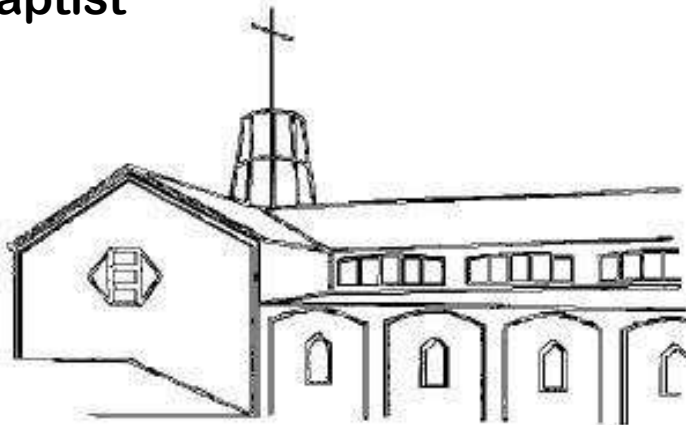


If undelivered please return to:
Parish of St John the Baptist
5 Payne Street
PINETOWN 3610

Parish of St John the Baptist
STEWARDSHIP 2010



The
LANTERN

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

2 Cor:13 4-8



Rector's letter

Dear People of St John's

Growth and Leadership

I write here about issues of growth and leadership, and opportunities of service, particularly relevant as we move into a period focussing on stewardship.

Confirmation

We give thanks to God for the following members who were confirmed by Bishop Nkosinathi at our service on 29 August: Fiona Clark, Thobeka Hadebe, Vickers Mjojo, Link Mtshali, Philasande Ndwandwe, Dominic Warmback, Nigel Zungu and Vusi Zwane.

At that service two new lay ministers were licensed: Jabulani Ngidi and Alison Warmback

Those wanting to be considered for confirmation in 2011 please contact me as soon as possible. Note that the diocesan bishop has stipulated that a person needs to be in at least grade 10 (or older) in the year of their confirmation.

David Austin

Our ordinand from the UK, David Austin, left us on 30 August after a month's stay to return to England. It was a pleasure to host him; as he learnt from us so we too learnt from him. Elsewhere in this publication he shares some thoughts with us. Our thanks to the Revd Sue Britton for arranging and overseeing his programme and to those who hosted him.

Stewardship - 24 October 2010

Within this mailing are forms for our annual Stewardship/Dedication Sunday on 24 October. I encourage each family to consider the letter from the wardens carefully and respond appropriately. While these forms have been sent out to members we will also put up the lists on the walls of the church. This provides an opportunity for us to encourage one another to offer ourselves for ministries within the church.

I encourage you to give generously of your time, talents and treasure.

I am aware that a number of people are on the Dedicated Giving scheme. I encourage everyone to belong to this scheme. I make this appeal to you as strongly as I can. The future of the parish depends on its members giving regularly. I also appeal to you to give on the basis of supporting something you identify with and support - the work of God through St John's parish.

At a recent parish council meeting it was decided to hold a Gift Day - an opportunity for people to give an amount of money in response to God's blessings in our lives this year. This practice is well known among some of our members who have experienced it in other parishes. The Gift Day has been set for Sunday 28 November.

Shared Leadership for Growth

Bishop Nkosinathi Ndwandwe, the bishop for our area, has written to parishes in our archdeaconry with a number of questions with which we are to grapple.

They are the following:

1. What is your parish leadership's understanding of shared team leadership for growth?
2. What has been your own parish experience of shared team leadership for growth?
3. How would you like to see it improved even further in your own parish?
4. What kind of assistance - if any - would you like?

At St John's we are blessed with many among us who exercise leadership in varying ways. We need to take opportunities to encourage and develop leadership. One of the important instruments of leadership is the Parish Council. Parish Councillors and Wardens are elected annually at the Vestry Meeting. These elections enable us to express who we would like to serve us in these leadership roles.

I am aware that in order to ensure that we have effective leadership and succession we may need to offer training in this area. We will prepare well for the next Vestry meeting, providing people with an opportunity to offer and prepare themselves for leadership on the council.

Diversity Management

An important workshop has been set for Saturday 4 September, facilitated by two skilled facilitators trained in this area, Revd Smanga Bosman and Carolyn Chatterton, both Methodists. This workshop will, in effect, be the start of a process. Putting diversity "on the table" enables us to talk about it more easily and honestly.

We need to ask ourselves from time to time: Who are we? What has shaped who we are? As a parish what has impacted on us? How can we continue to remain including of those who wish to join us and who are different from us?

One of our tasks is to strengthen relationships among ourselves. When conflict arises within our parish it should not lead to a crisis. It is now that we need to work at understanding each other and the differences we have, appreciating them as gifts from God.

It is very important that we all feel that we can have a say in the future development of our parish. In fact, without the participation of all, our growth as a church community will not be in a direction that meets our needs, nor those of the community around us.

