KEPING TOUCH

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH NEWLANDS

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Autumn Newsletter 2024

RECTOR'S REPORT

VESTRY 2024

This is my first Rector's Report to the Vestry of St Andrew's, since I took up office in August 2023. I wish to use this as an opportunity to extend a word of thanks once again for the warm welcome to this parish. It is always a tricky thing to enter a period of transition, particularly when you have had an extended one like the one experienced at St Andrew's.

I wish to thank those who held the parish together during the season of the Interregnum – the Reverend Cheryl Bird, together with the Churchwardens, Parish Secretary, Parish Council, and the clergy of this Parish at large (Stephen Middelkoop, Elizabeth Cherry, and +Geoff Quinlan). Often when a Rector enters a new parish, there is usually a significant amount of time that he or she would ordinarily use as a time to "Pick up the pieces". Not so in this parish, as the governance, worship and spirituality of the parish were properly held together by those involved in keeping you as one.

Upon my arrival, I therefore had to hit the ground running precisely because work was continuing well before my arrival. I was able to tune my ears to the teams around me to feed me with some areas of church life that I needed to fit in to and do my expected part of the deal effectively. One of the first things that were identified to me as areas that need attention, were the development and growth of an active Youth Ministry at St Andrew's. As I mentioned to the leadership of this parish, as early as my interview in this parish before my appointment, the youth problem is a universal issue in the Anglican Church (at least), and so together we can commit to the task of working together in seeing that this becomes an easy challenge to face.

Regretfully, we saw the departure of Penny Middelkoop whom we all know held together our junior church and worked alongside Elizabeth Cherry in handling young people's matters in the church. With Penny's departure, Council had to take a decision in line with the vision to see the youth ministry taking shape end growing active hence forth and initiated a process of replacing Penny. However, because the issue of young people was broader than children, we have had to restructure that role to be inclusive of young people in general. Hence, when we advertised for the Youth worker, we were very intentional to mention that it is a YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR, to see to it that both the children and teenagers who fall in the bracket of this age population in the parish are included.

Thankfully, we found a capable and fitting candidate to play the role of the Youth Coordinator – Kyle Overmeyer, who joined us in October from Christ Church, Kenilworth under the Parish of St John's, Wynberg. He too had to hit the ground running, as he launched straight into the ministry, and we can see already the result of an active and present group of young people among us. Numbers continue to be a challenge, as not all our families are represented in the youth ministry up to this point.

There are many challenges and time demanding activities for our young people, which one may argue are the real competition that the church has for keeping the young inside so to speak. However, in my ongoing conversations with Kyle, I have expressed the need for us as parents to encourage our children to come to the youth evenings on Friday, and if we need to have an idea of other suggestions to be engaged so that we may know what challenges we need to meet to have a stable contingent of young people served by our youth ministry. The

HOLY WEEK **2024**

28 March MAUNDY THURSDAY 19:00 Holy Eucharist

29 March GOOD FRIDAY 10:00 Children's Service 12:00 Three hour Devotion

31 March EASTER SUNDAY 06:30 Easter Vigil 09:00 Easter Mass

involvement of young people in the serving team on Sundays during worship, and now we have begun to ask them to read as well, as a way of allowing us a channel to make our vision for a vibrant church realized.

One of my key focus areas in leadership and ministry is working together to enable the church as the body of Christ to sustain itself through the gifts that God has placed among and within us. As I continue to settle and journey with you at St Andrew's, and as I journey through my first year with you, I pray that we will certainly be able to get on board and explore the way forward together, to discern where we are going, to change directions wherever possible and to strengthen our grip where we feel like God is already at work. In all that, my goal is that we will build together a family here at St Andrews, and we will be characterized by love and appreciation of each other and grow the parish together through our own gifts and talents.

I wish to thank all those who have made this past year a success and wish all those who are standing for leadership a successful tenure in leadership. I look forward to working with you all.

