

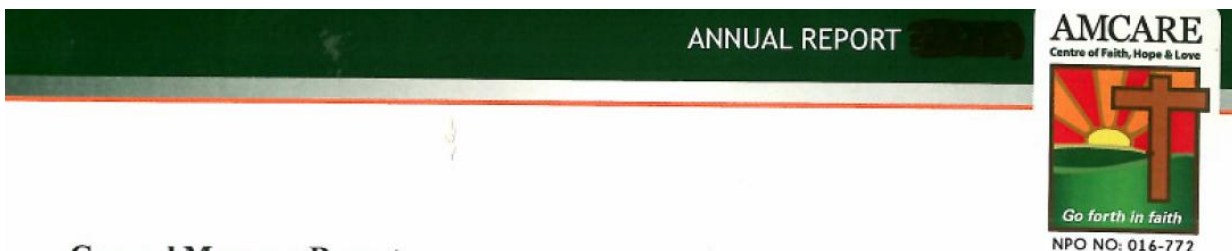
## Reports for Annual Society Meeting - 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016

### Adventure Fellowship Club

The Adventure Fellowship Club organises social events for our Congregation to attend. We met in the beginning of 2015 to learn how to Scuba-Dive. We had a wonderful day of fellowship, water and fun.

We have some ideas for 2016 events and would love for you to join us! Our first Adventure is planned for Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> February. Please contact us if you would like to help organise these events.

*Matthew Bennett*



### **General Manager Report**



**I**n March 2015, the 30th edition of my Friends of AMCARE was distributed. Friends of AMCARE is the e-newsletter distributed to close to 600 people, giving me the opportunity to share our news with folk as far away as Canada. So in writing this message for our Annual Report, I went back into some of the newsletters distributed in the year 2014/2015 and wish to share just some of the highlights I at the time shared with our readers.

As we started the new financial year, we were hit with a major electricity problem. On April 10 last year, the council cables were stolen and as a result of this, there was a massive surge in power on the AMCARE premises, setting a lot of light fittings, our servers, computers, stoves, microwaves etc alight as well as blowing our telephone system apart. It took us two weeks to try and get some things up and running again and to get the necessary details in place for the insurance.

In May 2014, my friend and board member, Mr Cornelius Sebatwani, passed away and we felt his loss for a long time. In June 2014 we mourned the death of our colleague, Numvula, head of counselling at Injabulo Clinic. The wife of our veggie gardener, Michael, died in transit on her way to the hospice and our gardener Frans lost his daughter to epilepsy. Teboho's mother-in-law died in October 2014, Marihet's father passed away suddenly. Marietjie's best friend died suddenly and Sandra's cousin died at 50 years of age. My heartfelt thanks to Vernon van Wyk who supported our staff through their traumatic times.

On a lighter note - A highlight for us was the broadcast of a documentary about AMCARE on SABC1 on Sunday June 8 last year. Our offices got a facelift in January this year when Tienie Bezuidenhout from CJM Painting Contractors in Brackendowns repainted all of the offices and the kitchen in the main house.

July last year saw us moving our Phola Park offices and classroom (a 15 metre unit) from the Phola Park Methodist Church to the Enochayini Primary School in Phola Park. The Lord blessed us and provided a transport company in Alrode, Transvaal Heavy Transport, who moved our unit through the informal settlement without any cost to AMCARE.

We entertain visitors to AMCARE on a regular basis, we welcomed a group of ministers and stewards from the Tembisa Circuit, The NG Kerk Brackenhurst invited us together with other NPO's in the area, to join in their Nagmaal (Communion) service as a gesture to thank us for the work we do in the communities. We also had a visit from the Luthern Church in Vosloorus to thank us for the work we do in the communities and at the same time they handed over some donated food items.

We continue to feel the impact of a severe cut back in donations to Amcare, but we continue to Go Forth in Faith and we do believe that with our Father's Grace, we will be able to keep doing what we are doing, caring for those less fortunate than ourselves. And so with this, I also wish to thank each and every one of you for your continuous support and prayers.

Yours in Service  
**Percy Howroyd**  
General Manager



## Disciple Courses

Disciple 1 was completed by 4 people well done to all of them . The facilitator was Denise de Wet many thanks to Denise for her dedication to the group . The group meeting was held Monday evenings .

Disciple 5 was attended by 3 people all of whom finished the course well done to all of them . This group meeting was held on a Tuesday morning .

## Discipleship – Evening Classes - 2015

Scripture is central to Disciple, and the gaining and maintaining of the discipline of daily reading and study of Scripture which is essential in being in the rhythm of growing to become a Disciple, to be His feet and hands while we await His return.

Having done 6 consecutive years of Discipleship and being Facilitator 3 of the 6yrs) I responded to a calling and Facilitated Disciple 1, for Edwina was to take Sabbatical leave.

2015 was a beginning of a new and exciting journey, but also of deep concern of the possibility of me moving from AMC to a Church closer to home, having left Alberton now more than five years and my husband asked me to consider worshipping closer to home.

From the 13 members who had placed their names on the billboard only 6 arrived at the Orientation Meeting of which 4 remained committed and completed the 33 week course.

Prayers were also answered for Derrick De Beer has answered to a calling and will attend a training session in the New Year to facilitate Disciple evening classes as well where we will be able to again offer two classes as in the past.

Members who completed the course were Derrick De Beer, Elizabeth Els, Johnny and Elaine Hird giving Him all the thanks for touching their hearts, may each of these members breath in a breath of faith and experience new life and growth.

Our prayers that the Holy Spirit invite others to journey with Him in the year 2016 Disciple 2 - INTO THE WORD INTO THE WORLD Setting our feet on the path of righteousness, so that we can follow Him. I pray that He prepares our hands to do the deeds of mercy so that we can serve Him with gladness.

Much love, Denise de Wet

Facilitator Discipleship Evening Classes

## Evangelism.

### Report by Clive.

Due to Dylan being away on Mission in India I prepared this report. If he is back in time he will submit a report.

Over the past few months I have visited a Disciple group, Sunday School class and a teen group on Sunday. I know that Dylan is involved with Sunday school, the teens and Confirmation classes.

We are both involved with mission work outside the church and in all instances I can say that the Word of God is spoken and that the attendance to church is encouraged.

The group into Tokoza, J29, through Sophie Hristov, is well attended by our youth and some older folk.

Mission to Mozambique had 5 folk from AMC who would have attended, but only 3 eventually went. This proves to be costly for each person. It would be ideal for AMC to sponsor this event. I have asked that the amount of R30,000-00 be budgeted for Mission to Mozambique and other Mission groups.

Feeding in Alberton at the garages continues and is a Blessing, though not much spreading of the Gospel takes place, but some ministry does take place. Need to try and change this. This won't be easy.

A street ministry that is not new but has started with a group from Northfield has begun to minister to street people in Old Alberton, with a long term vision of having a safe place to come and sleep, shower, haircut, shave, wash clothes, counselling and possibly reintegrating them back into society. It is a long term project and needs loads of Prayer. This was also discussed between Colin and myself a while back, having a building and giving some of these folk some sort of hope. And in doing so taking nothing away from what Amcare are doing but possibly drawing on their resources and expertise. The Online Shop proposed by Cherryl Norfo could be the start of employment for some of these people. Having the space, we could put up a building, having showers and wash block.

Dylan and Lara are involved in ministering at Abraham Kriel Home Langlaagte.

**Abraham Kriel Childcare (AKC) is a registered NPO providing childcare in the greater Johannesburg and East Rand in Gauteng. Our passion is to ensure the optimal development of traumatised children in need of care. AKC provides both residential care and community services and focuses on providing shelter, care and rehabilitation for children between the ages of birth and 18 years old, who have been subjected to trauma, abuse, molestation, poverty and neglect. Currently AKC operates 21 (incl. baby unit) houses for children and carries out 6 community care programmes that provide food, shelter, pastoral care, remedial care, social services, skills development services and early childhood development.**

Lara and Dylan are both very passionate about what they are doing at the center. I'm not sure how many of the youth are involved They are both in India now with a Group Ministering to mainly young children. An absolute awesome God Blessed ministry.

