



## 72<sup>nd</sup> General Meeting

PRETORIA 2017

TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> – FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST



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[snts2017.org](http://snts2017.org)

Faculty of Theology,  
University of Pretoria, South Africa

# SNTS NEWSLETTER

## Pretoria 2017 General Meeting

*'Gert J. Steyn and the Local Organizing Committee would like to warmly welcome the Members and Guests of the SNTS to the University of Pretoria during the 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> August for its 72<sup>nd</sup> meeting – its third meeting in the Southern Hemisphere. It will take place within the secure surroundings of the beautiful Main Campus in Hatfield which offers numerous pathways between its well maintained and neat gardens, its Jacaranda trees, hundreds of students strolling between classrooms in architecturally interesting buildings, convenient campus facilities such as banks, restaurants and bookshops, its University Library, many theatres and three Campus Museums.*

*'We are excited to host you this year as the Faculty of Theology celebrates its Centenary and the Reformation its 500<sup>th</sup> year. We trust that you will experience the diversity and hospitality of South Africa and the African continent itself with its range of cultures, wildlife, geographical diversity, controversial history, and its many achievements. We have life-enriching tours and excursions designed especially for you to balance your cutting edge research with the culture and nature of Africa. We wish you a safe journey as you visit your roots here in the Cradle of Humankind. We trust that you will find all the information that you might need on our website, but please do contact us should you have any further questions or require additional information at [admin@snts2017.org](mailto:admin@snts2017.org).'*

## Practical Information

VENUE: UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

The 72<sup>nd</sup> General Meeting of the Society will be hosted by the Faculty of Theology, University of Pretoria, South Africa.

Pretoria's Hatfield suburb is easily and quickly reached by public transportation from both OR Tambo airport, Johannesburg (Gautrain to Hatfield Station [c. 45 mins]; or the bookable EZ Shuttle, direct transfer to your accommodation).

DATES: 8-11 AUGUST 2017

The General Meeting officially starts at 17:00 on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> August with the first Business Meeting. It ends at the conclusion of the second Business Meeting on the evening of Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> August. There will be optional excursions on the subsequent weekend (12-13 August).

## LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

The Local Organizing Committee is chaired by SNTS member Prof. Gert Steyn, and includes Mrs Karen Esbagh (Administrator), Prof. Ernest van Eck, Drs Han Janse van Rensburg, Zoro Dube, Peter Nagel, Elritia le Roux and Mrs Kristy van der Merwe.

The website for the General Meeting is: [snts2017.org](http://snts2017.org); and the email address for all general queries is: [admin@snts2017.org](mailto:admin@snts2017.org).

Queries concerning the Academic programme should be addressed to Prof. Andrew Clarke, Secretary of the Society ([secretary@snts.international](mailto:secretary@snts.international)).

## REGISTRATION

Delegates may register online ([snts2017.org](http://snts2017.org)). Registrations close on 30<sup>th</sup> June. (After 31<sup>st</sup> May, there is a 20% late booking charge.)

## ACCOMMODATION

Special conference rates have been negotiated with some near-by guesthouses and hotels for any bookings within 5-13 August. Most accommodation is within walking distance, and prices range from \$48/€43/£36 (at the Guest Houses) up to \$138/€125/£100 (at the hotels) per person per night (inc. breakfast).

## SOCIAL PROGRAMME

The evening social programme provisionally includes an Opening Reception and Address by the Dean of the Faculty of Theology; a Reception and Address by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Pretoria; a Reception and Concert by the Music Department of the University of Pretoria; and a Farewell Dinner and Address by the Mayor of the City of Tshwane (Pretoria).

There will be four optional one-day excursions on both Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August: Lion & Safari Park, and Lesedi Cultural Village; Elephant & Monkey Sanctuaries, and Cable Car trip; Sterkfontein Caves, Maropeng Museum & Archaeological Excavations in the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site; and, Apartheid Museum & Soweto: Mandela House, Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum. Pre- and post-conference excursions can also be arranged and individually tailored.

## Academic Programme

### 1. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Prof. Michael Wolter (Germany), 'Ein exegetischer Blick auf Röm 11,25-32'.

### 2. MAIN PAPERS

Main Papers will be given by Profs Matthias Konradt (Germany), Jean-Claude Loba Mkole (South Africa), Clare Rothschild (USA) and Josef Verheyden (Belgium).