Blessings, The Venerable Mkhuseli Lujabe RECTOR

CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT

VESTRY 2024

How wonderful to be able to give this Warden's report with our new Rector in residence since August 2023!

Mkhuseli, Phyllis, Zintle, Uphiwo and Zinathi have embraced our community and settled in very well, for which we thank God.

Well done St Andrew's for keeping the faith during our long interregnum.

I would like to touch on a few aspects of Parish life:

Youth and Children's Church

There has been some positive action at Youth and Children's Church. Kyle Overmeyer has been appointed as Youth Ministry Co-ordinator since October 2023. Some great initiatives have already taken place and it is wonderful to see the enthusiasm on the Friday Youth evenings and at Sunday Children's Church. May this ministry continue to be blessed and "grow" from strength to strength.

Mini-Markets

We hosted two mini markets during 2023 which brought in R138 000. This year we will host one large market on 7 December with some ideas to run smaller events during the year. Please continue to support these not only by coming along and enjoying what is on offer but by donating goodies to be sold at the various stalls. Thank you to all involved, from stall convenors and to all those who donated goodies to be sold. All proceeds of the market go towards our Ministry to the Needy Outreach fund (MTN).

New Building Fundraising

We have made great progress with the new building and school renovation. The school renovation plans have been approved by the City of Cape Town and the hall plans are busy being circulated at the CoCT, so we are hoping to have that approval soon. I have repeated at every Vestry since 2019 that we would be continuing to fundraise for quite a while as building costs keep escalating, and that once the building is up, we would need to keep on fundraising until we have paid back the Diocesan loan facility. Some of you have continued to give every month to our new building, for which we are extremely grateful, and we have for some

time now been earning approximately R50 000 interest per month which certainly helps with the escalating costs! Rob will give further information in his Building Report.

Dedicated Giving

Graham will address this in the budget, but to say that Dedicated Giving has again decreased over the last year. We cannot sustain this continuous decrease and expect to run the Parish and support our MTN outreach. Historically, the rental we receive from Kildare School has mostly been channeled to our MTN Outreach Programme. Due to the drop in Dedicated Giving, we have had to channel more of this rental to cover our Parish operating costs. In 2022 we dropped our MTN budget from R500 000 to R 400 000, kept it at R400 000 for 2023 and this year we need to drop the budget further to R200 000 in 2024. Please keep our fundraising and outreach in your prayers.

Volunteers

We continue looking for new folk to step up and help us carry the load of guiding and caring for our Parish. Thank you to Council Members who have put themselves forward to stand again and thank you to those of you who have accepted nominations to stand on Council. After Easter, we will be embarking on a drive to encourage more folk to volunteer for the many varied functions and committees at the Parish. There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer!

Some special events

In 2023 we celebrated a few special events, the installation of Mkhuseli as Rector in August, Bishop Geoff's 90th Birthday as well as Elizabeth's 80th Birthday. How blessed we are to have these three amazing shepherds as part of our Parish community.

Farewell

We hosted a farewell tea for Stephen and Penny Middelkoop as Stephen takes up a post at St Paul's in Rondebosch. Stephen and Penny have played a huge part in our Parish life and while we will miss them. we wish them all the best for this new chapter.

Power!

We were able to have an inverter and battery installed to offset the impact of loadshedding. This has worked very well, and many thanks to all involved in this process.

Inclusive Church Network

St Andrew's has joined the inclusive Church Network based in the United Kingdom. Their statement closely mirrors our own statement of inclusivity, being:

God's love is inclusive of all regardless of race, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, economic status and other diversity. God loves all of us.

Being members of this network will enable us to reach out to other churches who feel the same way we do and there are many resources we can access through the network.

