

# *The Christian Dance Fellowship of South Africa*

NEWSLETTER 2016



## **In this issue**

- Message from the National Coordinator
- New National Committee for 2016/2017
- Plans for 2016
- News from the regions
  - Eastern Cape: Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage
  - Gauteng
  - Western Cape
  - Kwa Zulu Natal
- News from ICDF

**FEBRUARY 2016 FIRST EDITION**

## **MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR: Liesl Townsend**



It is with much joy that I write this first message as the CDFSA National Coordinator. I have been part of CDFSA since its inception in 1990 and since then God has brought our Fellowship through many challenges and we are still playing a meaningful role for dancers in being "Visible, Available and Relevant" in God's Kingdom, the church and in the community. This is the CDFSA Vision and as Christian dancers we are committed to making a difference according to our gifts and callings. In our beautiful country South Africa, we are very diverse and together we are a picture of the body of Christ in all its different facets. Those who still believe in the vision and purpose of CDFSA, have continued to fellowship and participate in all our activities. Thank you for your support over the years.

I want to encourage you to make the effort to attend all the workshops and activities planned in your region during 2016. In particular, I want you to seriously consider attending the ICDF Ghana conference. I danced and presented a paper with Rosemary Raw at the first ICDF conference in Israel in 1991 and the entire experience of being in Israel and meeting dancers from many nations, was life changing for me. I have since taken teams to 5 ICDF conferences and have learnt and brought back invaluable information. I can assure you that once you've attended an ICDF conference, your dance will never be the same again. There are 6 SA delegates already registered and on their way to Ghana. Will you be joining us?? For all the details on the conference, visit the ICDF Conference website <http://conference.icdf.com/>

For those of you who cannot get to Ghana, don't despair. We have another international movement artist David Stanfield who will be visiting South Africa in June - July 2016. He will be visiting all the major cities, so keep in contact with me and watch our facebook page for David's "Fearless Banner Tour".



### **I would like to introduce you to the new National Committee for 2016/2017:**



Liesl Townsend - For those of you who do not know me, I am married to Rory and have 2 daughters Zoë (25yrs) and Jesi (21yrs). I am a Social Worker and Client Relations Consultant focusing on Employee Assistance and Wellness Programmes in companies. I joined the Christian Dance School with Rosemary Raw ( Founder of CDFSA ) in 1983 and became involved in CDFSA as the Regional Coordinator in PE in 1990, was elected as National Coordinator in 2009, Gauteng Regional Coordinator in 2011 and again National Coordinator in 2015. I relocated to Cape Town in December 2015 and aim to re-establish the Fellowship as a National body.

**Tilly Crosbie is the Joint Coordinator**

She lives in PE and is a consultant doing employment profiling. Tilly's passion is worshipping God through movement and dance and she has been part of this ministry for 18 years. She's married to Kevin for 7 years who supports her in the dance ministry.

**Serena Reddy Melo Treasurer, Secretary and Regional Coordinator for Gauteng**

She is the ACTS Dance Ministry Leader and is currently the Financial Assistant for the ACTS House of Education School, and runs her business of scriptural gifts and jewelry "Blessed art thou". She is currently completing her Masters in Business Administration and is married to Daniel. As a couple they are involved in various ministries at ACTS Christian Church.

**Pam Farmer is our Prayer Coordinator**

She lives in PE and is a retired teacher, a freelance tutor in the Education Sector and a seamstress. She is a member of Harvest Christian Church and is part of their intercessory team. Pam has been my very dear friend for more than 10 years and has prayed me through many situations in my life. She is willing to avail herself to cover our fellowship as well as you as members of CDFSA in prayer.

**Pastor Moira Townsend is our Advisor and Oversight**

She is part of the pastoral team at The Open Door AOG Church in PE. She has been associated with CDFSA since 2012 and has been involved with Dance Camps and groups in the Eastern Cape. She has provided support and spiritual guidance and input at our CDFSA events.

