



where life change happens

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

WEST VIEW METHODIST CHURCH

Annual Report 2017

SENIOR MINISTER'S REPORT

2017 has been a year characterized by steady progress in the life of West View Methodist Church, despite some significant headwinds which threatened to pull us backwards. One headwind has been the unstable nature of our clergy team. Philip's midyear departure to The Glen, followed by Raymond's arrival, only to be met with the news of Raymond's imminent departure at the end of November, has created some instability. Another headwind blows in the form of the state of our beloved country. A stagnant economy has affected tithes and offerings, and we have had to pull in our belts accordingly.

Any cyclist will tell you that cycling into a headwind develops stamina and 'gees', and I believe that God has used these challenges to develop such 'gees' in us – staff members and volunteers alike. Paul writes in Romans 5:3ff that

“suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us”

And so, with the Holy Spirit's help, we have been able to be faithful to God's call upon us to be a place where life change happens:

- Our home groups, courses, classes and programmes continue to be places where people encounter Jesus in life-giving ways
- Our missions continue to bring hope and a future to the surrounding community,
- Our worship services are places where we touch the Holy of Holies, and receive God's living Word, and
- Our relationships across the divisions of language, culture and colour witness to what is possible amongst a community which has Christ at its centre.

We enter 2018 with a reduced clergy team. With me fulltime at West View, and Siphwe shared with Elim Methodist Church, it will be necessary for the congregation to live more fully into the vision of *“every member a minister”*.

- Every member is called to care for, support, lead and pastor other members; to be stretcher-bearers bringing each other to Jesus in times of need.
- Every member is called to use their gifts and follow their calling,
- Every member is called to play their part,

“so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.” Ephesians 4:12-13

I continue to be deeply grateful for the privilege of being your pastor. Thank you for being you!

Grace and Peace

Ian France – Snr Minister

PASTORAL CARE

It has been yet another busy year for *Pastoral Care* under Rev Siphwe Madi. Together with pastoral contact, eighteen sets of *‘Journeying through Grief’* booklets have been distributed to people who have lost loved ones.

Bereavement. Dirna Coetzee has stepped down after many years of service in our bereavement care ministry and Shaleen Mc Laren has graciously taken over. Together Lael and Shaleen provide a support system by calling the bereaved regularly for the first few months after the bereavement, allowing them to talk through and share their loss.

Caring Caller. Shaleen calls approximately twenty members of the congregation on a weekly basis to keep in touch, highlight pastoral needs and any changes needed on the database.

Funeral Tea Ministry. This team is headed up by Linda Taylor and Leonie Botes who have provided eats, set tables, served tea and coffee and cleaned up after many funerals. We thank them for their love and support to those in need.

Garden of Remembrance is looking lovely. Thanks to Linda Taylor who lovingly cares for it. The floor is looking especially pretty with new mosaics from the Remembrance Service in April.

Hospital visitation has two new volunteers – Hettie Smith and Nana Mkhwanazi. Patients are visited, prayed for and a card is given to them. Long term patients are given a small devotional booklet and *Holding Crosses* are handed out to the critically ill or those who have experienced trauma. Thanks to Ralph Driver and Wendy Knight who visit patients so regularly at Unitas Hospital. This contact assists us to know who is in hospital and in need of care. Rev Siphwe Madi, Rev Raymond Keet and Rev Ian France have followed up with a number of hospital visits.

Pieter de Beer Strydom reports that the services at *Eldoraigne Retirement Village* are being well attended by between 20 – 25 people on a regular basis with Holy Communion being served monthly. Nic & Gill Oosthuysen and Koos & Petro Smith visit and serve communion to four of the homebound residents at the village.

Family Cross. Feedback from members receiving the Family Cross has been positive after having had the prayer support of the congregation during the week with the cross in their homes. Seventy crosses and cards have been handed out.

Intercessory Prayer. Hazel Clark calls people on the Intercessory Prayer list. Prayer letters go out weekly to our twenty-two volunteers with prayer needs and they are lovingly prayed for.

Homebound. Our team of volunteers, Nic & Gill Oosthuysen, Koos & Petro Smith, Sean & Linda Addinall and Thomas Ferreira visit the homebound and serve communion to them. A suitcase with the elements is brought to a communion service to be consecrated and volunteers spend time with the recipients. Currently nine homes are being visited.

We give thanks to God for His guidance and we are so grateful to our volunteers and our Cluster Society Steward Mandu Mamatela for their willingness to serve so faithfully.