Developments in Nazareth

Over a number of years St John's has considered holding a regular service at Nazareth, a relatively

new residential area which forms part of our parish. Some years back there was an investigation into the possibility of purchasing a site in the area on which to build a church. At a recent funeral at St John's for one of our members who lived in Nazareth, Lena Zungu, there was the view expressed to Alfred Nala, an ordinand from our parish who preached at the service, that if we held a regular service in Nazareth a number of people from the area would attend it. For such a ministry to take place there needs to be a process of consultation and preparation. Your ideas on the way forward are welcome.

Israel/Palestine Group

Over the last few months a group has been started in the parish to look at issues relating to peace and justice in the Middle East. The purpose of the group is to pray for the area and to keep informed of developments in that region. Meetings of the group will be advertised in the pew leaflet. All are welcome to join in.

A significant document arising from Israel/Palestine in recent times is "A Moment of Truth: A Word of faith, hope and love from the heart of Palestinian suffering". I find it important in that it articulates what the Christians themselves of that region want in terms of their own future. It may be accessed at www.kairopalestine.ps.

News in the archdeaconry

At the end of the year the Revd Alvin Sigamoney, presently rector of St Barnabas, on the Bluff will begin as rector of St Augustine's, Queensburgh, taking

over from the Revd Terry Hayward. We welcome him and his wife, Janice, to our archdeaconry.

Our archdeacon, The Venerable Johann Vilakazi, will retire at the end of this year.

Diocesan Developments

Bishop Funginkosi Mbhele retires at the end of March next year. A date for the elective assembly to elect his successor has been set (29-31 August 2011).

A Diocesan Synod will be held from 7-8 October 2011.

Bishop Rubin has announced that over the next number of months a process will be undertaken to work at formulating a vision for the diocese to guide us for the next five years. This process will culminate in a diocesan visioning conference on 7 May next year.

Lent Course 2011

Bishop Rubin has asked Prof Gerald West of the School of Religion and Theology of the University of KwaZulu-Natal to write the course for Lent next year to be used in house groups. We encourage house groups to set aside this time to undertake this course.

"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." *Philippians 2: 3 - 5.*

Yours in Christ's love

Revd Andrew Warmback
Rector

PARISH FINANCES - JANUARY - JULY 2010

The figures below reflect the actual income and expenditure for the first half of the year against the budgeted amounts.

Dedicated Giving: Actual: R 394 776
Pledged: R 400 167
Variance: (R 5 391)

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Total Income	R 473 411	R 487 514	(R 14 103)
Total Expenses	R 489 018	R 496 216	R 7 198

Deficit as at 31 July: R 15 607

Take note of the chart on the notice board at the back of the church - it is updated with the latest figures every month and shows how we are keeping up with the budget.



How come the waitress gets 15% and God only gets 10%?

THE HERITAGE GROUP members who went on the Battlefields tour to Dundee, Isandhlwana and Rorke's Drift with Robin and Jenny Niemeyer in 2004 will be interested to know that Robin has now become an Accredited Tour Guide for that area.

The photo below shows the group outside St James' Church, Dundee



RECENT RENOVATIONS AT OUR CHURCH PROPERTIES

Edward Pines

You may have noticed that with the help of contractors that we have in recent months successfully completed some long overdue maintenance & renovation tasks.

The main church building and office block has received new paint on the gutters, fascia & barge boards and the down-pipes. We have also renewed the putty on all the windows and painted the frames and burglar guards. When I was inspecting the completed work in order to 'sign it off' with the contractor, the foreman said, "Don't forget to give us a call in seven years time!"

Another important work completed is the repair of both large and small hall roofs, now all successfully

waterproofed after renewing the covering where required and coating the entire surface of both roof areas. This coating should be re-applied in five years time! The contractor gave us some helpful advice regarding regular maintenance plus some work to put in-hand which our own men's group can handle.

Talking of our men's group we are grateful for the work that they have been responsible for around the church, and that is varnishing of the doors and panelling near the font. Future tasks include the wooden screen above the rear exit doors this job will require volunteers who are happy working on a 'high' scaffolding platform!

At the rectory we have installed a new front fence and automatic gate for access and improved security. In the large hall a door has been installed in order to provide better privacy for the Archdeacon's office at times when the main hall is being used for a large group or function, the Archdeacon has shared in the cost for this new door.

We have funded the cost for the two large jobs painting and roofs, from the trust fund account and are repaying this amount on a monthly basis funds are urgently required to be raised in order to complete this repayment process as soon as possible.

SOCIAL JUSTICE REPORT

Dot Sanders

The Pinetown Ministers' Fellowship have been very active in making the eThekweni Municipality aware of the plight and lack of service delivery in Motala Heights. Councillor Derrick Dimba was made aware of the situation in his ward and would try to negotiate with the landlords.

The people of this enclave are most grateful for all the help they are getting from us as well as from others.

Social Concerns have also been in the forefront of women's ministry regarding Lesbians and Gays and how we see and treat them. They are human beings - "our neighbours" and I personally have

friends amongst them. We are all created differently but we are still God's children so they must be made to feel welcome and at home for this is all part of our diversity.

