

Second Quarterly Newsletter of 2024

Bishop Peter Makapela and Family

The Makapela family was partly impacted by the severe storm that struck Cape Town on April 7th. While some roof tiles were dislodged, thankfully their insurance policy provided prompt repairs. Mercifully, there were no injuries sustained.

Bishop Peter was honoured to receive invitations to deliver sermons at various locations throughout the recent period. Notably, he was invited to preach at Christ Church Khayelitsha on Good Friday. Additionally, during the months of March and May, he delivered sermons at a number of churches, including Gracefields Church.

Bishop Peter's itinerary also included speaking engagements beyond traditional church settings. He addressed the REACH TABLE VIEW men's breakfast gathering. Furthermore, he delivered a sermon at the Holy Trinity Church Gardens.

Bishop Peter's duties extended beyond preaching. He presided over the installation of Christ Ebdon as the rector of St. Johns Bothasig, where he also delivered a sermon.

During this time, Bishop Peter participated in a two-day national gathering of bishops. Additionally, in collaboration with Bishop Alan, he led a two-day camp for curates.

Bishop Peter's commitment to his ministry was further demonstrated by his participation in confirmation ceremonies and preaching at Christ Church Tygerberg.

We kindly request your continued prayers for Bishop Peter as he faithfully fulfills his roles as rector of our church, preacher, and Bishop of the Western Cape. Please extend your prayers to his family, particularly for Philile, who requires urgent medical attention for a heart condition. While a diagnosis has been established, she now awaits scheduling with a heart specialist at Groote Schuur Hospital. Given the urgency, we implore your prayers for a swift appointment.



Khayelitsha





National Bishops breakfast meeting



Easter Conference

We are grateful to host a successful Easter Conference held from March 28th to March 31st. We extend our sincerest appreciation to all our esteemed speakers: Reverend Nkululeko Ndima of Agape Baptist Church, Reverend Thembelani Maqhajana of Grace Baptist Church, Mr. Sakhile Mkhize, and our esteemed Presiding Bishop, the Right Reverend Siegfried Ngubane. The conference was blessed with a high number of attendees, and the message of the Gospel was powerfully delivered.



Easter Conference



Easter Conference

Bishop of Gauteng's Visit

We were honoured to host the Right Reverend Bishop Mbulelo Maliza, Bishop of Gauteng, at our church on Sunday, 21 April. He delivered a sermon to our congregation.



Bishop Mbulelo Maliza Visit

Sewing Project

On the morning of Sunday, April 7th, 2024, a significant storm impacted the Cape Town area, causing substantial damage. Our sewing room's roof sustained significant wind damage, which unfortunately resulted in harm to the sewing machines housed within. While we were able to secure temporary repairs with roof sheeting and the assistance of a church member, the current structure remains structurally unsound and necessitates replacement.



Sewing Hut



Stabilized Roof Sheets



Missing Roof Sheets



Damaged Sewing Room

We are grateful for the generous pledge of funds from a supporter to facilitate the construction of a small Nutec structure. However, additional financial assistance is required to complete the project, including electrical installation and insulation.

We kindly request your continued support. If you possess any surplus sewing machines or overlockers that are no longer in use, we would be immensely grateful for your donation.

Transport

Transportation remains a critical need for our church community. We are sincerely grateful for the two Toyota Avanzas that have served us faithfully for many years. These vehicles have been instrumental in facilitating bi-weekly ministry trips to Klapmats for those who lack personal transportation. Additionally, due to evening safety concerns, we provide transportation for church members following evening services. While this has occasionally necessitated exceeding vehicle capacity, we prioritize the well-being of our congregation. The Avanzas are also utilized for the weekly transport of GWC students on Fridays and Sundays, and for various church operations including the soup kitchen, sewing program, and preschool.

We are thankful for the two Toyota Avanza 7-seaters, which have served us well despite their considerable age and mileage. While they exhibit signs of wear and tear, they have proven remarkably capable of handling the demanding tasks to which we subject them.

Unfortunately, one of the vehicles recently required a significant engine overhaul due to its high mileage. This prompted a generous supporter to assist us in replacing this particular vehicle. The remaining Avanza requires clutch repairs, which will be addressed upon the sale of the vehicle which has been replaced.

Fortunately, we were able to acquire a low-mileage, older Opel Corsa sedan at a very attractive price. This acquisition fulfills our need for a third vehicle. We express our sincere gratitude for all three vehicles, which significantly enhance our ability to serve the community.