Our Vision remains to care for people both pastorally and compassionately and to intentionally call them into a deeper and transforming relationship with Christ.

A lack of volunteers remains a challenge.

Lael du Toit – Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY LIFE

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Treehouse and Greenhouse (9h45 Children's Church)

Treehouse takes place on the premises of West View College Pre-school. *Treehouse* is the name for Children's Church for Toddlers up to Gr 4.

Greenhouse takes place in the William Botha house. *Greenhouse* is the name for children in Gr 5 up to Gr 7.

Weekly attendance is above 90 children a week, and above 250 registered children who have come through our gates in 2017.

Curriculum: *Treehouse* is continuing with the 3-year curriculum for children at West View. *Greenhouse* have been following lessons which speak into real life situations.

During 2018, we are looking at bringing more vibrancy to the *Greenhouse* worship on Sundays.

Godly Play: At 07h45 there is an average of 6 children per week and at 18h00 there are 15 per week. This is an increase since 2016.

Aimed at children between 4 - 13 years old, Godly Play forms the basis of the curriculum for the West View College children Grades 1 – 5. This has been fruitful with West View College as well.

The Godly play room is almost fully stocked with all the stories for the curriculum.

Holiday Clubs have been successful as a culture is forming around the programme with the Youth and Children.

Numbers exceeded 80 Children and 50 Youth in both the March and June/July Holiday Clubs.

2017: Holiday Clubs became difficult so close together, with regards to planning and getting leaders.

2018: we will look at an increase in the number of children at Holiday Clubs

TWIGS is our Friday night fellowship group for Senior Primary children and attracts an average of 12 children per week.

Josua Nicholson – Children's Pastor

YOUTH & STUDENTS MINISTRY - Rooted (Youth Church)

Rooted is our Sunday morning service that is run in the Luke Hall for all those in High School or University. It is dynamic, with video or live worship. We offer hospitality in the form of juice, biscuits, birthday chocolates and more. Topics covered this year include; "Relevant" (Term One), "10 Commandments" (Term Two), "Growing Deeper" (Term Three) and finally "Rooted Life" (Term Four). Our missional focus this year has been to prioritise relationship building during group time as well as an intentional look at how we can take Christ "out there", not just enjoy Him at Church.

Numbers on a Sunday morning are between 35 and 50 in attendance, with a Leadership Team of about 10 to 15 assisting with group time, hospitality etc.

The **Youth Band** that was formed at the beginning of 2016 has really flourished with many new bandies joining. We meet every Wednesday evening for practice, and play at least once a month for the Rooted service.

Other highlights include the **Prefect Service** in January, our **Community Worship** services once a quarter and, which included the "Easter Worship Special", and the "Cycle of Grace Walk".

This year we also attended a **Worship Festival** in Johannesburg called the "Awakening". This is an interdenominational worship event for the entire family, which many of the West View Youth attended and have shown interest in us starting a similar event in Pretoria.

Another event attended was "**Dcamp Day**". This is a sample of the December Leadership camp known as "Dcamp" in a day. It's an opportunity for all those who can't normally

attend, or plan on attending for the first time, to come and experience what Dcamp is all about.

Lastly this year was the first time we had over 40 teenagers attending our annual **Holiday Clubs as Leaders**.

Segaw (Confirmation)

This year is the first full 10-month programme of Confirmation in which we used the *Youth Alpha* series as part of the curriculum for term one and two, followed by term three and four which put emphasis on Church Life, Mission and Fellowship. We found this year to be fruitful in that all those who signed up at the beginning of the year to be Confirmation Leaders then stayed and journeyed with their group for the whole year. This was truly amazing as it provided an amazing platform for Leaders to Mentor and form lasting relationships with their groups. A major highlight was the Confirmation Camp, when we were joined by Midstream Methodist Church and shared the camp experience and encounter in a powerful way. We were also fortunate enough to once again go and spend the day in *Mooiplaas* at the Pre-School and assist in the cleaning of a storeroom as well as the revamping of the kitchen and spending quality time with the children. We ended the year with some powerful testimonies, two baptisms, our Hawaiian themed Banquet and “Welcome to West View” and the final service at which we confirmed 22 young people.

TGIF

This is Friday night ministry that was started at the beginning of last year. It is hosted at the end of every month at West View, inviting teens and varsity to come spend time together in fellowship, word and a bit of fun. Some highlights from this year include the Valentines Soiree, Spring party which we hosted on the school field where we were joined by Midstream Methodist.