**Helene Prince is the Eastern Cape Regional Coordinator**

She is the Founder and Coordinator of the Uitenhage Dance Company. The company has been in existence since 2003. Together with her husband Pastor Rubin Prince they lead the congregation Rohi AOG in Uitenhage. They have two children Eaben (12yrs) and Jelina (2yrs).

**Lisa Wilson is the Western Cape Regional Coordinator**

She is a Dance academic, professional performer and choreographer originally from Jamaica. She is married to husband Kurt and they have a son Chad Judah Xabiso. Lisa lectures at the School of Dance, UCT. She has been involved with the fellowship since 1997 when she attended her first ICDF conference in Pretoria.

**Lecia Hale is the Kwa Zulu Natal Regional Coordinator**

Lecia Hale, married to Jeff are members of the Kloof Baptist Church. Using her gifts for the Lord has always been her passion and making a difference is what drives her. She has been blessed to use dance as a medium to express and tutor students for 37 years in the genre of Ballet and Modern. Many students have passed through her studio and she hopes that they too will look beyond the studio and use their gifts in enriching others. Her motto is "When words cannot express, use dance".

# PLANS FOR 2016

We have planned numerous exciting events internationally – ICDF Ghana Conference and in the regions – Workshops, Show and Share events, Dance Boot Camps and Retreats. We have also been in contact with David Stanfield from Australia, who is a movement artist and specialises in wielding banners and coaching people to do the same. He is a world leader, teacher and author on the subject of banners for worship, spiritual warfare, prayer and prophetic ministry. His vision is to see God's people experience freedom, hear clearly from God and fulfil their potential as followers of The Way.

David will be in South Africa from  
22 June – 6 July 2016.

He has named his SA Tour  
“The Fearless Banner Tour”

We are also looking for churches to host David in each region namely, Cape Town Port Elizabeth, KwaZulu Natal and Gauteng.

Please contact Liesl on: 082 081 3630  
if your church would consider  
hosting him.

We have found Face book to be an effective means of communicating with our dancers. Our Official facebook page is:



<http://www.facebook.com/christiandanceofsouthafrica>

Official updates of all events are posted here. We also have a CDFSA group page started by our previous National Coordinator Verna. This page is more for discussions and interactions with each other.

I look forward to meeting and building relationships with those of you who are joining our fellowship this year. God has assured the committee that the work of CDFSA should continue and we will implement whatever activities will be beneficial for you as dancers in our Nation.

# NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

## **EASTERN CAPE: Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage**

Helene Prince, supported by Tilly Crosbie

### **Helene Prince:**

The Uitenhage Dance Company classes started on the 8th of February 2016. The adults and youth get together on a Monday and the kids on a Friday. We are 25 dancers at the moment but we are trusting the Lord for 40 members this year. New dancers are joining weekly and I believe this is truly our time of breakthrough, restoration and elevation to a new level in dance. We will be starting the 6 months Basic Foundation Course in Christian Dance in March and we will have our 12th year celebration in July.

Our main aims for the new quarter is:

- to get the new dancers established in our foundation (what dance and our dance company is all about)
- for new dancers join CDFSA and old ones to renew their membership
- to attend CDFSA's first workshop the 9th of April and
- to establish new relationships with different dance groups

El Roi Prophetic Dancers run by Crystal Christoffels is planning a dance event for the 2 April 2016. The event is called "Exploring a current Dynamic of Dance". See the CDFSA Facebook page for more details.



### **Tilly Crosbie:**

"I am currently running the Christian Dance fellowship foundational course with The Hallelu dancers who meet on a weekly basis at Harvest Christian Church. I am a member of this team as well as a member of Harvest Christian Church and have been one for the past 18 years. We are currently 6 weeks into the Course and our ladies are finding it very beneficial. Furthermore we are also involved in outreaches to other churches when invited. Over the years our team have also been involved in a partnership with an organisation in Israel where we purchase baby clothing for new mothers who are experiencing financial difficulties. The organisation has a representative in PE who collects the clothing. Through this representative we have also recently been involved in another project with victims of terror. We are supporting 2 teenage boys who have lost loved ones through acts of terror. The project is still running and we are busy filling 2 backpacks with various items for them such as toiletries, t-shirts and writing material. We do this as an act of love to show them that we are thinking of them during this difficult time. We also added a picture of our team in both backpacks and each dancer wrote a short message on the back of the card. Our doors are also open to any Christian dancer who is not a member of any particular dance group. Our members consist of all ages. The only requirement to join the Hallelu dancers is a heart to worship God through dance and movement".