Church Buildings

Through faith and perseverance, we are pleased to announce significant progress on the building renovation project. Following a period of prayer and reflection, a generous donor stepped forward to contribute to the project. Additionally, the contractor has offered a substantial reduction in labour costs, and the paint supplier has graciously donated all necessary materials. These developments are a testament to the power of prayer and the outpouring of support from our community.

The building, having reached a decade of service, was in need of significant repairs and a fresh coat of paint. The renovation work is ongoing and is expected to be completed within a few weeks. We express our sincere gratitude to God for answering our prayers and fulfilling our needs during this project.



Painted Church Building

Somlandela Pre-School

We express our sincere gratitude to the board of directors of the pre-school for their exemplary management. Reverend Katleho Meslane has recently assumed the role of chairperson, succeeding Bishop Makapela. This transition has undoubtedly alleviated some of Bishop Peter's responsibilities, as his duties as Bishop have grown more demanding.

The pre-school was recently fortunate to receive a visit from the traffic department. Representatives provided valuable instruction to the children on traffic rules, road signs, and safe pedestrian practices. This educational session proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable experience for all involved.

We kindly request your continued prayers for our dedicated teachers as they strive to nurture the children's spiritual development and introduce them to the teachings of Jesus Christ. Additionally, we would appreciate prayers for the continued growth of our school community, particularly that parents may feel drawn to attend church services.

Finally, the pre-school is currently in need of new mattresses and educational toys. We would be grateful if you would keep this need in your prayers.



Painted Pre-School Buildings



Pre-School Learners

Klapmats Church Plant

By God's grace, we are pleased to announce the acquisition of a larger structure within the Klapmats informal settlement. This new facility boasts its own dedicated electricity box, access to a shared communal tap, and a shared toilet.

This marks a significant step forward for our ministry, and we continue to pray for the opportunity to secure a larger and more permanent building to accommodate our growing congregation.

Nkululeko's weekly meetings will continue to be held on Tuesdays. Additionally, our dedicated church members have recently undertaken evangelism efforts, which will continue every Sunday afternoon.

On Sunday, June 2nd, we will host an official farewell ceremony for the Msomi family as they embark on the establishment of Sunday morning services within the Klapmats community.

Currently, our Klapmats congregation consists of approximately 25 adults, 15 teenagers, and over 20 children. We kindly request your prayers for the continued spread of the Gospel's light within the hearts of the Klapmats residents, ultimately leading to genuine conversions.

We would also appreciate prayers for Nkululeko and Thandekile as they endeavour to relocate closer to the Klapmats community. They are actively seeking affordable housing within Paarl, Klapmats, Stellenbosch, or Kraaifontein to facilitate their ministry efforts. Additionally, Thandekile seeks a teaching transfer to a school within Klapmats, Stellenbosch, Paarl, or Kraaifontein, or any available teaching position that would support their move.



Christ Church Klapmats



Christ Church Klapmats



Camps

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Barrows family. Their generosity in allowing us to utilize their campsite free of charge for many years has been instrumental in facilitating spiritual growth within our community. We have witnessed countless individuals come to know Jesus Christ and others deepen their existing relationships with Him through these camps.

Regrettably, 2024 will mark the final year for utilizing the Barrows campsite due to its conversion into a school facility in 2025. Moving forward, to continue offering winter camps for teenagers and children, we will need to secure campsites that require a rental fee.

In light of this development, we are pleased to announce our upcoming camps at the Barrows farm, taking place for the last time from June 30th to July 5th. These camps will cater to both children and teenagers.

The cost of transportation and food for these camps is R400 per child. However, we recognize the financial constraints faced by many families, as evidenced by their ability to afford only R200 per child. We remain committed to ensuring that no child is excluded from experiencing the transformative power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To this end, we kindly request your prayers for the Lord's financial provision.

Additionally, we will be hosting our inaugural Men's Camp from Friday, June 28th to Sunday, June 30th. We implore your prayers for the success of this new initiative. We are also delighted to welcome several men from our church plant in Klapmats to join us for this event. As many of these men are unemployed, affordability may present a challenge. We kindly request your prayers in this regard as well.

The Women's Camp will be held from July 5th to July 7th. We deeply appreciate your prayers for the spiritual enrichment of all participants during these upcoming camps.

Conclusion

Please keep Bishop Peter in your prayers as he faithfully fulfills his ministry. As he travels to various churches, he shares the Gospel message, confirms new believers in their faith, ordains those called to serve, and oversees the important work of REACH SA in the Western Cape. May the Lord grant him strength, wisdom, and a clear voice as he carries out these sacred duties.

Serving in His name,
Bishop Peter Makapela

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