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Dear Friend

Before I greet you for 2020, I would like us to reflect on the year that has passed.

It was a year filled with laughter and tears.

We made huge dynamic shifts in Agri Gauteng:

- Our membership number has increased
- Our corporate members have also increased
- We expanded our Centres of Excellence with people that make a difference
- We added additional desks, a digital desk, an international relations desk, Nampo Alfa and urban farming.
- We have a new website – agrigauteng.co.za
- We are busy setting up a MOU with Fairdeal (which prevents the government to allow dumping of overseas' product on our local market)
- So much that I can say about our Ekspo, Golf Day, Young Farmer Webinar, Water and Rural Safety Webinar

On behalf of Agri Gauteng I would like to thank Thinus and Ayanda. They've made an effort in keeping our agricultural wheels on track during COVID. (Everyone who was supposed to receive travel permits for product deliveries, received them). Towards the end of the year, they made sure our network structures are extensive and well kept.

Things that were not good for us this year:

- We couldn't visit one another
- Everything had to be done digitally
- Some of our members were struggling to pay their membership fees
- Our corporate members were financially strained

Now I greet you with a smile. May next year be a year of working together, thinking together, seeking together, resisting together and praying together.

I greet you with tears from all the farm attacks and farm murders that took place. I greet you with another year that has passed. It is unfortunate that I am greeting you in this way as I am unable to answer any of your questions. I will highlight one question.

One of the questions we have heard the most this year is: "Why should I be part of an agricultural organisation?" The question should be, "Why not?". Agri Gauteng and Agri SA is an organisation that works 24 hours, seven days a week, 12 months per year to ensure that every farmer in our land is safer and better equipped. It is an organisation offering discounts on loans, diesel and tax. We were also involved with land expropriation and land grabs. We are busy completing our new rural safety plan to ensure our farmers are safe during the festive season.

May you experience the grace of Christmas and may His peace be with you.

Stay safe and healthy.

Regards



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