



# The Voice of St John the Baptist, Pinetown

*The Lord lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God my Saviour!*  
Psalm 18:46

## PENTECOST IN PINETOWN

The feast of Pentecost, which commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit on all creation, has its origins in the Jewish Feast of Harvest or Day of the First Fruits - a day of thanksgiving to God for the wheat harvest being gathered in. The Holy Spirit, poured out abundantly on the early believers, is a Spirit of generosity and gratitude. It is good to be reminded that what we have is a gift from God; and that we are to share what we have with others. Our faith as well as our possessions are gifts to be appreciated and enjoyed together with others.

From the Old Testament we read that the Spirit has been present since creation, bringing God's life, and redeeming our fractured world. When Jesus began his

public ministry the Spirit came upon him to bring good news and freedom to all (see Luke 4:18 & 19). The Holy Spirit dwells in us - we are to continue this ministry in Pinetown and beyond.

I am encouraged when I witness the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst: "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control" (Galatians 5:22). Through our Spirit of Hope activities we have experienced this fruit through the coming together of people from the parish, and beyond, in expressing their God-given creativity and working together, welcoming the newcomer and being generous with their time and treasure. Thanks be to God!

*Revd Dr Andrew Warmback  
Rector*

## CELEBRATION OF HOPE WEEKEND

**When?** Fri-Sun, 23 - 25 October  
**Where?** St John's Church  
**Who?** Everyone who wants to be involved.



This event marks the culmination of the Spirit of Hope 2009, and all are welcome to attend the weekend. It will be an Arts and Crafts festival, and will include whatever our parishioners can offer - the talents that have been discovered during the Spirit of Hope, and the talents that have long been known to exist among our people. We are planning to have displays in the church of any Crafts, Hobbies, Flowers, Music, Refreshments, Demonstrations, etc etc. There is a list at the back of the church, where you can write down your name and the talent you would like to display - and everyone should have their name at least once on this list as no-one has no talents whatever!! Planning has started already as October is only 4 months away and there is a lot to do! So, please, everyone think of what you can do, even if it is only the ability to make a decent cup of tea or bake a tasty scone (two of the most desirable talents). Regular announcements will be made in the pew bulletin to keep us all updated on progress.

We need **YOU**. Please think about what you can offer and write your name on the Celebration of Hope lists on the notice board. Feel free to contact any of the conveners below with any queries. The more the merrier, let's all have fun together!!

**Flower and overall convener:** Jane Whitby tel. 031 7671174  
**Demonstrations:** Heather Hubble tel. 031 7083184  
**Music:** Caroline Beech tel. 082 8361847  
**Craft etc:** Rhea Gwynn tel. 031 7019777  
**Entertainment:** Mary Allen tel. 031 7014227  
**Refreshment:** Isabel Cress tel. 031 7016691

## THE NEW CHURCH BELL

Has everyone heard the new bell ringing out loud and clear on Sunday mornings? It sounds wonderful! Most hearty thanks to Errol Greenslade, Michael Gwynn and Russel Gwynn for all their efforts - it was a long process, but they never gave up, getting the best bell for the best price, and making the beautiful bracket it is hung from. The bracket is engraved: "Revd Dr Andrew Warmback, Rector. Erected by F.E.Greenslade, M.P.Gwynn, V.R.Gwynn, L.Siepmann. April 2009".

## ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

On Thursday 21 May we welcomed members of other churches in Pinetown to St John's to celebrate Ascension. Led by our choir and with the participation of ministers of these churches, we had a meaningful service - certainly a tradition to be continued.

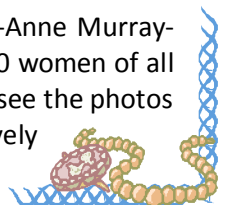
The service had been planned by the Pinetown Ministers' Fellowship. Revd Canon Nigel Jukes, the rector of St Agnes', Kloof, was the preacher.

## DIOCESAN YOUTH CELEBRATION

This will take place at the Cathedral in Pietermaritzburg on Saturday 27 June. All young people of the parish are invited to join in what promises to be an exciting and meaningful occasion.

## BEADING WORKSHOP

The beading workshop was run by Leigh-Anne Murray-Rawbone on 9 May, and approximately 50 women of all ages attended. Much fun was had by all (see the photos on the hall door), and some really lovely necklaces were made. Thank you, Leigh-Anne, for sharing your talent and knowledge!! We look forward to the next one.





