

# KEEPING in TOUCH

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH NEWLANDS

Tel. 021 674 3851

office@standrewsnewlands.org.za

www.standrewsnewlands.org.za

Spring  
Newsletter 2024

## THE SHEPHERD'S PEN

### FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK

*"In the Tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on High shall break upon us" (Luke 1: 78 – 79)*

I am reminded of these words which I choose as the title theme for my note for this edition of our Parish Spring Newsletter. These are the words of Zechariah uttered as a song of thanksgiving to God, who, remembering promises, bestowed a new gift to Zechariah and Elizabeth as part of God's greater plan to bring new life to humanity. These are necessary words for our ears as the community and family of St Andrews, because they remind us of God's continued faithfulness to us also as individuals and as a Parish.

The season after Easter continued to see us ascend greatly towards God's face, as we continued to thrive as a parish community in our endeavours to build community in this new season in our Parish. Having sat on the few parish council meetings, I continue to be grateful for THE LEADERSHIP OF THIS PARISH, who in their dedication and hearts of service to this church, continue to be a source of strength and encouragement in my work.

Towards the end of the third quarter of this year, we received news of BEV'S RESIGNATION from her position as Parish Secretary, a position she served us in since 2011. As much as we were all carrying heavy emotions because of our own need to see Bev stay with us, we had to release her to pursue her first love, which is caring for others. We wish to thank Bev, and especially from the Rector's office, for all her hard work and commitment to our Parish, and to my stability as I settled in my new role as your Rector. We pray that we may fill this position with a person of equal compassion, love and grace with which Bev conducted herself as she

served us in her role.

We are also continually grateful for KYLE AS OUR YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR in this Parish, as we continue to see the growth and involvement of young people in our parish community. Our serving Guild, Youth Evenings, and Junior Church are gaining a stable momentum, and I continue to pray and invite all of you to rally behind our youth ministry by encouraging and drawing our youth in every aspect of our community life so that we know that we are a family of inclusive participation, leaving no one behind, forgotten or left out. Kyle now continues his tenure with us not only as our Youth Ministry Coordinator, but also as an Ordinand, as he was discerned for ordained ministry by the Diocese. In a year or two, we will have to say goodbye to Kyle as he will be sent to the Anglican Seminary in Grahamstown for further formation and training for ministry. At present, we are grateful that he can continue to serve among us in the various capacities that he holds. Please keep him and Tamson in your prayers as they journey together in this season.

This next quarter of the year, which will see us to the end of 2024, and the greater part of 2025, we are looking forward to the start of THE BUILDING PROJECT in our parish. This is indeed an exciting season, and we continue to be grateful to Rob and his team, and all those who have had their hearts attached to the vision of this project over the years. Once again, we call on all to have their hands involved, and knees intact in prayer as we wish to all see the fulfillment of the vision of



### FROM OUR REGISTERS

*Died*

17 Aug 2024 Richard Drummond

11 Sept 2024 Chris Raubenheimer

*Baptised*

18 Aug 2024 Angus Haysom

this project. I also make special appeal to us all to contribute financially towards this project, as you will be aware that we pursue it in great faith with a shortfall that is foreseen, but, as we all rally behind this project, we will overcome this together, and I urge that we spread the word far and wide to make it a success.

Lastly, over my time here in the past year, there have been enquiries about EVENING SERVICES ON SUNDAYS, which were once a feature of our worship life before the start of the COVID pandemic, and never lifted off again when the country was open after the lockdown to this day. I am pleased to make known that

Parish Council has agreed that we return to evening worship, at the beginning of October 2024. Services will take place at 18h00 every Sunday in the Church. These will be services that will aim to reach out to us all in our various expressions of spirituality, meaning that we will have different kinds of services that speak to people who have a longing to worship God in a way that is comfortable for their spiritualities.

Thus, we have ordered the Evening Service as follows:

**1st Sunday:**

Evening Eucharist

**2nd Sunday:**

Contemplative/ Taizé style worship

**3rd Sunday:**

Healing prayers

**4th Sunday:**

Evening Praise & Worship

(Youth Ministry led)

**5th Sunday:**

Traditional Evensong

I pray that you will come and explore how God invites you to come away with him over this new season, so that as we do so, we may meet the dawn of newness that God offers to us as a parish during this exciting time of our journey.

