

Back from Germany, Pastor Hahne completed his Second Theological Examination and was ordained by Praeses L. Müller-Nedebock in his home congregation of Bishopstowe on 6 November 1977. After brief postings in Eshowe and Durban, Pastor Hahne was called to Izotsha on the KZN South Coast in August 1979. During his 7½-year term regular English services were introduced in accordance with his vision for the Lutheran Church as an indigenous church.

In February 1987, Pastor Hahne followed a request by the Praeses to St. Peter's Pretoria. The challenge was to build up an integrated trilingual congregation (German, Afrikaans, English). He served there for 14 years, until his church's new Law for Pastors set a 12-year restriction on a pastor's term of office in the same congregation.

Pastor Hahne accepted the call from Bellville and is fully committed to serving in the Cape Church, although he still regards ELCSA (N-T) as his home church. He feels the two churches should better synchronise their structures to make it easier for pastors to move from one to the other. However, he sees his priority in the spiritual-theological domain. This he expresses in questions like: "How can I speak meaningfully about God so that I can live existentially with God? How does God take part in my life? What is the relevance of God for us today?"

Asked what motivates him most strongly as a pastor, Pastor Hahne referred to the treasure of the Lutheran tradition with its emphasis on justification by grace alone. "I don't need to make any pretenses to myself or anybody else. I can be who I am and know that I am accepted and loved as such. Do we find the appropriate word and the proper way to enable other people to hear and experience this with us?"

Pastor Hahne is married to Karen (née Roos). Karen matriculated from the *Deutsche Schule Pretoria*, graduated in Aquatic Sciences and worked for the Medical Research Council as a journalist. She was involved in church youth work and met Albrecht at a Studientagung with Pastor Vollmer. The couple have five children.

*Ulrich Plüddemann*