

19.13 REPORT 5: DEPUTIES YOUTH CARE – CAMPS AND PROJECTS (Art 168)

- A. Rev HC van Rooy tables the Report.
- B. The Report will be concluded during the Synod session.

C. REPORT

1. Mandate

- 1.1 The Deputies are to present projects (provide opportunities) on a regular basis (Acta 2012:248, 3.1).
- 1.2 The possibility of organising camps and tours on national level is to be reinvestigated (Acta 2012:248, 3.2).
- 1.3 The River tour is to become an annual institution (Acta 2012:248, 3.3).

Decision: Noted.

2. Execution of the mandate

2.1 *Matters that the Synod take note of – Task 1.1*

- 2.1.1 The Deputies (Kruispad) presented “Gee” opportunities, viz. G-kafee (KKNK at Oudtshoorn) in 2013 and 2014 as well as at HarTklop@Aardklop (in Potchefstroom) in 2012 and 2013 (2014 was still in the planning stages at the time of the Report).
- 2.1.2 Give opportunities are when young people and families are aided to practically demonstrate unconditional love, in reference to Acts 20:35.
 - 2.1.2.1 Forty believers signed up to “Gee” at HarTklop@Aardklop 2012, although many a time those offering a helping hand at the tent came to ninety. The same blessing was experienced during 2013.
 - 2.1.2.2 HarTklop@Aardklop is now at the stage that the Deputies could transfer some of the logistical arrangements to the local congregations, whilst offering support in the form of focus and marketing.
 - 2.1.2.3 The success of G-kafee 2013 attested of how the Lord opened doors and provided for the Deputies to perform this service. The local community of Oudtshoorn also bought into this practical way of living the Gospel and made it their own. In 2014 even more young people from the Cape became involved.

2.2 *Matters that the Synod take note of – Task 1.2*

- 2.2.1 The Deputies did not offer a National camp or tour this past term, due to the large number of regional youth-related activities – also by Classes and Regional Synods.
- 2.2.2 The opportunity did, however, present itself to organise and conduct the following tour and outreach (to which as many as possible young people were invited):
 - 2.2.2.1 Israel tour: A highly successful Kruispad tour to Israel was arranged during 2012 (17-26 November), at own expense, headed by rev Maarten van Helden.
 - 2.2.2.2 Botswana outreach: An outreach to Botswana was undertaken in January 2014 and attended by 11 individuals from across the country. The goal was to help build facilities for Eben and Phia le Roux (missionaries among the Bushmen).

2.3 *Matters that the Synod take note of – Task 1.3*

The Deputies organised two River tours this past term, viz. Frankfort River Tour (supported by the GK Frankfort) and the Boland River Tour.

2.3.1 Frankfort River Tour

2.3.1.1 Feedback 2012

- 2.3.1.1.1 A total of 191 young people took part in the River tour.
- 2.3.1.1.2 Bible study, group discussions and meditations were led by 17 ministers.

2.3.1.1.3 The theme of the tour was: Turnaround strategy in reference to the letters to 7 congregations in Revelation.

2.3.1.2 Feedback 2013

2.3.1.2.1 A total of 178 young people took part in the River tour (also from other churches).

2.3.1.2.2 Bible study, group discussions and spiritual care were led by 11 ministers.

2.3.1.2.3 The theme of the tour was: In the footsteps of Jesus.

2.3.1.3 Sincere thanks to the GK Frankfort for the significant financial support, logistical arrangements and presentation of the River tour. The Lord's blessing was truly experienced with this initiative, also with the planned River Tour 2014.

2.3.2 Boland River/Ocean Camp

The Boland River Camp is an opportunity for Grade 8-12 learners in die Boland, similar in format to the Frankfort River Tour.

2.3.2.1 Feedback 2012

2.3.2.1.1 The camp was attended by 45 children, from 8-12 December 2012, at the NGK's campground in Bridgetown. Students from the University of Stellenbosch presented the event together with the ministers.

2.3.2.1.2 The theme in 2012 was "Amazing reis" (journey). Camp-goers *inter alia* rowed on rafts to an island one evening to spend a night under the stars. This was part of equipping young people for their life journey and adventure.

2.3.2.2 Feedback 2013

2.3.2.2.1 The second Boland Ocean Camp occurred from 5-9 December 2013 at Uilenkraalsmond, close to Gansbaai, and was attended by 53 children, students, Deputies and ministers.

2.3.2.2.2 The theme of the camp was: Who am I...Who are you?

2.3.2.3 These camps were truly blessed by the Lord. Thanks be to Him.

Decision: Points 2.1 to 2.3.2.3 noted.

3. Matters that the Synod decide on

3.1 The Gee-opportunities initiative is to continue.

3.2 The possibility of a National youth camp and/or tour is to remain on the agenda of the yet to be appointed Deputies Youth Care.

3.3 The Synod request congregations that the Frankfort River Tour and Boland Ocean Camp are to continue.

3.3.1 The concept of this type of tour/camp is to be expanded to the rest of South Africa to Deputies Youth Care of the different provinces.

Decision: Points 3.1 to 3.3.1 approved (amendment already added – Deputies Acta).