

# Amanzimtoti Uniting Presbyterian Church Newsletter, July 2016

## From our Pastor's desk....

My Dear Toti Family,

Martin Luther summarized the Psalms with these words: "In the Psalms we looked into the heart of all the saints, and we seem to gaze into fair pleasure gardens – into heaven itself, indeed – where blooms in sweet, refreshing, gladdening flowers of holy and happy thoughts about God and all His benefits." Perhaps that's been your experience as well as you've walked through the pages of the Bible's hymnbook.

Today, let's stop and rest once again by lingering over Psalm 60, in which David responds to the vents filling his life at the time. See what parallels you can draw with your own life as you read. What was the best piece of good news you received in the last year? What was the worst piece of bad news? Have you ever had someone come to you with the bittersweet statement, "I have good news and bad news...."? Which did you want to hear first? Psalm 60 was written in the aftermath of both good news and bad news for King David. At the peak of his power, David enjoyed victory over his foes near and far (2 Samuel 8:3-5). (That's the good news.) But David's sweeping success in battle caused his enemies to join forces through alliances. This psalm indicates that Edom attacked Judah from the south, bringing havoc on David's thinly defended homeland. (That's the bad news). After hearing the bleak report, David sat down to capture his emotions in a Spirit-inspired song: Psalm 60.

David clearly recognized the sovereign hand of God in what had happened. Not only does God move in the affairs of men; He possesses the very nations (vv. 7-8)! Therefore, David could glory in God's mighty strength, knowing that "With God's help we shall do mighty things" (v. 12) – a confidence you can echo today.

Find a pencil and complete these two sentences:

"As I look at my circumstances, the bad news is ....."

"As I look at the resources of God, the good news is ....."

### PSALM 60

O God, you have rejected us and broken our defenses; you have become angry and deserted us. Lord, restore us gain to your favour. 2. You have caused this nation to tremble in fear; you have torn it apart. Lord, heal it now, for it is shaken to its depths. 3. You have been very hard on us and made us reel beneath your blows. 4,5 But you have given us a banner to rally to; all who love truth will rally to it; then you can deliver your beloved people. Use your strong right arm to rescue us. 6,7 God has promised to help us. He has vowed it by his holiness! No wonder I exult! "Shechem, Succoth, Gilead, Manasseh – still are mine!" he says. "Judah shall continue to produce kings, and Ephraim great warriors. 8. Moab shall become my lowly servant, and Edom my slave. And I will shout in triumph over the Philistines." 9,10 Who will bring me in triumph into Edom's strong cities? God will! He who cast us off! He who abandoned us to our foes! 11. Yes, Lord, help us against our enemies, for man's help is useless. 12. With God's help we shall do mighty things, for he will trample down our foes."

. . . . Page 2

## From our Pastor's desk (Continued)

### RESPONSE:

"Heavenly Father, that phrase rings in my ears: 'With God's help we shall do mighty things.' David could say that in the face of an uncertain battle. Help me say it as well in the uncertain battles of my own life. I want to be your instrument to do mighty things in my world today. Please cleanse me, use me, and give me confidence in your victory – just as you did David. In the name of my Saviour. Amen."

Much love,

As always,

*Boet and Linda.*

## Prayer List

Please send Prayer Requests to Maureen Jansen van Rensburg, 031 904 1462 or via e-mail to: [totipresby@telkomsa.net](mailto:totipresby@telkomsa.net) OR [totipresby@gmail.com](mailto:totipresby@gmail.com)

Robby Vermolen, Home from hospital. Praise the Lord.

Linda Weldon-Church, Home from hospital. Praise the Lord  
Lesley Semple (MacKay) Home from hospital. Praise the Lord  
Youth, pray for salvation of the unsaved. Pray that God will bless them spiritually, socially and emotionally. Pray that the youth reach their own generation with the gospel.

Our Town and the unsaved (Rom 5:8)

Country – drought, unity and peace.

Please inform us when your family member is well so that we may Praise the Lord and remove the name from our prayer list.

## Name Badges

Please can you wear your name badges weekly to enable new folk to know who they are talking to.

Name badges are placed alphabetically as per you're SURNAME.

