

June 2026

- Explore is currently communicating its new operational model and intentions with affected stakeholders. As change can often be disruptive, **please pray** that all those involved would respond with grace, wisdom, and understanding, and that this transition would strengthen partnerships and provide valuable lessons for the future.
- The work of Explore continues to grow largely through the generosity of donors. **Please pray** that the Lord would move hearts to support Explore favourably as it trains church leaders, many of whom come from impoverished backgrounds.
- **Pray** for the Hosannah Church Explore group of 17 students in Hazeyview, Mpumalanga, currently studying Module 1. **Pray** that the students would remain encouraged, faithful, and committed to their studies as they grow in God's Word.
- **Pray** especially for Simon Banda, the facilitator of the Hazeyview group, who is recovering from an injury sustained at home and is currently under medical care. **Pray** for the Lord's healing hand, strength, and full recovery upon him.
- **We thank God** for the students who registered for Explore across all hubs in the first quarter of 2026. **Please pray** for them as they begin this journey of learning, growth, and deeper understanding of God's Word.

- **We thank God** for the successful completion of all eight Explore modules by the students at Lunzu, Jecom Centre in Malawi. **We praise the Lord** for His faithfulness, sustaining grace, and the perseverance shown throughout their studies. **We also thank God** for the successful graduation held on Friday, 22 May, and pray for continued spiritual growth and fruitful ministry among the graduates.
- **Pray** for the writers of the two remaining Explore modules as the Explore course is being restructured from 8 to 6 modules. Pray for wisdom, clarity, faithfulness to Scripture, and strength to complete the work well.
- **Pray** for Mawonga and the team in Muizenberg as they navigate the many changes involved in transitioning to the new Explore operational model. Pray for wisdom, unity, grace, and God's guidance throughout this season of change.
- **Please pray** for the Explore ministry in Lesotho as Bishop Eddie Ndebele prepares to begin a new Explore group in June 2026. Pray that the Lord would grant wisdom, strength, and encouragement, and that He would bring together faithful students who are eager to grow in His Word and serve His Kingdom in Lesotho.

20 April 2026

To our valued Explore stakeholders

The GWC Explore Distance Learning programme has served students for over 30 years and has grown significantly in recent years.

Thousands of Christians, Pastors and Word-ministry leaders across Africa have benefited from its sound theological content, delivered by trained facilitators and managed by regional structures across the continent. This has all been made possible by the generous support of donors around the world who have a heart to equip the church in Africa.

Explore is now at an inflection point where the growth of the ministry on the current delivery model cannot be sustained by GWC. The model has served the programme well under the capable leadership of Nevil Carrington. Explore has planted its grassroots training approach into many countries on our continent with oversight from Cape Town, including operational reporting, financial reporting and quality assurance requirements.

Our regional and country structures have increasingly taken ownership locally of these areas under the banner of local organisations, in many cases under the leadership of GWC alumni. Local programme delivery by local people has been core to our philosophy and we now need to take the next step in localisation.

All fundraising activities and budgeting for Explore projects and operations has been managed centrally. Apart from general donations to Explore, we have found that oftentimes donors have a heart for a particular area, such as a translation project, or for a particular country, such as Kenya or Malawi.

Effective **1 June 2026**, Explore will decentralise fundraising to each Explore partner across Africa. Responsibility and ownership of funding operations will devolve to each partner organisation. Funding remains necessary as student fees do not adequately support operational costs. As a result of this change, GWC will no longer directly control regional plans and budgets.

Our **Explore Head Office** plans to continue with the following:

- Support existing Regional Partners under a revised MOU by providing a conduit for designated donations. Donors can continue to give to a particular work via GWC or could support a Regional Partner directly.
- Continue to provide a theologically robust and accurately translated curriculum.
- Monitor the quality of the Explore certificate delivered by Regional Partners.
- Serve as an accountability partner for Regional Partners where GWC has been a conduit for donations.
- Continue to support our Direct Students and groups, registered directly with Explore.
- Develop and establish new partnerships in new geographies.
- Continue with translation projects to support new and existing students and partners.
- Deliver Explore Online, a Learning Management System, to expand access and reduce distribution, delivery and examination costs.

We're acutely aware that this will be a disruptive change that will take adaptation, but we remain confident of the value of the Explore programme to students, churches, affiliated organisations and donors who desire to see God's Word understood correctly and taught faithfully. Our hope is that you join our prayer that our Lord sees us all through this junction, and that Explore continues to transform many more hearts and minds.

If you would like more detailed information, please contact Mawonga Celesi at mcelesi@gwc.ac.za.

Sincerely,



Mark Dickson
GWC Principal