"HERE IS THE NEWS". A message to SABC & SJB from DAVID AUSTIN

As part of my 4 weeks internship in S. Africa, I have sought to spend some of my time watching T.V. - in particular the 4 terrestrial stations on SABC. You can tell a lot about a nation from its media dietary output and I am not referring here just to the news broadcasts. Compared to the terrestrial channels in the UK, I am amazed at the proportion of time, the repetition and the length of adverts here in S.A. It seems that S. African society is desperate to get car insurance (for thefts), hospital insurance (for sickness or accidents) and funeral plans (for death). Although this airtime is good for SABC sponsors, what is the psychological effect upon the nation - many of whom are unemployed and watching daytime TV and can not afford such payments prior to these threatened disasters. This broadcasting instills fear and urges the need for ever greater vigilance, security and defence.

I am also aware that crime is a frequent topic of conversation amongst the Church members of St John the Baptist - whether it is the latest horror story from the news or the more local 'gossip' about who was most recently robbed or whose home or car was broken into. The frequency of this 'news' again outweighs the number of incidents personally experienced by the news-teller or news-receiver. What is the psychological impact on us as we share such 'news'?

The financial cost of all our security fences and insurance payments show a community in fear. I am not naively suggesting that we be Christian ostriches that hide our heads in the sand, but neither should our focus just be on the 'bad news'. It is a question of perspective - as Oscar Wilde said, "Two men looked out through prison bars, one saw mud, the other stars".

St Paul writes in Phillipians 4 to rejoice in the Lord always and not to be anxious about anything. He promises that the Peace of God that passes human understanding will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. We are told to focus our hearts, minds and conversations on whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - to think about such things and "the Peace of God will be with you". As we monitor our media intake and our news output (conversation), let us be reminded of what Jesus said in St Matthew 6:22 about the "eye being the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light but if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness".

As people of Light, of Hope and Faith, we are called to be as salt preserving our Society and trained as "good news" broadcasters to proclaim that Jesus has overcome all the powers of sin, of sickness and of death. We are people of Love and believe that Christ's love casts out all fear and are called to make this evident in our daily lives.

RECYCLING EFFORTS AT ST JOHN'S

For many years, Rhea Gwyn has been collecting stamps for the Bible Society. She recently received this letter from them, dated 22 July 2010:

Dear Friends

Greetings from Durban Bible House on this beautiful winter's morning.

On behalf of the Bible Society, I wish to thank everyone involved in our stamp collecting project. I realise that it is getting more and more difficult to find stamps, and your efforts are much appreciated.

To date we have raised an amount of R819.80 through the sale of stamps, R300.00 up on last year, and 25 Bibles will be distributed through your efforts.

*Kind regards
Petro Schneider.*

This is a very worthwhile effort, so don't forget to pass on your used stamps. Leave them in an envelope at the back of the church, marked "STAMPS", "BIBLE SOCIETY" or "RHEA GWYN", and Rhea will collect them.

Other re-cycling projects include plastic bread-packet closing tabs (June Prentice) and spectacles and hearing aids (Dot Sanders), not forgetting the bins for cans, glass and paper in the church carpark.



DAVID AUSTIN (left) visited our parish from St John's College, Durham (England) where he is an ordinand studying BA (Hons) in Theology. He spent the month of August with us, participating in parish life and learning about our part of South

Africa. David worked extensively among the homeless and vulnerable in London and Swindon (he holds a degree in Health & Social Care) where he was involved in housing schemes, learning disability projects, substance abuse, among others, and for two years was a regular contributor to a weekly radio programme. We can learn a lot from David, and welcome this opportunity to share knowledge and experiences.

COMMUNICANTS' ROLL

Ingrid Pines

One of the registers that each parish in the diocese is required to maintain for the purpose of records and statistics is of **regular communicants**. We need to urgently update our parish records in this regard and ask for your co-operation in order for this task to be completed as speedily and efficiently as possible.

Early in September all people attending the services of Holy Communion will be asked to complete a simple form giving clear details of their names which will then be included in this register.

These names will then also be used for the making of new style name badges which we would like to encourage members to use when attending church. We are planning to use a system already successfully used in some other parishes; that is keeping the name badges safely on a rack at the church and making this available to people as they arrive and leave the church on each occasion.

We would like to thank you all in advance for your co-operation in this matter.



GOOD THING I FOUND YOU GIDEON ... IT SEEMS SOMEONE HAS BEEN HIDING ALL YOUR BIBLES IN HOTEL ROOMS.

UKUKHUTHAZA AIDS CONCERN GROUP REPORT – JULY 2010

Wendy Jones

From the reports given in at our July meeting, the past month has been characterised by a number of deaths in the different communities. This obviously places great emotional stress and strain on the community workers as they go about their daily work as they have built up close relationships with community members they interact with.

Food Parcels – We continue to look for ways to reduce costs on our parcels. We are grateful to St Clements who give us peanut butter which volunteers decant into smaller bottles. We have also been given a possible lead for cheaper milk powder and, since this is the single most expensive item in our parcels, we will explore this as well.

