayer chapel and administration block are built. In September 1998 there is discussion around a possible new larger development. During August 2001 God shows Moreleta to become a Mega Congregation rather than to divide. (Rabie. 2003a) The Church has grown far beyond its present-day capacity and expansion is the next step. (Rabie. 2002)

Moreleta today:

The Moreleta NG Church in Pretoria East has a rapid growing congregation with a current 12 000 church members. (Rabie. 2003b.) The present facility was developed in a few phases, but has reached its limit concerning further development. The current 3ha site is utilized to its fullest potential. (Bartie. 2003.)

The auditorium was designed and built 10 years ago by architect Karel Swanepoel. There are a number of different facilities on the site in Rubenstein Avenue Pretoria East. These include:

- The auditorium with 1500 seats, four entrances and foyer space with notice boards. Within the auditorium there are a few mother's rooms, a translation room, sound and lighting studio, stage with backstage rooms, a basement below the stage, various storage rooms and ablution facilities.
- The structure attached to the auditorium includes rooms for cell meetings, counseling, therapy and more ablution and storage facilities.
- There is a big hall especially for youth gatherings. It is used as a social area for the youth and for accommodating the overspill of members from the auditorium on Sundays. It can be used for any kind of meeting.
- The administration block houses all the managing staff with offices, conference facilities, a recording studio, small kitchens and ablution facilities. The recording studio is also used for training and lectures.

FIGURE 107: Time Line of Moreleta. (Rabie. 2003b)

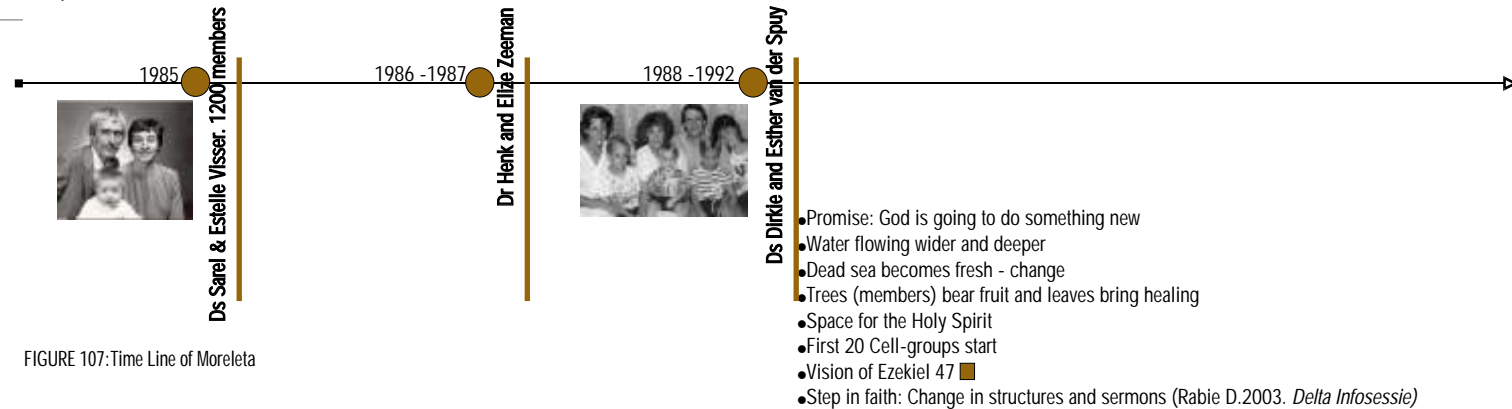


FIGURE 107: Time Line of Moreleta

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- From the foyer there is a kitchen and a Christian bookstore with more storage and ablution rooms.
- Apart from the auditorium, there is a pre-school for babies and children up to 6 years. These rooms are additionally used for children evangelism.
- Next to the auditorium one finds a small prayer chapel open 24 hours for people wanting to pray.
- A store for food offerings to the unemployed and homeless.
- Therest of the site is occupied with parking and circulation. (Interview with Diana Rabie, 16 January 2003.)