## **GAUTENG: Message from Serena Reddy Melo, supported by Andrina Moodley**

ACTS Dance Ministry led by Serena has been in existence since 2011. Classes are run every Monday and we started our year on 8 February 2016.

This team is open to all dancers outside of ACTS Christian Church. The team currently teams up with Acts of Love charity organization to do outreaches and evangelising. Throughout the year they get invited to minister in dance at many events. The first workshop in Gauteng is scheduled for 19 March 2016 from 8:30 – 14:00. The workshops planned are Funky Praise & Tambourine ( Warren Stuart ), Messianic dances and Liturgical worship. Contact Serena for more information.



In January members of the Acts Dance Ministry participated in a “flash mob “ that was done on and off the stage during the Praise & Worship and outside the church on a Sunday. Serena also participated in the Lead Like Jesus Encounter weekend which covered the Power of working in Unity in the Kingdom. She taught all the delegates the Unity dance “Hinei Ma Tov”



The team have also been requested to run a workshop for the Catholic Church. This came as a result of their involvement in the J.A.M (Jesus and Me) event last year. Feedback from the crowd – “ We have seen people dance before but never seen how bodies can be used to minister to people and to glorify God. We saw God through their dance”.



A Gauteng based film company “New Wave Productions” which produces a light hearted youth orientated magazine show called i-Identity on SABC 1 (broadcasts every Sunday at 11am), approached CDFSA enquiring about our activities. They were referred to ACTS Dance Ministry and interviews and filming will take place this month. We will let you know when the show will be aired.

## **WESTERN CAPE: Lisa Wilson, supported by Liesl Townsend**

A CDFSA dance body will be established in the Western Cape this year. This will give dancers who are actively involved in dance ministries as well as those who do not belong to a particular dance troupe the opportunity to collaborate and support each other in the areas of dance training and development and the arts ministry. A preliminary look at the region in the area of Christian dance shows that there are many churches with dance groups that work in a variety of worship dance expressions. Establishing and growing CDFSA's footprints in the Western Cape will be both exciting and challenging in order to be relevant, responsive and inclusive as much as possible. The opportunities for networking, collaborating and training in creative and technical movement expressions for use in worship and in the service of God's kingdom through CDFSA, however, are real. Lisa is in preliminary discussions with various church dance groups in the Western Cape and the National CDFSA. Please free to send her any contacts for persons involved in dance ministry in the Western Cape.



## **KWA ZULU NATAL: Lecia Hale**

Lecia's goal for the KZN region is to look for new members and for CDFKZN to become more active in the Church communities. She will be supported by Marichen who has also agreed mentor her.



# OUR FUTURE

CDFSAs Formation scripture, in 1990 was "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

" Luke 4:18-19 This scripture is still relevant for CDFSAs today, however Isaiah 54:2 " Enlarge the place of our tent, and let the curtains of your habitation be stretched out; spare not, lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes..." is just as applicable, as we dance into a new season, with new Leadership and a fresh vision for the future.

As we widen and lengthen and stretch ourselves in CDFSAs, the pressure and stress may be felt, but we need to persevere and through prayer and fasting I believe we will attain solid growth and direction from God to take all of us to a greater level of glory and faith.

