
First Quarterly Newsletter of 2024

Family News

I am still trying to find my feet in this new role of being an area Bishop, trying to get the balance between the two roles, being the rector of the church and being the area Bishop. So far, it's been joyful to me to meet one on one with ministers, to hear what the Lord is doing in their local churches and to pray together with them.



Summer School Day 3 PB Peter Makapela George Whitefield College

Between the 24th and 26th of January, I had the privilege of preaching at GWC's Summer School. I also had an opportunity to have coffee with the principal. It was great to hear his heart and his vision for GWC. More importantly, I enjoyed spending time with the students: getting to know them and praying with them.

LONA: Is my 14-year-old daughter, the youngest. She started high school this year. She has settled well at the school. Both Lona and Khanya were confirmed on Sunday 3rd of March. I enjoyed listening to their testimonies. Please keep praying for all my children this term as they have had challenges with their health.

GWC Students



Thembelanie

We have one student that we sent to GWC. He came to know the Lord through the ministry we did at Lourensford farm. He is now doing his second year. Pray for him to continue doing well on academics. Our church does support Thembelani with money for toiletries and some pocket money which is not that much. We also have students placed at our church. The students are so helpful: they help in youth ministry, leading services and preaching. We pick them up and drop them back at GWC every Friday and Sunday. It costs us around R300 per day to transport them. Sometimes, when our Avanza is broken, we have to Uber them which can cost us R700 to R800 per day.

House Churches



Inter-house Church Sports Day

On the 3rd of February we started our House Churches. As usual we started with our annual inter-house church sports day. It was a great time of fun. Also, great eating together as a family, and getting to know each other as members of the church.

I had a good time at the beginning of the year, attending meetings of House Churches where they spoke about their plans to grow and multiply as individual House Churches. I was so touched by their enthusiasm, to see people coming to know Christ, and their House Churches growing and multiplying with target dates. I presented Relational Evangelism training to the members. This kind of training will assist members of House Churches achieve their goal of reaching out to everyone with the Gospel. I am also glad that we will be sending four interns to Johannesburg in May to participate in Lay Leaders Training. These interns will become shepherds to new House Churches as these churches multiply.

Prayer:

Please pray for the shepherds who are shepherding those House Churches and that the Lord may give them strength to continue doing God's work and to grow in Christ. Pray for Gospel growth in our church through these House Churches.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES



Arch Bishop of REACH-SA Consecration

I personally attended my first REACH-SA National Executive Meeting. It was a good time of learning. On Saturday 10th of February, some of our church members and I attended the consecration service of Rev. Dr Siegfried Ngubane in Midrand (JHB). He was installed as the presiding Bishop of REACH-SA as the Arch Bishop of the REACH-SOUTHERN AFRICA province and also as the Chancellor of GWC. It was such a joyous occasion and over 600 people attended the event. It was also good to see old friends, some of whom I have not seen in 20 years. Please pray for Bishop Ngubane as he officially takes up this role on the 1st of April.

OPERATION MOBILIZATION (OM) RELATIONSHIP



OM Undivided Witness Training

At the end of last year, I had the privilege of meeting with the National and the Western Cape Regional Director of OPERATION MOBILIZATION (OM). One of the passions of our local church is to restore that burning desire for missions in our local church. Our Pastors Conwell and Nkululeko attended OM training called "Undivided Witness" held during February over two weekends. We hope that Nkululeko and Conwell will also run that training in our church.



Operation Mobilization

Baptism and Confirmation



Baptism



Confirmation

On Sunday 3rd of March, it was a joyful Sunday witnessing 12 adults being baptized and 4 teenagers being confirmed. I almost cried as I was listening to their testimonies. Sharing how their lives were before Christ and how they came to know Christ. Also, now that they know Him, how their lives are now. Some of the teenagers, who were testifying, shared how they were impacted by the camps we run during June holidays. Please continue to pray that these members would continue to grow in knowing Christ.

Teenagers and Kids Ministry

This ministry started very slowly this year with very low numbers.

In February, our teenagers had an opportunity to join other teenagers at a Western Cape Cutting Edge Youth Rally.

Currently, we are struggling to get volunteer leaders for the Teenagers and Kids Ministries. As a result, these ministries have not started yet this year. We hope that these ministries will start after Easter. Please pray that the Lord may raise someone who will take over and run both these ministries.

CHRIST CHURCH KLAPMUTS

The ministry is continuing to grow. We are still looking for a suitable venue to meet on Sundays. Thanks to Christ Church Stellenbosch and Christ Church Paarl for partnering with this church plant. Pray for a suitable venue. At the moment our church pays for the taxi transport of members from Klapmuts to Strand. The cost of transportation presents a substantial challenge to the church's budget. Therefore, the need for a venue is urgent. Please pray for us for this to resolve.

Feeding Program



Soup Kitchen

This program commenced without any complications this year. As a direct result, we have observed a notable increase in attendance each Thursday for the Gospel service. We extend our sincere gratitude to St. Stephens Bible Church Claremont for their generous donation of rice, soup packs, and canned food. This contribution will undoubtedly sustain our program well into May or June.

On some occasions, we encounter families experiencing severe food insecurity. In such instances, we utilize designated funds allocated for food assistance to provide them with a food voucher. Your continued support is invaluable in facilitating these interventions.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who is contributing to this important ministry.

Sewing Program



Sewing Class

The program commenced well, and I had the distinct honour of welcoming new students last week. However, we currently face challenges with our equipment and facilities. Our sewing machines are outdated, and their functionality is compromised. Additionally, the Wendy House, which serves as the classroom space, has significantly deteriorated, raising safety concerns. Due to restrictions on permanent structures on-site, we require a high-quality, durable temporary structure to ensure the program's continued success.

THANK YOU

Our facilities currently exhibit structural deficiencies, evident in the form of cracks, and require a comprehensive repainting. We extend our sincere gratitude to the generous individuals whose contributions have directly supported this necessary endeavour. However, upon closer inspection, the extent of the required work has revealed a cost exceeding our initial estimations.

Please keep praying for us.

Bishop Peter Makapela

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