

KEEPING in TOUCH

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH NEWLANDS
Tel. 021 674 3851 office@standrewsnewlands.org.za
www.standrewsnewlands.org.za

Winter
Newsletter

THE SHEPHERD'S PEN FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK

"Unless the Lord builds a house, those who build it labor in vain" (Psalm 127: 1)

It gives me great joy to contribute to this winter edition of our Newsletter, the first for 2025. In my last contribution, I was anticipating with real excitement, the start of the building project which was to ensue soon last year in Spring. With real joy in my heart, the project is in full swing of progress, having completed the greater aspect of the project with the renovation of Kildare Primary earlier this year.

All the building was marked by a very meaningful groundbreaking ceremony, with which we commended to God, the building works that were to ensue thereafter. At this stage, we pray that we will see the building to its completion, as we anticipate this milestone for later in the year. It is indeed by God's grace, who is the master-builder, that we are able to see this dream which has been on a build-up from many years preceding, and we give thanks to God for all the strength which has been given to us to see this project through to this point.

A season of new beginnings was the obvious theme of this year, as we received the new Parish Secretary, Jeanne Coomer whom I am glad that many of you have met and got to work with and know by now. We continue to pray for her, as she grows and find her feet at St Andrew's in her capacity, and especially for the transition later as we move into the new Parish offices in the anticipated completed Church hall.

It has been wonderful to see to a few new families that have been joining the parish slowly over the last year, a couple of these we welcomed at a special tea in November last year as part of our Patronal celebrations. I encourage great welcome to all new people and visitors who join our worship community, this is at the heart of our identity as the Church as we are always called to be a place of welcome and embrace so that at St Andrew's people will always find a home to belong.

Our services have been a wonderful and meaningful space in which we have been intentional about making moments for meeting with God, and to strengthen our relationship with Christ. The re-introduction of the evening services, with focus on different aspects of our Spiritual needs, has been key in ensuring that we meet people in their diverse longings for God. Though they have a very small attendance rate compared to the morning gatherings of worship, the evening services continue to have people whose needs are met by the diversity offered in them.

It is for the same purpose that I have earmarked the 09:15 morning service as a space for much more diverse worship, seeking to meet the needs of the young people, children, all languages represented in the body of our worship, and particularly to encourage those who have gifts which need to be used for God's glory and for the growth of the body of Christ. I do hope that we will welcome the new additions to our services and embrace the vibrancy that is sought by them as all who come to worship will relate to what we do as we worship God Almighty.

Our Young people, under the great leadership and guidance of Kyle Overmeyer, continue to be a source of inspiration. They continue to enliven the parish community, as ongoing ministry and fellowship happens among them. Friday evenings continue to be the time dedicated to youth activity here in the parish, with Confirmation classes, Serving Guild, and Youth gathering for the rest of the evening. I encourage you to send young people in your homes to attend youth meetings, as this is a ministry which we have set aside, to fund and support, as part of God's mission in this community. I look forward to new leaders that will be formed out of this enthusiastic group of young people, from whom Kyle has identified leaders of impact, value and substance to be nurtured and sustain the fellowship of young people.

I give thanks to God for all those who play significant roles in leadership, to see to it that the parish is led in collaboration, as we together build the body of Christ, the Church of God.

May God prosper the parish of St Andrew's in the coming months!

Much love,

The Venerable Mkhusele Lujabe

(Rector)



Easter 2025



St Andrew's Church Newlands

From Our Registers

Dearly Departed

"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39

27 October 2024: Priscilla Rubidge
16 December 2024: Christine Hughes
23 February 2025: Andreas Nel
02 April 2025: Avriil Meinesz
09 April 2025: Gillian Franks
11 May 2025: Geraldine Gonçalves
26 May 2025: Fred Allibone
27 May 2025: Vaughan Fortuin
05 June 2025: Margie Barnard
09 June 2025: Andrew van Reenen
30 June 2025: Sheila Dove

Baptized:

"For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." Galatians 3:27

20 October 2024: Isabel van der Westhuizen
3 November 2024: Connor and Luke Lederle
10 November 2024: Julia Barbieri
15 December 2024:
❖ Angus Alexander
❖ Emma te Water Naude
❖ Eliza te Water Naude
2 March 2025: Umtha Mvunge
15 June 2025: Milisa Mvunge
13 July 2025: Alex Nieman

Hymns and more

Have you ever wondered about the hymn writers? Who were they? What were their lives like? I took out a helpful book from the library, 'Amazing Grace Illustrated stories of favourite hymns' by Kenneth W. Osbeck. Let me draw you into this fascinating study.