Always and faithfully yours,  
*The Venerable Mkhusele Lujabe*  
Rector



## “DIE EILAND HUIS” VIR GESTREMDES

NPO 037-220 / PBO 930024147

*One person can make a difference ... and that person is you.*

Tel: +27 022 742 1048 • Fax: 086 6674028 • E-Mail: dieeilandhuis@webmail.co.za•

Web: www.theislandhouse.org

15th July 2024

**Attention: St Andrews Church Newlands**

**77 Kildare Road Newlands 7700**

**Cape Town**

Dear Ms Coombe

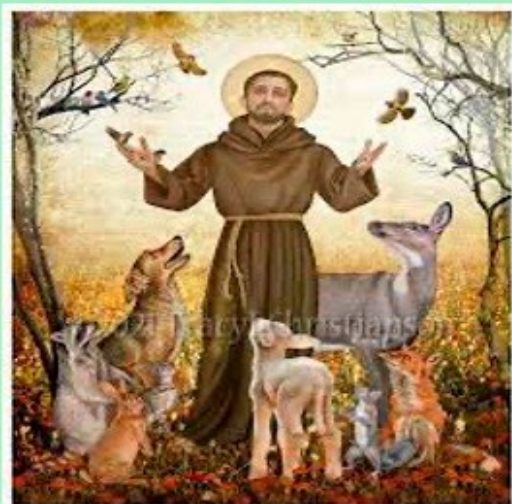
### DIE EILAND HUIS THANKS YOU

On behalf of our management team, staff and beneficiaries we wish to thank you and St Andrews Church Newlands most sincerely for your generous donation of R5,000.00 that will go a far way to assist the 15 severely disabled children in our care.

Hope you have a blessed day and a great year.

Kind regards  
*Justine Noble*

## BLESSING OF ANIMALS ST FRANCIS DAY



*St Andrews' Church,  
Newlands  
(Church Lawn)*

*06 October 2024*

*15:30*

Join us on the Church Lawn as we commemorate St Francis Day. Bring your Animals which you would like to be blessed at this special service, as we continue to live co-exist with the entire creation.

# OUR BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

## Tuesday morning Bible study group

This group has existed for over forty years; nobody seems to know for sure for how long.

We used to meet at members houses, but during covid, we were forced to switch to Zoom meetings, which has ultimately meant that people from further afield are able to join us, so this is how we continue to meet, on the small screen. Anyone is welcome. We have 20 members but, it is not often that we are all present.

Bishop Geoff is our leader, but if he is unable to do so, I lead the group. He sends us a message a few days beforehand, telling us what we will be reading and discussing. At the moment, we are making our way through Ephesians, only a chapter or a few verses at a time, which we read through and contemplate how it speaks to us personally. At the meeting we read it again and share our insights, and, if there, Bishop Geoff adds his input. It may sound intimidating, but it really is not, and we are learning to trust our own insights, and how our reading and discussion speaks to individual hearts.

*Stephanie Saunders*

## Tuesday evening Bible study group

Our group has met regularly on Tuesday evenings for many years under the wise leadership of Bishop Geoff. We are kindly hosted at some of the group members' homes on a rotational basis and start our time together with a catch-up chat, over a cup of tea (& cake!).

We move then to a structured reflection on the Bible verses that Bishop Geoff has shared, prior to our meeting. The extract is read aloud to the group from a couple of different Bible versions with Bishop Geoff encouraging us to reflect prayerfully and identify a phrase or singular verse that we feel drawn to. We then share this with the group, without any analysis.

Following this, we look at the reading as a whole and discuss aspects that we were drawn to or that may need further clarification. We are truly blessed to have Bishop Geoff guide us through this process as he encourages us to share our interpretations and ask questions, if anything is unclear. Drawing from his



wealth of knowledge and deep spiritual insights, Bishop Geoff adds to the discussion as needed, helping to clarify and enrich our understanding. Over the years, Bishop Geoff has also nurtured and enhanced our prayer-life by sharing different approaches to prayer and has shown us how we can use the Word meaningfully, as part of our prayers.

