*Press Release*

*For Immediate Release*

**Maranatha Community Church Embarks on Exciting Expansion Project
in Riverfields Precinct**

With a legacy spanning over a century, Maranatha Community Church stands as an enduring cornerstone of the Kempton Park community. Now, poised for an exciting new chapter, the church has embarked on a ground-breaking venture, having initiated earlier in the year the construction of a church campus within the thriving Riverfields Precinct.

Founded in 1907 as a humble Interdenominational Sunday School by a visionary businessman with a heart for children, Maranatha Community Church has grown exponentially over the years. Having completed their first building in 1915, the church looks forward to moving into their third premises. Serving a congregation of approximately 6,000 people and hosting three services a day, the church has been a steadfast presence in the community, actively engaged in various outreach projects, including support to schools, feeding schemes and programmes aimed at assisting homeless people.

Having commenced earlier this year, the multi-phase construction process, with the first phase slated for completion in 2025, holds the promise of becoming a shining beacon for spiritual growth and community connection. The campus will feature a main auditorium accommodating over 5,500 worshipers, a separate building dedicated to children's ministries, and a multipurpose hall serving both the youth and the greater community.

"We're not just building a church, we're creating a space where people can grow spiritually and find a sense of belonging. As we grow bigger, we are also able to assist more people," says Pastor Leonard Stone, Senior Pastor at Maranatha Community Church. "The larger facilities will make it more accessible for everyone to come and be a part of our vibrant community."

In addition to the expanded worship spaces, the new campus will feature a preschool facility catering to children aged 18 months and older and a coffee shop and restaurant. Maranatha Community Church is committed to providing resources and courses that enhance the lives of congregants and the broader community, including programmes on marriage, parenting, and financial stewardship to name a few.

Pastor Leonard adds, “The move to the Riverfields precinct represents a strategic decision, aligning with the church's vision for growth and community impact. The precinct offers enhanced security measures and meticulously maintained amenities, ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for all our members and visitors.”

Maranatha Christian School, an integral part of the church's mission, will also relocate to the new premises. The school, accredited by the Independent Examinations Board (IEB), offers a robust educational experience rooted in Christian values, catering to a range of ages from preschool to matriculants.

“We are thrilled to witness the growth of Maranatha Community Church and look forward to continuing our close partnership with them,” says Gideon van der Vyver, Head of the Riverfields Precinct. “The church's expansion aligns seamlessly with our vision for a thriving, inclusive precinct that caters to the diverse needs of our community.”

Pastor Leonard expressed his excitement about the upcoming transition, emphasising that the focus has always been on the spiritual growth of individuals. "As we expand, we look forward to serving our community on an even larger scale, providing spaces for worship, learning, and fellowship," he concluded.

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**Notes to the editor:**

**About Riverfields Precinct**

Riverfields Precinct is a vibrant mixed-use development in Ekurhuleni, offering a thriving environment for families, professionals, and businesses. With ongoing construction of logistics centres and planned developments, the precinct is expanding rapidly. Over 1,000 residential units worth R2 billion have already been delivered, with more under construction and in the planning phase. The retail node is flourishing, with the Harvest Place development and future expansion plans. Riverfields Precinct is a dynamic destination, providing unmatched opportunities for growth and a vibrant lifestyle. The growth of Riverfields is truly phenomenal, with an impressive 255,000m2 of logistics and distribution centres currently under construction and an additional 450,000m2 planned for development.

For more information or visuals, please contact Janna Strang on

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