



The Voice of St John the Baptist, Pinetown

There is one body and one Spirit,.. one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. Eph.4:4-5

From the Rector

Dear People of St John's

Long Leave

In addition to my annual leave I get 12 extra days a year that can be saved so that longer leave may be taken. I will be using some of this leave during the school holidays, and will be on leave from 8 June to 17 July. For part of this time Alison, Dominic and I will be staying in a friend's cottage in Mozambique, north of Maputo. We will also spend some time in Swaziland. In my absence the church wardens take full responsibility for the parish.

God's Gift of Diversity

Our Spirit of Growth focus has highlighted the issue of diversity within our parish. Parish council are working on a process to help us understand our diversity beginning with a day's training, with experienced facilitators, on Saturday 4 September. Please mark this day - all parishioners will be encouraged to participate. The purpose of this day would be for us to recognise, understand and appreciate the differences we have; encourage us to unlearn our prejudices; affirm the

cultures and experiences of all people; foster the development of positive self-concepts; and challenge stereotyping, bias and discrimination. We encourage all parishioners to attend.

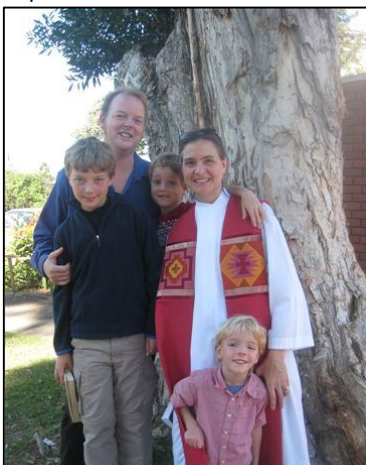
Love one another

Particularly because of our differences this is still most important for us - for regular worshippers as well as those who are still on the fringes of St John's: "love one another." In 1 Corinthians 13:4-6 we are reminded of what love should be like: "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth." Without love and efforts at reconciliation the Good News of Jesus loses all meaning for us.

With love

Revd Dr Andrew Warmback

REVD ELIZA GETMAN



We welcome Revd Eliza Getman and her family to our parish. Eliza was ordained by Bishop Rubin in 2007 and has been worshipping with us for the past year. The Bishop recently granted her a license to exercise her priestly ministry in our parish in a self-supporting, part-time capacity. She preached her first sermon on 23 May, the feast of Pentecost.

Eliza was born in the United States and grew up in Washington, DC in a Christian family where there was a healthy mix of evangelical fervour and progressive scepticism and a strong

The Burns/ Getman family (from left) Noah, Jonathan Burns, Aidan, Eliza with Luke (in front).

commitment to social justice. She was baptised Presbyterian, confirmed Episcopalian and ultimately ordained Anglican. Eliza first studied theology as an undergraduate student at McGill University in Montreal. She spent a year working with a midwife in rural Mali, West Africa. She was profoundly impressed by the Africanization of the Catholic mission there and by the interfaith dialogue and mutual respect being practiced in this predominantly Muslim country. Eliza and Jonathan Burns (from KwaZulu Natal) were married in 1996 and they moved to Cape Town where she wrote her master's thesis on the faith journeys of anti-apartheid activists. Their first son Noah was born there. They moved to Edinburgh for 3 years where she fell in love with Celtic Christianity and spent time on the island of Iona. Aidan was born in Scotland right before they returned to South Africa in 2004. Luke was born in Durban the following year. Eliza currently serves as chaplain at Durban Girls' College and is working on PhD on motherhood and ministry. Let us support Eliza with our love and prayers.

MOTHERS' DAY

Mothers' Day was special in many different ways. The handmade cards from KidZown and the Youth were very special, particularly for those of us who don't have children or grandchildren here. Our other forgotten mothers of Motala Heights were overwhelmed and stunned by the gifts and plates of food that were distributed by our Mothers' Union after the Sunday service. To those of us who went to Motala, it was an eye-opener to see for ourselves the conditions under which the people have to live. Thanks to all for your generosity and care.



Members of the Mothers' Union with the community worker, Shamita (centre front) and another resident of Motala Heights.

WHAT IS CHRISTIAN CARE?