*Janine Tough*

## Wednesday Bible study home group

The Wednesday Group has been meeting for some twenty-five years. Initially at the home of Eleanor & Frank Wright, and when they left Newlands, at Margie & Graham Michael's. This year the Michaels sold their house in Kildare Road, and for the last few months, the meetings have been held mostly at Mags Wingfield or Margie Bewick's homes, with Beryl & Edgar Ruiters also hosting a meeting before they too sold their home.

There are currently eight parishioners in the group, and there is always room for a couple more. The meetings start at 7:30 p.m. and end at 9:00 p.m. They are run on a basis of both fellowship, with its

fun and laughter, and serious studies of scripture.

Over the years many books of the Bible have been comprehensively studied, both New and Old Testaments. Specific aspects of Scripture, too many to mention here, other than to say that a study of the true meaning and impact of the Cross, now coming to an end, are also studied. This is about to be followed by an in-depth study of the Holy Spirit.

The Bible Study takes the form of questions from Study Aids being answered and fully discussed by group members. Members come to a meeting fully prepared to answer questions and discuss the topic at hand, as worksheets are given out at the previous meeting.

At least once a year, in fostering Fellowship, an evening dinner is held. All group members consider belonging to the Wednesday Group as being most beneficial to their journey of Faith and often remark as to how meaningful it is to them personally. It is just such a pity that so many parishioners at St. Andrews, by not attending Home Groups, are missing out on such rewarding experiences.

*Graham Michael*



## CHURCH BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE:

# EXCITING TIMES AHEAD!

We're thrilled to announce that both Phases 1 and 2 of our building project have received City of Cape Town approval! Here's a quick update on what's happening:

### 1. Phase 1

The school revamp officially started on Tuesday, 17 September, with the site handover. The builders wasted no time in preparing the site and starting work on the old hall. We're trying to salvage some of the Oregon pine flooring and cupboards for future use. The timing couldn't be better, as it aligns with Kildare's school holidays, ensuring minimal disruption. Phase 1 will be complete in December and Phase 2 – the new hall and offices - will start in 2025.

### 2. Hall Clear-Out:

The hall has been cleared, and all its contents have been moved to a garage in Newlands for storage during construction. Please note we no longer have access to the old hall.

### 3. Builder and Contract:

Both the Diocese and Bambana have signed the building contract. While there was a slight price escalation, we are working to secure current prices by placing orders now.

### 4. Electrical Supply:

The new plans will consolidate the entire erf's electricity supply, with separate meters for each building – the Bishops House, Church, Hall, Vestry and School.

### 5. Kildare Contribution:

Kildare has recognized their need for an additional contribution, although this is still under discussion.

### 6. Parking Lease:

Both St. Andrew's and the Diocese are on board with the new parking lease arrangement from the City

### 7. Financials:

We've received R1.3 million in pledges so far, with R200,000 already in the bank. We made a R1 million drawdown from the Diocese to cover the initial payments.

### 8. Insurance:

The entire project is covered via a Construction All Risks and SASRIA insurance policy with Old Mutual Insure.

### Next Steps:

The Building Committee has set up a troubleshooting mechanism to handle any issues that might come up. The sod-turning ceremony is planned for Sunday, 22 September.

We are enthused and excited as we transform and grow our church through this new community resource for Newlands! We are bracing ourselves and praying for as smooth a ride as possible.

*Rob Coombe and the Building Committee*

# THE BENEDICTUS

*In the Great Thanksgiving we proclaim each Sunday,  
"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest."*

**Who is he?** Is it Jesus, or does it refer to God, whose name many prefer to utter when we pray the Sanctus (Holy, holy, holy Lord ---) and the Benedictus? Our former theologian, John Suggitt, explains that in Psalm 118 : 26 we read, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord", a greeting to pilgrims to Jerusalem at Passover. However, the evangelists use the words referring especially to the coming of Christ to his people, as we have also in our eucharistic liturgy.