I am sure most of you will have sung Amazing Grace many times and will remember that the hymn was written by John Newton (1725 to 1807). He was a former slave trader but converted following storm at sea. He was influenced by John and Charles Wesley. He became an ordained Anglican priest serving at Olney near Cambridge.

On to Fanny Crosby (1820 to 1915). She wrote "Blessed Assurance" a great favourite of one of our congregation in Durban. Fanny was blind from babyhood. She wrote over 8000 hymns living to the age of 95. She died in Connecticut.

The next hymn writer I will talk about is Charles Wesley (1707 to 1788). His hymn, "Soldiers of Christ Arise" was inspired by the biblical text Ephesians 6 verses 10-20 wherein we are encouraged to put on 'the whole armour of God'. Charles wrote over 6500 hymns in his life time. You will remember these - "O for a thousand tongues to sing"; "Hark the herald angels sing" and "Love divine all loves excelling".

Charles was the younger brother of John Wesley. Another brother was Samuel. He attended Oxford University. He and his brothers travelled around Britain converting many people to Methodism. Charles was the 18th child born to Susanna and Samuel Wesley. (from Wikipedia). Look it up it is fascinating reading. How different were the lives of English people in the 1700s.

My all-time favourite hymn is by Horatio E. Spafford - "It is well with my soul". Here are the first few lines.

"When peace like a river attended my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll - whatever
my lot, Thou has taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul".
Spafford was a successful lawyer in Chicago but multiple tragedies struck. Many of his real estate investments were destroyed in the great Chicago fire of 1871. Spafford's great friend was the Presbyterian evangelist, D.L. Moody. Spafford was to meet Moody in Europe to help with a meeting but Spafford had to decline as he had business to attend to in Chicago so he sent his wife and four daughters on the ship S.S. *Ville de Havre*. Half way to Europe while crossing the Atlantic, the ship struck another vessel and the ship sank. The four daughters drowned but Mrs. Spafford survived. It was while on board the ship that took him to the spot the S.S. *Ville de Havre*, went down he sat on the deck and wrote "It is well with my soul".

Later the Spafford's went to Europe to evangelise. Whenever we sing this hymn I am struck by the faithfulness of the Spafford's who, despite these harsh tragedies, continued to work for God. They are an example of true faith. The words and music of this hymn give us courage to go on in the faith despite hardships.

While looking into the words written I also wondered who had written the music for the hymns. In the book quoted above I read that the music for Amazing Grace was an 'American melody from Carrell & Clayton's *Virginia Harmony*, 1831. Fanny Crosby's words were put to music by P. Knapp and Charles Wesley's by George J. Elvey. The music for "It is well with my soul" was written by Philip P. Bliss.

We need to know so much more about the hymn writers and musicians. I hope I have whetted your appetite to find out more. How fortunate are we to enjoy singing these beautiful hymns especially accompanied by our talented organist, Mark Mitchell and keyboard player, Jos Taylor.

Gillian Bowden

A Reflection on Glory

At our Tuesday evening Bible study with Bishop Geoff, we often entertain posers like: "What is grace?" and "What is peace?" The answers we arrive at are heart-warming, surprising, and often challenging.

In a similar vein, I've recently found myself asking: What is glory? On the very first page of the Eucharist service, the congregation launches into the Gloria, proclaiming God's glory in the words first heard by the shepherds in Luke 2. An angel announces the birth of Jesus, and then a multitude of the heavenly host proclaim: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward all people."

The Eastern Church adds this beautiful preamble "Glory to you who have shown us the light."

These proclamations were used by the early church from the second and third centuries and became known as the Gloria in Excelsis Deo - "Glory to God in the highest." Our recitation continues: "... we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory."