Ministry to the Needy Outreach Programme (MTN)

Even with a decreased budget, we are grateful that we were able to continue with our MTN outreach in 2023. A summary of the main items include:

- A bursary to an engineering student at Stellenbosch University
- Paid for the school fees, uniform and stationery requirements for 2 girls at Caravelle Primary School
- We packed 1246 Love Packs in 2023. These food parcels are distributed by Fikelela and Safeline. However, with the Diocesan changes at Fikelela, it no longer oversees the distribution of food parcels. We have thus not packed any Love Packs in 2024 yet. We will do some research and find new beneficiaries for these food parcels, as not only do they provide nourishment to those who are in need of it most, packing the parcels is a wonderful time of fellowship for us. It is wonderful to note that we still receive support from the Parish of St James and Warblington in England, for which we are extremely grateful
- We provided funding to Masikhule for 10 community-based ECD teachers
- We sponsored spices for cooking at Service Diningrooms

- We bought an Inverter for Khanyisa School for mentally challenged teenagers
- For Woodside Special Care Centre for intellectually disabled children and young adults, we funded repairs to their tyre swing equipment and provided a special Perspex tray for one resident who is wheelchair bound
- For Die Eiland Huis we sponsored medical supplies
- We sponsored food supplies at Turfhall Chesire Home
- We provided significant funding to The Homestead to provide food parcels to the children in their care to take home to their families over Christmas.
- We provided funding to the Good Start Trust for their Breakfast Club which provides a nutritious breakfast for school students before the school day begins
- At Peace Haven Senior Centre we supplied two new laptops
- For 67 Kids to School we supplied some funding to help provide stationery and other items for the start of school
- We helped The Parent Centre plant a garden at the entrance to their new building to make it more attractive for beneficiaries of their services to parents
- We sponsored a significant amount to U-Turn towards their fundraiser for a new Service Centre
- Through a parishioner we were able to make a substantial donation to The Parent Centre this year to help keep their Parent Infant and Fatherhood programmes running in vulnerable communities around Cape Town
- We supplied loads of jerseys, blankets and other clothing to various organisations that support the homeless, children and the elderly. Many thanks for all the donations we received at Jersey Sunday!

Thank you to those of you who fund the MTN budget with your dedicated giving.

After 7 years as Warden, I step down at this Vestry but remain available to be on Parish Council. I will be focussing more time on our new building as we break ground this year. I am very excited!

All that is left for me to say, is huge thanks to my fellow wardens, Jim and Nickie, as well as each Councillor for your time and dedication, Graham as Treasurer, Cullen Penny for being Honorary Auditor and especially to Bev for all your hard work and commitment. To Mkhuseli for embracing all of us. To Bishop Geoff and Elizabeth for your support and involvement, many thanks. And then to all of you, the Parishioners of St Andrew's, it is through your commitment, dedication and love that we are able to do God's work both within and without our Parish - thank you!

BUILDING **DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE REPORT**

VESTRY 2024

Background:

This exciting project's core purpose is to support our Parish Mission - to be a community-based church that takes God's love to the local community, to the poor, the needy and the world. More than building a hall, it is an expression of our faith and our hope for the future, where St Andrew's is a growing and welcoming church.

The vision is to develop a multi-purpose facility, supporting the growth of our church, providing Parish offices, a versatile and accessible hall and kitchen, and additional spaces for meetings and other activities. In the process Kildare Pre-Primary will undergo renovations and upgrades to its facilities.

Current Status:

1. Primary service providers:

- Architect: John Wilson-Harris of Gabriel Fagan Architects
- Quantity Surveyor: Graham Barratt of Barratt & Boyes
- Builder: To be appointed (see below)

2. Building Plans:

- Heritage approvals were obtained in January 2023.
- Phase 1 (School renovations): approved mid 2023.
- Phase 2 (Hall and related): submitted to the City of Cape Town in December and currently in circulation at planning department. The architects are not aware of any issues being raised and therefore expect approval in the near term.

3. Building tender:

- The project went out for tender in February, approaching 6 appropriate
- 3 firms have confirmed interest and are preparing responses, which are due by Friday 15 March. The participating builders are Bruce Dundas, MLP and Bambani.

4. Kildare Pre-Primary:

- There is ongoing engagement with the school principal and governing body, given the impact of the initiative on the school, including addressing concerns regarding child safety.
- Negotiations are taking place to revise the school's capital commitment, given increases since the initial commitment was made with the 2018 lease renewals.

