Dream Bearers



Work Agenda: Section B

18-22 October 2026

NORTHERN SYNOD 2026

PREFACE

This year we gather as we try to determine the church's role and relevance in a very uncertain world.

Our journey as a synod has been a long one. The Dutch Reformed Church of the Transvaal decided in 1954 to function as two synods, northern and southern, each with its own moderamen. At the session of the synod in 1957 these were formally constituted as the Synods of the Northern and the Southern Transvaal. In 1979 the Synod of the Eastern Transvaal seceded from us, and after the changes in 1994, our name officially became the Northern Synod.

In the light of yesteryear and present challenges, the Synodal Service Council (SSC) decided that at this year's session, from 18-22 October at Weesgerus, *our discussions, reflections, and decisions must focus on an honest attempt to acquire new perspectives on the future. Therefore, our theme is* ***DREAM BEARERS****.*

In this theme we are going to investigate three important movements, namely ***Remember, Imagine, and Live****. Each of these is associated with a symbolic colour:*

Golden yellow—*Precious things (Remember);* ***Turquoise***—*Courage and Wisdom (Imagine);* ***Navy blue—****Wear your uniform with dedication (Live).*

In this time of being together we also want to take especial trouble to celebrate our identity and familial bond, to strengthen old ties and to establish brand new ones. Should we as family members differ, we want to do so in love, accept one another's bona fides*, and listen to one another with understanding. So, we want to join in conversations with integrity and take new steps together.*

In this way, our flames may again shine bright and strong when on 22 October we return home to reflect anew on that part of the Kingdom which God has entrusted to us.

May God bless us!

Paul Grobler
Director (2015-2026)

PROGRAMME

Sunday 18 October

14:00 Arrival, registration, settling in

16:00 OPENING CEREMONY (Part 1)

- Constitution in the Weesgerus hall
  [In accordance with Reg. 32.2.8, the oldest delegated minister manages the constitution. 'Oldest' is interpreted as the delegated minister who is nearest to the normal retirement age of sixty-five.]
- Welcome
  [In accordance with Reg. 33.2.8 the outgoing moderamen leads the rest of the meeting.]
- We are here.
- We are family.

17:30 Dinner

18:30 OPENING CEREMONY (Part 2)

(In Waterberg *congregation's church building)*

- Word, Music, Bread, and Wine.
- Chatting

Monday 19 October

REMEMBER

07:00 Coffee and rusks
08:00 **Session 1**
Family matters
Morning devotion
God was with us (1)
10:30 Brunch
11:30 **Session 2**
God was with us (2)
13:30 Coffee
14:00 **Session 3**
October 2022 – October 2026
15:45 Refreshments
16:15 **Session 4**
More about REMEMBERING
17:15 Reflection
17:30 Leisure
19:00 Dinner and chatting.

Tuesday 20 October

IMAGINE

07:00 Coffee and rusks
08:00 **Session 1**
Family matters
Morning devotion
To imagine …
Perspectives on the future (1)
10:30 Brunch
11:30 **Session 2**
Perspectives on the future (2)
13:30 Coffee
14:00 **Session 3**
We take realities into account.
15:45 Refreshments
16:15 **Session 4**
Our dream continues.
17:15 Reflection
17:30 Leisure
19:00 Dinner and chatting.

Wednesday 21 October

LIVE!

07:00 Coffee and rusks
08:00 **Session 1**
Family matters
Morning devotion
Our Footprint
Perspectives on LIVING
10:30 Brunch
11:30 **Session 2**
More about our Footprint
13:30 Coffee
14:00 **Session 3**
Further perspectives
15:45 Refreshments
16:15 **Session 4**
Greeting
17:15 Reflection
17:30 Leisure
19:00 Dinner and chatting.

Thursday 22 October

DOCKING AND DISEMBARKING

07:00 Breakfast
08:00 **Session 1**
Family matters
How do we return home?
11:00 **Closing liturgy**
12:00 Return home with a sermon for 25 October
… plus a food parcel.