We are taught that glory is a multifaceted concept. It refers both to the intrinsic grandeur and perfection of God and to the fitting human response to God's revealed character. I've always pictured it as something majestic and far beyond the reaches of daily life - something we might encounter one day in heaven, or perhaps in a rare moment like the shepherds for those in the right place at the right time.

But saying the Gloria each week implies something quite different: that our experience of glory is not rare, but regular - woven into our lives far more often than we realise. So, the question changes: "How, Lord? How do I praise you for your glory?" We are given some clues. Let's start big and work our way inwards. Psalm 19 tells us: "The heavens declare the glory of God... Day after day they tell the story, night after night they tell it again."

We are part of this creation. In Genesis, we read: "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness" and God declared that this was very good. Psalm 139 tells us that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made." These words affirm that creation itself—including our very being—is an act of divine artistry, worthy of reverence and gratitude. Saying the Gloria might then be our attempt to express the inexpressible. Even though we are made in God's image, we still fall short - made "a little lower than God" (Psalm 8), or "lower than the angels" as earlier translations put it. Despite this, Jesus invites us into his glory. In John 17, he says: "The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one, as we are one." Deep stuff. The reflection deepens as we consider: What is the glory that Jesus has given us?

This is where the word glorify enters the picture and begins to answer our original question. Jesus glorified God by revealing God to us—through his life, his teaching, his ministry, and his example. As John 1:14 puts it: "The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth."

In his life, Jesus fully became who he was meant to be, and he calls us to do the same.

We glorify God when we fully become the person God created us to be, expressing our gifts, living authentically, and growing into our true selves. 2 Corinthians 3 puts it this way: "We all show the Lord's glory, and we are being changed to be like God. This change in us brings more and more glory. And it comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." Our Christian journey is this ongoing gradual transformation—becoming more like Christ and reflecting more and more of God's glory.

While glory is majestic - "The glory of the Lord shone around them..." (Luke 2:9), it is also personal and transforming as God works this miracle in us, day by day and night by night, so that the creation that we truly are can begin to shine.

As Jesus said: "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

So when we say, "we praise you for your glory," we are giving voice not only to what is sublime, but also to what is being revealed in us and shining out. It should really be sung.

When I became a Christian this treasured verse was tenderly given to me as a blessing: may the one who began a good work in you continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. (Phil 1.6).

It has been a glorious journey so far, thank you Jesus.

Jim teWaterNaude, May 2025

St Andrew's MTN

We all know how important early learning is and how we desperately need to improve this part of education in South Africa. St Andrew's MTN is sponsoring 10 baby and toddler classes at 10 Masikhule ECD Centres with junior book nooks. The books will be age and language appropriate. The ECD's cover the areas of Strand, Lwandle, Firgrove and Macassar.



St Andrew's MTN – Jersey Sunday



MTN
distributing
warm
clothing from
Jersey
Sunday to
Heaven's
Nest.



Building Project Update – mid May 2025

Dear Parish and Newlands Family,

We are heartened to see our new building emerging from the ground! Over the past few weeks, the focus has been on laying the foundations and installing the key structural columns and steelwork – the skeleton and ribs of the new space that will serve both our parish and wider community and allow us to breathe and sing!

Update - The school renovations are nearly complete, with only a few final tasks (mainly in the entrance courtyard) outstanding. Although delayed, this work is now due for completion during May, giving Kildare Pre-Primary full access to their improved space.

In the coming months, we will see the shape of the building becoming clearer as the ground floor walls go up, the first floor slab is poured, and eventually, the roof takes form. Alongside the visible progress, there's plenty happening behind the scenes as we continue to refine the details for interior layouts, lighting, electricals, security, and plumbing – all to ensure a fully functional and welcoming new facility.

We are grateful for the excellent work being done by Bambana, who are managing the site with great care, particularly in light of the daily activities of the school and church, and the needs of the Lujabe family in the Rectory.

