

KEEPING in TOUCH

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH NEWLANDS

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Spring
Newsletter 2022

BIRD SEEDS

Dear Friends at St Andrews Newlands,

It is both a delight and joy to be able to journey with you through this period of interregnum. I thank you for giving me the freedom to just be myself, to share snippets of my own faith journey with you, trusting that as you reflect on your own faith journeys, you too will see the hand of God at work in your lives.

The month of August has certainly been memorable, as three of our number entered their eternal rest. And so, I thank God for the witness of William Tough, Allen Parry and Pamela Harper, to the faith community at St Andrews. And although besides William whom I had known for a very short while and Allen and Pamela whom I had not had the privilege of meeting, in this life, I am awed at the rich legacy they have each left us, and I am certain will remain in our treasured memories.

August was also the month in which I was afforded the opportunity to go on the Rondebosch Clergy Retreat at Temenos Retreat Centre in McGregor. It was a week of "Sabbath Rest" and the main theme of our retreat was "You are Loved".

It is so easy to know this at a 'head level' and even at a 'superficial heart level' (if that is possible). However, I have found that as I reflected on the fact that I am loved, I noticed how in the light of some difficulty I could so easily revert from 'heart to head'.

To keep myself grounded in the truth of my "belovedness", I have found reflecting on, "Psalms for Praying", by Nan Merrill, to be a great source of inspiration for it 'reflects the reciprocity of Divine Love that opens the heart to forgiveness, reconciliation and healing'. Here is her version of **Psalm 27**, which I trust you might find helpful:

Love and Blessings always

Cheryl

PSALM 27

*Love is my light and salvation,
whom shall, I fear?
Love is the strength of my life,
Of whom shall I be afraid?*

*When fears assail me, rising up to accuse me,
Each one in turn shall be seen in Love's light.
Though a multitude of demons rise up within me,
my heart shall not fear.
Though doubts and guilt do battle,
yet shall I remain confident.*

*One thing have I asked of Love,
that I shall ever seek:
That I may dwell in the Heart of Love
all the days of my life,
To behold the Beauty of my Beloved,
and to know Love's plan*

*For I shall hide in Love's heart in the day of trouble,
As in a tent in the desert,
away from the noise of my fears.
And I shall rise above my struggles, my pain,
shouting blessings of gratitude in Love's Heart
and singing melodies of praise to my Beloved.*

*Hear, O my Beloved, when I cry aloud,
be gracious and answer me!
You have said, "Seek my face,"
My heart responds,
"Your face, my Beloved, do I seek;
hide not your face from me."*

*Do not turn from me, You who have been my refuge.
Enfold me in your strong arms, O Blessed One.
Though my father and mother
may not understand me,
You my Beloved, know me and love me.*



FROM OUR REGISTERS

Died

29 June Sharon Britz

9 July Bridget Lubbe

11 July Robert Hughes

31 July William Tough

20 August Pam Harper

28 August Allen Parry

Baptism

26 June Samson Price

17 July Wyatt Tory

4 September Emily Dowse
Liam Wilkins, Stella Wilkins

Married

2 April

Colwyn Cerff & Catherine Langley

*Teach me to be love, as You are Love;
Lead me through each fear;
Hold my hand as I walk through valleys
of doubt each day,
That I may know your peace.*

*I believe that I shall know the
Realm of Heaven,
of Love, here on Earth!
Wait for the Beloved,
be strong with courage of the heart;
Yes! Wait for the Beloved of your heart!*

RIP *William Tough*

We reflect on our friendship with William Tough at the parish church of St. Andrew Newlands (2010-2022).

We visited the parish as was our custom on the Feast Day of St Andrew the Apostle (30th November, 2010). It was William who welcomed us and asked us to return to the parish.

After many years of absence and much soul searching, we decided to come back to the home we love, 12 years ago.

We were always pleased to see William since he was instrumental in our home coming. He was a man who wore his heart on his sleeve. We always enjoyed his conversations, and he could talk on wide and varied topics (sometimes controversial).

It was the weekend away at Volmoed a few years ago when our friendship gained traction. We subsequently realised we had a special bond with him and his adorable wife, Janine. He was a confident, assertive man. We were dwarfed by his huge physical frame. When we really became familiar, we spoke in rugby parlance. (I was number 9 he was number 5!)

We did not realise that we had such an affection for him, until his illness. He leaves a vacuum which is not easily filled. We depend on that great healer of the human soul, time, to nurse us through this period of sadness!