Youth Internship

This year we had an intern working within the Children Youth and Family Cluster. This was truly beneficial for the Cluster, not only having an extra “hand” to assist with Sunday mornings but during the evening service etc as well. A huge blessing that we saw from this was increased participation and active engagement over all Social Media platforms as well as a huge growth and maturing of the Youth Band.

Dcamp

This year we have seen a drop in potential campers compared to last year, primarily due to the fact that there are many matrices this year attending vac and not able to attend. However, even with fundraising efforts there are many who were/are simply not able to come due to the cost of camp.

Aspirations 2018

- * We hope to start more Bible Studies/Life Groups, focusing on creating a “post-confirmation” group.
- * Growing Young Adult participation and involvement in the church.
- * Intentional Evangelism - going out and inviting youth to “Youth Alpha” “Rooted” etc.
- * Hosting a biannual Seminar or Conference for youth and parents.
- * Hosting a church-wide Worship Event.

Challenges

- * Integrating Youth into the life of the church while avoiding the separation of older and younger teens.
- * Fundraising and the rising costs of camps (alongside importance of camps in ministry to youth)

- * Continued involvement and commitment of volunteers
- * Balancing the busyness of school functions, sports, exams, family and church.

James Rogers - Youth & Students Pastor

WORSHIP

2017 was a year of change and experimentation within the Worship Cluster. Our new Worship Co-ordinator had assistance and incredible input from Rev Gregory Milton from Duke University and the countless volunteers who stood up to assist within the cluster.

Highlights for 2017

The installation of the floor boxes into the main stage to allow for more efficient set-up and break-down of the worship equipment. July was dedicated as *Worship Month* where we discovered many aspects of our worship to God.

We also used this time to explore our sense of being perpetual tinkerers and therefore many changes were experimented with, including worship team layout, the makeup of the worship teams and the changing of the physical appearance of the sanctuary. We have also opened the ongoing conversation of racial/cultural integration and will endeavour to make West View a place of welcoming acceptance. We welcome Barbara Girdlestone as the new Coordinator of the Flower Ministry, and thank Zenita Bowring for her years of service.

Holy Week Services

Holy Week was a deep and meaningful celebration of the redeeming work of Christ. The worship stations beforehand, sermons, and various worship styles came together to facilitate memorable encounters with God for the many who attended. Tenebrae was touching as the use of darkness as well as the classical music and many readers told the story leading to the crucifixion of Christ.

Worship bands

The worship teams have reached a new level this year, leading worship with a new-found passion for leading people into a real place of connection with God. July was a great opportunity for the worship teams to blend together and learn from one another and grow both as musicians and singers.

Challenges from 2016

New Volunteers:

One of the greatest challenges is the small number of volunteers that help this cluster to thrive, it presents a danger of burnout for the volunteers. We will continue to run recruitment campaigns as well as approaching people directly.

For 2018

We will continue to build West View as a place *where life changes happens*, and people can experience worship in a tangible spirit-affirming way. We pray to grow in strength with one another in every aspect of the cluster.

Matthew Tayler – Worship Coordinator; Cindy Pedlar - Society Steward

DITSHEGO

HIGH LIGHTS

- The new sewerage and irrigation system at the Ditshego property is almost complete. This process was sponsored by the Church of the Resurrection who matched funding from local sponsors. This process was necessary to host an increasing number of children on the premises, and support the 4 food garden tunnels which will be erected

soon. Sponsors also funded 18 solar panels to assist us in saving electricity costs as well as a good security system to protect the premises.