God bless you  
Liesl Townsend

### **CONTACT DETAILS FOR NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

#### **Liesl Townsend :**

082 081 3630 / (h) 021 6717 414  
liesltownsend@gmail.com

#### **Tilly Crosbie :**

084 250 5438 / 041 373 0808  
tilly.crosbie@gmail.com

#### **Serena Reddy Melo :**

082 373 9773 / 011 656 3276  
serena@blessedartthou.co.za

#### **Helene Prince :**

079 982 3616  
hprince625@gmail.com

#### **Lisa Wilson :**

076 300 3099  
lisawilsondance@gmail.com

#### **Pam Farmer :**

084 205 3897  
farmerpamela@gmail.com

#### **Pastor Moira Townsend :**

082 778 6911  
psmoira@gmail.com

#### **Lecia Hale :**

083 672 7715 / 031 708 4639  
hale9@iafrica.com

December **2015**



**ICDF**  
International Christian  
Dance Fellowship

# Ghana

## Conference 2016

PROCLAIMING  
the Goodness of  
GOD



"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

- 1 Peter 2:9

11 - 15 July 2016

<http://conference.icdf.com/>

WELCOME

You will know where Ghana is but did you know ...

- Ghana is the same size as the United Kingdom and is also on the Greenwich Meridian
- 25 million people live in Ghana
- 25 languages are spoken, including the language of business ... English
- the weather is tropical with temperatures around 28 degrees C at the time of the Conference
- the major occupation in Ghana is agriculture
- the country is rich in culture as seen in their festivals

In addition to attending the Conference, on Saturday 16th July you will have the experience of optional visits to see the castles constructed for the slave trade, the sea shore, botanical gardens, natural game reserves and on Sunday 17th to join local churches for worship.

The country is peaceful and you will enjoy your stay. It is a lifetime experience you cannot afford to miss. Looking forward to seeing you in Ghana for the ICDF Conference in July 2016.

*Seth Newman* - Ghana

Less than 8 months away from the Great Gathering - an outpouring of His Goodness onto the nation of Ghana and the surrounding lands!

We as a team are all feeling excited to meet you & greet you as we join together at this divine time in history; a time which we hope will change both the spiritual atmosphere in Ghana and our hearts!

As a team, we are working hard to make sure everything will be ready for you and that you will have an experience of a life time - not just a good exercise for your body but an increase in your spirit and your soul!

*Melinda Joanka* - Ireland

Photo: Malaysia conference



## Morning

### Workshop Streams

Ability not Disability  
African Dance  
Children  
Contemporary  
Dance Movement Therapy  
Evangelism  
Flags & Banners  
Prayer Watch  
Reggae

## Afternoon

### Individual Workshops

#### Ministry:

Healing  
Prayer / intercession  
Warfare

#### Technical:

Dance technique  
Choreography  
Tambourines and more

#### Cultural Exchange:

Dance forms from different countries

## ICDF

### Network Workshops

Academics, Writers and Researchers  
Creative Arts and Social Concern  
Dance for Children  
Dance Movement Therapy and Healing  
Fitness, Wellbeing and Movement Meditation  
Flags & Banners  
Men in Dance  
Messianic Dance & Tambourines  
Prayer

## Why go ....?

Dancing on beaches, in ancient cathedrals, amongst men in kilts, worship zumba - these are just a few of my favorite memories from ICDF conferences past. After having had the privilege of attending just three of the many, I look back on friendships that have lasted twenty years, forged at my first conference and renewed at subsequent ones. The workshops are opportunities to expand one's experiences and knowledge. The witness nights give the privilege of seeing the work of some of the other dancers from around the world, to spark ideas for further exploration yourself, and to praise God for His expressions through all styles and nations. Truly it is a foretaste of heaven to come together in an ICDF conference, and bathe in the richness of it all.

*Diane Hobelaid* - Canada

"Creativity from all over the world, dance in different shapes and forms, wind from movements of people dancing, like rivers of living water, powerful impressions, all to the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Come to Ghana and meet many sisters and brothers in streams of living workshops that will flow from His heart. His heartbeat. Come to this conference to stop, tune in, calibrate and imbibe inspiration to take back home."

*Tove Liljedahl* - Sweden

## Workshop previews

### Morning Stream: Children

Teacher: Tove Liljedahl

This workshop stream will explore movements and ways to move, inspired by Laban methodology. We will look at how to lead children in your dance teaching in a way that helps them become familiar with a range of basic improvisation principles which are applicable for many dance techniques. You will also learn a choreography to a song which can be performed by many people. It will be helpful to all leaders of children and youth dance groups and it is open to trained and untrained dancers.