A quick reminder that parking remains tight, particularly between 7:30 AM and 2:00 PM during school hours, so please try to use the pump house parking if you plan to stay for an hour or more.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support and enthusiasm – your encouragement makes a real difference! Fundraising is progressing superbly, and we are heartened by the generosity shown so far. However, a shortfall remains, so all new donations are most welcome.

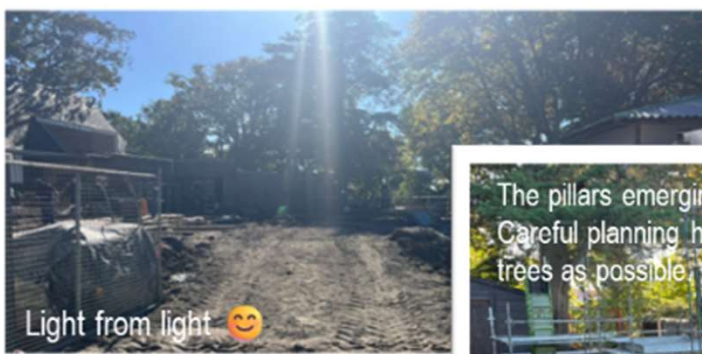
Let's keep up the momentum as our long-awaited vision steadily becomes reality.

Blessings,
Mkhusele, Rob, and the Building Committee Team

An autumnal dawn as we say goodbye to the old and lay the foundations for the new.



The new school entrance and outside waiting area. The roofing of the covered walkway will top it off.



The pillars emerging like ribs from the foundation. Careful planning has preserved as many of the trees as possible.



St Andrews Church 1956



Dear Parishioners

Our new hall is rising from the ground! As part of the new hall building, we will be installing a "Memory Wall" in the foyer.

The building committee is looking for historical photographs and documents from as far back as possible, that show the current church, First Chapel and Second Chapel as well as the Upper School and Lower Schools in Palmboom Road and the Kildare School. Photos that document events at the churches, like weddings, baptisms, markets, flower displays, choirs, processions etc.

If you have any that you can share, please can you contact Debbie on 082 441 6026 or debbie@coombefs.co.za.

Many thanks

The Building Committee

St Andrew's Church 130th Anniversary



St Andrew's Church Newlands

Winter
Newsletter



Tea fellowship after Sunday Service



St Andrew's Church Newlands

Heritage Day Walk

The annual Heritage Day Walk **will be on 24th September 2025 (Heritage Day)**. The event will start with registration at Westerford High School Hall at 09h00. The walk will process through the streets of Newlands. A full program of activities will be held after the walk. The event is organized by the Newlands / Claremont Heritage Environment Restitution Society (NCHERS). I am a member of the standing committee of the Society and shall read one of my poems. (To be published with my book launch at the opening of our parish hall)

The annual walk is an opportunity for ex residents to reflect and reminisce on bygone days. It is an opportunity to socialize with the communities who were forcibly removed from the homes their forbears occupied for generations. St Saviour and the Claremont Main Road Mosque are the pillars on which the Society is founded and sustained. It is a reflection of our diversity. It is also a reflection of community life where different faith groups lived in mutual co-existence. St Matthew in Harfield and St. Andrew Newlands are the other religious institutions which form part of our Society.

Historians need accounts written by those who know the truth. We have different memories of what happened in the past. The early township dwellers of Steenberg, Bonteheuvel and Heideveld trace their origins to the homeland. The history of Newlands / Claremont is just not a series of well known moments but a more complex, multifaceted story with numerous untold perspectives. It is sharing the exhilarating experience of having lived there.

It is at these gatherings that we gain new perspectives, interacting with former residents and sharing common experiences which is deeply immersive. These conversations are a strange mixture of joy and pathos. Beyond the emotional memory, it serves as a testament to the struggles and triumphs of the human spirit. They highlight hardships from removals and displacement. Yet, amidst the pain, there is resilience, a subtle reminder that even in deprivation, there is hope. It is the untapped, unfiltered aspects of human life, a pensive reflection of the depth of emotion that makes and defines our existence. There is always a longing to return, a longing which is as deep as the oceans surrounding us. I close with a stanza of one of my poems:

We were like the rejuvenating splendor of spring

With it's verdant green branches,

Where the birds sing

Until the falling autumn leaves

Drop softly and decays.