We already miss him in the church ground and his commanding presence in the sanctuary. We once suggested to him, to consider being a lay minister with a licence to preach. We regret he did not pursue it. The church is the poorer for not benefitting from his deep wisdom. We close by borrowing an extract of the dramatic monologue poem by T. S. Eliot (1888 - 1965) "For I have known them already, known them all: Have known the evenings, mornings, afternoons, I have measured out my life with coffee spoons". -The Love song of J. Alfred Prufrock.

We take this opportunity of thanking the church for granting us the enormous privilege to perform side person's duties at the funeral service.

"Eternal Rest Grant unto him O' Lord and May Light Perpetual Shine Upon Him. May he R.I.P. and Rise in Glory." Amen.

Richard + Lauretta Buttress.

YOUTH MINISTRY

As the lockdown situation has eased, we now have the task of re-building the Youth Ministry. So, to ease us back to resuming our responsibilities we begin our newsletter report with a smile:

**"What do you get if you cross
a cat and a lemon?"**

.....A Sourpuss."

**What do you get if you cross
a fish and two elephants?"**

.....Swimming trunks."

Children's Church

The last 18 months of the Covid-19 pandemic has affected our Children's Church attendance. But we are blessed to have Penny Middelkoop as the stimulating, enthusiastic guide for our children each Sunday (except during school holidays) whether there is 1 child or 20 children, her enthusiasm is always there. Each Sunday at the 09:15 morning Eucharist, Penny gives a +/- 5minute talk that is not only meaningful for the children but the adults are left deep in thought about many things that may have been forgotten! Well done Penny! Thanks to Di Grant who assists in a very gentle way with the children.

Baptisms

This ministry has too been affected by the pandemic. We have had 4 Baptisms this year and several cancellations due to family illness. But praise be to Jesus, we are slowly getting back to normal as we will have 3 Baptisms in September and we will now be able to do Baptisms during the 09:15 service, instead of having to do it at 11:00 with just the family attending! As this is the most important Sacrament, the entrance into all the other Sacraments, it has been very painful to see it diminishing. If there are any parents needing to have their children baptised, please speak to Rev Cheryl Bird, Bev in the Church office or myself at 072 0776481.

We have not had any children admitted to Communion this year. If you have a 6+ year old and would like them receive the Holy Communion, please contact me at 072 0776481 to make arrangements.

Confirmation

Covid-19....it's beginning to sound like a broken record...but once again the pandemic has taken its toll on our numbers. We have only 1 candidate, for whom I am so grateful. She is an amazing young lady and makes up for our lack of numbers by her commitment and devotion to Jesus. We might possibly have another candidate on the day of Confirmation, if University commitments don't get in the way. He is a student at Rhodes University in Grahamstown and we have been doing preparation via WhatsApp. He was a very committed helper in Children's Church and I pray that he will be confirmed, as I know he has a deep love for Jesus and the Church. Bishop Joshua will confirm our candidates/s at our 09:15 service on Sunday 20th November.

Please keep our children and young people in your prayers. It is not easy being different from the normal 'run of things', as Satan is always busy trying his best to trip up those who love Jesus. He thinks he is winning with the upsurge in gang warfare, murder of innocent people, drug & alcohol abuse, rape etc.... But Jesus reigns and he has us as his disciples to bring and show the message of love, peace and friendship.

Thank you for your prayers and support of the Youth Ministry at St Andrews. You are all very special.

Before I end this report, we are thrilled that Tim Roux (2017 Confirmation group) was elected as a Parish Councillor and James Drummond (2018 Confirmation group) was elected as our Youth Synod Rep.

Now our final smile:

"Does your teacher like you?" Asked James' father. "I think so. She keeps putting kisses on my homework."

"Christopher are you able to give me a sentence with the word 'fascinate' in it" asked the teacher.

"Yes, sir, er - if I have a shirt with ten buttons and two of them fall off, I can only fasten eight!"

With my love & prayers,

Rev Elizabeth Cherry

Mark and Dawn's Farewell Tea

SUNDAY 3 JULY



A NOTE OF THANKS

When Freya was licensed as a Lay Minister, Gladys and I were very happy to be able to make the decision to return to St Andrews and settle into the rhythm that had developed over the years. So we have become parishioners of St. Andrews. We have also moved into the flat that is the lower part of Freya's home and ideal for us.