### 3. QUÆSTIONES DISPUTATAE

The question to be debated this year will be 'What was distinctive about early Christian "faith"?' The speakers/panellists will be: Profs

Teresa Morgan (guest: UK), Mark Seifrid (USA) and Francis Watson (UK).

### 4. SHORT PAPERS

There are 18 slots for offered short papers, with some slots still available. Proposals should be sent to the *Secretary* at [secretary@snts.international](mailto:secretary@snts.international). A proposal should include your name, the title of the paper, and a summary (an abstract) of your Short Paper in English, French or German.

The speakers and the titles of their papers will be advertised on the conference website when all the slots have been filled.

Delegates may as a rule present only one paper at the same General Meeting, whether that be a Main Paper, a Seminar Paper, or a Short Paper. (One or more responses can additionally be given.)

### 5. SEMINARS

Thirteen seminars are scheduled to take place, each with its own topic or focus. These meet in simultaneous sessions on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. At each session a paper is normally presented and discussed. The culture of the Society's General Meeting is that delegates register for a first and second choice seminar. It is expected that most will be allocated their first choice and be expected to attend all three sessions of that seminar.

Seminars scheduled to terminate this year may apply for continuation. New seminars may also be proposed ('Seminar Guidelines' with procedure and deadlines are available on the Society website or from the *Secretary*).

Updates and changes to the following programme will be available on the conference website.

1. *Apostolic Fathers, Apologists, and the History of Early Christianity* (Prof. C. Breytenbach and Dr C. Rothschild). Terminates in **2017**.

Wed: Jonathan Draper (South Africa), 'Prophecy and "Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit" in Didache 11:7-8—from Q and the Synoptic Gospels to the Apostolic Fathers and Beyond' – respondent: James Kelhoffer (Sweden);  
Thu: Clayton Jefford (USA), 'Prolegomena to Establishing the Vorlage of the Didache' –

respondent: Adela Yarbro Collins (USA);  
 Fri: Ferdinand Prostmeier (Germany), 'Spiritual and Social Milieu and Discourses in the Epistle of Barnabas / Geistig-soziales Milieu und Diskurse im Barnabasbrief' – respondent: Alex Koch (Germany)

2. *Inhalte und Probleme einer neutestamentlichen Theologie* (Profs C. Landmesser and M. Seifrid). Terminates in 2019.

Wed: Florian Wilk (Germany), "'Aus Gott, vor Gott und zu Gott hin.'" Charakteristika der Rede von Gott in den Korintherbriefen des Paulus' – "'From God, before God, and unto God.'" Characteristics of Language about God in the Corinthian Letters of Paul';  
 Thu: Johannes Beutler (Germany), 'Vom Gott Israels zum Vater Jesu: Zur johanneischen Gotteslehre' – 'From the God of Israel to the Father of Jesus: On the Johannine Teaching about God';  
 Fri: Karl-Heinz Ostmeyer (Germany), 'Die Alte Rede von Gott in der neuen: Biblische Theologie heute?' – 'The Old Language about God within the New: Biblical Theology Today?'

3. *The Johannine Writings* (Profs J. Frey, M. Gruber and Ch. Karakolis). Terminates in 2020.

Wed: Ansgar Wucherpennig SJ (Germany), 'Johannes 6 für Leser des Markus: "Begrift ihr denn noch nicht?";'  
 Thu: Kobus Kok (guest: Belgium), 'Restoration of Spiritual Sight: Perspectives on the Conceptual World of John (9) and the Odes of Solomon';  
 Fri: Christina Hoegen-Rohls (Germany), "'Nicht eine Krankheit zum Tode" - Zum Lebensbegriff in Joh 11'.

4. *The Development of Early Christian Ethics within its Jewish and Greco-Roman Contexts* (Profs Matthias Konradt and William Loader). Terminates in 2020.

Wed: Friedrich Wilhelm Horn (Germany), 'Unterordnung und Liebe. Ehemann und Ehefrau in den neutestamentlichen Haustafeln (Kol 3,18f.; Eph 5,22-33; 1 Petr 3,1-7)' – respondent: Christine Gerber (Germany);  
 Thu: Todd Still (USA), "'Paul", "Peter" and Slaves: Texts and Contexts' – respondent: Fika Van Rensburg (guest: South Africa);  
 Fri: Margaret MacDonald (Canada), 'Reading Ethical Injunctions involving Parents and Children in light of the Flexible, Shifting, and often

Precarious Realities of Family life in the Roman World' – respondent: Peter Müller (Germany).