Richard Hendry Buttress

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St Andrew's Church Newlands

Winter
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Patronal Festival 2024



Patronal Festival 2024



Newcomers Tea



Gillian & Jerome Bowden at the Newcomers Tea



Turning of the sods



Turning of the sods



Turning of the sods



Turning of the sods



St Andrew's Church Newlands

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Would you like to achieve personal transformation, manage stress, build self-esteem and take control of your life?

The lovely Gail Baerecke has written this life changing book under the pseudonym Gina A. Christy.

Are you exhausted from being everything to everyone? Do you struggle to say no without feeling guilty?

It's time to reclaim your peace, protect your energy, and set boundaries that empower you, not drain you.

In *Setting Healthy Boundaries for Women*, you'll discover how to break free from guilt, overcome people-pleasing tendencies and confidently take charge of your life.

With real-life strategies and practical exercises, this book will help you:

- ✔ Identify boundary blind spots and understand the hidden cost of always saying yes
- ✔ Set loving but firm limits with family, children, partners, and in-laws
- ✔ Navigate workplace

boundaries, from meetings to managing mental load

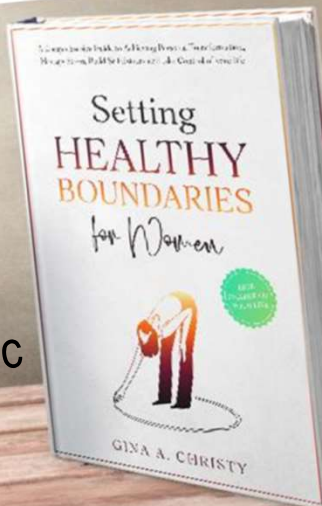
- ✔ Establish digital boundaries in a world that demands 24/7 availability
- ✔ Build assertiveness skills and shift from people-pleaser to confident leader
- ✔ Master the art of saying no with practical exercises to strengthen your boundary muscles
- ✔ Prioritize self-care without apology and create space for what truly matters
- ✔ Develop a personalized roadmap for long-term boundary success

Whether you're struggling with work-life balance, toxic relationships, or simply need the confidence to stand up for yourself, this book provides the scripts, strategies, and solutions you need to set

boundaries without guilt.

Like tending a garden, your boundaries will require ongoing care and attention, but the harvest of self-respect, stronger relationships, and improved well-being is worth every effort. It's time to stop overcommitting, start honoring your needs, and step into the life you truly deserve. Unlock your full potential today! Don't miss out on this life-changing guide. Click 'Buy Now' to start your journey towards setting healthy boundaries.

Ready to take control of your life? Click this link
<https://tinyurl.com/3rkffcnh>



because protecting your energy is not selfish, it's essential.

It is available to buy on Amazon.com in Ebook, paperback and hard cover formats

Hey Guys! 🙌

Welcome to the section featuring you! 🎉 We can see you've had an awesome holiday programme! 🍷 🍷

Thank you for joining us and shout out 📣 to the amazing team who put the programme together! 🙌

BETH YOUTH

BELONG AND
ENCOUNTER

EPHESIANS 2:10

ST ANDREWS
NEWLANDS

BE-YOUth - Created for More



"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." – Ephesians 2:10

Welcome to **BE-YOUth** 😊, a space where you are free to be exactly who God made you to be.

At St Andrew's Newlands, our youth ministry is more than just a group... It's a journey. A journey where we Encounter Jesus, and in doing so, discover not only who He is, but also who we truly are. In a world that often tries to tell us who we should be, **BE-YOUth** is a place where we believe that being yourself is exactly what God wants.

Ephesians 2:10 reminds us that *we are God's masterpiece*. Not a mistake, not an afterthought, but handcrafted by the Creator with purpose and intention. Each of us *has been made for good, not just to exist, but to grow, to serve and to make a difference*. And the exciting part? God's already prepared the way.