Building Committee:

Thank you to all who continued to provide support and encouragement in the past year to many aspects of the project, specifically the Wardens and Council, as well as Brent Samson and Richard Emery.

Timeline:

Subject to the Phase 2 plans being approved by the City in the next 6-8 weeks, combined with the outcome of the builder tender process and final building cost negotiation, we are targeting to begin building in May/June 2024. A special vestry will be called to approve the builder appointment and building commencement. Phase 1 is expected to take 3 months, followed by Phase 2 over a further 9 months.

Financial Position:

Costing estimate #6 (7 Sept 2023)

R13.9 million (incl. an escalation estimate)

Professional fees

R1.5 million (net of payments already made)

To be funded:

R15.4 million

Funding Available:

On deposit (29 February 2024)
Loan facility from Diocese
School capital commitment

R10.2 million R2.5 million R1.5 million

Total

R14.2 million

Net shortfall to be addressed by:

- Potential identified cost savings to be confirmed with builder/QS.
- School negotiation
- Fundraising

Kind regards, Robert Coombe

HAPPY 40TH BIRTHDAY MKHUSELI

Tuesday 27th February

FORTIETH

After an interregnum that had shortened our fuse, God gave this youthful priest to us at St Andrew's. He breathed new life and growth – as we had hoped The way of our future was charted and scoped. Mkhuseli, charming shepherd and protector Had by God's grace become our presiding rector.

Today you're 40 – and we do so rejoice,
That you can blossom and have new voice,
To sing of truth, and power and love,
Bringing God's domain just as in heaven above.
We hope to thrive, and together as one
May we learn and live and have some fun!
Ps "Mkhuseli means protector in isiXhosa"

Jim teWaterNaude

FINANCE REPORT

VESTRY 2024

1. INCOME AND EXPENSES - 2023

2. GIVING

- a. Total giving and collections received for the year were R1.223m, which was R200 000 less than in 2022.
- b. Total giving and collections were short of budget by R330 000.
- c. The shortfall was reduced as R393 000 was moved from our reserves to income. This was necessary to reduce our reserves so that cash held could cover liabilities and reserve balances.

3. EXPENDITURE

- a. Total expenditure was R1.6m (2022: R1.7m), reflecting a decrease against the prior year. The major reason being that our new Rector arrived later on the year, whereas we had budgeted for a mid-year fulfilment.
- b. Total expenditure was slightly less than budgeted for the year.
- c. Of particular mention, repairs were heavy – upgrading the Rectory to replace ageing fittings, waterproof-

ing and repairs to the irrigation system. Gross repair costs for the year exceeded R125 000 before any transfers from provisions.

- 4. We ended the year with an operating loss of R303 240 but after transferring R393 000 from reserves and having to rely on rental income of R383 000 (previously used for our Outreach Program), we were able to reflect an excess of R472 972. As mentioned previously, we have had to reflect an excess in order for cash to cover liabilities and reserves.
- 5. Trending over the last 5 years reflects increasing costs under inflation but against flat/reducing Giving growth, resulting in expenses exceeding Giving since 2019, so for a few years in succession.

6. BALANCE SHEET - 2023

Our Balance Sheet has weakened this year as we have reduced reserves so that our bank and cash balances cover our liabilities.

We used R50 000 from our maintenance

reserve to cover the deposit on the gabion repairs, which had collapsed. The Mission & Ministry fund has reduced as we have had to transfer R393 000 to income. The Outreach fund has reduced as we have had to use rental income to cover church operations, whereas in prior years, rental income was donated to our Outreach Programme.

The building fund has increased by R629 000 from interest and donations and we paid out R184 000 in architects and quantity surveyor fees this year. Part of a bequest held was used to finance the inverter installation.

7. BUDGET 2024

We have based the budget on a 10% increase in Giving and Collections, expenses increasing for inflation, and the increase in certain costs as we have a Rector for the full year.