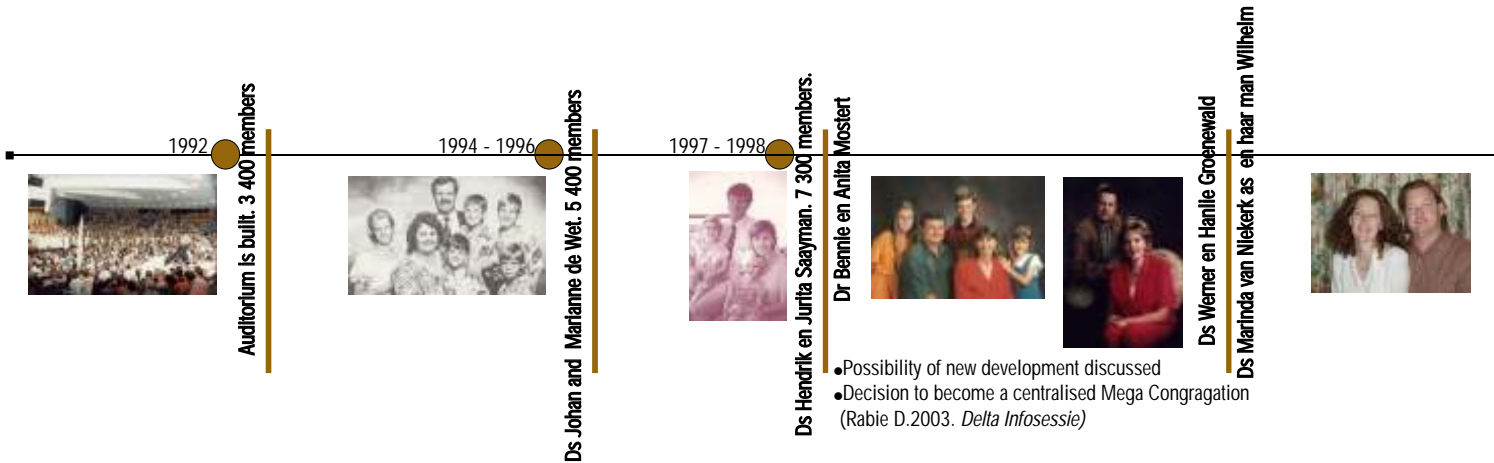
The existing auditorium has 1500 seats. To accommodate its 12 000 members, 6 services are necessary on a Sunday. This is certainly not the ideal condition. One morning service would be favored by everyone to share in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These include prophecies, witnessing, videos, drama, choir and dancing. The parking problem is worsened when the one service runs a bit late and people to attend the next service, arrive when the others haven't left yet. This causes people to turn around and go home, rather than to face the difficulties of finding a parking space, not to mention finding a seat once inside the church. Furthermore there is enormous pressure on members contributing to the service in the form of music, sound and video recordings. (Rabie D. Information. 2002)

With the completion of the new development, the facilities in Rubenstein Avenue will still be used. It will accommodate English, African languages, and Youth services. It will serve as a training station for evangelists and youth workers, therapy and counseling. It will remain the main campus until the new project is entirely completed.

■ Vision: Revelation 22:1

"Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city..."
(NIV. 1985:1950)

Moreleta sees a Lamb and an altar, a congregation where the cross remains the center of everything and where spreading the gospel continues to be the most important action.
(Moreletapark NG Church. 2002.)



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■ Vision: Revelation 22:1 b

"...On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations."
(NIV. 1985:1950)

Moreleta sees water flowing from the throne and the Temple, a congregation filled with the Holy Spirit and through His power and gifts they have great influence on the church and the world.

(Moreletapark NG Church. 2002.)



FIGURE 108: Administration Building.



FIGURE 109: Exterior of the Church building.

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FIGURE 108: Administration Building. (Steyn, 2003b)

FIGURE 109: Exterior of the Church building. (Steyn, 2003b)

FIGURE 110: One of the entrances to the Auditorium. (Steyn, 2003b)

FIGURE 111: Foyer space to the Auditorium. (Steyn, 2003b)



FIGURE 110: One of the entrances to the Auditorium.