- Daily we have the Open School class on the plot with 44 Children as well as the 6 children in the place of safety and the office staff. Corporate staff and school children volunteer to do renovations on the premises on a continual basis.
- The projects continued with a Pre-School for 140 children, After Care for 153 Children, Street Children project 44 children and a Place of Safety for 6 children. The clinic manned by private doctors and volunteers as well as Laudium clinic staff assist 240 children weekly. Caregivers monthly do 300 home visits to assist our families. This year we added a support group project for children 15-24. Services were rendered to 1,385 children during the past year. 43 staff members worked at the different projects the past year.
- Our OVC (After care) programme was audited by USAID in April and we were complimented regarding our service delivery.
- The past year 15 staff members from other Methodist Churches joined our Child and Youth Care Worker Training for 55 days on our premises. The Methodist Connexional Office assisted with the coordination and visited Ditshego on a regular basis.
- Enough donations were received to run and grow our programmes as well as renovate the new premises. In the present economic circumstances, we realise what a privilege this is. We say thank you to corporate sponsors, Church of the Resurrection, West View Congregation members, individuals, and volunteers.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Community members were involved in Parent Teacher meetings.
- Volunteers assist with the different projects.
- Board Meetings were attended by volunteers.
- Government Body meetings with parents and staff as well as community leaders were attended.
- Dialogue with community members regarding Woman and Child abuse 5 September.
- 3 Community Capacity events with mothers at the clinic.
- Candle light event to educate against discrimination.
- Cancer awareness event: 134 females attended.
- Community Health Evangelism meetings with stakeholders in the community regarding the development of the community.
- Counseling services on the premises to families: Khuluma and Ditshego Counselors.
- Donations in kind are received from volunteers on a daily basis for families and the secondhand shop.
- Mandela day 12 Corporates assisted with the 10 Year celebration of Ditshego. All refreshments were sponsored, and the children were spoiled with various games, a puppet show, face painting etc. There were 500 individuals on the premises and the cooperation between staff, parents, volunteers and corporates was amazing.

CHALLENGES

- Funding to sustain projects and build the Community Centre.

FUTURE PLANNING

- Rezoning is still in process. We spent R 250,000.00 for all the engineers who had to compile reports and still outstanding is a report regarding licencing of the borehole and sewerage system. The landscape architect's quote is R 75,000.00. When the rezoning process is completed the building plans will be approved and then we can market for sponsors to build the new Ditshego Centre.
- Sustainability of all the aspects of our projects.
- To work more efficiently and be good stewards of all donations and resources
- To market the *Sponsor a Child* project because BBEEE funding cannot be used for operational costs.

SUMMARY

- Ten years ago we started with 30 children in the Pre-School and 3 children in the Place of safety. We did not dream that Ditshego will make a difference in hundreds of children's lives What a privilege to be working at Ditshego and experience the transformation. I cannot see all the miracles and remain untouched. Amazing Grace is the word that comes to my mind so often.
- I also want to thank the Board and congregation members for their on-going support, prayers and compassion. Without you we can plan and work hard but not achieve the goals we have. You are all a blessing to us in so many ways.

Isabel Nel - Managing- Director, Ditshego House of Laughter

KHULUMA COUNSELLING CENTRE

Khuluma Family Counselling is continuing to position itself as one of the leading non-profit organisations in victim empowerment in South Africa. It is the only one in the Hennops River Circuit. Although Khuluma's beneficiaries consist of a diverse population, one commonality is that all have trouble in coping with everyday things and are struggling to make sense of the daily situation. Khuluma is fulfilling its vision towards "*Khuluma - where individuals and families are transformed and filled with God's love*" - *Transforming YOUR tomorrow TODAY for emotional wellbeing in totality* by rendering the much-needed counselling services in the congregation and surrounding areas.

SERVICES RENDERED

Khuluma Family Counselling continued to fulfil its vision towards "*Khuluma - where individuals and families are transformed and filled with God's love*" - *Transforming YOUR tomorrow TODAY for emotional wellbeing in totality*. Khuluma has been part of several national workshops and meetings to review policies and guidelines applicable to Gender Based Violence and the implementation of the Sexual Offences Act. We were part of the launch of the Minister of South African Police Services' Ministerial Six Point plan for Gender Based Violence and the Protection of Vulnerable Groups in August 2017. Khuluma has a brand-new website and making use of social media has improved our visibility and the way people access our services. We were also part of the "Champion Survivor and community advocacy" training that was hosted by the Justice and Service Mission Unit of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa.

During the year of 2016/2017 Khuluma rendered services to **2026** beneficiaries in the form of counselling, play therapy and awareness campaigns. This is 65% more than the number of people the previous year. This can be attributed to having a steady compliment of staff at both the victim empowerment centres at Olievenhoutbosch SAPS and Mooiplaas as well

as at the Thuthuzela Care Centre in Mamelodi. At the office at **Wierda Park 326 adult** clients received counselling services during the past year. This included people that were referred from the **Wierdabrug SAPS** victim friendly room that have experienced trauma. **56 children** received interventions in the form of **play therapy**. We continued to partner with UNISA and South African College for Applied Psychology to provide opportunities for social work and psychology students to do their field practises with us. In **Mooiplaas 476 clients** accessed the services. At the **Olievenhoutbosch** police station **367 clients** accessed the services at the victim empowerment centre. Four counsellors render counselling services at the **Thuthuzela Care Centre (TCC) in Mamelodi** and **498** survivors of sexual violence received counselling. Two of our counsellors at the TCC have successfully completed their HIV Rapid Finger Prick Testing course which is recognised by the National Department of Health. They are assisting the health personnel at the Thuthuzela Care Centre in Mamelodi with HIV testing. We have strengthened our relationships with the Department of Health, Department of Social Development and the National Prosecution Authorities case manager for the Thuthuzela Care Centre.

