Editor’s Note

With this edition of *Neotestamentica* we wish to pay tribute to the work of Prof John Henry Roberts. He was one of the founder members of the New Testament Society of South Africa and his role in and continuing contribution to our Society’s activities remains one of esteem and influence. It is a privilege to let *Neotestamentica* serve as a vehicle for this acknowledgement to our colleague, friend and, for many, mentor.

This tribute has the title *The church, one yet multifarious—a study from many perspectives* because the topic ‘church’ is one close to the heart of Johnnie Roberts. A number of colleagues and friends of Johnnie Roberts were approached to contribute to this collection. Clearly, a much larger number of people could have participated in this effort—and also expressed their interest. However, for reasons of practicality and representativeness, the list of contributors was limited to the current one. In some way or another, those who agreed to contribute, present the various areas in which Johnnie Roberts worked.

I wish to thank my colleagues, Prof Richard Lemmer and Johannes Vorster, both from the Department of New Testament at the University of South Africa, who also acted as guest editors of this edition. The initiative for this volume is for the most part theirs. They should also be thanked for their participation in editing and proof reading the manuscript. Due to reasons outside my control, an exception was made to allow some contributions not to follow *Neotestamentica’s* usual style.

A special word of thanks to the contributors to this volume is in order. We appreciate it that you could find the time amidst a tight schedule to join in this tribute.

Finally, a reminder that opinions expressed in these contributions reflect that of the respective authors and not the NTSSA nor the editors’.

Pieter J.J. Botha
Editor