5. *The Mission and Expansion of Earliest Christianity* (Profs Eugene Eung-Chun Park, Paul Trebilco, and Gosnell Yorke). Terminates in 2018.

Wed: Christopher Stanley (USA), 'Paul and Asklepios: The Greco-Roman Quest for Healing and the Mission of Paul' – respondent: Paul Trebilco (New Zealand);  
 Thu: Eric Wong (Hong Kong), 'A Discussion of Mission in Paul and Mark' – respondent: Nathanael Wang (guest: Republic of China);  
 Fri: Gosnell L. Yorke (Zambia), 'Translation and the Early Christian Mission: A Linguistic Move from Jesus, the Speaker, to the Gospel Writer' – respondent: Eugene Eung-Chun Park (USA).

6. *Hebrews* (Profs C.A. Eberhart and W. Kraus). Terminates in 2020.

Wed: Edwin Broadhead (USA), 'Alternatives to Temple and Cult in Hebraic and Early Christian Traditions – Alternativen zu Tempel und Kult in hebräischen und frühchristlichen Traditionen' – respondent: Michael Tilly (Germany);  
 Thu: William Loader (Australia), 'The Conception of Jesus as High Priest in Hebrews – Die Vorstellung von Jesus als Hohepriester im Hebräerbrief' – respondent: Christian Eberhart (USA);  
 Fri: Georg Gäbel (guest: Germany), 'Bedeutung des Todes Jesu im Hebräerbrief – The Meaning of the Death of Jesus in Hebrews' – respondent: Wolfgang Kraus (Germany).

7. *Social History and the New Testament* (Profs. H. Löhr, M. Öhler, and A. Runesson). Terminates in **2017**.

Wed: J. Albert Harrill (USA): 'Imperial Aesthetics of "Narrative Architecture": The Representation of Buildings and Monumentality in literature' – respondent: TBA;  
 Thu: Gerhard A. van den Heever (guest: South Africa), 'Hybrid Identities: An Early Christian Cult Group Taking Shape in the Context of Roman Imperial Cult' – respondent: Stephen Hultgren (Australia);  
 Fri: Thomas Witulski (Germany), 'Die kultisch-religiöse Kaiserverehrung im Imperium Romanum am Beispiel der Provinz Asia' – respondent TBA.

8. *Papyrology, Epigraphy and the New Testament* (Profs P. Arzt-Grabner and J.S. Kloppenborg). Terminates in 2018.

Wed: James Harrison (Australia), 'The Second Sophistic Oracular Mentality in Asia and its Relevance for Early Christian Prophecy: Ionian, Lydian, Phrygian and Anatolian Perspectives' – respondent John Kloppenborg (Canada);  
 Thu: Peter Arzt-Grabner (Austria), 'How Magical Are "Amulets" with Biblical Texts: Criteria and Catalogue' – respondent: Richard Ascough (Canada);  
 Fri: Erastus Jonker (guest: South Africa), 'An Evaluation of *P.Oxy.* 840 as a Jewish-Christian Document' – respondent: Christina Kreinecker (Austria).

9. *Reading Paul's Letters in Context: Theological and Social-Scientific Approaches* (Drs W. Campbell and J. Gundry). Terminates in 2021.

Wed: Pieter Botha (South Africa), 'The Politics of Christian Identity: Researching Paul, Contexts and Readers';  
 Thu: Judith Gundry (USA), 'Grace, Ethnicity and Gender: Paul's Denuding of Difference without Masking the Gift';  
 Fri: Steven Kraftchik (guest: USA), 'To Please God: Theological Ethics in 1 Thessalonians'.

10. *New Testament Textual Criticism* (Profs C. Clivaz, U. Schmid, and T. Wasserman). Terminates in 2018.

Wed: Sara Schulthess (guest: Switzerland), 'Marciana Gr. Z. 11 (379) and the Project HumaReC: An Innovative Research Model for an Unique New Testament Manuscript' – respondent: Hugh Houghton (UK);  
 Thu: Hugh Houghton (UK), 'Electronic Transcriptions of New Testament Manuscripts: The State of the Question' – respondent: Klaus Wachtel (Germany);  
 Fri: Klaus Wachtel (Germany), 'The Digital Present and Future of the Editio Critica Maior (ECM) of the New Testament' – respondent: Ulrich Schmid (Germany).

11. *Memory, Narrative, and Christology in the Synoptic Gospels* (Profs S. Byrskog and J. Schröter, and Dr S. Hultgren). Terminates in 2018.