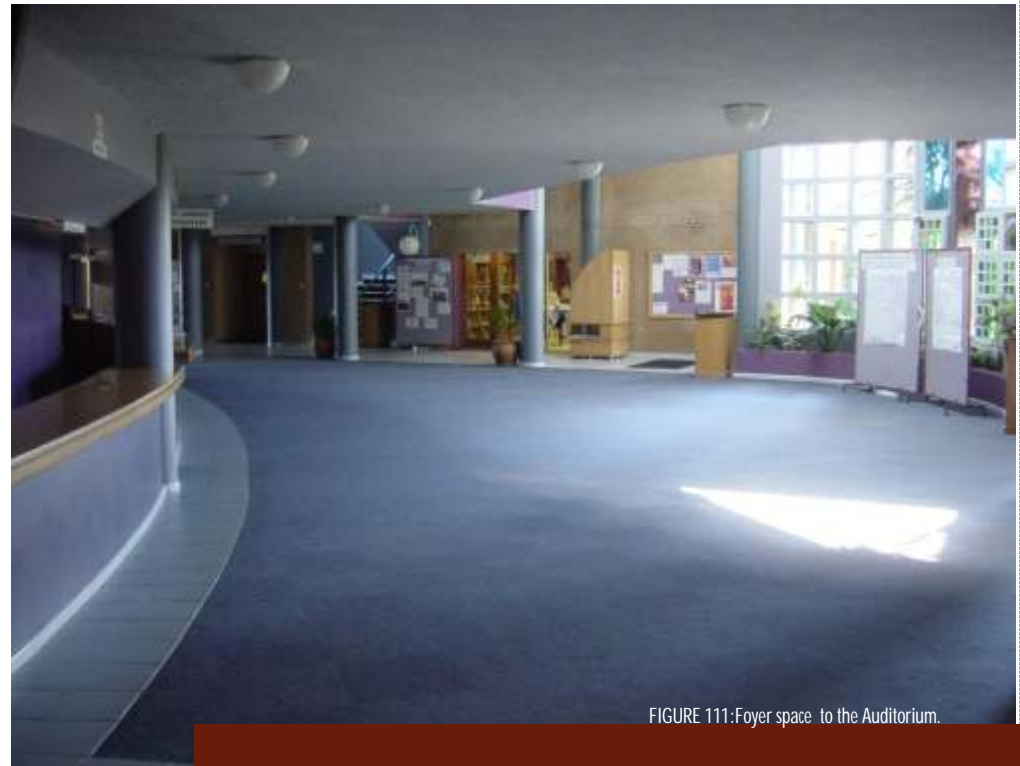


FIGURE 111: Foyer space to the Auditorium.

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FIGURE 112: Hall.



FIGURE 113: Cross inside Chapel.



FIGURES 114-115: Stained glass windows inside Chapel.



FIGURE 116: Outside parking.