8. REVENUE

a. We have produced a budget by looking at anticipated expenses for

the year based on last year's costs taking into account new information and have provided for revenue required to meet these costs.

The Rector and Wardens are embarking on a drive to increase giving by 10% (an increase of R117 318 from last year).

- b. As mentioned in last year's report, we will need to look at other revenue streams. In this year's budget, we are using R97 500 from the Mission & Ministry Fund to support the additional cost of a youth worker.
- c. 80% of the rental from the school has been set aside to ensure income can cover Parish operating expenses.

9. EXPENSES

- a. Total costs are anticipated at R1.248m (2023 actual R1.232m), an increase of 1%.
- a. Salaries and wages increases have been set at 5%, but the total Salaries cost is 10% higher than last year as we have a new Youth Worker and a Cleaner for the full year.

10. MINISTRY TO THE NEEDY (MTN)

In 2023, we set an MTN budget of R400 000, but due to the shortfall in Giving, this has been reduced to R200 000 in 2024.

Graham Reynolds

FIRST AID

St Andrew's now has newly-trained Level 1 First-Aiders! Three of us - Bev Shaw. Mkhuseli Lujabe and Jim teWaterNaude are newly certified, having undergone the prescribed training course for Basic Life Support. Diana Grant we were pleased to establish is already certified! Kyle Overmeyer will also do the course soon. These and other trained health workers will form the core-responder group at St Andrew's events.

We would then like to add a support responder group to undergo a 4-hour Basic First Aid and CPR course at Constantiaberg in April or May, so please volunteer! Evidence shows that where trained bystanders can give basic life-support to those in need, both mortality and morbidity (e.g. strokes) are lessened.

Jim te Water Naude

BUDGET 2024

Dedicated Giving	1 358 958
Collections	72 949
Fees and sundry income	100 131
Kildare Rental Income	329 267
Archdeacon Allowance	71 208
Giving and collection receipts	1 932 513
Diocesan Assessment	415 535
Parish assessment	267 876
Total Assessment	683 411
Gross receipts after assessments	1 249 102
Travel allowance	139 760
Accounting Fees	7 277
Altar requirements	2 000
Bank charges	15 291
Children's Church	5 000
Depreciation of fixed assets	53 361
Electricity, rates and water	100 025
Flowers	1 651
Garden	59 898
Insurance	44 751
Music and choir	2 696
Telkom	6 000
Cellphone allowance	18 375
Postage	205
Stationery	3 000
Publications	12 779
Repairs and Maintenance	60 000
Repair & M Church	55 000
Repair & M School	5 000
Rector discretion allowance	2 500
Security	46 655
Sundry expenses	5 000
Photocopier	6 166
Teas and entertaining	6 000
Visiting clergy	40 000
Youth costs	6 000
Consumables	1 000
IT costs	10 000
Training/Retreats	8 000
Quiet Mornings	3 811
Gifts	2 000
Salaries and wages	578 989
Expenses	1 248 191
Net receipts before outreach	911

Tuesday 13th February





































I'm sure you'll agree that we have been truly blessed to have Stephen, Penny and family as part of our St Andrew's Parish for a varying number of decades!

Stephen's involvement in Parish life has been immense. Without going into detail, for fear of omitting some... he has generously shared his time, skills and inspired insights with warmth and empathy and always a dash of humour.... from Youth teaching to preaching; from council meetings to pastoral care; from dramatized scripture to powerful prayer ... our sincere gratitude to you, Stephen.

And to Penny, your service to St Andrews has encompassed so many aspects... you've shared your beautiful musical talents with us, ministered at services, led Children's

Church, served on Council as well as filling in at the Church office on many occasionssuch extensive involvement, which we do so appreciate!

Some of us recall Douglas and Scott as young teenagers involved in choir and Evening services and watching Andrew and Amy growing up and sharing their wonderful musical talents with us too!

We thank you all for being a very special part of the St Andrews family, and though we know we are here to mark the end of an era for you, it's a comfort knowing you're really "just down the road".