However, we have also had some setbacks with me needing a hip replacement in June last year and Gladys having a stroke at the beginning of July this year. She first spent a week in the Kingsbury and then moved on to the Stepdown at Newlands. It has turned things upside down for us and limits my movements particularly over weekends when there are no staff to assist.

Gladys came home on 1 August and is slowly making progress with regard to her speech and movement around the garden using the support that I had a year ago!!!

What has really taken us by surprise was the immediate support from the congregation by way of meals, planned by so many different people and delivered to the house. Thanks to all who participated in this ministry which has helped us to have the space to settle down and relax into a rhythm as we go forward.

Thanks as well to those who present the services on Sunday mornings because I am able to join the services and still be available if Gladys needs support. I have also been able to carve out time to attend the services on Wednesday mornings when the carers are able to look after Gladys.

Blessings to all who were able to help us over the past month and a half and please keep us in your prayers.

Keith Griffiths



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MARK & DAWN LONG

Dear Friends

I have been meaning to write for the past six weeks, and can claim busyness but suspect it has far more to do with acknowledging that we really have left, that we are not just on an extended holiday, and that the context of our lives really has changed.

A huge thank you from Dawn and me for your generous care and love over the past nine years. St Andrew's quickly became our home, and along with all the varied opportunities Cape Town offers, a place of life and hope. Thank you for our wonderful farewell Service: despite Eskom leaving us in the dark, it was delightful to have a full Church followed by the buzz around the sumptuous tea that is without any doubt a St Andrew's trademark! And particularly special after the restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic that had limited opportunities to gather: we do pray that it marks a move to a less fearful and more joyous future.

Thank you for the generous Easter Offering we received this year, along with our 'scarves', which we both wore to my licensing and installation as Team Vicar for the Eastern Parishes in the Leomin-

ster Team Ministry. While none of you could sadly be with us for our welcome here, you were there in the form of your gifts, and acknowledged in our hearts. Thank you, too, for the book of beautiful messages, which we treasure and that will bring us solace in quiet moments when we remember and give thanks for you all: there is comfort in these reminders of particular relationships and all that we have meant in your lives.

We were both excited to hear that Archdeacon Melaney Klaasen has been appointed as your next Rector, and thankful that Rev'd Cheryl Bird is with you as you prepare to welcome the Klaasen family into your midst. It is comforting to know you will be in Ven Melaney's very capable and caring hands going forward. Covid-19 has been a difficult time, which we weathered well together; but it did stir the soil a whole lot, and as difficult as this period has been, it is exciting that you can rebuild post-Covid with a priest of Ven Melaney's stature. Please be assured of our prayers as you journey together.

We are settling in well. It has been a busy and somewhat frenetic few months,

and lots to do to put foundations in place for our new life here in the UK. People have been amazingly warm and welcoming, and we have a lovely home in the New Vicarage (there is an Old Vicarage down the road; this one was built in the early 1990's) in the small village of Kimbolton. It is very rural, and there is lots to do. Each Sunday is an adventure: discovering a new Church, new people, as I slowly navigate the twelve Churches in my care. Hopefully I will have visited each one by the end of September. Harvest Festivals are an important aspect of rural life and I have a number lined up for the coming month. Due to incredibly hot weather the harvesting is happening early, and as I write there is a tractor making hay-bales in a nearby field.

Our contact details and address are elsewhere on this page. If you find yourself in the West Midlands of England at any point, please be in touch. We are more than happy to offer you a bed, a meal, or just a cup of coffee or tea (or something stronger). Dawn will be back in South Africa and Cape Town (hopefully briefly) from mid-November to mid-December for her Spousal Visa to be issued and to catch up with our children and grand-child.

**God's love and peace to you all.
With our love,**

Mark and Dawn

Love Packs

AUGUST 2022

Dear Parishioners

It is my pleasure to provide this update on our Love Packs outreach program. Following two years of Love Packs being restricted to a small group of packers it was a great joy to open the invitation to all in June and welcome back a larger group. Please consider joining one of our packs, with the next one on Saturday 17 September. An hour of your time and some energy is all that it takes!

This year we have packed over 800 food parcels at five packs, which have been gratefully received by the beneficiary organisations Fikelela and Safeline, for onward distribution.

However, we need to source additional funding to continue this program through the remainder of the year and therefore appeal to anyone who is able to do so, to consider donating towards Love Packs. If you are able, please make a deposit into the St Andrew's bank account with the reference Love Packs. We ideally need to raise about R50 000 to pack through to the end of the year.