Wed: Michal Beth Dinkler (guest: USA), 'New Formalism and Narrative Christology: Returning to the Structure of the Synoptic Gospels';

Thu: Tobias Nicklas (Germany), 'The Gospel of Peter between the Synoptic Gospels and "Apostolic Memoirs" of Late Antiquity';  
 Fri: Jens Schröter (Germany), 'The Contribution of Apocryphal Gospels to the "Memory of Jesus": Beyond the Canonical / Non-Canonical Divide'.

12. *The Book of Revelation* (Profs D. Aune and D. Hellholm, and Dr Th. Witulski). Terminates in **2017**.

Wed: Thomas Witulski (Germany), 'Die literarische Einheitlichkeit der Sendschreiben, diskutiert am Beispiel von Apk 2,1-7';  
 Thu: Nils Neumann (Germany), 'Affective Responses to the Divine Plagues in Revelation';  
 Fri: Joint Session with the seminar: Social History and the New Testament.

13. *Acta Politica: The Book of Acts and the Political Culture of the Roman Empire* (Profs K. Backhaus, C. Holladay, D. Marguerat). Terminates in 2021.

Wed: Carl Holladay (USA), 'Acts 25:16 and Luke's Knowledge of Roman Law';  
 Thu: Stephan Witetschek (Germany), 'Anti-Who? On the Discovery, Construction and Suspicion of Anti-Imperial Polemics in Luke-Acts and Elsewhere';  
 Fri: Simon Buttica (guest: Switzerland), 'Entre Jérusalem et Rome: Les Actes de Luc, récit fondateur d'un peuple'.

## Other General Meeting Matters

### 1. GUESTS OF THE SOCIETY

Members wishing to invite personal, academic guests (other than accompanying persons, such as wives, husbands, partners, or children of members) to a General Meeting must first submit

## VENUES FOR FUTURE GENERAL MEETINGS

Athens: 7-10 August, 2018  
 Marburg: 30 July - 2 August, 2019

The Committee is happy to receive invitations to host a General Meeting in 2021 or 2022

Details can be obtained from the [Secretary](#)

This is a magnificent opportunity to highlight the international significance of your institution

their names to the *Assistant Secretary*, Prof. Todd Still ([todd\\_still@baylor.edu](mailto:todd_still@baylor.edu)), who will consult with the *President* about such requests. Members should indicate briefly how their personal guest would contribute to the proceedings. All requests for guest invitations should preferably be received by the *Assistant Secretary* by 1<sup>st</sup> April. After this, requests will only be approved if there are available spaces.

Members are reminded of the current policy, which restricts the number of (personal) guests who can be invited to one guest per member and that no individual guest may be invited more than once in any four years. Please note that candidates being nominated for membership of the Society may not attend the General Meeting in the year in which their names are being proposed.

## 2. PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

To facilitate the exchange of views, speakers in all three languages of the Society are encouraged to speak clearly and slowly, taking into account that listening to a language that is not one's first language always requires extra effort and concentration. The full text of all Main Papers (whether in English, French or German) is to be submitted to the *Secretary* at least one month prior to the General Meeting. These texts will be forwarded to the Local Organizing Committee for distribution to all delegates. Presenters of Offered Short Papers are also encouraged to make the full text of their papers available at the door, or at least a hand-out containing an outline and the key points of the paper. (The Local Organizing Committee should not be asked to do this photocopying.) An alternative is to project the text or portions thereof onto a screen.

## 3. AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT

Speakers who wish to make use of audio-visual equipment (e.g., laptop, data projector) should make arrangements with the Local Organizing Committee prior to the Meeting, in May or June ([admin@snts2017.org](mailto:admin@snts2017.org)).

## Other Society Matters

### *Annual Subscriptions*

Members are reminded to pay their 2017 subscription. A secure payment using debit/credit

card can be made at [www.cambridge.org/core/membership/snts](http://www.cambridge.org/core/membership/snts). This is a new system, and all members need to register afresh (using the 'Become a Member' button).

Members who are unable to pay online by credit or debit card may complete a downloadable [form](#) and send it with payment to Cambridge University Press, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge, CB2 8RU, UK. (The Society's Constitution frames that: 'a member whose subscription is more than two years overdue shall be deemed to have resigned membership'.)