We were part of a once off initiative to reach victims of **Intimate Partner Violence** during February and March and were able to render services to **248 victims in the Mooiplaas** area. Two awareness campaigns were held in Mooiplaas and Olievenhoutbosch respectively where 122 people were reached and educated on Human Rights and Gender Based Violence.

INCOME DEVELOPMENT

Khuluma found it very difficult during this year to raise extra funds. For the fifth year Khuluma participated in the National Tekkie Tax campaign which has fundraising for Non-Governmental Organisations as its main objective. We successfully hosted the High Tea on a cold Spring September morning and 70 guests attended. The theme was “Women and their Heritage”.

TRAINING

Courses presented included Marriage Preparation Courses, one Grief Share Course, Kingdom Board Room and Life Skills courses to teenagers and young children.

GOVERNANCE

Four Board Meetings were held to ensure that the governance of Khuluma was efficient. An Annual General Meeting was held during which the Board was confirmed. Johan Greeff was re-elected as Chairperson, with Jackie Nel as Vice-Chair and Loni Mamatela as Treasurer.

CHALLENGES

Our challenges have remained to ensure financial and material sustainability of projects and to ensure adequate human resources are available for rendering an effective and quality service, the availability of transport for our counsellors and clients as our counsellors are using public transport (taxis and Gautrain) which are time consuming and not always reliable. Private vehicles of counsellors are also used. Another challenge is to have a permanent office in Olievenhoutbosch away from the police station.

The relationship with the National Prosecution Authorities site co-ordinator at the Thuthuzela Care Centre is still a challenge.

FUTURE

- There is still a great need in the country to render counselling services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and victims of trauma. Khuluma will endeavor to seek ways to bring this to all corners of South Africa. We hope to establish a permanent office at the Elim Methodist Church in Olievenhoutbosch.

- Bring the RISE programme to our communities.
- Continue to collaborate with other organisations such as Soul City, Future Families, Aids Foundation of South Africa (AFSA) and Childline in the field of Gender Based Violence in the Tshwane area to become a multi-disciplinary team.

We are very grateful to all our donors and volunteers because without your continuing support we cannot bring these much-needed services to the community. It is a privilege to serve our communities and the vulnerable groups.

Heidi Coetzee – Director, Khuluma Family Counseling Centre

COMMUNICATIONS

Challenges

The Communication Cluster is glad to report that we have reached most of the goals set out in the vision stated for this year. Although it was not plain sailing with the firewall giving in, we are still proud of the achievements reached during the year. The achievements/highlights for 2017:

Highlights

- Windows 10 Licensing roll out took place.
- The installation of a PABX VOIP telephone system.
- Procurement and installation of a new firewall.
- The updating of the membership database and up keeping of the data commenced under Matthew Taylor.
- Nicola has put in a tremendous effort with the West View Facebook page and the news clips and sermons are available there. Overall look and feel, advertising and information available is more than ever – a big ‘thank you’ to Nicola. Mid-year the likes reached 685 and is currently standing on 775 likes and 767 members following the page.
- A decision was also taken to de-activate the Twitter and Instagram accounts as they are not being followed.
- The team has also run the marketing campaign for the fete, creating the poster, advertisement on all platforms in the church, creating a banner, advertisement in the Record and a Facebook campaign.
- The layout of the bulletin was changed to accommodate the increasing requirements of communication with the congregation. No issues were experienced with the posters, bulletins, West View News and flyers.
- Overall the cluster remained within budget for the year.

Vision for 2018

The following areas will be the focus on in 2018:

- Continuous improvement on our bulletins, West View news and flyers. Looking at new and innovative ways to get information to our congregation. Still being cost effective and efficient.
- Upgrading the information desk will remain in our vision.
- Updating of outdated and old signage will be discussed in conjunction with the maintenance team.

- The implementation of an IT committee consisting of subject matter experts to assist with the continuous improvement of our systems and keeping all parties delivering in check with cost effective best practices.
- Up keeping of the IT assets register to ensure maintenance, redundancy planning and on time license renewal.
- Maintaining and improvement of our website and all other platforms used for communication.