We would like to achieve or get the ball rolling on a number of things in this year; Street Ministry

1. Expand on the street people ministry, by having a building for those that want to, have a shower, haircut, wash clothes or get new (second hand clothes bank) clothes, come and sleep in relative safety.
2. Get counseling for those who want to
3. Get jobs for those who can and want to
4. Reintegrate them back into society
5. Raise funds.

Mission to Mozambique:

1. Grow this ministry in the youth and adults in AMC and surrounding churches.
2. Purchase our own vehicle.
3. Raise funds.

Testimony From Tee (Tshwanelo Serumola): Mozambique Mission.

My mission trip to Mozambique was everything my soul needed and more without my acknowledgement, you're away from everybody and the norms of society basically like an anachronism, you need to channel yourself for the experiences you never thought you'd encounter. You become so selfless everything you do you do for your Saviour and his people. It becomes a situation of not just me but "we" you are left vulnerable in a broken place you don't know but that's where the strength of the Lord comes in at its best, there are challenges that result in a better relationship with God. Mission has become my first love, to a point where I want to be more flexible so I can devote more of my time to the broken. The growth is therapeutic and you're on a constant spiritual high where you have so much joy and love to give, being the hands and feet of Jesus is a blessing you're used as a vessel for him when you're put in that state there's a prayer that changes the course of your life "break my heart for what breaks yours lord" you start to see what most people are oblivious too.

I remember very well preaching for the first time during my mission there, I spoke about loving God, yourself and others. As well as the woman mentioned in Proverbs 31 which all young girls should aspire to be like, people were so shocked to find out that I'm only 17yrs old, including the pastor and his wife, they gave me they're blessings and reassured me to continue on this path because I've got something special planted within me that the world needs, it gave me so much peace, I had never felt so whole in my life.

Will I do it again? Definitely! I'd do anything to be one with people who are passionate to serve God and his people in a manner that's profound.

Clive.

## **FINANCE REPORT – DECEMBER 2015**

### **Overall Highlights**

- Net income of R 158k before provisions is reported against a budgeted income of R110k
- The year-end results enabled us to transfer and accumulate R151k in the Building Fund for future improvements to our facilities.
- The above resulted in a net income of R7k

### **Income**

- Total revenue of R2 951k is 1.8% below budget for 2015 and 3.6% below prior year.
- Income from tithing at R2 734k is 3.5% below prior year
- Rental income from manse (previously occupied by Rev Killian) R80k

### **Expenses**

- Total expenditure of R 2 943k is 1.7% over budget and 2.9% down on prior year
- Excluding provisions to Building Fund represents a below prior year expense saving of 7.9%
- The above saving in expenses is mainly due to not extending Rev Killian's invitation in 2015.
- 

### **Net Income**

- Net income satisfactory given current economic conditions.
- No increase in revenue for 2016 will be budgeted for

I thank our members for their faithful tithing and giving to our Church. Be assured that your money is wisely spend as we serve God through our finances.

May I also thank Reneta for her hard work and commitment as Finance Secretary. Congratulations on work well done – you really make my work so much easier.

Also a big thank you to the members of the Finance Committee and Remuneration Committee for their support, input and friendship:

Thank you Bill, Eugene, Lucia, Robert, Peter, Roger.

Gideon Oosthuizen

Treasurer

14 January 2016.

**ALBERTON METHODIST CHURCH****ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED****31 DECEMBER 2015**

	2015	2014
	R	R
<hr/>		
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Equity capital and reserves</b>		
Retained deficit	31,182	38,897
<b>Current assets</b>		
	659,655	466,548
Receivables	2,453	10,897
Cash and cash equivalents	657,202	455,651
<hr/>		
	690,837	505,445
<hr/>		

**EQUITY AND LIABILITIES**

<b>Long-term loan</b>		
	221,578	317,761
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
	469,259	187,684
Ministries' funds	105,477	86,197
Accounts payable	167,030	51,616
Provisions and Reserves	196,752	49,871
<hr/>		
	690,837	505,445
<hr/>		

**ALBERTON METHODIST CHURCH****SCHEDULE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31  
DECEMBER 2015**

	2015 R	2014 R
<b>DETAILED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Tithing and giving	2,734,257	2,833,126
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Books & CD sales	2,835	1,520
Donations	25,150	106,567
Hire of halls	91,616	108,255
Sundry revenue	4,155	2,459
Rental income	80,447	
Interest received	12,549	10,497
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		
	2,951,009	3,062,424
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
	2,943,294	3,030,195
<hr/>		
<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	7,715	32,229
	-	-
<b>RETAINED DEFICIT 31 DECEMBER 2014</b>	38,897	71,126
<hr/>		
	-	-
<b>RETAINED DEFICIT 31 DECEMBER 2015</b>	31,182	38,897
<hr/> <hr/>		

**ALBERTON METHODIST CHURCH****SCHEDULE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2015**

	2015 R	2014 R
<b>EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>		
Advertising	439	-
Auditors remuneration	7,200	7,350
Assessment - Circuit	718,636	1,096,728
Bank charges	11,899	14,220
Books, tapes & publications	3,900	6,787
Cleaning material	5,204	5,364
Donations	277,327	277,047
Garden maintenance	35,800	33,600
Interest Home loan	20,025	20,455
Maintenance and service contracts	42,494	38,403
Minister's allowance	62,868	117,312
Ministries	42,876	34,832
Printing and stationary	23,271	18,166
Refreshments	3,737	4,219
Repairs and Maintenance	281,845	109,366
Salaries, UIF and provident fund	959,788	869,587
Security	149,961	151,627
Sundry expenses	2,892	8,457
Telephone and postage	41,904	55,803
Training courses	3,620	2,300
Visiting ministers	7,450	-
Water and electricity	240,158	158,572
	2,943,294	3,030,195

## Grief and Loss Support Group, for the Year Ended 31 December 2015

The group met every first Saturday of the month. Attendance ranged from 17 to 25 persons and the majority attended regularly. We are grateful that a number of speakers presented appropriate and very well received talks. On a few occasions the time was spent sharing with one another, often on a deep level. It is believed that the ministry has made a difference in the lives of people who have experienced trauma. We thank the Lord for what He has done in our midst, for sustaining us and for the encouraging fellowship that was enjoyed during 2015. Roland and Margaret Lyne.

### J29 Outreach.

J29 works in the area of Palm Ridge with the community. They have beneficiaries who look out for the people in the community, who they provide with food and other supplies during the month on a monthly basis. They also work with a lot of OVC's and many child headed households where the oldest child in the family can be as young as 12yrs old and they are looking after siblings. J29 have also started veggie gardens in the community and at a local school to provide veggies to the community who need them. Sophie runs a monthly outreach where they give the children a meal and activities one Saturday a month. They also do some worship and teach about Jesus. This group includes youth and adults from AMC and other churches.

### Henri Steyn: Justice and Service

- 1) **Care For Creation.**  
No meetings took place during the year, the program running by overhead displays at services and Childrens Church themes by Collin and Lorrae.  
An amount has been budgeted in 2016 to install either rain collection system or solar system
- 2) **Kairos Ministry**  
The last Kairos Ministry was extremely well supported with Cookies. Thank you Congregation for your support!  
Another visit is planned later in the year.
- 3) **Centre of Concern**  
I have not managed to pursue activity in this area yet.
- 4) **Feeding for Jesus**  
Friday feeding continues. I have challenged the group to extend this calling to those that really need it. We need to follow Clive Fourie's example of the feeding scheme he is running whereby they actively search for desperate people on the streets and feed them. Having assisted Clive over the Festive Season, I see this being the true Jesus example. Clive and his team really do a great job.
- 5) **Old age homes.**  
This is difficult due to the activities taking place during my normal working hours. I will however make contact with those administrating to make sure they are supported however way I can.
- 6) **Amcare**  
Vernon has got involved directly again and I await his call should he need my assistance.
- 7) **Justice**  
This has been discussed under 4) above. An added avenue that needs direction is a proposal by Cherry Norfo to explore "self-employment" of destitute people. The business plan must be presented at the next Leaders Meeting.
- 8) **Divorce Care**  
I have not managed to pursue activity in this area yet

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP  
ANNUAL SOCIETY MEETING  
20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016**

This Ministry now in its 16<sup>th</sup> year continues to be a monthly attraction for members of our congregation.