## DATES for the DIARY

**Sun. 31 May: Pentecost - Single service at 08:00.** Harvest Festival also celebrated today. Those who grow their own fruit and vegetables are encouraged to bring some of this produce, and we will also put up a list of foodstuffs people could bring which are used in the AIDS food parcels. The Parish Picnic at Tanglewood Nature Reserve follows the service - directions to Tanglewood are available.

**Thurs. 11 June: Corpus Christi.** Service at 19:00 at St John's.

**Sun. 21 June: Patronal Festival - 08:00 service.** Bishop Nkosinathi Ndwandwe will be with us and will license new lay ministers and admit Jabulani Ngidi as an Anglican.

**Sun. 30 August: Stewardship/Dedication Sunday - 08:00 service.** See the June edition of *The Lantern* for more details.

**Thurs. 24 Sept.: Heritage Day** - Traditional South African Presentations - more details later.

### FROM THE REGISTER:

**R.I.P.:** Leslie Lugg (died 15/05/09)  
Peggie Wilson - Revd Caroline Beech's mother (died 17/05/09)  
Tim Sharpe (died 20/05/09)

**Baptised:** 17 May: Murphy Jane Kidwell, granddaughter of Anne Kidwell

**Married:** 02 May: Zama Mtshali & Sibonelo Dlamini

### FAREWELL TO PENNY



Penny McLennan is leaving St John's and South Africa on 6 June to live in Australia with her daughter Vanessa. Penny has touched many of our lives with her quiet and loving ministry over the years, and on Saturday 30 May at 3:00, there will be a bring-and-share tea for her at the church to say, not goodbye, but farewell until we meet again. All are welcome to attend. There will be an article from Penny in the next edition of *The Lantern*.

### SOUTHERN ANGLICAN

Copies of this publication, which gives news of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, are available from the parish office for R10 per copy. Some back copies are also available.

### WANTED

The Diocese of Natal is seeking an archivist to work at the Cathedral Centre in Pietermaritzburg. This person must be computer literate and fluent in both English and isiZulu. See more details on the notice board at the back of the church or contact the diocesan secretary: [diocese@dnatal.org.za](mailto:diocese@dnatal.org.za).

## MEN'S GROUP

Regular meetings of the Men of the parish are to be initiated to focus on their spirituality, to explore new avenues of outreach, and to foster fellowship among them. On Sunday 7 June, all those interested in joining this group are asked to meet between the morning services, at 08:15, to discuss the future of this group.



## UKUKHUTHAZA AUCTION

The auction was held, as planned, on Friday 8 May, and was an outstanding success. The estimated profit is in the region of R8500! Heartfelt thanks go to everyone who supported us: those who gave the goods and those who came and bought them. You have all been so generous! Thanks also to auctioneer Rob Thunder, without whom it would not have been nearly so successful - apart from being an expert auctioneer, he was really entertaining and kept us laughing while we parted with our money. More thanks to all who helped behind the scenes, preparing everything beforehand, and on the night - cooks, money counters, recorders, barmen, and especially Sam Shezi, our verger, who worked far beyond the call of duty to help set up before the auction and late into the night to clear up. The Spirit of Hope is surely alive and well in the people of St John's!!



### PARISH FINANCE AT A GLANCE

Average expenditure per month:	R75 860
Average income received per month:	R58 213
Shortfall per month:	R17 467
Dedicated Giving – Jan - April:	
Pledged	R215 580
Received	R203 707
Shortfall to date	R 11 873
NB: The budget amount for Jan – April was	R233 332

### DEDICATED GIVING

All are encouraged to give to the church in this systematic way. If YOU wish to join this scheme, please get the forms from the parish office, or speak to one of the clergy after services.

**Please remember to return your envelope with your gift for the self-supporting clergy.**



**DEADLINES:** The next issue of *The Lantern* will be out on 19 June (no issue of *The Bell* will be published for July). Please let us have your contributions not later than 7 June, particularly your comments/criticisms of the new outlay of the pew bulletin, and *The Bell*. The *Lantern* is also the platform for longer articles, including testimonies, or extracts from inspirational books or articles you would like to share with others. Send your contributions to [church@stjohnbaptist.co.za](mailto:church@stjohnbaptist.co.za), or hand in at the parish office.