We are also using the opportunity to insist on community workers reporting on the recipients of the parcels. Part of this process is to enter this information on to our growing database and this, in turn, will give us a clearer picture of exactly what is happening to parcels. Where reports are not received on a regular basis we review whether we should continue sending parcels to that community. This helps us to assure donors that we strive to be as transparent and accountable as possible

Fund Raising – Whilst the demand far exceeds the supply of food parcels our greatest challenge remains funding the parcels. Ingrid Pines is trying to organise some space at checkers for us to have a table to sell goods and she is also organising a meat raffle which will be drawn next month. The congregation continues to support us generously.

In order for us to maximise all opportunities for accessing funds for our projects we will need to access as wide a selection of potential donors as possible. The writing of funding proposals in this regard therefore becomes very important. Fund Raising Forum will be running a two day workshop in August to equip people skills, including the writing of funding proposals, and Barbara McAlpin will be attending this workshop.

Visit by Dutch Donor – One of our regular donors is Willeke de Mos-Loeffen who was introduced to us by Thembi Mzimela. She and a friend spent a day in Clermont seeing some of what the community workers do and, since then, has been supporting us. She had also raised some money for the Dream Centre which is held by Be More and some of which was given to us last month for food parcels as well. She has said she will be coming out for a week in November during which time she would like us to take her to see all that is being done. Caroline has offered to accommodate her and for that week Barbara is available to transport her. From there she will go back to the Netherlands to raise more money for us. The idea is that we want to expose her to as many communities as possible and ensure that she has a diverse exposure to the situation in the different communities. There has also been some preliminary discussion around perhaps arranging for her to stay with Glenrose for an evening. If that works out the way we hope it might also lead the way

for us to be able to ask Be More if they can send volunteers to us in addition to financial help. Willeke had been told that there are no safe places for volunteers to stay and our aim is to show her that that isn't necessarily true. We would like this visit to be well organised so that we can continue to lay a good foundation on which to build good relationships with donors both inside and outside the country.

PENNIES TO HEAVEN

Eddi Wolff

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Once again you have done us proud. Over a period of approximately four months you have dumped 4770 coins into our little bucket in the foyer of the church. Once this was sorted and counted the total came to R 520. It was decided a while back that this money should be split equally between Ukukhuthaza and Steve's Kitchen and each of these organisations received a cheque for R 260. Steve's Kitchen is an interdenominational outreach programme in Pinetown run from the premises of the Pinetown Methodist Church. They help to feed those who have nothing – especially now, in the cold months, they supply hot soup. So, please continue the good work and keep on dumping your small change into the bucket **and keep on bringing your soup.**

Whilst sorting and counting I spotted a coin almost the same size and appearance as a new and shiny 20 cent piece. But it stood out because it had a lustre about it that was not the sheen of a brass-plated coin. Imagine my surprise when I turned it over and found myself looking at the profile of Oom Paul Kruger. The coin is a gold Half Pond minted in 1895. Phoning around and looking on the internet, its catalogue value is between R 800 and R 900 but, upon further investigation, it is also shown as raising between R2,700 and R7,300 at various auctions. We'll have to spend some time getting advice on how best to get maximum benefit from it.

WANTED:

NUMISMATIC EXPERT / COIN COLLECTOR

If there is anyone at St John's who is a numismatic expert, coin collector or who knows someone with this expertise, please contact Eddi Wolff, on 031 708-3695

KENNEDY ROAD: STATEMENT FROM BISHOP RUBIN

The following statement by Bishop Rubin appeared in the Sunday Tribune of 25 July 2010, in response to an article, also in the Tribune, by Heinrich Bohmke, and which is receiving a lot of attention internationally. Bishop Rubin writes: "The international figures I mentioned in my article included the Archbishop of Canterbury. I was privileged to meet with him at Lambeth Palace, following the Corpus Christi Eucharist (at which he presided and preached) in the ancient palace chapel. Archbishop Rowan was very supportive of the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry, and in other ways. The aim of the shack dwellers is to establish the truth, against a sea of lies, half-truths, gossip, distortions etc. Sadly, some people thrive on these dark things. Please pray for the people of Kennedy Road whose suffering, at every level, is beyond measure. Yet, in a most remarkable way, they teach me how to live my life with hope and peace and dignity. Any wonder that their cause for justice has become my cause!"

Over the past months we have continued to receive strong support for our intention to convene an independent Commission of Enquiry into the awful violence that was visited on the shack settlement of Kennedy Road in September 2009. Only such an enquiry will really help us all sift truth from lies, and establish a full picture of the events and their ongoing aftermath, as well as the full context and implications of what has happened. From community organisations and senior church leadership in this country, to community-based organisations in London and justice groups in congregations in Scotland, to senior international figures in the churches and the human rights scene, we have been moved and encouraged by their commitment to and active interest in finding the truth. These developments, together with the extraordinary support and wise counsel of many we are working with on the matter, keep us resolute and confident. Confident not only that the Commission process will happen but that when it does, it will deliver an outcome of unquestionable integrity. The necessary groundwork to facilitate the Commission's work is under way.