The Society's International Fund is used to assist a number of members (and sometimes guests) from under-represented countries to attend a General Meeting. Additional contributions to this Fund are always welcome. These can be made on the CUP Membership Services website ([www.cambridge.org/core/membership/snts/about-us/donations](http://www.cambridge.org/core/membership/snts/about-us/donations)). Donations can also be made either by bank transfer (details above), or directly to the *Treasurer* of the Society, Dr Kathy Ehrensperger, by International Money Order, or cheque payable in pounds sterling.

### *Membership Address Changes*

A simple online form enables you to let the *Secretary* know of any changes of contact details (title, name, institution, address, email) – [snts.international/membership/](http://snts.international/membership/).

## SNTS International Fund Bank Account details

Account Name: Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas / SNTS

Bank: TSB Scotland (St Andrews),  
12 Church Street, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9NW, UK

Bank Sort Code: 30 25 84  
Account Number: 00572978

IBAN Number: GB23TSBS30258400572978  
BIC (Swift): TSBSGB21277

Please notify the *Treasurer*, Dr Kathy Ehrensperger ([k.ehrensperger@uwtsd.ac.uk](mailto:k.ehrensperger@uwtsd.ac.uk)), if you make payments to the International Fund by bank transfer.

## Society Consultation

During the Montreal 2016 General Meeting, Prof. Judith Lieu introduced a wide-ranging discussion among members about the purpose and opportunities of our Society. If you have a concern about the the procedures or contributions of our Society and its General Meetings, or a suggestion about its future shape, please do not hesitate to make it known to the *President*, a member of the Committee, or one of the Officers.

Additionally, during March/April, the *Secretary* will send members an online questionnaire as an additional mechanism for soliciting feedback about our Society. Your feedback will be very helpful, and the Committee will discuss the analysis of this questionnaire during the Pretoria 2017 General Meeting.

## Committee (2016-2017)

The Society's Committee is comprised of nine trustees elected from the Society's membership. These include the Society's *President*, the *Past President*, the *President Elect*, and six others. The Presidential Nominee for 2018-19 is not a member of the Committee but an observer/auditor. For 2016-17, the Committee consists of:

*President of the Society and Committee Chair:*  
Prof. C.R. Holladay (USA)

*Past President of the Society:*  
Prof. J. Lieu (United Kingdom)

*President-Elect of the Society:*  
Prof. M. Wolter (Germany)

Presidential Nominee for 2018-19:  
Prof. J. Zumstein (Switzerland – observer)

2014-17 Prof. C. Gerber (Germany)  
Prof. J. Thom (South Africa)

2015-18 Dr J. Gundry (USA)  
Prof. T. Nicklas (Germany)

2016-19 Prof. U. Poplutz (Germany)  
Prof. R. Uro (Finland)

At the second Business Meeting in Pretoria, the Society will be electing two new members to the Committee.

## Officers

*Secretary (2016-20):* Prof. Andrew D. Clarke, Lethenty Byre, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, AB51 0HQ, United Kingdom.  
[secretary@snts.international](mailto:secretary@snts.international)

*Assistant Secretary (2016-20):* Prof. Todd Still, George W. Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University, One Bear Place #97126, Waco, TX 76798-7126, USA. [todd\\_still@baylor.edu](mailto:todd_still@baylor.edu)

*Assistant Secretary for International Initiatives (2014-18):* Prof. William R.G. Loader, 52 The Circle, Warwick, WA 6024, Australia.  
[w.loader@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:w.loader@murdoch.edu.au)

*Treasurer (2014-18):* Dr Kathy Ehrensperger, School of Theology, Religious Studies and Islamic Studies, University of Wales, Trinity Saint David, Lampeter, Ceredigion, SA48 7ED, United Kingdom. [k.ehrensperger@uwtsd.ac.uk](mailto:k.ehrensperger@uwtsd.ac.uk)

*Editor of the Journal (New Testament Studies) (2014-18):* Prof. Francis Watson, Department of Theology and Religion, Durham University, Abbey House, Palace Green, Durham, DH1 3RS, United Kingdom. [francis.watson@durham.ac.uk](mailto:francis.watson@durham.ac.uk)

*Editor of the SNTS Monograph Series (2013-17):* Prof. Paul Trebilco, Dept of Theology & Religious Studies, University of Otago, P.O. Box 56, Dunedin, New Zealand.  
[paul.trebilco@otago.ac.nz](mailto:paul.trebilco@otago.ac.nz)  
[2018-22 – Prof. Edward Adams (UK).]