The food parcels consist of staple, non-perishables that provide the recipients with a vital source of nourishment in these difficult times. The cost of the items in a parcel has increased through the year, currently being R136/bag. If you would like more information about Love Packs please contact me on 082 909 0096.

Yours in faith,

Rob





Dear Saint Andrew's, Happy hearts' mission to Mossel Bay

On the 24th of June members of the 67 Kids To School Team (coordinated by James Drummond) and a group of learners from SACS and Springfield High Schools boarded buses for Mossel Bay. Their mission: to spread as much joy at Sao Bras Senior Secondary School as possible. Sao Bras is the latest school to partner with the Happy Hearts Academy. The SACS and Springfield learners went up to help tutor Accounting, Mathematics and Physical Sciences to help get the Sao Bras Matrics ready for their final exams. The 67 Kids To School and Happy Hearts' teams were concerned with providing all the essentials required by the Sao Bras learners to ace their exams and reach for the stars!

Thanks to an unbelievably generous generation of over R12000 from St. Andrews, Newlands, and assistance from other guardian angels, we were able to purchase classroom kits that contain enough stationery and sanitary items to provide for dozens of Sao Bras learners to ensure that they can take on their final exams with pride and dignity.

This would not have been possible without the very generous assistance of Saint Andrew's, and we cannot express our appreciation enough.

Yours Sincerely

James



James Drummond

Co-Coordinator: 67 Kids To School

67kidstoschool@gmail.com

www.67kidstoschool.org



THE MOON, THE SHIP AND THE GRAVEYARD ANGEL

by Lauren Kellner

The Moon came at us like a giant white peach in an antarctic sky that Autumn afternoon... a giant white ball rather foreboding against an ice-blue arc. But we were smitten: not with the Moon looming above... but rather with the cracked stone graveyard before us of the Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Kalk Bay, the pale white ship moving away on the horizon at three in the afternoon and, finally, the angel.

She stood, almost like Hera of Themosthrace, with her arms flung back, as if to embrace the life that she was about to enter. I could have embraced her myself as I too would like to believe in what I call a Real Heaven where, as it says in Revelation, our tears are wiped away and all pain is gone. Some people believe that Heaven is going to be just the same as here. But that isn't Biblically correct, is it? Well, certainly not according to Revelation anyway! For, according to the writer of that text, neither eye has seen nor ear heard the wonder and the glory waiting for those who believe... doesn't seem terribly ordinary to me!

And so, as this massive Moon exerted a certain pressure from above and from behind, it ushered David and me into this tremendously romantic plot of grassy mounded ground that was a graveyard... and we were transfixed. We could have been two of the stone statues there ourselves, so much did we want to be a part of this crumblingly beautiful scene which we felt a great admiration for, as well as a certain stirring in ourselves to be back in time, to when these people beneath the graves were still around and about, busily taking part in the surroundings of Kalk Bay and the southern peninsula.

The white smudge of a ship out at sea was noticed by David of course, whose favourite book about a ship was 'Pieces of Eight' by Richard le Gallienne. David is a 73 year-old man who has a child's heart and, to quote an overused cliché, the memory of an elephant – 'an elephant never forgets' as we say here in Africa. We came racing down the Blue Route with Bubs' ears flapping behind him, 'eager for adventure,' as he always puts it, and keen for a new experience at the seaside, a church one this time.

Yes, David is considering getting baptized at present. I would never have thought that this would ever come to pass but I am quite excited about it – the ultimate formalization of a train of thought that was originally indeed based on trains and ships and cars that hoot down the Blue Route, as well as moons, planets damnit Janet I love you and the Hubble Telescope, and things

peculiar like that which are indeed peculiar to our Milky Way – and to David.

We had a truly lovely and quite beautiful friend called Lynette – yes, she is brunette – who helped both David and me to reach the point where we were prepared to believe in the Trinity – as mysterious as it is. She came to see us once a week on a Friday morning for two years, always armed with some fun coffee sachets that she made for us. And I think it was the coffee sachets and the love that came with them that won us over to her interpretation of the Three-in-One.

Ultimately, we learnt that there is nothing like a friendship that is altruistic and based on a lot of hope for the future. David was allowed to go on contemplating the Universe and Lynette turned a blind eye at my enthusiasm for the Three Wise Men who were actually astrologers and saw Jesus' own star in the East. I am rather a keen and slightly-more-than-amateur 'astrologess.' This last word is 'my own invention' to quote a character from 'Alice in Wonderland'.