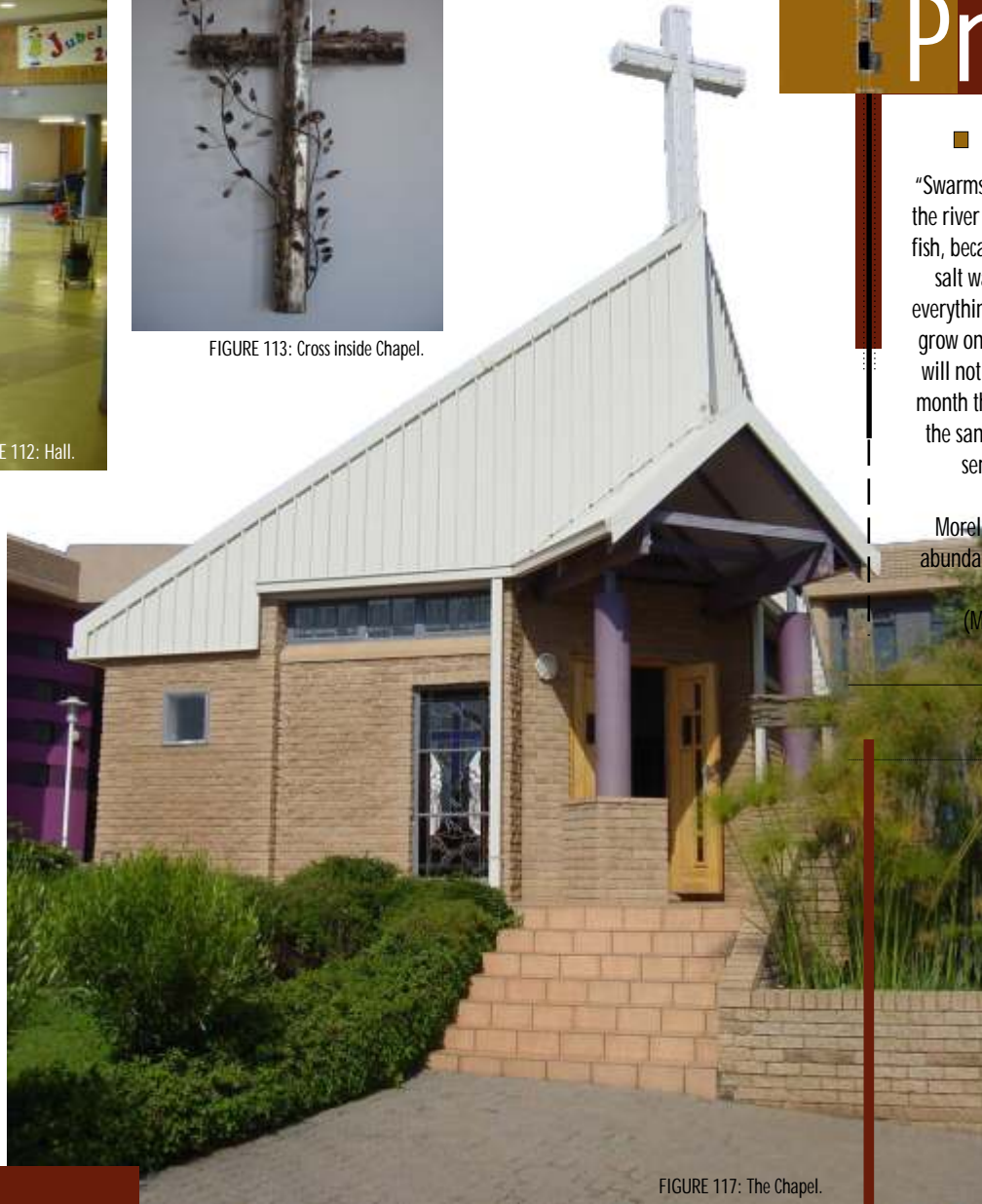


FIGURE 117: The Chapel.

■ Vision: Ezekiel 47: 9, 12

“Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes salt water fresh: so where the river flows everything will live. Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing.” (NIV. 1985:1294)

Moreleta sees a living congregation with abundant life. They dream of wonders when God does new things.
(Moreletapark NG Church. 2002.)

FIGURE 112: Hall. (Steyn, 2003b)

FIGURE 113: Cross inside Chapel. (Steyn, 2003b)

FIGURES 114-115: Stained glass windows inside Chapel. (Steyn, 2003b)

FIGURE 116: Outside parking. (Steyn, 2003b)

FIGURE 117: The Chapel. (Steyn, 2003b)

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Vision: Ezekiel 47: 3-5

“As the man went eastward with a measuring line in his hand, he measured off another thousand cubits and then led me through water that was ankle deep...then led me through water that was knee deep..then water that was up to the waist. He measured off another thousand, but now it was a river that I could not cross..the water was deep enough to swim in - a river that no one could cross.

(Barker K. 1985:1294)

Moreleta sees water that goes deeper, a congregation building one another in spirit and serving one another until spiritual maturity is reached.

(Moreletapark NG Church. 2002.)



Plan of the Auditorium.



FIGURE 118: Stage inside Auditorium.



FIGURE 119: Sound and lighting studio of Auditorium.



FIGURE 120: The Auditorium.

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FIGURE 118: Stage inside Auditorium. (Steyn, 2003b)

FIGURE 119: Sound and lighting studio of Auditorium. (Steyn, 2003b)

FIGURE 120: The Auditorium. (Steyn, 2003b)

A closer look at the Congregation

FIGURE 121: Cross Sculpture at the entrance.