So instead of saying "Goodbye", let's rather say "Tot Ziens"!

Janine Tough



Harvest Festival



THE ICONIC HARVEST **FESTIVAL PHOTO WAS** TAKEN IN THE CHURCH **SCHOOL GROUNDS IN** PALMBOOM RD 1949.

THE STAFF OF ST. ANDREW ENGLISH CHURCH SCHOOL. [pictured]

The headmaster, Samuel Dudley wears a bow tie, in keeping with hid dress code. The school had a strong Anglican ethos and relocated to Kildare Rd where the Kildare Rd pre-school is situated. Harvest Festival and St. Andrew the Apostle [30 Nov] were popular Feast Days. The church was packed, and the West door was opened to accommodate the overflow.

Harvest festival is a time of thanksgiving, In the church the bell is ringing As the white robed choristers process with singing.

Every nook and cranny of St. Andrew Is packed with the harvest. Of the crop which grew In the Newlands soil which the locals knew.

One of the biggest feast days Is celebrated in the church on Harvest Sunday With thankful hearts to the King of creation Whose blessings are on those in meditation.

February is the month of year. When Harvest festival is here In the village of Newlands which brings much cheer.

The Harvest hymn of childhood sing **Praises to our heavenly King** The harvest is plentiful indeed. As the fields are ploughed and scattered with seed.

The congregation in the packed church Listen to the priest as he prays the prayer of thanksgiving. And the incense smoke ascends to the ceiling.

ONE OF MY UNPUBLISHED POEMS AND EXTRACT OF OUR MEMOIRS - Richard Buttress (Copyright Reserved)

PARISH DIARY

MARCH		
Tuesday 12	Lent Course Week 4	19:30
Wednesday 13	Lent Course Week 4 Parish Council Meeting	10:30 19.30
Thursday 14	Lay Minister Meeting	19.30
Tuesday 19	Lent Course Week 5	19.30
Wednesday 20	Lent Course Week 5	10.30
Thursday 21	Human Rights Day – Public Holiday	Church office closed
Thursday 21	Poetic & Historical Walk in Newlands with Richard & Lauretta Buttress	09:00 – 11:00
Sunday 24	Palm Sunday followed by bring 'n share tea	08:30
Thursday 28	Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist	19:00
Friday 29	Good Friday Children's Service Good Friday Devotion	10:00 12:00
Sunday 31	Easter Vigil Easter Mass	06:30 09:00
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 21 MARCH – 2 APRIL (INCLUSIVE)		

APRIL			
Monday 1	Easter Monday Public Holiday	Church office closed	
Mkhuseli on leave Monday 1 April – Friday 5 April			
Wednesday 10	Memorial Service Doreen Reeves	15:00	
Thursday 11	Lay Minister Meeting	19.30	
Sunday 14	Licensing of Parish Council (venue to be confirmed)	17:00	
FRIDAY 19 APRIL – SUNDAY 21 APRIL CHURCH WEEKEND AWAY AT GOEDGEDACHT			
Wednesday 24	Parish Council Meeting	19:30	
Saturday 27	Quiet Morning led by Bishop Geoff Quinlan	09:30 – 12:00	
MAY			
Monday 1	Public Holiday (1 May Worker's Day)	Church Office closed	
Thursday 9	Lay Minister Meeting	19:30	
Saturday 25	Quiet Morning led by Nan Martin	09.30 - 12.00	
Wednesday 29	General Elections – Public Holiday	Church office closed	
JUNE			
Thursday 6	Lay Minister Meeting	19:30	
DIOCESAN SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF CAPE TOWN THURSDAY 13 – SATURDAY 15			



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 15 JUNE TO 8 JULY (INCLUSIVE)

Church office closed

Youth Day Public Holiday

Public Holiday

Sunday 16

Monday 17



FROM OUR REGISTERS

Died

24 December 2023 Jaap Dekker 3 March 2024 David Whittaker

Baptised 17 December 2023 Hannah Good

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