Those of us who have followed the events closely and with a genuine concern for truth and justice know of course that there is a related court process unfolding. We have repeatedly and publicly expressed our deep alarm at the narrow and selective focus of that case, the blatant party political overtones, as well as the flagrant breaches of fair process in its conduct thus far. Nonetheless we have been careful not to infringe either the legal rights of the accused in the matter nor the necessary protections that apply to a matter that is *sub judice*. For the same reason, it is clear that no Commission can begin hearing and evaluating

evidence until that case finally comes to a conclusion.

Regrettably in this interregnum some, whose objective is to undermine and attack the shack-dwellers' movement, Abahlali baseMjondolo, show no respect for these niceties and have indeed abused them to advance their own destructive agenda. Heinrich Bohmke's attack on our good friend and world-renowned historian Jeff Guy in an article carried by the *Sunday Tribune* (18th July 2010,) is one recent example. That newspaper article draws on a longer piece that Bohmke has written - and had widely circulated - where I too come under sustained and dishonest attack. We have had meetings with counsel as well as the leadership of Abahlali baseMjondolo about the matter. We have considered the attacks from Bohmke and rejected them. It would be incorrect to engage in contesting the specifics. Firstly, key elements of the matter are *sub judice*. Secondly, Bohmke's intention has nothing to do with genuinely seeking truth and justice and we find no common ground with him in these tasks. Finally, the findings of a full and independent enquiry will provide us all with a sound basis of knowledge and truth.

We would like to conclude by reminding everyone that it was Abahlali baseMjondolo that first called for the full and independent commission of enquiry into these attacks. They said such an enquiry should: "in the interests of justice and truth, carefully and fairly investigate the actions of everyone, including the local and provincial ANC, the police, the intelligence services, the prosecutors, the courts and our movement, its various sub-committees and our supporters".

DIAKONIA AWARD FOR BISHOP RUBIN

We congratulate Bishop Rubin on being awarded the Diakonia Award on 12 August at a ceremony at the Durban City Hall. In giving reasons for the award, the Diakonia Council noted Bishop Rubin's involvement with the anti-apartheid movement as far back as the 1960s, through his advocacy and involvement in the Zimbabwe crisis to his solidarity with the shack dwellers movement, Abahlali baseMjondolo. The Council acknowledged Bishop Phillip as a veteran anti-apartheid activist who was put under house arrest for three years by the apartheid government due to his open protest in the 1970s.

"In the post apartheid era", the Council said, "when he saw that justice was under threat, Bishop Rubin openly took a stand in solidarity with the victims, and has not hesitated to apportion blame where it belonged." They added that Bishop Phillip's commitment to justice and human rights was not confined to South Africa's borders. Rather, his firm conviction that a threat to justice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere, saw him leading solidarity and advocacy work in support of human rights and justice in Zimbabwe

ENVIRONMENT REPORT

Dot Sanders

Climate change is real and we have had a very warm winter except for a few cold days. People have pruned trees and shrubs which are already making new growth and blossoms. But there has not been any significant rain yet.

It is very encouraging to see the response to the DVD "A Vision of Paradise" on Sunday evenings which gives us much to think about. It is also of great encouragement to see so many different faiths all with the same ideas and all agreeing that creation has only one God.

The frightening thing at present is the pollution of the ground water from the mines and that the mining companies don't want to take responsibility for their actions even though parts of the Johannesburg CBD could be flooded with poisonous chemicals with the next six months or so. Seepage is already affecting surface water and land is becoming non-productive. This also affects the animals.

But no matter how insignificant we feel and how little we are doing, it all helps in the end!



WILL YOU PLEASE PICK UP ALL YOUR CLOTHES?

TRADITIONS

Barbara McAlpin

On Sea Sunday, 11 July, we sang the hymn from Ancient and Modern Revised, "...for those in peril on the sea". At the end of the service, June Prentice told the following story:

When she (June) was a little girl in Ireland, in 1941, she was on holiday at the coast with her family. They went to church on Sunday, and she sat beside the window, looking out at the ships at sea. They were singing that same hymn when suddenly there was an explosion among the ships as they were hit by torpedoes from enemy submarines. For a long time, the barrage continued, while the church service stopped and the congregation watched, singing all the time, over and over, "...for those in peril on the sea". They heard afterwards that hundreds of young men were killed that day, serving their country.

This memory has stayed with June all these years, and it makes me think how valuable our traditions are, linking past and present, keeping memories alive and building the strong foundation in which our faith is grounded. They also unite us around the world, in spite of different customs and languages. Recently when my daughter, Mandy, was holidaying in rural France, she went to the local church on Sunday. Although the service was all in French (and Catholic as well) she was able to follow it quite easily, and recognised many of the hymns, although she couldn't sing them in French!