Supplying a breakfast every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month from February through to and including November and trusting God to send people to attend and to support the costs of the food and donations. Yet again our Lord has come through.

Unlike the perfected breakfast menu, the speakers and topics have been as varied as one could expect. We thank each and every one of them for their valuable time to be with us and also thank the people who have brought the names forward to us.

We have seen the preparation team change a little with some men leaving and others stepping in to assist and even staying on. We have also been blessed with some young lads and even ladies stepping in to assist us.

Our attendance numbers average between 50 and 80 and the age groups vary from quite young to the well mature.

Topics for 2015 have been :

February	Finance with Chris Hart
March	Hospice with Tersia Burger
April	Human Trafficking
May	Testimony from Youth Pastor Chantelle Peterson
June	Chaplain ministry with June Jeffrey
July	Leadership with Simone and Matthew Bennett
August	The Archery team and practical participation
September	Jimmy Abbot's testimony
October	Mental Health with Rev. Paul Cameron
November	Bees with Clive Fourie

The team also provided the breakfast for the Stations of the Cross earlier in the year and did the cooking of the food at the Centenary for the Youth Church and Harvest Day.

We look forward to 2016 with as much eagerness and service and continue to pray that God will continue his blessings on this Ministry and our church here at Alberton Methodist.

L. L. Lotter

**Mission Committee**

My proposal for a committee to promote interest in "cross-cultural" and "foreign" mission, made at the 2015 ASM, was accepted. Unfortunately, not understanding that I would be responsible for running this, I assumed that it would be the direct responsibility of the two Society Stewards who are active in short term mission trips. When I discovered my mistake, my efforts to get a committee going were not that successful and I also found that starting the Shepherding Ministry was sufficient work for the time being. However I am still eager to get such a committee going and will renew my efforts this year. Margy Cowell

**Mozambique Mission: Maluane 1<sup>st</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

From Alberton Methodist: Tee, Molly, Clive.

We met the group going to Maluane at Northfield Methodist. We were a group of about 22, 4 adults and the rest were youth, or rather young adults.

The trip was uneventful and all slept on and off bar the drivers. We had delay at the border due to new regulations regarding abridged birth certificates but soon had it sorted. The 2 young ladies that accompanied me were both under age. The trip from the border to the camp went better than before. Tents had been erected by Jonathan and Lazarus.

The camp belongs to a SA farmer who lives in Maputo. Extreme Harvest has converted an area into a store room and kitchen and an ablution block. We have added gas geysers since last year.

It was a privilege to have the company of 2 17yr old young ladies from our church with me. Both treated me as their father, took instructions, were well behaved, and were allowed to do what they wanted. They mixed well with the other group. Both showed maturity



in all that they did in camp and in the field. Tee was with me and Molly went with Dereck from Northfield. As a young African girl, Tee, who are frowned upon when speaking out, prepared and delivered a small sermon for our villagers. The Pastor complimented her for her message.

We initially had no village as the Pastor was away. We instead travelled from village to village, walking through the village witnessing and Praying for whoever allowed us into their homes. An awesome experience because we could not prepare for this. In Maluane, houses are brick built and furnished to an extent. Not as in Gorongosa where the house are mostly made of mud. The "Jesus" film was still shown and people still flocked to see it. We do see evidence that people's lives have changed since our last visit. People want more bibles, for congregations that are growing. More Pastors want training.

Every year translators are brought in to help. This year a group of young men from the Heidi Baker's Iris Global Ministries joined us as translators. This group are mainly ex street kids, taken in by Iris Ministries, given a place to stay, helped to turn their live around and then sent out to minister to other street kids.

Our translator was Ernesto and what a Blessing it was to have him with us. Speaking 7 languages, playing guitar and witnessing. Another translator Shakilah, was from Maputo but originally from Soweto. As a young boy of 8, went to sleep one night in Soweto and woke up in Maputo the next morning, living on the streets. Also taken in by Heidi Baker. But both extremely intensive in their ministry. On this trip I met Dereck Prowling from Northfield. God has a way of bringing people together. Just before I left for Mozambique, I chatted to Colin Muttit about ministering to homeless people. Started chatting to Dereck about the same subject only to hear him say "That's what we are doing in Benoni". So we soon formed a close relationship, gleaning knowledge from each other. Our week went very fast and in no time it was up. I felt extremely Blessed and filled. Very excited to get back and start on street ministry.

I have included reports from Tee and X-Stream Harvest.

To all churches and their prospective missionaries.

In order for you to begin preparations for outreaches in 2016, I am sending an advance of dates.

1. Easter weekend plus: **Walking the Cross**. April 21-28 March Maluane, Southern Mozambique.
2. This is going to be a first for us. It will be a spiritual pilgrimage instead of an outreach. We will begin on Thursday with a passover meal and end on resurrection Sunday with a Sunrise service.

We have discovered 14 concrete crosses laid out over about 5km's and will walk them in a devotional manner together with local Christians on Good Friday. The cost is R3000 per person. Halve that for children under 10. Make sure you have travel documents well in advance.

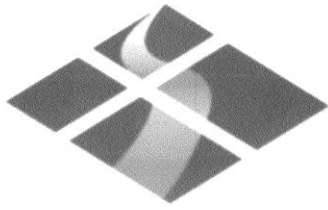
3. July 1-10 Gorongosa in central Mozambique. Will be an outreach into the village of Gorongosa as well as a training event for Pastors. The cost will be R7000 per person which includes 2 stopovers in Zimbabwe.

4. September 30 – October 9 Maluane in southern Mozambique. Will be an outreach and pastor training. The cost is R2800

Blessings,

Rev Jonathan Hart

**for X-Stream Harvest Ministries**



# *X-Stream Harvest*

*FROM SALVATION TO WORSHIP TO HEALING TO MISSION*

P.O.Box 717 jonathan@xstreamharvest.org  
Paardekraal  
1752

Tel. +27 11 954 1189  
Cell. +27 82 851 9992

---

The year 2014-2015 has been a year of beginnings and endings. Having wrapped up a training programme in Gorongoza and begun a new programme in Maluane.

## **Training**

On our training front, we concluded the basic training of over 1000 pastors and they received their certificates as well. We do however believe that further training would help them to be more competent in the field. Here I am thinking of providing computers to facilitate training.

A second group in this area has also begun at which 40 local pastors receive training and they are about half way in their training.

A third group of Pastors with whom we have already met (250 pastors) is waiting in the wings as well. They are from the Tete Province, which is 400 kms from Gorongoza. Our plan is to bring senior Pastors for specialised training which they in turn will use to train others.

We have started another group in Maluane comprising about 250 Pastors of all denominations. This is also a rural community and is spread far and wide. The training began in July this year, with a bit of a hiccup as the facilitator was not present and things were a little chaotic. However material was handed out to those who did come and a weeks worth of lessons were conducted.

We plan to continue both of these training places (Gorongoza/Maluane) as venues for further training groups.

## **Community Centres**

The idea of a community centre was born out of the realisation that there are diverse needs on the ground all of which had its own set of requirements. We put those needs together and have developed the idea of community centres. All the following ministries are part of that.