Strategic Servant-hood model:

Moreleta is a community church from a reformed tradition functioning on the principle of centralization with one Vision and set of Core Values. These Core Values are embedded in the congregation's mission and include the following key words:

- Saved
- Witness
- Obedient
- Go out
- Groups
- Spiritual gifts
- Grace
- Growth
- Prayer
- Give

The church wants to create a spiritual home with centralized service administration, and a variety of services that build church members and spread to other churches.

The church supports church-sowing-actions and is optimally active in opportunities given by God. The church is willing to cooperate with other churches with the same vision and core values to overcome boundaries and enlarge the Kingdom of God. Moreleta desires to reach out to other churches and communities in need. Moreletapark is thus a catalyst for the spreading of the 'Good News' and God's Kingdom through their services and teaching.

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Vision

Moreleta sees water flowing further and further, a congregation reaching more and more people like a river attracting people. They dream of a congregation reaching to dry places and spreading the new life further and further.

They see a congregation with a high standard of holiness where sin is not accepted and where the lives of the leaders and members speak of truth.

(Moreletapark NG Church. 2002.)

FIGURE 121: Cross Sculpture at the entrance. (Steyn, 2003b)

1999 - 2000



Derrick Bartle becomes Congregation Manager. 9 125 members

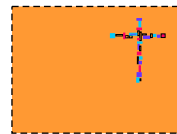
2001 - 2002



Dr Johan Smith start as Youth Manager. 12 000 members.

- God asks a step in faith
- August 2001: Church council confirms a Centralized Mega congregation. (Rabie, 2003.)

The new Church building with 20 000 - 30 000 members.



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Moreleta is a community-network-church. To fulfill God's plan they envision to:

- Create Church members that are spiritually mature and actively reaching out to others with the love of God. Members supporting other people in physical and spiritual need. Members that are like a bubbling fountain with living water. Members that love the Lord and serve Him with their spiritual gifts, talents and finances.
- Build a congregation that cares for one another; is willing to couple with other churches to enlarge God's Kingdom and is willing to support other congregations.
- Create a support network to attract people like a magnet. To form an oasis of teaching, equipping and healing (Ezekiel 47). To create an environment of spiritual peace and to live by the living God for all to see and experience. To see God doing wonders and help people to change themselves and their world for the better. Within this support network the people should pray for each other and for the rest of the world. (Moreletapark NG Church. 2002.b)

There are currently certain elements preventing the full implementation of God's plan:

1. Moreletapark NG Church experiences a shortage in required facilities, equipment and teaching facilities. This results in stagnation.
2. A large number of the church members are not spiritually prepared or dedicated enough to become active church members.
3. Church members offering help are not necessarily contacted.
4. There exists a low level of servant-hood.
5. Communication concerning the vision of the Church is ineffective.
6. An apparent resistance against the new development of a Mega-congregation is experienced. (Moreletapark NG Church .2002.b)

Service Attendance:

A large percentage of the members come from outside the Church boundaries. And many of the people present during the morning and evening services are visitors. The services serve as advertisement for the church and the congregational space must provide seating for the church members as well as the visitors.

A study on the average number of people attending the morning and evening services respectively has been done. It shows that when a service is 80% full, it has technically reached its maximum capacity. People are usually not very eager to look for the remaining 20% seating between 1500 seats. (Moreletapark NG Church. 2002.b)

Changing Social Patterns:

The distance traveled between home and Church is not a threat with the good infrastructure in Pretoria. But the financial abilities of members are changing. Statistics show that the income of the church does not grow proportionately with the growth in members. The graph representing the growth in members is much steeper than the growth in income. Then it is vital to realize that present-day Church planning should be up to date with contemporary trends and technology. Today's youth has rapidly changing needs and desires with an increasing tendency in the world to build action and advertising around the youth. Concepts and thoughts concerning the Church as an institution and church are developing. There is also an increasing freedom to move between church boundaries and different congregations. (Moreletapark NG Church. 2002.b)

FIGURE 122: Logo of Moreleta



The Logo symbolizes the Vision.

The cross on Calvary:

The cross is central as symbol of the salvation and new life through Jesus Christ.

The white Dove:

It symbolizes the Holy Spirit who came to renew our lives like water turns a desert into a green garden.

The Living Water:

This is illustrated in blue, white and green: where the water flows there is healing, growth and new life!