KOINONIA CONFERENCE CENTRE is situated in Botha's Hill, in the beautiful Valley of 1000 Hills. It is a tranquil place, permeated by peace, and is ideal for conferences, retreats and quiet days. It is also an ideal venue for gatherings of any kind - that special birthday party or anniversary which is too large to be held at home, or simply an afternoon of quiet and restoration. '*Courageous Conversations*' are held at the centre on a Friday evening once a month. Recent guest speakers were Albert Nolan in July, and Professor Ruth Teer-Tomaselli, who led the discussion around media freedom on 27 August.

The Centre Director, Denise Marescia, who is a member of St John's, has worked over the past few years to establish indigenous plants only in the centre grounds, and the result is a garden which thrives even in dry conditions.



There are conference halls available on a daily basis for meetings, accommodation for longer stays, and meals are catered on request. Contact Denise for details and costs:

Phone: 031 777 1446 ; Fax: 031 777 1443;
Cell: 083 6411446; e-mail:denise@koinoniakzn.org.za

KIDZOWN

Alison Warmback, Coordinator: Children's and Youth Ministry

We are pleased to be working together with parents/guardians as we enable our children to grow in their faith.

When KIDZOWN takes place

KIDZOWN takes place during the 9h00 service. Children come out to KIDZOWN before the readings in the service and are with us in KIDZOWN until The Peace/ Eucharistic Prayer/ Communion. Before they come out to KIDZOWN and after they return to you in the service it is parents/guardians responsibility to take care of and ensure the safety of their child/children.

Thank you to first and second term facilitators

We thank Renay and Faren Naidoo, Nonhlanhla Nala, Malcolm and Thelma Rosenberg, Mavis Brazier, Maegan Warren and Sandile Mzoneli for their committed involvement in working with the KIDZOWN children in the first and second terms.

Third term facilitators

For the third term of 2010, Alison Warmback assisted by Maegan Warren is working with the children in the Toddlers and Preschoolers group; Verona Lowe is working with the children in the Grades R and 1 group; Ruth Joubert is working with the children in the Grades 2 to 4 group and Buyisiwe Thwala is working with those in the Grades 5 to 7 group.

Material and resources

The Bible Society *What the Bible says* Series and the South African National Sunday Schools Association (SANSSA) *Ivangeli (God's Word for a South African Kid's World) Year A Curriculum* material is proving to be appropriate and well received by the children. We will continue using this material.

Attendance tickets

The attendance ticket system is working very well. We are attempting to encourage the children to come to KIDZOWN each week during the school term so that they can collect as many tickets as possible. At the end of the year we will hold a mini market, especially for the KIDZOWN children, at which they will be able to exchange the tickets they have saved for items at the market. We are hoping that the children will also be taught responsibility by keeping their tickets safe and they will also be taught the stewardship principle of tithing by giving away 10% of their tickets towards gifts for the AIDS orphans Christmas Party.

Queries: Please contact Alison Warmback on 031 7021065 or 083 6111 820 if you have any queries regarding KIDZOWN. Thank you.

GARDENS

Max Gibbons

Dear Lord God, you have created all and we should be touched by and reflect on the beauty so freely given, the fantastic colour range of the flowers and shrubs that surround us, not forgetting the architectural splendour of the great trees that personalise St Johns. The garden together with the graveyard has become a "Green lung" in Pinetown; more and more birds and insects are visiting the garden. My thanks and that of the parishioners who will no doubt agree with these sentiments. This is OURS and is becoming a haven for birds, bees, butterflies and a few ladybirds. I believe that the birds etc. now have a Home at St Johns and credit must be given to our Rector Andrew for his input in having the gardens as indigenous as possible.

Andrew asked me to take over the gardens about 2 years ago with the proviso of moving to indigenous plant material and also for the bulk of the plants to be as water wise as possible. Much of this has been achieved and there is light at the end of the tunnel. In South Africa we live in a dry country where WATER is of utmost importance. The Lord gives us water basically for nothing; we should respect this valuable commodity as it sustains all forms of life on earth.

I would suggest that parishioners walk around the garden or sit on one of the benches, so that they may become aware of the newer plants and marvel at God's nature at St Johns. Most of the heavy work has already been done but there are quite a number of projects that I am working on.

I undertook the gardening job with a promise to myself and the team who help that I wanted to make St John's garden the envy of all the other churches in Pinetown. My heart lies in St Johns soil where I, together with help, am creating a Garden of Eden. Watching the garden develop gives me a great amount of pleasure which negates the stiff back and hamstrings that all gardeners suffer from time to time.

Sam our verger also needs a pat on the back for his part in the garden transformation. The hard work has been mainly done by him. He has created a small veggie patch behind the large hall which with help and advice has started to produce veggies for his family.

I have one complaint - that a pathway has been created through

the succulent bed and a number of plants have been destroyed. This could easily have been avoided. I accept that all are not gardeners but ask that each and everyone become garden detectives and in so doing the above problem can be eliminated. St John's is one big family and by assisting in any way at all, not only in the garden, we can create a more pleasant place to worship.