Avril Sharpe - Operations Manager; Nicola Atherton – Communications; Nico Janse van Rensburg - IT ; Pieter Human – Society Steward

HR

In 2017 we welcomed Matthew Tayler to Worship and Database Administration, and TK Mokwena as Youth Intern for 2017.

On the clergy front, we welcomed Raymond Keet when Philip Sharpe was transferred to The Glen Methodist Church. Raymond moves on at the end of 2017 and 2018 will see a busy year for Ian and Sipiwe.

West View College has an Acting Principal, Mrs Melony Dace, whilst a permanent Principal is sought.

Ditshego employed an Operations manager to assist at the project.

Staff numbers at Khuluma have been stable.

We give thanks to God for His favour in 2017 and look forward to 2018 in His strength.

Delano de Witt – Chairperson: HR Committee

WEST VIEW COLLEGE

The year has been a challenging one for the staff at the college. It has been a year of change including a change of Head during the second term and some staff members in the Senior Primary needed new for 2018. We have had two resignations.

Despite having to deal with change and preparing for our submission to Umalusi, there are many positive aspects that can be celebrated. The staff have been very positive and have embraced new developments in teaching and learning and have enjoyed the interaction that has taken place within the group.

A MANCO committee has been put in place and we find this to be very beneficial in managing the operations of the school.

All policies have been reviewed and I thank the Board Members for their assistance in this process.

Attention has been given to building positive relationship between the school and the church and significant progress has been made in this regard.

A staff performance document has been developed as well as the accompanying staff development policy.

Health and Safety remains an area of concern and we will have to look to having an evaluation done in 2018, in order to be accredited.

Renovations of the bathrooms and exterior of the Primary School have taken place and the cycle track at the Pre- Primary has been renovated.

The renovations done to the Boardroom/ Principal's office have been most successful

We will be creating a suitable 'sick-room' at the Pre-Primary School for 2018.

Sporting and Cultural events have been well supported and some of the children have received recognition for their presentations and work submitted.

The Umalusi process has proved to be a time consuming and daunting task. Fortunately we have been able to complete what is required for submission by the closing date 31 October 2017.

We are currently working on restructuring Aftercare for 2018.

LIST OF ACTIVITIES 2017

Book Day

Parent teacher interviews - 20/04

Mother and daughter High Tea - 13/05

Father and Son quadbike day - 10/05

Poetry evening for Gr R-3 - 21/06

Pyjama day – 30/06

Golf day - 5/07

Pre-School teacher's assessment for gross motor skills course – July holidays

Finbond Mutual Bank Pre-school Art Competition 2017 for ages 3-6 – 11/08

Annual school concert - 26/08

International Outdoor play day – 12/10

Science Fair for Gr R – 6 - 20/10

Leadership Camp Gr 5 and 6 - 4/11

Grade R Graduation - 9/11

Prizegiving Primary School - 30/11

This has been a busy but exciting year, a year of growth and a rewarding year for the staff and myself. A year of opportunity and potential.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to the staff who are dedicated and go above and beyond what is expected of them to meet the academic, spiritual and emotional needs of each pupil in their care. I also wish to thank the PTA, Board and Church members who have welcomed me into the West View community and offered me a great deal of support and care.

I have grown as a person from my experience at the College and wish you great success as you strive to build a school of significance.

Thank You “One and All”

Melony Dace – Acting Principal

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Disciple – The 4 Disciple year-long courses have continued to meet regularly. A short Disciple Course, “Invitation to John” was held in the 2nd term & led by Kay Stewart. Ten participants attended.

Due to huge challenges with getting the material locally we have now ordered directly from Cokesbury, USA. Although delivery took a long time all material has now been received.

Due to health reasons Doug Munday has asked to be relieved of his duties as the head of the Disciple ministry. A suitable replacement is being prayerfully considered. We are extremely grateful to Doug for his many years of dedication to this important ministry.

Alpha – After a successful Alpha course at the beginning of this year another course will be co-ordinated by Nick Snyman and Margot Bayne. Planning for the course has already started and dates are finalized.

Leader training will take place on Friday 19th and Saturday 20th January 2018. Heleen Oosthysen from Alpha Gauteng will once again lead the training.

The course will run from Thursday 25th January – 15th March 2018. The Holy Spirit weekend will be held on 23 – 24 February 2018 at West View.

The same format as the 2017 course will be followed.

As there were surplus funds from the last course, the costs will remain the same as 2017 at R600 per person.