The purple background:

This shows the kingly presence of God.
(Moreletapark NG Church. 2002.)

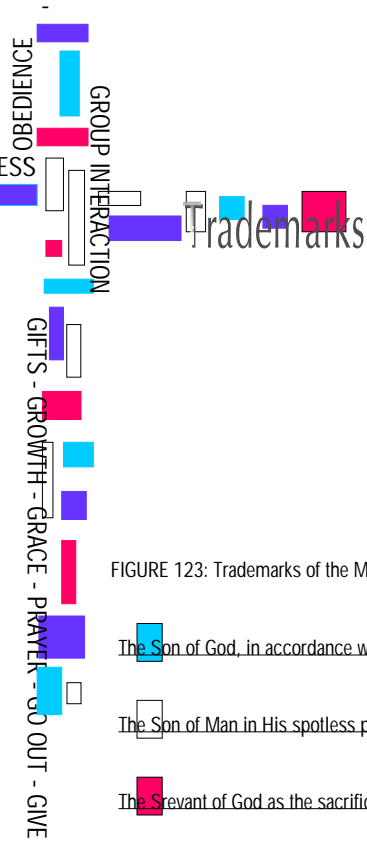


FIGURE 123: Trademarks of the Moreleta NG Church

The Son of God, in accordance with His Heavenly being and origin

The Son of Man in His spotless purity and sinlessness

The Servant of God as the sacrificial Lamb, His suffering and His glory as the Messiah

The King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the Prince of the kings of earth

(Kiene. 1977:28)

The Vision for the new development:

The congregation boundaries are unlimited. The Spirit of God moves over human-made boundaries of communities, cities, races and countries. Moreletapark NG Church can act as an instrument in the hand of God to have an influence in and outside boundaries. It is therefore crucial to accommodate this dream of servanthood and revival in the mental thinking and processes of management.

God's plan for Moreleta is that the deeper flowing Spiritual water flows wider to reach more people with the love of Christ and through this, have tremendous impact and people won for Christ.

FIGURE 122: Logo of Moreleta. (Rabie , 2003c)

FIGURE 123: Trademarks of the Moreleta NG Church. (Rabie , 2003c)

The Project

The new Development:
The Preachers and church leaders have, through prayer and fasting, asked the Lord's guidance in the possibility of extending the congregation. This new development will involve the identification and purchase of a new site to erect more and bigger facilities. The church has made some decisions concerning the development:

1. The congregation will not divide, but will be allowed to continue growth and expansion. It will exist as a Mega Congregation.
2. With a R5, 5 million budge, an 18ha site is required.
3. The church building or service space will be the first priority in the new development. (Rabie, 2002)

If the congregation has 20 000 - 30 000 members, an auditorium with 8 000 - 10 000 seats will be required working with a 40% attendance. Other than the auditorium, the first phase will include a kitchen, Christian Bookstore and a facility for pre-school children (Pienkvoetbedienning). (Rabie, 2002)

Other possible features to be added during later stages include:

- Therapy Center
- Pre school
- Christian School
- Bible school
- Retirement Complex
- Clinic
- Coffee shop/Tee garden
- Prayer garden
- Hiking route
- Memorial wall
- Play park
- Chapel
- Picnic site (Rabie, 2003c)

For the Purpose of this Academic project the first phase of development will include architectural features that could immediately be used. The following have been identified as the aim and object of this academic scheme:

- The Auditorium
- The Kitchen
- The Bookstore
- The Pre-school Children's Facility
- Chapel
- Memorial Wall
- A Prayer Garden with Biblical plants

The remaining suggested features for future development will be looked at in concept, in terms of site development and not in terms of detail design. To include all the features into this academic project will extend way beyond the scope of what is academically expected.

The Brief for this academic project consists this whole document. The existence of a realistic client with real needs and desires are indeed very fortunate. It will be the object of this project to develop and design these chosen features as if for this client.

In the following pages a study has been done on the chosen Site, the User and the Interested and Affected Parties. Relevant Precedent Studies were looked at as well as an overview on Designing Churches. The final part of this document comprises the Accommodation Schedule and information on Biblical Plants.

Designing a Church building is not merely another design task, but a calling. A thorough understanding of all the covered topics in this document is vital to succeed.