Jane Whitby's section of the garden is developing where it has been agreed that plants suitable for flower arrangements are grown to decorate the church. A number of exotic plants are grown, to supplement what is not available locally for flower arranging.

I personally would like to thank the people who are no longer using the compost heap as a dump. Our compost is developing very well and will very soon be ready to be used in the garden. When one plants a new shrub or tree, or even seedlings, the better the soil preparation, the quicker the resulting growth.

Before closing I would suggest that anyone who can, should visit the Mariannahill Municipal landfill site. They have a conducted tour and the knowledge one can gain is incredible. They are the first landfill site in the world who have been able to harness methane gas which is used to drive a generator which produces more electrical

power than they require. The balance is sold to the municipality and much more is happening there as a result of our waste plastic, metal etc.

Gardeners, now is the time, during the cooler months, to get lawnmowers sharpened and anything else that needs attention. Pruning plants is necessary at this time, together with planning new garden layouts before the onset of the spring rains which is just around the corner.

To all you gardeners: may God's blessing be with you and to those who don't garden, just try in a small way and you may get a pleasant surprise when you find you have developed green fingers.

YOUTH

Alison Warmback, Co-ordinator: Children's and Youth Ministry

PLANNING AND COORDINATING GROUP

Once a good sense of group formation started happening we were able to begin discussing an appropriate leadership structure for Youth on Fridays.

Four young women and two young men have volunteered to be part of the Planning and Coordinating Group (PACG). Alison Warmback has started working with the group to develop their leadership skills. They will be integrally involved in the preparations for and implementing of the weekly Youth meetings.

Towards the end of the second term one Friday evening was spent brainstorming ideas for Youth on Fridays. The PAGC met with Alison and drew up a draft programme for the third term which they have started to implement. Alison will continue working with the group on an ongoing basis to continue developing their leadership skills.

ACTIVITIES

Caroline Beech and Andrew Warmback's continued commitment to and involvement with the Youth on Fridays is much appreciated. Brian Goldie is also a reliable helper. Nicky Bosman has also assisted us occasionally. One Friday evening the young people watched the movie 'Forest Gump' and on another held a successful braai. Thanks to Austin Savage for arranging his braai stand.

The Youth were involved on the Friday night before the service on 8 August – commemorating the 65th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and

Nagasaki in the making of the peace cranes (thanks to David Austin's help!) for that service. Some time was also spent on that Friday night preparing for participating in the 9h00 service by reading out the story of Sadako, the 12 year old girl who died of leukemia as a result of radiation from the atomic bomb.



The young people prepared bookmarks for WOMEN'S DAY which they handed out together with a stone/rock at the 9h00 service on Friday 6 August and the 7h00 and 9h00 services on 8 August.

David Austin, an ordinand from the UK spending a month in our parish, spoke on his work with homeless, marginalised and mentally challenged people.

INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Thank you for bringing your young people (grades 8-12) to Youth on Fridays, held from **18h30** to **20h30** (unless otherwise arranged). At times we will need to ask for your assistance on a Friday evening or with transport. If you are able to help occasionally on a Friday evening or with transport for an outing please inform Alison Warmback on 031 7021065 or 083 6111 820. We do need assistance and are unable to go on outings unless we have parents/guardians helping transport young people.

Your involvement would be greatly appreciated.

DRIVERS LICENSE RENEWAL*Eddi Wolff*

As I am sure you all know, your Drivers License is only valid for 5 years after which it has to be renewed. You always assumed that doing so could not be a “cake-walk” as they say and you dreaded the day you had to go.

In your mind’s eye you saw the queue you would have to stand in only to be told when you finally got to the window that you have to have your eyes tested first. So, you stood in another queue, had your eyes tested and then joined the first queue again. Before you finally got to the window again someone said “We are now closed. Come back tomorrow.”

The next day you got there very early and were the sixth in the queue and you thought that this time it would be a “cake-walk”. Think again. When you got to the

window you were asked if you had your thumbprints taken. “No?? Sorry. Go to that queue and come back when you’re done.”

All that has changed. Imagine my pleasant surprise when I phoned them at the Road Traffic Institute at the Test Centre in Mariannhill and told them that, as a pensioner, I had difficulty standing in lengthy queues. The answer from a pleasant and courteous voice was; “Not a problem, Sir. When you get here, phone us and ask for Raj (Not the real name) and he will come to your car, take your thumbprints and sort out everything. You will need to bring the following: your ID document, 2 black and white passport photographs, a certificate from an optometrist and a fee of R 204.00. Raj will bring a DL1 form for you to fill in and sign.”

And this is what we did. When we got there and phoned we were told that Raj was on lunch but they would send someone else. Five minutes later a lovely young lady came down, took my prints, helped me fill in the DL1 form, took my ID book to make a copy and the fee. She was back within 5 minutes, returned my ID, gave me a receipt for my R 204.00 and gave me a number to phone in 4 weeks time to see if my new license was ready for collection. In just over 30 minutes it was all done. If I’d had some gold stars I would have stuck them on everyone’s forehead and all over the centre. Brilliant service.

