



# Setting Ministry on Fire 4 God

## What is 4G?

Let's begin this letter by answering the question that is potentially on everybody's mind. Just what is 4G?

4G is a training initiative that was started in 2012. 4G aims at bringing in people who are called into fulltime youth, children, and family ministry. To equip, train and provide understanding of what it means to work in the church with young people. 4G is currently located and runs in Centurion. It is hosted by the Hennops river circuit. Though 4G is run within the Methodist church, it is open to all denominations and is fully ecumenical.

## Last year

2016 paid witness to four talented young youth pastors, from around the country, finishing the 4G program. The year took the students through a few weeks filled with great knowledgeable authors and speakers who are very experienced in their fields of work.

The contact weeks which the students part-take in, brought great insight and in depth knowledge in the areas of youth ministry, children ministry, and family ministry. Other areas which include: vision and mission, calling, sustainable youth ministry and much more equipped these youth pastors for their ministry.

4G provides the students with experienced speakers and lecturers. In partnership with the University of Pretoria, 4G provides the students with a Professor from the Center of Contextual Youth Ministry from their theology department. Malan Nel is a renowned Professor and expert in the field of youth ministry. He is author to a number books, one of which is part of the prescribed material for the 4G course. Upon graduating the 4G course, each candidate will receive an Advanced Certificate in Youth Ministry, which presently is one of the highest qualifications in this field. Should candidates choose to

study further and complete a B.Th.. The Advanced certificate counts towards accreditation for Honors work.

We are glad to announce that all participants from last year will be graduating in May, with an overall pass rate of 65%.

Class of  
2016



## The road ahead

2017 is full of promise as we currently have eight participants who have registered are preparing for the academic year. Unlike last year which consisted of eight contact weeks, this year we will be having a total of nine weeks which are split into three contact periods beginning in May and ending in October.

The course is split into these contact periods so that students have the opportunity to go to their home congregations and start to implement what they have learnt during the course. Not only is this time for practical reasons, it also provides adequate time to do the assignments that are given, which require hours of reading and research to complete them. By the end of the 4G course our hope that each candidate may be hired by different congregations where they will be able to serve as



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youth, children and family workers for that church and community.

## Friends of 4G

The “Friends of 4G” is a new initiative that is currently being implanted. The aim of this is to create awareness about 4G as well as to build a network of churches and communities that may be searching for youth workers or who would like to send potential candidates for the course.

This initiative is a great platform for communication and support for all those who have investment in youth ministry and the work that achieves in the Kingdom.

## Function

There are many ways one can contribute as a “Friend of 4G” being a friend of 4G means I:

- Pray for the course and its participants
- Promote and advertise the course at my church and in my community.
- Receive a quarterly newsletter
- Support 4G on social media platforms such as Facebook etc.
- Attend Networking or fundraising initiatives when possible.

## Vision for the future

4G is continuously growing and adapting as the years go by. We are currently looking at providing training weekends or seminars whereby we can go to different church communities and provide training for volunteers and to those who are involved in youth, children, and family ministry however they cannot commit fulltime.

There is also potential for 4G to branch out into other parts of the country. This will of course only be possible if 4G can be adapted into a correspondence course, as currently it is lecture based.

As the 4G team we continue to pray for God’s guidance and wisdom for this course and the work of training and equipping people for fulltime ministry.



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