

Amanzimtoti Uniting Presbyterian Church Newsletter, October 2016

From our Pastor's desk....

Greetings from Australia with the last part of our joint meditation -



Focus on His Care for You

Colossians 3:3 reads, "For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."

Hidden. Just as your hand might gently enfold a rose petal, God's hand gently enfolds you—again, with Christ. The phrase is "with Christ in God." I certainly can't think of a more secure place to be.

I don't feel secure about my own abilities. I have no ultimate faith in our economy, our military prowess, or anything else in this poor, fallen world. But in Christ, I do feel utterly safe and secure. He is my rock, my shelter in a storm.

Note that we are not commanded to hide ourselves in God. Your life "is hidden." In other words—done! This is an accomplished fact, not something for which to anxiously hope. If you are a Christ-follower, then you are with Christ in God, and you are ultimately free and safe. Next time you feel worried, go somewhere alone and simply reflect on that.

Focus on His Commitment to You

Colossians 3:4, "When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."

Part of being with Christ is becoming more like Him. Today, we are being transformed to something just a bit closer to His image, but when He returns in glory, the change will be sudden and dramatic. He will come in His glorious resurrection body, and we will then have perfect resurrection bodies too.

Paul reiterates this point that Christ will "transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body" (Philippians 3:21). Does that sound good to you?

As we grow older, we have a deepening appreciation for bodily wellness. I don't know about you, but my "tent" is growing a bit more tattered all the time. One day I get to trade it in for a new and deluxe model. This is Christ's commitment to me and to you as well. Place your faith in Him, and you will be fully and wonderfully renewed—spirit, mind, and body—upon His return.

When we are centered on Christ, focused on who He is and the promises He has given us, no mass shooting, no terrorist attack, no level of persecution can taint the tiniest drop of that peace, joy, and love. Give Christ your mind and your heart. Invest yourself in the things that matter to Him. You'll find a whole new world, one ruled perfectly and lovingly by our Lord—and pretty soon, you'll understand that the events of this earthly life are just as firmly in His wonderful hands

Missing you and look forward to seeing you again,
Much Christian love,

Boet and Linda.

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.

Thanks from Sailor's Society

A huge thank you to all the "Mums" who are knitting mittens for the seafarers! What a wonderful job you are doing – we currently have 527 pairs of which about 450 have come from Toti! Isn't that wonderful! Thank you, Thank you and Thank you again.

And now for a challenge to our men (and ladies if you are not a knitter) how about supporting the "MUG" parade!!! The International Sailors Society's mandate for the "Share Your Christmas With a Seafarer" project is to supply mittens and mugs to the Seafarers.

At the moment we have 30 mugs, so we have a long way to go. Another suggestion has been made that if you would prefer to give a donation, we would be more than happy to purchase mugs on your behalf. Please mark your donations clearly as "MUGS" so that it doesn't get mixed up with the offering and other church projects. Bless you and thank you in advance.

Boet and Linda.

Birthdays for October 2016

4	Isobel Newby
6	Esme Bowley [Duggett]
6 (Post)	Anne White (Hillcrest)
10	Benita Eaton
12	Arnold MacKay
14	Eric Drennan
15	Chanelle Naidoo
16 (2015)	Milanda James
19	Olive McIntyre
23	Nellie Barnardo
29	Bruce Munro
30 x 2	Fred Bowley & Danie Els

Bible Society Retiring Offering

R1,600 was received. Grateful Thanks to everybody.

Future Dates

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)

Prayer List

Prayer Requests to Maureen Jansen van Rensburg,
031 904 1462 or via e-mail to: totipresby@gmail.com
Nell Tissink and Linda Weldon-Church

Please be the one who cares enough to pray for others.

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

P.O.Box 14 Umbogintwini. 4120

E-Mail: totipresby@gmail.com

Website: www.totipresbyterian.co.za

Banking Details

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Nedbank, Bluff.
Branch Code: 130-826
Acc No. 1304 1344 90

Women's Fellowship News

Hi Friends,

September was our W.F. Birthday Party. We invited other Churches in our area as our guests. Counting our members, there were 50 ladies all enjoying fellowship with much chatter and laughter. Our President, Maureen Crawford, welcomed everyone and opened in prayer and thereafter Dawn Hillan congratulated the birthday and wedding anniversary ladies. We sang to them with god's Blessing. Rev Boet and Linda also celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary plus Linda also had her birthday on the 16th. Linda "whatsapped" Maureen Jansen van Rensburg from Australia early on the Tuesday morning. Linda sent her love and good wishes to all to have a happy morning together. Linda mainly sent a picture and a warning to inform all of the following:

Warning:

Violin Spiders are moving into houses.

They are very dangerous.

If you slept with water in your kettle, don't use it the next day. Please ensure you re-rinse your kettle before using it in the morning. Source: University of Johannesburg

Dawn then told us her hilarious jokes which gave us such good laughs.

Denise Kenton then handed out gifts of gorgeous tiny little holders made from plastic, with cross-stitching done on them. They poem "A Cross in My Pocket" is inside with a cross. An elderly lady of 85 years made them.

We then enjoyed a scrumptious tea/coffee time. Wow! What a spread supplied by our members. The leftovers were offered to all as takeaways with a voluntary donation if they so wished.

After tea, we had our entertainment which was our very talented president, Maureen Crawford, who "mimed" the song "Come to the Cabaret". With her wig on, to change her character and with Liza Minelli singing on the CD, you would have believed that it was definitely Maureen singing the song! She is so good. Thank you for entertaining us Maureen.

As always, everyone enjoyed our party and we closed with the Benediction "May God's Blessing". God is so good to us.

PS: Please remember that St Mary's Anglican Church in Warner Beach are having a Flower Show titled "Thank you for the Music" on Saturday, 1 October in their church hall. Please support them.

Our Sheila Fraser and Denise Kenton will also be doing arrangements and any other person interested in doing an arrangement is welcome to do so.

PPS: W.F. members. Please remember to pay your R75.00 to Denise Siegel for the Christmas Luncheon when you come to the October meeting. Non-members pay R85.00

Duties for October meeting:

Tea: Ivers Oldfield & Linda Clark

Devotions: Shirley Forrester-Smith

With God's richest blessings,

Women's Fellowship Secretary

Denise Kenton.