

DEO SONO

POPULUM VOCO

M A T T E O  
F A B R I S



RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES ARE EXPERIENCING A STEADY DECLINE IN WORSHIPPERS IN THE CURRENT TIMES.

THIS PHENOMENON IS PARTICULARLY WORRYING IN PROTESTANT CHURCHES, BECAUSE IT JEOPARDIZES THEIR ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND THUS, THEIR EXISTENCE.

I WENT TO CHRISTUS TRIUMFATORKERK, TO UNDERSTAND WHICH ROLE A RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY PLAYS IN SOCIETY, AND WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR THESE REALITIES.





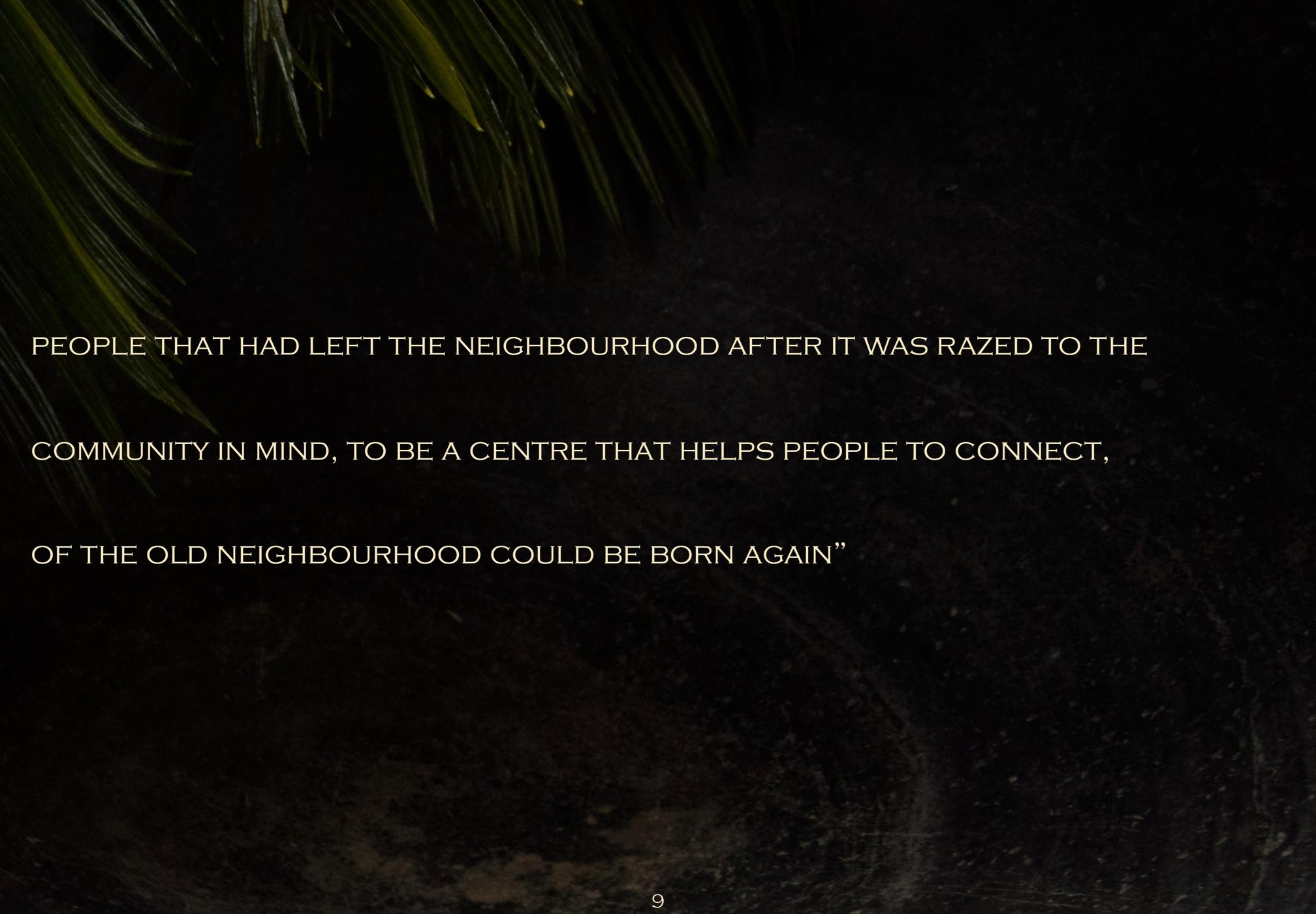




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“THE CHURCH WAS BUILT IN 1962, IN THE ATTEMPT TO BRING BACK THE  
GROUND BY THE BOMBINGS IN 1945. IT WAS BUILT WITH THE  
TO BE THE PLACE WHERE THE LIVELIHOOD



PEOPLE THAT HAD LEFT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD AFTER IT WAS RAZED TO THE  
COMMUNITY IN MIND, TO BE A CENTRE THAT HELPS PEOPLE TO CONNECT,  
OF THE OLD NEIGHBOURHOOD COULD BE BORN AGAIN”









“THERE IS AN UNDENIABLE CONFLICT OF PERCEPTIONS ON RELIGION, A BARRIER OVER WHICH IS DIFFICULT TO SEE.

WE ARE TRYING TO BECOME MORE MODERN, MORE YOUNGSTER ORIENTED, MORE DYNAMIC.

HOWEVER, AT THE SAME TIME PEOPLE THAT COME HERE DO NOT SEARCH FOR MODERNITY, BUT INSTEAD FOR BEING PART OF SOMETHING: A COMMUNITY, A SILENCE, A MEDITATION, AN ENCOUNTER WITH GOD.

ALL THINGS THAT THIS CHURCH OFFERED ALREADY 60 YEARS AGO.”

“CHURCHES ARE SEEN AS SOMETHING DISTANT FROM THE CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY.  
THERE IS A NEED FOR PERSONAL CONTACT, BEYOND FACTIONS.

FOR US THEN THE IMPORTANT QUESTION IS: HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN GROUPS THAT  
DO NOT SHARE YOUR IDENTITY?

YOU LET EVERYBODY EXPRESS THEIR OWN, WHILE OFFERING WHAT IS YOURS. BECAUSE  
PEOPLE NEED EACH OTHER, AND MOST OF THE TIMES THE GOAL IS COMMON,  
WHAT CHANGES ARE THE MOTIVATIONS THAT LED UP THAT GOAL.”

# DeBlikvanger









# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO THE CHRISTUS TRIUMFATORKERK MEMBERS FOR BEING WELCOMING AND SINCERE, THEY WERE THE SOUL OF THE PROJECT.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK PARTICULARLY ELIZ, MIKE AND JAAP FOR TAKING THE TIME TO HAVE MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH ME, PARTS OF WHICH ARE USED AS CITATIONS IN THE PROJECT.

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