### **Preschools**

The Gorongoza school is finishing their 2 year of instruction and is a real blessing with 20 plus children now moving on and a new group starting next year. Ian Pitman must be thanked for all the work he has put into this project. The initial outlay for the school was R250 000.00 and running costs about R50 000.00 per year.

We are waiting for funding for the school at Maluane and pray that it materialises soon as this is a great opportunity for ministry.

We have also been challenged to open a secondary school in Maluane as the closest school necessitates children boarding away from home. It is therefore inaccessible for most.

### **Adult Education**

This is still largely in the dream stages, which comprises English literacy, electrical, sewing, plumbing, computers etc. A practical place of skills learning.

We do however share material with local members based on chapter one of our "Laws and Disciplines" that helps them in their own faith development.

### **Clinics**

We only have the one clinic at Maluane and is used by locals. This is supported by a local farmer.

### **Boreholes**

Again we have only been able to put in one borehole as the cost is exorbitant. But it has made a concrete difference to the village. Now they walk for 10 minutes instead of an hour.

## **Outreaches**

The **April and October** outreaches had to be cancelled due to the lack of numbers.

We did however have **3 groups in Maluane in the July** school holidays. The first group (Rand Park Ridge United) were engaged in a variety of maintenance projects on our site and at last we have hot water showers. The second group (Northfield/Alberton) set out with training materials and the Jesus film to train locals on how to share their faith and evangelise through the film. The third group from Bryanston and the USA, a first in Maluane for the USA group, but a promise of further commitment to the area.

## **Funding**

This remains our biggest challenge to date and while we have been able to hold our heads above water, it has meant a curtailment of some of our projects. We recognise that the world recession has caused some of this so, we have tried to work smarter.

## **2016**

The new year comes with its own challenges for us.

We must still believe that the vision God gave us stands. (Turn the Nation).

That all the above ministry areas have a role to play in this happening.

Continue to release what is on the ground: Pastors

Continue to empower the ministry in Mozambique in order that they become self sufficient.

## **Structure**

Xstream representative body (Committee) Registration No: 087-929-NPO

**Executive:** Ian and Sue Pitman (Ridgeway); Stanley du Pont (Bryanston) Tom Main (Randpark Ridge United); Waldy Barske (Grace Point); John Roux (Nothfield); Clive Fourie (Alberton); Greg van der Merwe (AFM Krugersdorp)

#### **(South Africa)**

The day to day  
Office  
Personel – Jonathan Hart  
Planning  
Outreaches  
Develop work in South Africa  
Produce material  
Promotion  
Training of Pastors  
Spiritual resources  
Human Trafficking and Abuse

#### **(Mozambique) New Phase 2016**

The day to day  
Office  
Personel – Lazarus Maluana  
Planning  
Outreaches  
Training of Pastors  
Develop on the ground  
Human Trafficking and abuse  
New Preschool Maluane  
Promotional tools

#### **South Africa**

1. Develop further Gabriel's preschool – Princess Crossing informal settlement - Jonathan
2. Training of Pastors in Princess Crossing - Jonathan
3. Training of Pastors Cedric and Philamon – Ian
4. Training with Keystone - Billy Einkamerer
5. Link with other organisations on relevant issues -Jonathan
6. Easter devotional event preparation - Jonathan
7. Outreaches to Gorongoza,(July) Maluane (Easter, October)

#### **Mozambique**

1. Maluane preschool - Stan
2. Training Maluane – Lazarus
3. Training Gorongoza – Jonathan and Lazarus
4. Human trafficking awareness - Jonathan
5. Alpha – Dereck with churches in Maputo
6. Outreach Plans

**April Easter Devotional Mission 21 – 28 March.** Maluane: Southern Mozambique. This is a unique event that uses 14 Concrete crosses laid out in the early 1900's. The intention is to have a devotional weekend prepared for christians, who while they are in Mozambique, will relate to the local community within the Passion of Christ.



**OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES OF PASTORAL CARE  
FOR ANNUAL SOCIETY MEETING**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

This has been a fruitful year for the Alberton Methodist Church Pastoral Care Ministries, which function under the oversight of Deacon Dr Vernon van Wyk (hereinafter referred to as the “Deacon”)

**2. REPORT BACK**

**a) Hospital visitation**

Susan Gilogley coordinates this ministry. There are 13 members who visit those who are ill in hospital. We have a roster of hospital visitation teams of two members, who visit the Union Hospital and Clinton Hospital weekly. They inform the church office of members they encounter on these visits. The office also informs them when they phone in before going on a visit of any members whom the office is aware of. Despite an arrangement with the Hospital Manager to allow our pastoral teams to visit at any time, we have experienced problems at certain wards.

The Deacon also visits members in hospital in these hospitals as well as those in hospitals outside of Alberton e.g. Johannesburg General Hospital, Mulbarton Hospital, Linksfield Hospital, Roseacres Hospital, etc.

**b) Prayer Chain**

Kobie van Wyk has recruited a band of prayer warriors who are committed to intercede for those who are ill. All people on the prayer chain are mature Disciples of Christ who understand the need for confidentiality.

Kobie sends out a daily list of persons in need of prayer received from the Deacon, Church Office and persons contacting her directly in response to her cell phone number on the Church Notices. She also follows up with either the people being prayed for or with those who have sent them down the chain and gives feedback to the prayer chain on the progress of such persons, testimonies of healing, etc. A synopsis of names of persons who have asked the church for prayer are also reflected on the back page of the Church notices on a weekly basis.

**c) Home visits**

The Deacon visits people who are ill or infirm and not able to come to worship services. There are currently 15 such persons who receive Holy Communion in their homes. Cleve Wiehann weekly delivers CDs of sermons to 12 members who are unable to attend services. Margaret Cowell also visits house bound members and does Bible Study with them.

**d) After Services prayer teams**

There are 18 members who pray after services at each of our services. A matter of concern is that the congregation are not always aware that we have people willing to pray with them, and some of the members on the roster do not turn up and/or make alternative arrangements with others to do their duty. We need to expand the base of persons willing to pray after services and possibly also provide training to such persons on what is expected of them e.g. praying for persons wishing to commit their lives to Christ, persons who are ill, persons experiencing crisis in their lives.

**e) Stepping Stones Hospice**

The Deacon visits the hospice 3 times a week. He reads Scripture and prays for those who are dying as well as their families and friends. He also enquires whether their own ministers are aware they are at the hospice and undertakes to inform them, if so desired. Our Grief Share and Grief and Loss Support programmes are advertised at hospice.

**f) Grief Share**

Joan and Phil Smit facilitated the 13 week Grief Share courses during 2015. They plan to do the same starting on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and 6<sup>th</sup> August 2016. Grief Share is an invaluable resource for persons who have lost a loved one and have questions and needs resulting from this trauma. We are affiliated to the world Grief Share movement and advertise our courses on the Leader’s Zone on their website, resulting in a number of non-church members joining our groups. A Grief Share Course for Holidays is also facilitated by Joan and Phil. Grief Share leaflets are also printed for Simone to put into the funeral packs.

**g) Grief and Loss Support Group**

Margaret and Roland Lyne facilitate this monthly group on the first Saturday morning for persons who have suffered grief or a loss. Up to 35 persons regularly attend this group. Guest speakers are invited on uplifting relevant topics. Grief and Loss leaflets are also printed for Simone to put into the funeral packs

**h) Divorce Care**

Pieter and Mercia Bornmann facilitated the 13 week Divorce Care Course in 2015 and intend to do so again starting 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2016. Divorce Care is an invaluable resource for persons who have experienced the trauma of Divorce. We are affiliated to the world Divorce Care movement and advertise our courses on the Leader's Zone on their website, resulting in a number of non-church attendees joining our groups.