Please could we stick to saying "he" as we "proclaim his great and glorious Name", that of Jesus Christ?

*Ivor Jardine*



## CURRY SUPPER

**27 AUGUST**

This 'last celebration in the hall' was a wonderful evening of friends, food and fellowship. Thanks to Nickie Anderssen and all her helpers for the delicious fare!



## ST ANDREW'S MONTH OF COMPASSION

# MINISTRY TO THE NEEDY VISITS

In our August Month of Compassion MTN visited three of our regular beneficiaries.

*Abundant Blessings, Debbie*

### Service Dining Rooms (SDR)

It is always an inspiration to visit the Service Dining Rooms where a small staff contingent feeds an average of 320 homeless folk every weekday. About 7 young children come along with their parents, as well as a few very cute well looked after dogs! A nutritious lunch is served at 12h00 with the help of one or two volunteers. This substantial plate of food costs R2, this is charged to allow the dignity of being able to buy a meal but at the same time, should folk not have any money, no-one is turned away. SDR also has dog food for hungry canines. Nickie and I had the privilege of helping serve on the day and the routine is so well organized and the banter amongst everyone so kind and beautiful. Such empathy in action!

Other than constantly needing funding, one of the challenges is providing water which is expensive. During COVID the City of Cape Town closed all the public taps, and these have remained closed. Many homeless come looking for water at SDR but like electricity the cost of water is also quite high. SDR have installed two rain tanks to help meet the demand and St Andrew's has sponsored the pumps needed for the tanks. SDR are always looking for containers with lids (like large yoghurt/ice cream or similar tubs), if you have you can drop off at 82 Canterbury Street, Cape Town.



### Heaven's Nest

Heaven's Nest is a home for children who are mostly wards of the State and have suffered abuse. The home is always well kept and the staff loving and caring. Elizabeth Cherry and Wendy Kemp accompanied me on this visit. Thembelani, the manager of the Centre shares that "The pain of the children is heartbreaking – from newborn babies to those who know the extreme pain both physically and mentally, from enduring constant beatings from their parents, particularly their mothers and grandparents. Their needs are great and must be addressed with love, counselling (both for victims and perpetrators). Heaven's Nest needs support – spiritual, financial and practical, like volunteers".

In Elizabeth's words: "A deep soul-searching visit was experienced by me".

MTN is providing funding to renovate their counselling room. Wendy commented that through the Parish we should donate Children's bibles, funds for bean bags, teddies or blankets for the young ones.



### Khanyisa Waldorf School

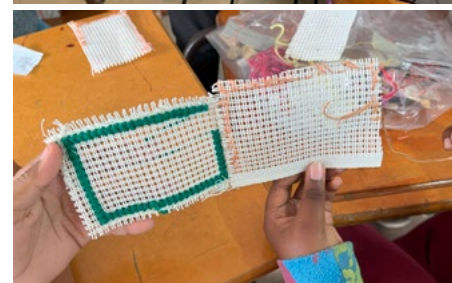
Roger Prideaux and I visited Khanyisa Waldorf School for Special Education. This is the only school in South Africa which operates along the Waldorf principles for special needs education for students up to Grade 9. There are currently 56 students at the school, where apart from core subjects they also learn skills in carpentry, computers, cooking and sewing. We learnt some interesting things on our visit, did you know that a pugilist is a boxer? I also learnt to Poi Dance which I have never heard of before, a Poi Dance is part of Maori cultural tradition and involves dancing with slightly weighted tethers being swung in rhythmical patterns. Roger had this to say of our visit:

"Thanks for the visit to Khanyisa; I thoroughly enjoyed it especially the poi dancing!

The children (aged between 13 and 18) all have learning challenges, but it was great to see the variety of classes that are on offer which include pottery, woodwork, and computer skills, all aimed at giving opportunities in the job market once their time at Khanyisa is over.

At the moment there are 56 students (both boys and girls) in classes of approximately twelve in number. They come from all parts of the peninsula.