A – H found on the right hand door coming into Church

J – M found on the left hand door coming into Church

N – Z found on the wall inside the Vestibule.

Please place your name badge back on the correct rail or into the basket at the door when leaving the church.

Thank-you.



## Birthdays for July 2016

Birthday cards are placed on the communication table. Should you be a regular visitor, you can fill in your details (forms on back table) and also receive a Birthday Card.

3	Cheryl Duvenage
7	Thina Ndlovu
8	Kirsty Vermolen
12	Rev Boet van Schalkwyk
13	Una Murray
15	Ron Smith
19	Caron van Zyl

## Future Events

Mon – Fri, 4 – 8 July, 08:00 – 12:15, **Holiday Bible Club**  
Grace Baptist Church, St. Winifreds. R10 per day.

Sun, 24 July 2016 @ 11:00 – **International Sea Sunday**,  
Passenger Terminal, 'N' Shed, Durban Harbour  
**R.S.V.P.** Linda van Schalkwyk. Tel: 031 266 0695  
Email: [office@saiss.co.za](mailto:office@saiss.co.za)

Tues/Wed, 21 & 22 October 2016

### **Global Leadership Conference**

Venue: Grace Church, Umhlanga Rocks. Cost: R650 p.p.  
(includes teas and lunch for both days)

Bookings – please put your name down on the clipboard (on the communication table – back of Church)

## Ongoing Project for Sailor's Society

Should you wish to donate coffee mugs (preferably not pink) for the Seafarers, please keep them wrapped in newspaper to protect them during travelling between Church and the Sailor's Society.

Last year, 1200 gifts were packed.

Should you be willing to knit fingerless gloves for the Seafarers on an on-going basis, patterns are available.

A Collection Box is available below the communication table.

Please speak to Linda van Schalkwyk or Denise Kenton.

## General Information

Please let us know if we could be of any assistance to you –e.g. If you would like to help in the church, become a member, change your address, going to hospital etc.?

Minister: Rev. J. D. (Boet) van Schalkwyk.

Cell: 083 301 8022 Vestry Hours: Wed 08:00–18:00

Session Clerk –Anand Enoch Cell: 083 661 3515

Church Secretary: Maureen Jansen van Rensburg

Telephone: 031 904 1462. Tues to Fri 08:00 -13:00

E-Mail: [totipresby@telkomsa.net](mailto:totipresby@telkomsa.net) OR [totipresby@gmail.com](mailto:totipresby@gmail.com)

P.O.Box 14 Umbogintwini. 4120

Website: [www.totipresbyterian.co.za](http://www.totipresbyterian.co.za)

## Women's Fellowship News

Hi folks,

After opening our meeting with prayer and devotions we sorted out our usual business matters so that after our tea break we could listen to our interesting speaker.

We did invite anyone from our congregation to join us but nobody took up our invitation! What a pity, because you missed a most friendly, informative gentleman, Andre Beetge, our Town Councillor, who spoke to us about our Town. Amazing information which many of us did not know anything about. We are now very much wiser and so grateful for what he has told us. He is truly a very busy man who really cares about our Community. One of the questions put to him was how does he feel about the derogative letters that are written to the Editor of our Sun newspaper about him? He said that if they are not true, he says so, but it does not change his devotion and caring for our community and Town. He told us interesting future news for us to look forward to. It was a pleasure to meet him.

So congregation, next time we invite you to join us, to not only enjoy our delicious tea/coffee break, but also to listen to an interesting speaker, join us for the morning!!

Ladies please remember Rev Boet's request to choose one of your favourite hymns/praise songs, and to tell us why it is a favourite, for Sunday, 11 September, Women's Fellowship Service, and to give the words to Maureen Jansen van Rensburg so she may put them on the overhead screen.

Next meeting will be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 9.00am in the Hall. Non lady members think about joining us. We will welcome you with a lovely big hug!

Duties for July meeting:

Tea: Shirley Forrester-Smith & Daphne Scott

Devotions: Glenda Farr

May God Bless you.

*Denise Kenton*

Secretary, Women's Fellowship

## Banking Details

Amanzimtoti Uniting Presbyterian  
Church

Nedbank

Bluff

Branch Code: 130-826

Account Number: 1304 1344 90