**i) Young at Hearts**

This is probably our biggest and most successful outreach programme run under direction of Kobie van Wyk and her Committee, who took over this task in 2015. Between 120 and 150 persons attend a programme which includes devotions, entertainment and eats, tea/ coffee is arranged on the third Wednesday morning of each month. Highlights this year was the Easter programme and Spring Lunch in September. The team have facilitated a number of sponsors.

**j) Alberton Tuiste vir Bejaardes**

The Deacon, assisted by Joan and Phil Smit, Cleve Wiehann and Bronwen Harris, conducts a Holy Communion Service on the fourth Wednesday morning of every month. The service is attended by 15 residents. A special Christmas service was also held in December 2015. If requested, communion is also taken to members in the frail care section. Rev Cedric Poole stood in when the Deacon was unable to conduct services due to other church commitments. Bronwyn Harris plays the piano for this service.

**k) Queenshaven Retirement Village**

The Deacon, assisted by Penny Webber, Roland and Margaret Lyne, conducts a Holy Communion Service on the fourth Thursday of every month. The service is attended by 25 residents. If requested, communion is also taken to members in the frail care section and/or flats. Penny Webber arranges a social function after each service, which is greatly appreciated by the residents. The remarkable nonagenarian Edna Dunlop plays the piano for all these services. Roland Lyne was a great support conducting services on behalf of the Deacon during the past year when he was away on MCSA business.

**l) Alberton Retirement Village (Kritzinger Street)**

Rev Dr Cedric Poole, assisted by Joan and Phil Smit, conducted a service on the First Thursday morning of every month. With Rev Poole's relocation to Norwich, and the fact that the Deacon has a longstanding Bible Study class on Thursday mornings, this service will be taken by Rev Fred Celliers and Ms Chantelle Peterson from 2015. Bronwyn Harris plays the piano for this service.

**m) The Poor Fund**

The Door collections after Sunday services are placed in a Poor Fund which is administered by the Deacon.

A number of destitute members have benefitted from these funds during 2015. Members in need of long-term nutritional support receive a Food Parcel from AMCARE when requested.

The Deacon's details are on the Church notices and members can contact him directly to facilitate assistance for deserving persons or contact any of the Communion Stewards and/or Society Stewards who will pass on the information to the Deacon. All cases are dealt with the strictest confidentiality by the Deacon, who is a registered Social Worker.

**n) Come lets feed Jesus**

This outreach programme, which is facilitated by Edwina Pentz and a team of about 20 volunteers, provides 25 liters of soup and 7 loaves of bread to destitute persons in the Alberton community on Friday evenings.

Clive Fourie and a team of volunteers also feed and evangelize people on Thursday evenings.

**Deacon Dr Vernon van Wyk**

**MINISTER IN WORD AND SERVICE**

**Prayer Meetings**

Attendance of Prayer Meetings:

Friday Mornings 05h30 - 06h30: 4 - 6 people

Sunday Mornings 07h25 - 07h45: 8 - 12 people

Monday Evenings 18h30 - 19h00: 6 - 8 people.

**SHEPHERDING MINISTRY**

**Report for Annual Society Meeting, 20 January 2016.**

This ministry was first proposed and accepted at the ASM in 2015.

**The original proposal:** a trained lay shepherd or shepherds for each suburb.

**Their task:** to contact all members living in their geographical area; to encourage spiritual growth in each family or individual, through intercession and personal encouragement; attendance at Sunday services, cell groups, and Sunday School; to promote ministry opportunities provided by the church.

### **Progress of the Shepherding Ministry.**

Only 8 members have become involved in this ministry - insufficient for a membership roll of c.1650 members: they are: **Thea Brookes (and Ian), Charlotte Clark, Margy Cowell, Clive Fourie, Pat and Christo Kruger, Cherry (and Raymond) Norfo, Eugene Sequeira and Eldah Sigasa.**

Our start was delayed by difficulties with the church database.

Zuzie v.d. Venter, previously involved with Lay Witness Mission, spared time to come and give us some training. Thank you, Zuzie.

As there are so few of us, **we decided to concentrate on contacting adults who became members in 2013, 2014, 2015.** (I understand from the youth pastor that she and her team are continuing to shepherd those who were confirmed in 2015.)

About **57 (2013, 2014, 2015) members have been contacted telephonically .**

These live in the suburbs of ALBEMARLE, BRACKENDOWNS, ALBERTON NORTH, BASSONIA, CASTLEVIEW, DINWIDDIE, ELANDSHAVEN, GLENVISTA, GREENSTONE, LAMBTON, LEONDALE, LINMEYER, MAYBERRY PARK, MEYERSDAL, NEW MARKET, RACEVIEW, NEW REDRUTH, RANDHART, SPRUITVIEW, VOSLOOSROOS, VERWOERDPARK , TULISA PARK. **FLORENTIA:** As there are not, at the moment, any new members living in Florentia, Charlotte Clark has begun contacting one or two long-term members there.

**A number of these newer members have also been contacted in person** either through meeting in the Proverbs Coffee Shop (many thanks to Megan and Charles and others who run this facility), or by means of home visits.

About **50 members (2013, 2014, 2015) still have to be contacted** and this includes some for whom we have insufficient details. They live in the suburbs of ELANDSPARK, GENERAL ALBERTS PARK, MAPLETON, MULBARTON, ROUXVILLE, SOUTH CREST.

**Alberton Retirement Village (Kritzinger Ave.):** Cherry and Raymond Norfo have been contacting and encouraging all Methodists at Alberton Retirement Village.

### **REQUESTS:**

1. We need more people to volunteer to help us in contacting and shepherding members. If we had more members we could expand the ministry to include ALL members.
2. We feel that the way forward is to contact the rest of the uncontacted 2013, 2014, 2015 members and also any further new adult members as soon as they are accepted into membership. Therefore we request the church to continue letting us have details of new members.
3. I feel that there is a need for more cell groups as these provide opportunities for fellowship for new members.

Our first meeting of 2016 will be on 27 February 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

Margy Cowell  
18/01/2016

### **The Streets of Alberton.**

I would often see a guy walking down the street, small bag or parcel, just walking. He would get to the corner, look left, right, back, forward. Sit down, pick up a stompie, light it and smoke. Going nowhere. Nowhere to go. Homeless. Where is his family?

I always imagined what this would be like and it bothered me to my soul. Before I left for Mozambique this year, I was chatting to Colin, and this subject came up and we expressed our feeling to each other about being homeless and what we could do about it. Both exstream in the least.

### **X-Stream Harvest.**

Off to Mozambique, God talking all the time. We shared the time there with members of Northfield Methodist Church. Mostly youth, two adults. We always employ translators for this period, usually a mix of young and old, male and female. This time we a group of young men, from the Heidi Baker (Iris Ministries), joined us. As we got to know each other, we shared life stories, amazing testimonies were told. God talking again. God crossing the paths of men.

We met Shakilah (Interpreter) and he told us he was from Soweto. When questioned on how he came to be in Maputo, Moz, he told of how when he was 8 yrs old, he went to sleep one evening and when he woke up the next morning he was in Maputo, homeless on the streets. Like the other guys, he was found by the Iris guys, and schooled at the Iris ministries camp. God talking.



Got talking to an amazing individual from Northfield. Dereck. He had just an amazing way of dealing with everything. We had something to break the ice, enjoyed hot food. I arrange some good hot chillies from the farmer and over chillies on everything we shared. God talking? So he tells me how he works among the poor and homeless in Benoni. I tell him of my dreams I shared with Colin. I find out more of how he feeds in Benoni and I hear God talking.

So when I got back to AMC, after Praying about this, I felt compelled to bring this to certain people in the community and AMC. Some people who I discussed this with loved the idea and still love the idea. Others felt God talking and are caught up in the Love of God. Still others rejected the idea. I arranged for a group from AMC to join Northfield one evening to see what was being done. We came away from there totally blown away. And all of it is good. God talking.

We are a group of about 30 God fearing, God loving, young, old, multi-racial individuals (from Benoni to Alberton and JHB) who see the need to serve the street people of Alberton. Not that this is not being done by others, but not this way.