Check your license expiry date and make arrangements for renewal at the very latest 6 weeks before this date.

PROTECTION OF INFORMATION BILL

In a statement issued by Cardinal Wilfred Napier, the Chairperson of the KZN Inter-Religious Council, (30 August) serious concern about the wisdom and constitutionality of the Protection of Information Bill is expressed. It is stated that “the Bill violates the spirit of openness and accountability that is so necessary to underpin the Constitution’s provisions on good governance, which is essential for a healthy democracy.”

The concern is expressed

- “ i) that virtually any information is liable to be classified as secret by officials who are themselves not accountable to the public;
- ii) that the definitions of *national interest* and *national security* are so broad that they could be used to keep secret matters that ought to be accessible to the public
- iii) that there is practically no right of appeal, as any appeal would be processed by the very people who made the original ruling.”

The statement concludes with these words: “We certainly do not want government to take us back to the oppressive practices of yesteryear, against which our common struggle was launched.”

LETTER TO THE RECTOR:

Dear Andrew

I thought I would take a few moments to express my appreciation of a very warm atmosphere that greeted me when I had occasion to attend a memorial service for a very close family friend, Mrs Alice Gibbs, at St John's Church, Pinetown, on 12th August 2010. Not only was I taken by the intimacy of the service, but I was also deeply impressed by the obvious care with which the grounds of the cemetery are tended. The graves of various of the Munro family are within the bounds of the cemetery and it was very comforting to observe the pristine condition of the verges around the individual graves.

I hope you will do me the favour of conveying my compliments to the persons responsible.

Yours sincerely

Wayne Munro

031 2027575

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDS

who were confirmed on 29 August: Sbo Chonco, Fiona Clark, Thobeka Hadebe, Vickers Mjojo, Link Mtshali, Philasande Ndwandwe, Dominic Warmback, Nigel Zungu, Vusi Zwane.

CONGRATULATIONS also to our two new **LAY MINISTERS**, licensed on 29 August: Jabulani Ngidi and Alison Warmback.

SEASON OF CREATION

We have begun our annual focus on creation and the environment (on 29 August) which will continue until 3 October. This Season provides us with an opportunity to look at our own lives and practices and to see where we can make choices that impact positively in the environment.

CARER WANTED

Mimi Roach invites applications for a carer to stay with her for 2 weeks in November/ December 2010 and for 2 weeks in January/February 2011. Driver's license essential. Dates and salary to be negotiated. Contact Mimi on 082 3942000 or 031 7012429.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Diversity Management Workshop** at St John's on 4 September, 09:00 - 16:00 All are welcome to attend.
- **The Mothers' Union Annual Enrolment** service will be held on the 12th of September 2010 at Steadville Ladysmith from 09.00. Transport has been arranged to leave St John's at 06.00 am to return at the same day in the afternoon at a cost of R250,00 per person. The Mothers' union has been invited for lunch by Mrs Lozi Zungu at their home in St Chads after the service.
- **Dedication Sunday**, the special day when we dedicate or re-dedicate our time and talents to God, will be on October 24.
- **The Mothers' Union Conference** will be held in Newcastle from 1-3 October 2010.

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Alfred Nala, an ordinand from our parish was recently retrenched after 19 years of service at Ninian and Lester in Pinetown. He is looking for another job. If you are able to assist him in any way please contact him on 076 6222828.

FROM THE REGISTER:

Baptisms:-

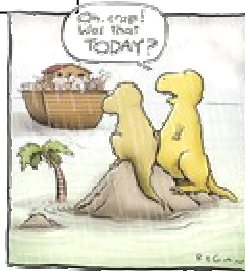
- Claudia Jane Kieck on 20 June
- Keleabetsoe Maboshadi Kyala
- Rapulungoane on 20 June
- Langalami Link Mtshali on 22 August

Deaths:

- Meid Lina Zungu on 10 July
- Alf Ezra in July
- Dorothy Stella Thurston on 21 July
- Alice Gibbs on 3 August
- Rosemary Elizabeth Nash on 13 August
- Dinah Louise Brits died on 19 August

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS:

- Organ Recital by Christopher Cockburn
 - Bishop Rubin Peace Lecture
- Watch the pew leaflet for details**



The following have all appeared in church magazines, so let us thank God for church ladies with typewriters!

- Next weekend's Fasting & Prayer Conference in Whitby includes all meals.
- Sunday morning sermon: 'Jesus Walks on the Water'. Sunday evening sermon: 'Searching for Jesus'.
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hospitality.

Are you between the ages of

18 – 45?

and

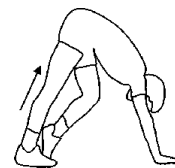
Have an existing hamstring injury?

Research is currently being done at the Chiropractic Day Clinic at the Durban University of Technology

Should you qualify for the research, you will receive

FREE TREATMENT

This will include an assessment and treatment.



For more information, please contact

BRETT

0845824008

(031) 373 2205 or (031) 373 2512