Registration started at the fête on 28th October 2017 and online registrations will be available from 30 October 2017. Tables will again be manned after services in November 2017 and January 2018 to market the course and for registration.

An Alpha banner has been purchased and we hope that it will assist with the marketing of the course.

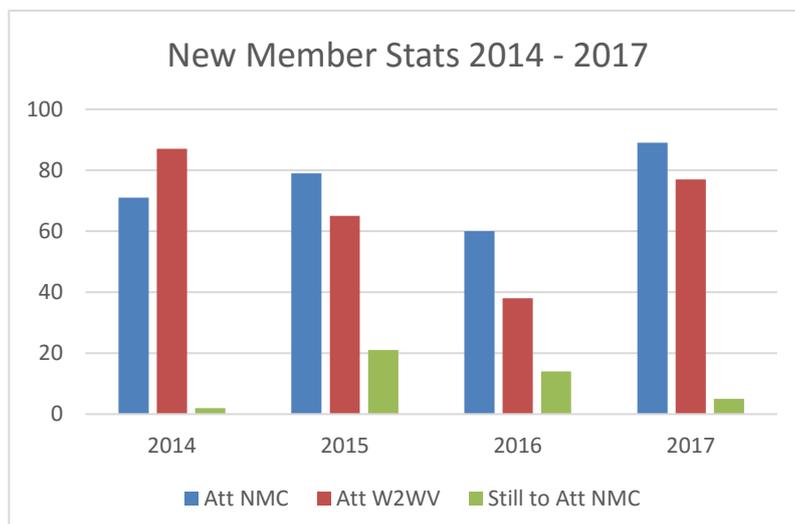
Men@Work – Kobus de Jager. This ministry is going extremely well with various events planned for the rest of the year. The Men’s Camp held in August was very successful with numbers exceeding last year’s camp. A year end function was held on 9th November 2017 and was well supported by the men.

Prayer Ministry – Wally Morehen. Wally is new in this role & is doing a wonderful job of getting more people to join the ministry. Nic Oosthuysen has extended the ministry & heads up a prayer hour in the sanctuary on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month. Training for this ministry needs to be discussed with Siphwe and all parties concerned.

Home Groups – The Cycle of Grace 40 Day series was launched on 16th August with the author Rev Trevor Hudson as the guest speaker. The response from the congregation has been extremely positive. The number of Home Groups remains the same and we hope that the Lent series in 2018 will increase the numbers. The production of the material is currently underway.

Integration of new members - We have had 6 New Member’s Coffee Evenings and three ‘Welcome to West View’ dinners. The final one for the year was held on 24th October & combined with the confirmation banquet. 77 New members have joined WV this year. There are still some people who have attended the New Member’s Coffee but are still not full members. Ten visitors who filled in pew slips either did not respond to invites to the welcome functions or have joined other churches.

In the new year we are changing the way new members are integrated into membership. They will be invited to a one-on-one meeting with either a minister, steward or other member of the church. Once they have made the decision to join West View an invitation will be extended to attend a welcome event (details to be decided).



Members who attended NMC & did not join as members at the Welcome Dinner, gave the following reasons.

1. Left the area
2. Joined another church
3. Not prepared to attend 2 new member functions
4. No response to messages

Concerns regarding New Member functions.

- Two functions not necessary.
- People accept invitations & then do not attend
- Resulting waste of food & time (especially for volunteers)
- Work load.

Barnyard Event Fundraising Event This was a very successful event. The feedback was very encouraging and the profit made was in excess of R13,000.00. It was agreed to make this an annual fundraiser event.

Fund allocation. Careful consideration is being given to the allocation of funds so that they are used specifically for spiritual formation. An Alpha pull-up banner has been purchased, 2 pilgrims were sponsored for Emmaus. Other considerations are to cover facilitator's costs for various courses, purchase new Home Group / library material etc. We are also looking at having a fence banner made for Alpha. Some funds will also be used to upgrade the planned prayer room.

Courses. The **Network Course** was planned for August 2017. Unfortunately the response was poor which was probably due to late advertising - it has been postponed until the 2nd term of the new year.

October Fete. The **Spiritual Formation Cluster** ran a second hand CD & DVD stand. Our profit was in the region of R1,500.00.