The people we serve are mostly drug addicts, alcoholics, prostitutes and homeless people who beg in and around Alberton. These people are and have been abused (physically, sexually and mentally) by shopkeepers, the public, police, security companies and various other people.

We started off with about 40 homeless people and are currently feeding about 150. We prepare a meal, which varies from pap and stew to hot dogs, and start feeding at about 7-00pm. We go to where they sleep, feed and Pray with them. Often they will not eat or let us leave without us Praying with them. We collect clothes and shoes and distribute them when needed. We find young couples with babies who have nowhere to go and no food.

Short term goals are to feed, clothe and keep these people warm and protected to a degree.

Long term goal is to have a place where these people can come to, to have a shower, get something to eat, have a place to sleep, under cover, warm and safe. To be able to share God's word with them, and start some sort of rehabilitation for those who want this. A work shop area, clothes bank, employment dept, farm where can grow veggies, and so much more. A skills development centre, empowering these people to help themselves. We all need a second and third and fourth chance to turn it around. We need to involved many more people and churches in the area.

In the last 6 months we have had such support for from various people, in various ways. And without taking anything away from our soup kitchen or Amcare for the good that they are doing we are growing in God and in His Glory.

And all of this through His timing, His bringing of strangers together. Meeting in Mozambique. X-Stream Harvest.

We Pray and thank God for His Goodness and Mercy through this all.

We give Him all The Glory.

## **AMC Trust & Property Report**

ASM 2016 01 20

### Work completed - Church

1. Generator Installed. Set of rules implemented.
2. Jubilee hall, Fellowship hall, Chapel, Infants Chapel, Kitchen and Sanctuary lights, electrical plugs, locks and sliding bolts replaced.
3. Fellowship hall – 4 fans and multi plug installed.
4. Church entrance – first aid box and pigeon holes repositioned.
5. Care takers wall removed (dangerous), and sub contractor replaced wiring on stove. Damaged by rats.
6. Coffee shop tap replaced.
7. Curtains fitted in youth hall.
- 8.

### Manse – Leslie Crescent – Work to be completed.

1. Replace window slides in garage.
2. Replace light switch in flat.
3. Flat walls to be inspected and repaired.
- 4.

### Manse – Jochem van Bruggen street – Work completed.

1. Straighten west side precast wall.
2. Repair existing paving.
3. Remove plants and shrubs, lay new paving.
4. Remove a tree at the back of the property requested by owner of the property behind and next door.
5. Outside toilet leak repaired by sub contractor.
6. Clean garage.
7. Sub contractor - Gate fitted to the side of the house to keep the dog in the back yard.
8. Sub contractor replaced broken window in sunken lounge.
9. Sub contractor – main bedroom, fill holes and paint. Paint dressing room.
10. Paint and repair cracks in front wall entrance facing street. (House)
11. Paint wall and front door at braai area.

12. Repair security lock rear door.
13. Replace 2 locks, garage doors. (No keys to lock doors) and replace lock main bedroom door.
14. Sub contractor replaced battery – front gate motor.
15. Wash all interior house walls except main bedroom.
16. Wash all floors and outside dustbin.
17. Garden cleaned, sub contractor. (Eugene Sequeira).

#### Work to be done 2016 - Jochem van Bruggen Street

1. Replace front and rear security doors with Trellidoors. Front door difficult to lock, back door is a home made and the lock is giving problems. Improvement to property and safety.
2. Main front gate fit palisade fence.
3. Service gas stove.
4. Service or fit motor to garage doors.
5. Plant grass – rear of property.
6. Replace curtain rails as required.
7. Replace 3 broken windows.

#### Work to be done 2016 – Church Property.

1. Paint Jubilee, Discipleship, halls, class rooms, passages and toilets.
2. Replace electrical plugs.
3. Paint outside walls of the Chapel. (Peter Mitchell)
4. Clean office carpets.
5. Check all light fittings on the property and replace as required.
6. Youth hall repair cracked walls in class room, paint class rooms and ceilings.
7. Paint youth hall – 16 window frames inside and out and 16 security bars.
8. Replace putty on 10 windows and 1 broken window. (Contractor)
9. Paint 2 doors. (Raw wood).
10. Fans not working in Koinonia hall.

Staff and leaders please do not accept items to be fitted to any buildings at the sanctuary or at the manse. Refer to trust and properties.

Yours in His Service  
Martin Alberts.

#### Welcome/Information Desk Ministry – Annual Report 2015

**“Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of**

**GOD”**

**(Romans 15:7) (RSV)**

Being part of the Welcoming Ministry/Information Desk for a many years the past two years 2014/2015 were ones of the most challenging years for me. Not only were there challenges but a decision also needed to be made whether or not we would be moving from AMC after being worshipping at AMC for nearly 43yrs.

I had hoped by beginning of 2015 new ideas and suggestions could have been shared but yet another year came to a close and still stood in front of closed doors. Welcoming needs to become a lifelong journey for the whole church community starting with all who Welcome visitors, guests, members both new and old, for Welcoming has everything to do with how we make people feel, instead I was told I was stepping on toes, must not ride on other ministries yet never been given the opportunity of sharing my personal experiences of feeling unwelcome in my very own Church of worship and I needed to ensure that anyone walking through the front door or attending a service of worship never to experience a lack of hospitality the way I did. .

The pitfall for many churches is that we think we are friendly because we are friendly to each other. It is time that we begin to see ourselves as others do. The skies are blue but many times they are very brown for people are not seeing things as they really, really are.

*My strength and guidance came from* GOD’s Living Words and obedience to His Word **Ephesians 4:1-6** calling for Unity in the body of Christ; **1 John 3:14-18**; Christ layed down His life for us, what amazing love shown to us and in turn we need to love our brothers and sisters in Christ. Romans **12:9-17** again we read of Love that must be sincere, hate what is evil; cling to what is good..... I have had to read and revert back to these Scriptures many times for encouragement not to walk away, but stood firm to His instruction (despite the challenges) of using my gift of hospitality which God had entrusted in me, and rembering during my journey that GOD is LOVE and LOVE is what is to be shared amongst His people.

It is the responsibility for all members of the Alberton Methodist come to realize that it is the responsibility of each and every member of the Body of Christ to show love towards others and not look at only the ministers and leaders to welcome for this is WRONG? We have got

to remember that there are many people who are searching meaning in life. They are returning to old values including church, and not necessary to the person's original denomination for this is no longer significant factor as to why they choose a church, the more significant factors I believe is the factors of warmth and friendliness, certainly room for growth within the AMC.

What about the many who are recovering from broken relationships, divorce, separation and /or family breakdown, past hurts from remarks being made, by our very own stewards when greeting persons returning to the our Church and being referred to "backsliders" when being greeted . Members /Visitors arriving late instead of hearing our stewards saying "**so glad you could make it**" we hear "**you late**". Clear indication that training needs to be extended to those Greeters stationed at doors.

There are many people looking for family and community and greeters at the front door need to realize the importance of their remarks or the manner of greeting the people before entering the sanctuary "**Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.**" – Hebrew 13:2(NRSV)

The importance of Greeters (Door Stewards /Information Desk) and Ushers is not just "for show" but for genuinely welcoming Christ into our hearts and our Church, for each one has the special ability to make everyone feel welcome and appreciated. They are font line for welcoming GOD's guests, and I would like for us to all ask ourselves, are we, the members of AMC all reaching out in this way? I see friendliness amongst those you know, but not many reaching out to the unknown and I pray that the year 2016 brings about change of hearts of the people in the AMC.

Much love  
Denise

**ALBERTON METHODIST CHURCH  
WOMEN'S AUXILIARY**

**ANNUAL REPORT - 2015**



**"But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength ... They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31.**

It is with great thanks that we present the Annual report. It is a reflection of the activities for 2015.