Dot Sanders

This is an inter-denominational group helping to alleviate hunger, involved in social concerns, and care of senior citizens and young, pregnant girls. YOU can help by making soup, offering transport to collect bread, etc., collecting baby clothes and other products; transporting the elderly to Senior Citizens' meetings, or helping at the Seniors' Day Centre based at the Presbyterian church. Speak to one of the clergy for more information

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Fri 28 May** Progressive Dinner fundraiser in our hall
- Sun 6 June** World Environment Day focus: Biodiversity
- Sun 27 June** **PATRONAL FESTIVAL - ONE SERVICE AT 08:00**
Our guest preacher will be Revd Mervyn Singh, formerly an assistant priest of our parish and currently rector of Woodlands with Montclair and Yellowwood Park (incl. Woodhaven).
- Sun 29 August** Confirmation and licensing of a lay minister
- 29 August - 3 October: SEASON OF CREATION.** This annual 6 week focus has been encouraged by both our province and our diocese.
- Sat 4 Sept** Understanding Diversity Training Day
- Wed 29 Sept - Sat 2 Oct** Provincial Synod, Benoni
- Sun 24 October DEDICATION / STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY.** For 6 weeks prior to this day there will be presentations at our services on stewardship, particularly financial stewardship. Material for this will be made available for parishioners in August.

A VISION OF PARADISE: We will be showing this four part series recently aired on SABC at the church on Sunday evenings. It deals with issues of climate change in Africa and the response of the religious communities. In one episode there is a brief clip of St John's. We will show it from 17:30 - 18:30 on Sundays 25 July, 1, 8 and 15 August. All are welcome.

NOTICE

OWING TO A CLASH WITH THE DATE OF THE DOONE VILLAGE FETE, THE ST JOHN'S PARISH FETE THAT WAS PLANNED FOR 30 OCTOBER 2010 HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL 2011.

MAINTENANCE TO THE CHURCH

- Parish Council recently authorised the expenditure for necessary maintenance to the church, including repair of the roofs of the halls and cleaning and repair of gutters, downpipes, etc.
- On 1 May, a work party of enthusiastic parishioners completed varnishing the church doors and other small but necessary tasks.
- The Men's Group are planning to undertake further work, continuing with refurbishing the woodwork within the church.

NEW WINE LEADERS' RETREAT

will be held at St Agnes' church in Kloof from 26 - 30 July 2010. Booking forms are available from the church office.

FROM THE REGISTER

Death: Moreen Hall, died on 29 April

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

It was great to have a church full of 160 worshippers representing about 10 churches in Pinetown and beyond, together with a number of their ministers.

WOMEN'S GROUP

Arising out of requests from women who had attended the breakfasts held in celebration of Women's Day, a brief meeting was held after the service on 23 May. It was decided to meet after the service on 6 June to discuss when, where, how often the Women's Group would meet as well as ideas for the group etc.

ALL WOMEN ARE MOST WELCOME.

YOUTH ON FRIDAYS

A Planning and Co-ordinating Group (PACG) made up of young people has been formed. Alison Warmback and Revd Caroline Beech have started working with them to begin developing their leadership skills.

A workshop to get everyone's ideas for activities they would like to do/discuss/watch/participate in at Youth on Fridays has been held. The PACG are working with these ideas to draw up a programme for Fridays in the third term.

Friday 4 June will be the last Youth on Fridays evening for the second term. The young people will be having a party including a dancing "competition".

Youth on Fridays will resume for the third term on Friday 16 July 2010.

**Royal School of Church Music
SOUTH AFRICA KZN BRANCH**
To commemorate the RSCM Day world-wide

RICHARD COCK
directs
SONGS OF PRAISE

SATURDAY 12 JUNE at 15:00 in the Kearsney College Chapel

Combined church choirs from greater Durban and Pietermaritzburg

Organist: Christopher Cockburn

Admission: R40 adults, R20 scholars



THE PARISH PICNIC on 2 May was held at Koinonia in Botha's Hill. The weather was perfect and the surroundings idyllic. Thank you to Denise Marescia, the director of the Koinonia Conference Centre, and a parishioner at St John's, for welcoming us and showing us around the grounds.

Remember copies of *The Bell & The Lantern* are available on the website: www.stjohnbaptist.co.za