Margot Bayne- Spiritual Formation Co-ordinator

PROPERTY AND FINANCES

PROPERTY INCLUDING MAINTENANCE AND FUTURE FOR US

During 2017, despite a very small budget, numerous small improvements and routine maintenance was carried out on the premises. Thanks to all those members that assisted the Property Committee in this regard. This, however was inadequate to address the large backlog in Repair and Maintenance Work (RAMP). After a proposal to the August Leaders Meeting and subsequently the Executive Committee, a West View Local Trust Property Committee (LTPC) was established in September 2017. This Team has already caught up a lot of backlog in work and a *Plan for 2018* is being drawn up, costed and tabled via the Finance Committee for the 2018 Budget. In addition, the Leader's Meeting also directed the Executive and Finance Committee to substantially increase the monthly budget for RAMP in 2018. Thanks to a very generous donation to West View in September 2017 and an increase to R5,000.00 per month in 2018, effectively an amount of R10,000.00 per month is available.

Further progress has been made in the consolidation and re-zoning of our properties to facilitate the Future for Us (FFU) Strategy.

In order to better fund the Strategy, the Finance Committee, Leader's Meeting and Executive recommended that 2% of the monthly Giving, around R10,000.00 per month, be transferred to the FFU Account. The ASM (Annual Society Meetings) needs to approve this recommendation as part of the 2018 Budget as tabled.

We continue to give God the glory and thanks for the beautiful premises we have.

COMPLIANCE AND GOVERNANCE

The Committee has completed engagement with the three Missions, namely College, Ditshego and Khuluma and good progress has been made towards synergy regarding these matters. The Committee has provided regular feedback to the Executive and the Leader's Meeting in August thereof. The process remains on schedule.

A new initiative by the Cluster, with assistance from volunteers, is underway to develop Policy regarding the relationship between the Church and the various Missions. The aim is to ensure that all these utilize common policy and procedures wherever practical, in line with the *Methodist Book of Order* and if exceptions are necessary, then these are documented and approved.

As part of the process for the recent Fun Run/Fete a comprehensive Occupational Health and Safety Plan as well as associated Plans were drawn up and these will be adapted for each of the areas and Ministries at West View. Sincere thanks and appreciation to Nortje Stander and all those involved in this task at no cost to the Church. Had West View had to pay for such an outsider, it would have cost in the region of R30,000.00.

The Church's Insurance Cover was also reviewed recently and this will be extended to the various Ministries to ensure coverage is adequate to minimize risks.

FINANCES

The giving figure for 2017 to end October reflects an amount of R4 783 900 with an average monthly giving of R489,548. This figure is around 3,4% below the planned giving figure. A letter was sent in September informing the Congregation of the shortfall in funding and the response was positive but needs to be sustained till year end and into 2018 if the Church is to adequately maintain and grow its Ministries.

Fundraising by all the Clusters and Ministries at West View for 2017 was healthy in 2017 and assisted numerous Ministries during the year. We are extremely grateful to all members that were involved in these events.

The Finance Committee has built up a contingency fund over the year to manage any cash flow shortfalls, which do occur from time to time, without these becoming a crisis. 2017 was no exception, and this fund will need to grow further before adequate funds are available. In 2018 an amount of R6,000.00 per month is budgeted for this purpose.

Some key IT/Communication resources that were upgraded in 2017 are the IT infrastructure, database and website. There were many challenges in the process, but these should be resolved for 2018. Some costs may roll over to 2018.

John Bayne – Finance and Admin Society Steward

WEST VIEW METHODIST CHURCH
2018 BUDGET

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| INCOME | 6 827 700,00 |
| Income - Planned Giving & Plate | 6 084 000,00 |
| Income - Other | 743 700,00 |
| | |
| EXPENSES | 6 827 700,00 |
| SENIOR MINISTERS | 6 000,00 |
| CIRCUIT | 2 129 592,00 |
| TRUST PROPERTY | 105 600,00 |
| ADMIN | 515 519,00 |
| IT COSTS | 483 564,00 |
| FINANCES | 391 920,00 |
| HUMAN RESOURCES | 2 399 665,00 |
| NEW MEMBERS | 3 600,00 |
| COMMUNICATIONS | 3 000,00 |
| CHILDREN'S MINISTRY | 14 820,00 |
| PASTORAL CARE | 4 200,00 |
| SPIRITUAL FORMATION | 6 840,00 |
| YOUTH | 17 700,00 |
| YOUNG ADULTS | 6 000,00 |
| FAMILY | 1 680,00 |
| WORSHIP | 24 000,00 |
| MISSION SUPPORT (TITHE) | 522 000,00 |
| FFU FUND | 120 000,00 |
| WEST VIEW CONTINGENCY FUND | 72 000,00 |