We started the year with great enthusiasm and a new theme for the year. We welcomed the new unit leaders and embraced the great new opportunities that the year ahead may bring. We had our AGM in *January* which was lead by Rev Ina Guy. Her prayer for us for the year was that 'you have met my Jesus' and answered the question of how do we need to keep our faith in Jesus Christ. We reminded us that we were all given a gift and God wants us to use our gifts. We need to listen to God's word and God's voice as He speaks to us. She left us with the question to ponder on which was whether we have you heard God speak to us the last week and what we have you done about it.

In *February* we had one of the youth leaders, Sophie, from the Church as our guest speaker. She has done mission work in India and shared some of her experiences with us. She challenged us in a number of ways and what an amazing girl she is. She reminded us of one of her messages saying that we can choose to look away but we can never say we did not know. She delivered a very powerful message and challenged us to continue the work we are doing. We also had the 'Valentines Breakfast' on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February. It was a lovely morning and the feedback has been very positive. Most of the ladies that attended, members and visitors alike, had an enjoyable morning and the general consensus was that the ventriloquist (Gareth Lush) was great with a very powerful message.

The president and I attended a planning meeting at the Anglican Church where the two Women's World Day of Prayer meetings were held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of *March*. We both enjoyed this meeting especially the interaction with the ladies from the other local Churches. WWDP was dedicated this year to the Bahamas. A number of ladies offered to read during both the morning and evening services. Mary carried the sign with 'Poverty' as part of the theme and do the associated reading while Gwyn washed her feet. The sign 'Poverty' then changes to 'Blessed'.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of March we celebrated our 88<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a Brunch. This morning with us it was an amazing morning. Mary, our Treasurer, did an amazing task of allocation various readers sharing some of the WA history with us. Mandy and Mellissa, the daughters of Gwyn Webster, sang a couple of songs. They have amazing voices. Sandra prepared most of the food for the brunch. Everything was just amazing and I felt truly blessed in being part of this celebration. Mary from Kempton Park made us the most beautiful cake. Heather Tribe was acknowledged as the longest serving member of the WA who has been a member for more than 50 years. We are blessed having her as a member of our branch.

This was not all the excitement for the month as District was on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Saturday was very special with an awesome message at the Remembrance Service by Rev Luvuyo Sifo from Kempton Park. Gareth Lush was also the guest speaker for the afternoon. His message was very different from the one delivered to us in February.

The ladies from District ladies made this meeting a special event on the WA calendar. It was a well planned and well presented annual conference. A great well done to Sandra and all the ladies from our WA for the 3 awards received:

- 1) Branch with the biggest numeric growth in the District
- 2) Branch with the biggest percentage growth in the District
- 3) Special award for Blessing Blanket Project to Stepping Stones.



For the Devotional Meeting in *April* we had a Fashion Exchange and a Fashion parade with a difference. This was great fun and we used this as a mini fund raiser. The ladies brought their fashion items that they do not use and we could 'buy' item we liked for a donation. The clothes that was not share out on the day was donated towards the jumble sale.

We had a Jumble Sale on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of *May*, handed out Mothers Day gifts, which were lovely biscuits and a verse on the 10<sup>th</sup>. The annual Knit-a-Thon was on the 16<sup>th</sup> and was such an amazing day of fun and fellowship. We also hosted a birthday party for Heather who turned 90 and has been a member for more than 50 years. This was a lovely morning and fun was had by all who shared this special celebration. There were some ladies that did not knit by they were the 'runners' which carried tea and eats to the knitters. We had about 40 ladies for this event. We had Jersey Sunday on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May where the items collected were for the kids at Epworth.

The other usual activities are Mother Hubbard's cupboard where we hand monthly parcels to some ladies. Sandra has a 'quiz' for all the birthday ladies to get to know each other better. Penny Enslin resigned as C&P secretary but we were pleased with Jennifer Dixon joining us in this role.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of *June* we had the annual Oue-te-Huis tea which was coordinated by Alice. We are grateful towards the ladies that assisted on the day and there were plenty of eats. Alice mentioned the 3 ladies that were singing and how special that was. Gwyn added that she really enjoyed it and the Spiritual Dancers that were so amazing. She mentioned one of the ladies from the Spiritual Dancers' struggle with cancer.

The Devotional meeting was on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June which was arranged by Charlotte's Unit. Sandra welcomed Sophie and the team who were the guest speakers for the meeting. The members of Spohie's team briefly introduced themselves:

Dylan, Tristan, Jason (He is 19 years old and from the Riverside Community Church), Brett, James on guitar, Chris (He is a teacher at Water Stone College) also on guitar.

They sang the worship song called "Came to my Rescue". Some of the words in the song that very profound and was 'I called you answered, And you came to my rescue and I, I wanna be where you are'.

The second worship song they sang was "God of Justice". We must go and feed the hungry. Stand beside the broken. We must go, Stepping forward keep us from just singing. Move us into action. We must go'.

She continued with the topic 'Outreach Live style' and reminded us for the message of True Obedience and quoted Micah 6:8: 'The Lord God has told us what is right and what He demands. She reminded us of Jesus that lived with the distressing disguise of the poor. She shared their outreach programme where they reach out to about 80-90 kids in Palm Ridge and give them lunch one a month. They were able to collect funds and make 90 blankets for these children. She shared with us how they worked at the Spur for funds and collected to be able for afford the material for the blankets and how when they thought they were not going to have enough blankets, it just fell in place.

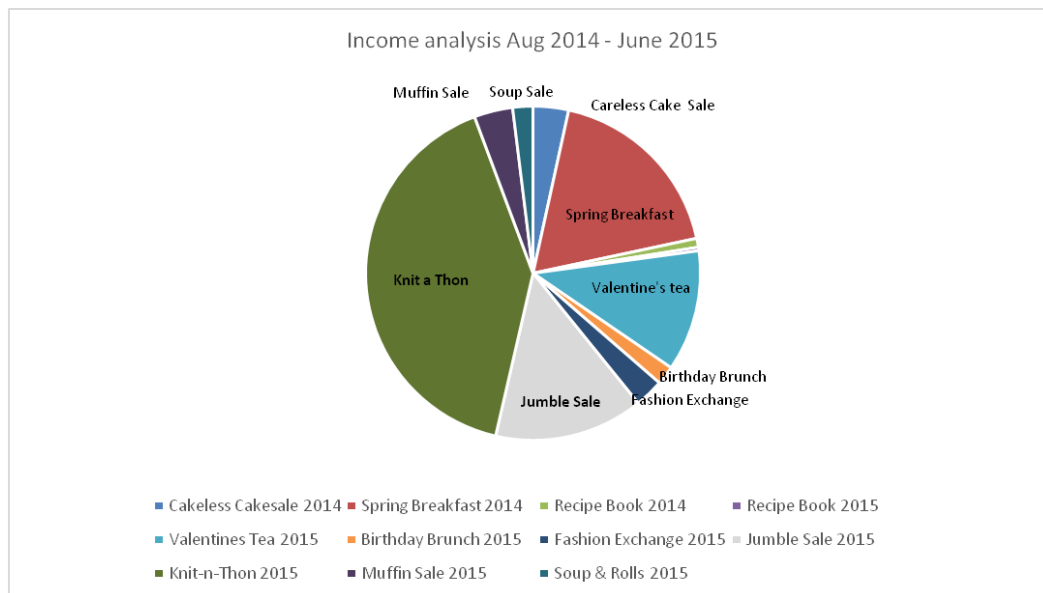
It was an amazing blessing to have heard about their outreach and their passion in caring for the poor and how they put into action the word of the worship song God of Justice.

For Father's Day on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June we presented chocolates and cards which Judy Allan and Sandra Human did for us. There were a number of ladies that handed that out for us at the various services.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of June, despite it being Youth Day which was a public holiday, some of the ladies assisted with sorting the various items for the 'jumble sale' from 10h00 onwards. The actual event was on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June but this was the only available time for this preparation to be done.