As we look back we see how God has carried us:

- Our Youth Day Pilgrimage from St Paul's to Desmond Tutu and Leah Tutu Foundation with the YPM of Cape Town Diocese
- We had our Holiday Club 2025 where we focused on God's Promises that always stand.
- Youth Services
- Relationship Building
- Baptisms

As we step into this new season, we're dreaming big. We look forward to growing with God, learning more about His heart and letting Him shape our lives. And we look forward to growing with one another by: *building real friendships, laughing a lot, asking hard questions and showing up for each other.*

Some of the events we look forward to are:

- Anglicans Ablaze 2025
- **BE-YOUth** Camp 2025

Whether you're new or you've been part of this family for a while, know that there is a place for you here.

You belong.

You matter.

You were created for more.

Let's walk this journey together! Boldly, honestly, and joyfully as **BE-YOUth**.

With Grace 🤝 and Peace 🕊

The **BE-YOUth** Team 🙌

Belong. Encounter. Youth.



Visit to The Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation with YPM of The Cape Town Diocese

YPM YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY
ANGELICAN DIOCESE OF CAPE TOWN

**Youth Day Breakfast with
Grade 11 & 12 learners**

REFLECTING ON YOUTH ACTIVISM AND
BECOMING AGENTS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Monday
16 JUNE, 2025
9:00 - 12:00 PM

St Paul's Bree Street
184 Bree Street, Cape Town

LEARN FROM HISTORY, SHAPE YOUR DESTINY



St Andrew's Church Newlands

Winter
Newsletter

Baptism of Milisa



Baptism of Umtha



BE-YOUth interview at CCFM



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BE-YOUth interview at CCFM

St Andrew's Church Newlands

Winter
Newsletter



St Andrew's Holiday Club

"Promise Land" 8 to 11 July 2025



Parish Diary

DATE	OCCASION	TIME
JULY		
13 July	Baptism	09:15
28 July	Parish Executive meeting	19:30
30 July	Parish Council meeting	19:30
AUGUST		
7 August	Lay Minister's meeting	19:30
9 August	National Women's Day Public Holiday	Office closed
10 August	Baptism	09:15
17 August	Theological Education Sunday	07:30 & 09:15
21 August	Parish Executive meeting	19:30
27 August	Parish Council meeting	19:30
31 August	Evensong led by the Choir of Blackheath	18:00
SEPTEMBER		
04 September	Lay Minister's meeting	19:30
07 September	Provincial Youth Sunday	
14 September	Parish Weekend Away (Volmoed Retreat Center, Hermanus)	
18 September	Parish Executive meeting	19:30
23 September	Parish Council meeting	19:30
24 September	Heritage Day Public Holiday	Office closed
27 September	Quiet Morning	09:30 – 12:00

DATE	OCCASION	TIME
OCTOBER		
02 October	Lay Minister's meeting	19:30
05 October	St Francis Day Service with blessing of animals on the lawn	16:00
16 October	Parish Executive meeting	19:30
22 October	Parish Council meeting	19:30
25 October	Quiet Morning	09:30 – 12:00
26 October	Dedication Sunday	08:30
NOVEMBER		
02 November	Baptism	09:15
09 November	Remembrance Sunday	07:30 & 09:15
13 November	Lay Minister's meeting	19:30
16 November	Confirmation	09:15
20 November	Parish Executive meeting	19:30
23 November	St Andrew's Patronal Festival	08:30
26 November	Parish Council meeting	19:30
29 November	Quiet Morning	09:30 – 12:00

JOIN OUR MINISTRIES

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SERVE IN ANY OF THE MINISTRIES OF THE PARISH:

READERS, SIDESPEOPLE, SERVING GUILD, TEA & FELLOWSHIP, YOUTH, AUDIO VISUALS, BELL RINGING, LAY-MINISTRY, FLOWER ARRANGEMENT, SACRISTANS –

YOUR PARTICIPATION WILL BE GLADLY WELCOME! KINDLY E-MAIL OR WHATSAPP YOUR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS, AND THE MINISTRY YOU WISH TO SERVE IN, AND YOUR DETAILS WILL BE DIRECTED TO THE RELEVANT PERSON.

Email: office@standrewsnewlands.org.za or WhatsApp: 060 240 8747



St Andrew's Church Newlands