Yes, both David and I were slightly in love with Lynette in different ways: He got to play the 'Royal Telephone' to her which is an old record of his and which was received with alacrity and I got to have a couple of photographs taken with her wherein we appear as sisters – there does seem to be a family or sisterly resemblance. This was quite exciting for me as I have no sisters and maybe a bit exciting for her too, I like to hope.

David's beautiful trunk goes a reddish-purple when it gets cold and this July, it has been the case. Tomorrow, which he spells 'tomorrow,' we are going to be attending our beloved St Andrew's at Newlands. I was actually christened there myself as a baby. It is my home church. David has found out that the service is going to be at 09h15 and so he has WhatsApped me that transport will be ready at 08h30 outside Murambi House where I now live. He will be waiting for me.

Yes, Our Father made his presence felt to us that Cape Day in the guise of an enormous peach-like Moon that ushered us into the graveyard at Holy Trinity to meet Hera of Kalk Bay, and provided us with friends to make the journey to Bethlehem: I am so unutterably grateful to both Lynette and Simon who took David into their gentle Christian arms... I don't believe ellies need baptism but with it, God's Universe does seem a kinder, safer, nicer place!



...it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs

- Matthew 19:14 -



THE BISHOP OF TABLE BAY
DIOCESE OF CAPE TOWN
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The Church Wardens and Parish Council
Parish of St Andrew
NEWLANDS
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19 August 2022

My dear People of God

Blessed Lenten greetings to you all in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

I am delighted to announce **THE VENERABLE MELANEY KLAASEN** as the next Rector of the Parish St Andrew, Newlands.

Venerable Melaney will be instituted at the Parish of St Andrew, on a Saturday in April next year, God-willing.

Ven. Melaney is currently hospital Chaplain at Red Cross and Groote Schuur hospital, as well as Archdeacon of the Waterfront.

Venerable Melaney and her husband John have two adult children; Catherine (22) and Adam (20).

We believe her varied experiences and style of leadership will stand Ven Melaney in good stead for this new ministry which we and the Parish Council believe God is calling her to, as Rector of the Parish of St Andrew.

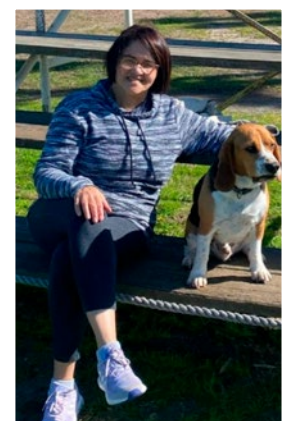
We uphold Ven Melaney, John and their children in our prayers as they prepare for this change in direction and ministry. We pray too for you, the parishioners, as you prepare yourselves to receive them as part of the St Andrew's parish family.

With my love and prayers

+ Joshua Table Bay

The Right Revd Joshua Louw
BISHOP OF TABLE BAY

Cc: Archbishop Thabo Makgoba
Acting Archdeacon Revd Canon Reeva Mulder
Diocesan Administrator- Canon Charleen Van Rooyen



Alison and Simon Gilbert

visited Great St. Mary's, the University Church in Cambridge, England, which was opened in 1519.
This prayer for Ukraine was in the tiny St. Andrew's Chapel.



PARISH DIARY

SEPTEMBER

Mon 12	Lay Minister's Meeting	7.30pm
Sat 17	Love Packs	10.00am
Sat 24	Quiet Morning led by Rev Andrew Holmes	9.30am – 11.00/11.30am
Wed 28	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm

OCTOBER

Mon 10	Lay Minister's Meeting	7.30pm
Sat 15	Love Packs	10.00am
Sat 22	Quiet Morning led by Rev Rus Blassoples	9.30am – 11.00/11.30am
Wed 25	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm

NOVEMBER

Mon 12	Lay Minister's Meeting	7.30pm
Sun 23	Confirmation Service	9.15am
Wed 23	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm
Sat 26	Quiet Morning led by Carolyn Butler	9.30am – 11.00/11.30am

DECEMBER

Sat 3	Mini Market	TBC
Wed 14	December School Holidays starts	
Fri 16	Reconciliation Day – Public Holiday	
Sat 24	Christmas Eve	
Sun 25	Christmas Day	
Mon 26	Day of Goodwill – Public Holiday	

JANUARY 2023

Sun 1	New Year's Day	
Mon 2	Public Holiday	

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