The Business meeting moved from the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> of June. Our business meetings are held at 9h00 every fourth Saturday of the month. The Jumble Sale was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June. This was a very successful fund raiser for us and a great morning of fellowship for the ladies that assisted. Michael who is the husband of Lara was there to assist and keep a watchful eye for which was grateful for a gentleman around.

The Devotional Meeting was hosted by the Executives on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July which was the Allocations. Vernon was the Minister in attendance at allocation as required by the constitution/ Church. Mary, our Treasures did an amazing task with the allocations during the past 12 months leading up to Allocations. Herewith presented is a graph of the areas of income through the various fundraising projects.



We baked biscuits from 12h00 on the 12<sup>th</sup> before the Devotional Meeting (11 July 2015) in Sandra's kitchen for the various causes in support of Nelson Mandela Day which this year was for the Kairos Ministry. There were 19 ladies and we baked close to 600 biscuits. The ladies that were not in the kitchen baking were sorting the 'jumble' and selecting clothes to take to the ladies from the POWA shelter in Vosloorus. Sandra, Cathy and Betty went to the shelter to hand over the gifts.

18<sup>th</sup> July was the Business meeting where after Sandra, Cathy and Betty went to the POWA shelter to hand over the gifts. They bought KFC for the ladies. She mentioned the circumstances where they only have the bare necessities compared to Hannah House and how privileged we are to have such a facility and support. Eric took them and brought them back.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of July some of the ladies (Mary, Judy A and Sandra) took scarves and biscuits to Primvilla. They reminded us of how blessed we were and although we often moan and complain seeing some of those circumstances and loneliness reminds us that we need to be grateful for what we have.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> was our 'Christmas in July' which was a great success and we were prevailed to have the boys from the choir that was amazing. We are grateful towards Judy A and Mary who decorated the hall ahead of time and all their efforts on the day. Thanks to Martin and Elijah for their help on the day. We also handed blankets to Stepping Stones on the 18<sup>th</sup> which is the official Mandela Day.

The 1<sup>st</sup> of August was the Amcare Tea Garden. We are grateful for Annelien and the other ladies that assisted during the day. Annelien was there to set up and close up.

The Devotional meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August was amazing with Chantelle (our Youth Pastor) and Simone led us in worship with the song 'Give Thanks (Forever)'. This serves as a reminder to that God is with us as forever as we were reminded by the chorus: "Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong, Forever God is with us, Forever and ever, forever." Chantelle spoke about her years growing being two daughters and a brother and her Mon raising them as a single parent. She grew up to be very independent as a result and always wanted to do things for herself rather than rely on others. She mentioned that not wanting to depend on people became a lonely life. In the times that she felt alone, she created a picture that was all about dancing...dancing with Jesus. She realized that she was therefore not alone as she

On the 30<sup>th</sup> August was the WA Sunday. This was an amazing service and we were grateful for the opportunity.

September was a less busy month with the Devotional Meeting with Rina Hugo as the guest speaker.

We had a 'High Tea on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October. This was a lovely morning with some amazing dancers and the theme for the tea was Hats. It was lovely to see that all the ladies made an effort to wear a hat and there were prizes awarded to various hats, such as most original, the prettiest hat etc. We had close to 120 ladies that attended.

The other usual activities are Mother Hubbard's cupboard where we hand monthly parcels to some ladies. Sandra has a quiz for all the birthday ladies to get to know each other better. Collections for Epworth Children's Village. We continue with the various functions the ladies diligently fulfill the positions of these various secretaries and the portfolio's they hold.

We hosted Federation Day at 14h00 on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October.

November was the Elections which included a gift exchange was great fun and some of the ladies showed us how to twist, rock and waltz. We closed the year off with our December concert called 'Sugar and Spice' which hosted a nursery school concert and the C & P (Country and Postal) ladies joined us. It was such a special event on the WA calendar.

We look forward to 2016 to 'Know Christ and make Him known'.

God Bless

Sandra Human

President

Marilette Esterhuizen

Secretary

## **Women's Retreat**

On 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2015, 65 women went on the “Time Out in the Secret Garden” Retreat at Erfdeel, Klipriviersberg. God was in control from the moment we started planning and breathed life into us on the Retreat. It was a time of refreshing and renewal. Many testimonies were shared and we were truly blessed! Many thanks to the team who organised & planned the Retreat and who were wonderful leaders on the weekend: Chantelle Peterson, Denise de Wet, Joan Smit Jnr, Kristin Louw, Maxine Grieve, Meagan Hennings, Melinda de Beer, Pat Chipps, Penny Enslin, Rose André, Sharon Povey, Simone Bennett, Val de Klerk & Yvette Gerber.

Our next Retreat is provisionally planned for 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and we will be having Women's Fellowship Events during the year.

## **Worship Report**

Worship has been growing in our Church over the last year & we feel that our congregation is learning more & allowing themselves to be free in Worship.

During 2015, the 18:30 Service has been incorporating different forms of worship once a month and these have had an amazing impact on the congregation. We have set up different stations; Bronwen Harris arranged flowers during the songs which represented certain themes, Graeme Lindsey led worship with sign language and we had Kerryon Stopforth & Alesha Karsten painting while we sang. We have also brought in a new song at every Coffee Service. In 2016, Creative Worship will be organised for all of our services.

Berna Townsend & Juan Neveling led worship on our Alpha Weekend. The Alpha group also joined the Confirmation group for Worship during their final few weeks. Our Easter Services all ran smoothly. We had wonderful times of worship and incorporated many different types & styles of worship.

Several of our Worship Team Members attended the Tim Hughes Worship Central Conference on 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> June 2015. They were challenged and inspired by the various teachings & worship that they experienced.

We had a Worship & Testimony Evening on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> August. We had a wonderful evening and have received many comments on how Jesus touched people's lives through the worship & stories that were shared. The theme was, “It is well.” Our next worship evening, “Love Ran Red” is planned for Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

On 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016, we had a Worship Meeting where all Worship Teams, Organists, Computer Operators & Sound Desk Operators were invited to attend. This meeting was fruitful and we believe that 2016 will be a great year where we give God all the glory.

## **Youth Report – Leaders Meeting (20 January 2016)**

### **Report on Albertyon Methodist Youth Ministry 2015**

- The confirmation programme ran from 5 March-6 September 2015 and was very successful. We had 16 Confirmant's of which most of them have shown an interest in participating in several ministries within the church.
- Youth Camp was on the 1-3 May which was not only for the confirmant's but also for any other youth member who wanted to join. It was an amazing experience where teens had the opportunity to meet with God in a deep Spiritual way, esp. on the Saturday evening where there was opportunity for prayer.
- We attended a youth camp with several other youth groups which was on the 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> December and was an incredible experience for the teens to Worship with other teenagers and to build relationships.
- The youth worship team has started giving free music lessons on a Tuesday between 5-7pm. We have reached our limit for the amount of people at this point but it is going very well as people from different ages attend and are able to grow, not only in musical talent but also in relationship with one another.
- We started up a Worship Team for Friday evenings which has been growing as we teach teens different instruments.

### **Plans for 2016**

- The youth leaders had a training and planning meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> January where the plans for Albertyon Methodist Youth Ministry was finalised.
- We have implemented a Youth executive team which will consist of the head leaders of different ministries.
- Our Confirmation programme for 2016 will start on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March and the service will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September.
- Our youth camp will be on the 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> of April and the Theme for the camp will be ‘Brave’.
- Our theme for term 1 for the entire youth ministry which includes GodTeen on a Friday and CrossFire on a Sunday will be ‘Set Apart’ where we will be looking at the Dignity Revolution and how we are Set Apart to live like Christ and to treat others with love and respect.
- We have a Worship team for both GodTeen on a Friday and for CrossFire on a Sunday and our music lessons will continue as usual on a Tuesday Evening from 5-7.