### Afternoon Workshop: Healing

#### Proclaiming God's Goodness on the Journey

Teacher: Diane Hobelaid

Our lives are a journey. Through movement and imagery, we will find our Exodus experiences, and the signs of God's healing hand in our lives, through embodied story, dream and ritual in Christian context. We will work our stories together to create a moving tapestry, in which the movement from death to life, and life to death, brokenness to wholeness, slavery to freedom, is proclaimed together.

### Morning Stream: Flags & Banners

Teacher: David Stanfield

David will be teaching Flags & Banners at the Ghana ICDF conference. He will be sharing the latest things that God is doing with banners around the world in worship, spiritual warfare and ministry. He'll also model and speak about how to take care of yourself as a creative person, how to become fearless and how to let God's gift of "you" impact yourself and other people. In addition he will be teaching a session on "How to teach adults in a fun and exciting way" too!

**See the programme on the website and watch out for more workshops and teachers to be added onto our ICDF Conference Website soon. <http://conference.icdf.com/>**

# Getting to Ghana is

Possible

"Start by doing what is necessary;  
then do what is possible;  
and suddenly you are doing the impossible"

This quote by a Christian guy called Francis who lived in Assisi in Italy has encouraged me greatly this week. As creative artists it's easy to get stuck just doing the necessary. Pushing against the tide, trying to be effective, keeping safe.

But it's when we start to stretch our wings and push our limits that we truly begin to move towards our destiny; when we stop just filling in time and start to change the church and world around us and establish the Kingdom of God.

During his life Francis was a real mover and shaker, thought outside the box and really shone God's light into his world.

I really encourage you to come to Ghana for "Proclaiming the Goodness of God". Come and get beyond your "necessaries"; beyond what you can do in your own strength; beyond what you can do by yourself. Stretch out to make something new "possible". Every international conference I've been to has been a stretch for me – Puerto Rico, USA, Scotland, Mittagong, Malaysia. I've had to make it a priority to take the time, to invest the money and to then do what is possible.

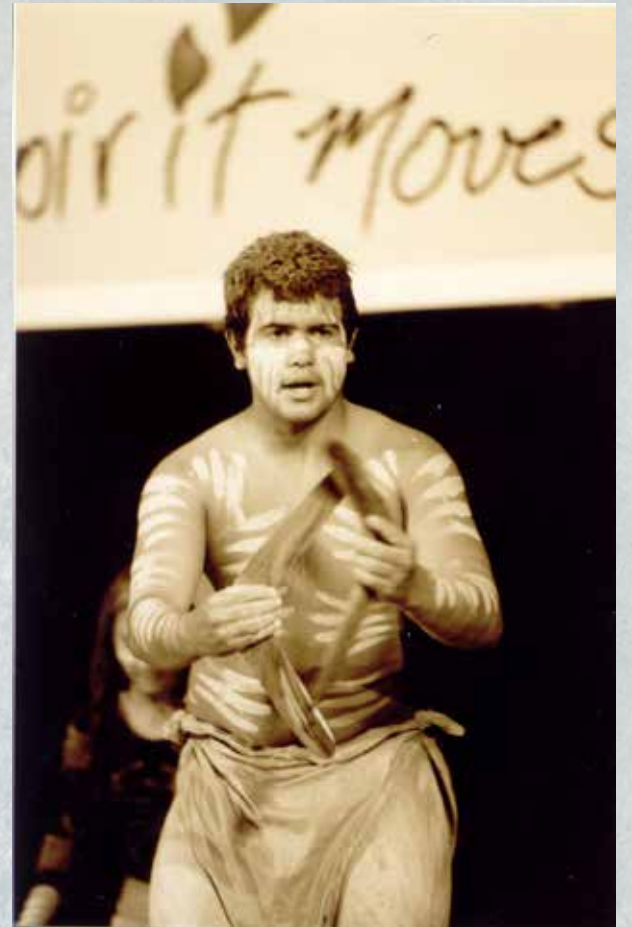


Photo: Mittagong conference

Every conference has played a part to set me up for what I do today - travelling around the world to dozens of nations and encouraging ordinary people to do extraordinary things; helping people to walk in their destiny and do what God hard-wired them to do. I experience the impossible several times a year.