Private funding is always necessary, and St Andrews' contribution is most welcome. For example, new stoves are needed!" St Andrew's has provided funding for two new stoves for their cooking classes.





## *Farewell Dear Bev*

Bev, you started here not knowing anyone but are leaving knowing everyone!

You have gone far beyond the call of duty with regards to your job, being secretary, bookkeeper, counsellor, carer, chair mover, leaf sweeper, staff supervisor, décor specialist, irrigation repairer, tea server, funeral server, ashes interment digger, to name a few - and friend to so many.

You were always at your desk early, stayed long after your allotted hours and were available after work hours, even in the evening. You have been the glue that has kept all the moving parts of this Parish together – not only together but in good working order too!

It is not going to be easy to replace you, in fact I think we probably won't be able to find someone as dedicat-



ed, passionate and skilled as you for the position!

You are leaving a work position, but for us you are not leaving our St Andrew's community, and you will always be a part of the St Andrew's family and are always very welcome to come back home to worship with us! Just think we will have our new building! Aren't you lucky you are going to miss all the dust in the next 12 or so months!

We wish you all the best in your new adventure doing caring in the UK – hopefully your patients are not too adventurous and that you find fulfilment and joy in what you do.

Thank you for everything you have done for our community.

We are certainly going to miss you! And send you off with all our very best blessings and love!

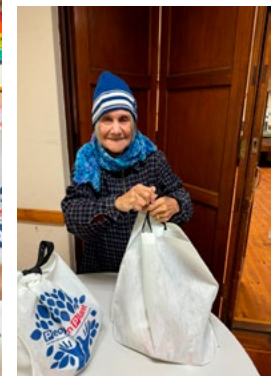




# LOVE PACKS REPORT

We salute our St Andrews Youth who took an initiative to pack food parcels during their Youth evening. Kyle Overmeyer and his team were joined by Church Parishioners to pack 150 food parcels. The food parcels were distributed to NPO's and Charities in need. We salute our young people for their excellent act of care!

*The Love Pack Committee*





# LICENSING OF NEW LAY MINISTERS



**SUNDAY 25 AUGUST**  
 Congratulations to  
 Mandy Lewis, Heli Moeng,  
 Kyle Overmeyer &  
 Mishinga Seyuba-Kombo



## PARISH DIARY

| SEPTEMBER                                |                                      |                      |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Tuesday 24                               | Heritage Day Public Holiday          | Church office closed |
| Wednesday 25 – Friday 27                 | Kids Holiday Club                    | 08:00 – 12:00        |
| Saturday 28                              | Quiet morning                        | 09:30 – 12:00        |
| <b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 21 – 30 SEPTEMBER</b> |                                      |                      |
| OCTOBER                                  |                                      |                      |
| Sunday 6                                 | St Francis service on lawn           | 15:30                |
| Thursday 10                              | Lay Minister Meeting                 | 19.30                |
| Saturday 12                              | Love packs                           | 09:30 – 11:00        |
| Sunday 20                                | Baptism                              | 09:15                |
| Saturday 26                              | Quiet morning                        | 09:30 – 12:00        |
| Sunday 27                                | Dedication Sunday / Harvest Festival |                      |
| NOVEMBER                                 |                                      |                      |
| Thursday 7                               | Lay Minister Meeting                 | 19:30                |
| Sunday 17                                | Vox Concert                          | 15:30                |
| Sunday 24                                | St Andrew's Patronal Festival        |                      |
| Saturday 30                              | Quiet morning                        | 09:30 – 12:00        |
| DECEMBER                                 |                                      |                      |
| Friday 6                                 | Love packs – Youth                   | 19:00                |
| Saturday 7                               | Christmas Market                     |                      |
| Saturday 14                              | Banks wedding                        | 11.30                |
| Sunday 15                                | Baptism                              | 09:15                |
| Monday 16                                | Public holiday – Reconciliation Day  | Office closed        |
| Wednesday 25                             | Christmas Day                        |                      |
| Thursday 26                              | Day of Goodwill                      |                      |

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