Going to an international conference takes you outside of your comfort zone. It takes time, it takes money, it takes commitment and courage. It also yields a harvest of time, money, courage and commitment in a later season.

Ask the Lord! The step of coming to Ghana might just be the next step for you to leave behind uncertainty, discouragement and fear and walk deeper into what God created you to do.

I believe it is time for the "prophetic movers" to rise up and affect the church and world again. To shine God's light into our worlds. This is a fabulous opportunity to be with others, to connect with others, to be encouraged, to be inspired and to get out and actually do what God has given us to do in the city of Accra. Don't miss this opportunity to stretch to do what is possible, so that in the future you may find yourself suddenly doing the impossible. See you in Accra!

David Stanfield - Australia

## Fundraising

Help others to come too! - We need you!! You can get involved by Praying which is the engine of this whole machine and, if you have an abundance, in giving your time and your resources!

You can become a **Conference Angel** or raise finances for the **Conference Fund** by organizing fundraising events or selling resources - your creativity is the only limit!! - to enable other leaders or future leaders to attend!

God uses His people to bless others, to make a difference in this world!

And you can be this Mighty tool in His Hands!!

Act now!

## Bursary Applications

Application forms for a bursary can be found on the ICDF Conference Website. <http://conference.icdf.com/>

# Updates

## New

Academic Papers to be presented on Monday 11 July 2016 by lecturers from the University of Ghana Dance Department and ICDF academics. Arrive a day earlier to attend. Programme will be released as soon as it is finalised. Also on Monday 11 July 2016 there will be a "Stations of the Cross" programme on campus. To take part in this there will be rehearsals on the day before (Sunday) or join in with where they are at in the programme after your arrival and registration on Monday.

## Flashmob

A highlight on the final day of the Conference will be a Flashmob ... a secret, of course, but one we would like to share with you! The idea is that before we go to Ghana, we will all learn the dance from a YouTube video upload. Don't worry if you are not going to the Conference, you can be part of the fun too by:

- dancing where you live - a bit like we do for Prayer Watch
- praying - for the Flashmob as it comes together and for the Conference outreach on Friday 15th July,

What a picture ... an international blessing for Ghana in unified movement by the Conference delegates and ICDF supporters and friends from around the world, standing as one, to "Proclaim the Goodness of God". More to follow.



Photo: Pretoria conference

## Accommodation Requests

We are prepared to help with your accommodation needs and already have delegates looking for room mates. There is one booking for a double in Yiri Lodge - she is looking for a room mate. Another booking for a twin in the International Student Hostel is also looking for a female room mate. Requests are made on registration.

## Puerto Rico 2013

The ICDF conference in Puerto Rico in 2013 was a life changing experience for me. I had the most amazing time with fellow dancers from around the world. During this wonderful conference I was able to make some friends worldwide. It was amazing to hear what we as dancers from around the globe have in common as well as the different challenges that we face. At the same time we were able to encourage each other and share each other's experience and knowledge. The most amazing thing is that we can all learn from one another even though sometimes I thought to myself, "What do I have to contribute as a small nation?" and I was kind of surprised to find that even nations which I thought of as having far more resources, skills and opportunities than small nations such as mine, could learn from us.

This is one of the things I love about ICDF conferences. I have been able to connect, learn and share with brothers and sisters in Christ from different denominations, churches and cultural backgrounds. I have met the most beautiful people. With some of them I've been in contact for many years through "the digital world" and it was great to see them face to face and for us to hug and enjoy catching up.

The many workshops and teachings at the conference really encouraged me and equipped me. There was so much diversity offering some wonderful insights which I can use in my own country as well as when I travel worldwide. The ICDF conference creates a great environment for people from around the world to express themselves in a liberated way to the glory of Jesus Christ without any barriers of culture, denominations or doctrines. It's all about Him as we move and dance to heal our churches and nations.

*Noel Filemon* - Suriname