



# Bell Press News

Christ Centred - Bible Based - Spirit Filled

"True repentance turns from the wrong and returns to the right."

## BELL PRESS NEWS - MAY 2010

### Tony's Letter

Dear Fellow Citizens of Heaven,

We had a wonderful time with the elders last night: discussing heaven. I loved the enthusiasm and excitement with which we spoke of an end to the wrongs and suffering of this world and a new existence in a place which was wholly new, entirely good and devoid of tribulation.

My big sister, Jenny, came to visit from England in April and that got me thinking about the Christian life and our place in this world. While Jenny was here she was totally here but she wasn't here. We enjoyed spending time together, but she isn't from this place. Even though she was born here, she's a citizen of England and a subject of the queen. Something within her longed for home even though she was able to enjoy her time here.

That's the Christian life.

In Luke 10:20, Jesus says to His disciples, after they have cast out demons, "However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

There is a place where we have citizenship which is not here. We know this in our spirits. We long for it. But what is it?

Firstly the scriptures teach that we will rise from the dead.

"Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt." (Daniel 12:2)

"and I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked." (Acts 24:15)

Jesus said, "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out—those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned." (John 5:29)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (1 Peter 1:3).

Many more verses reiterate the resurrection. Have a look at Psalm 49:15, Ps 71:20 and Hosea 13:14.

More stunning is that our resurrection **not** simply be to some altered state of consciousness, a kind of disembodied otherness, but to a familiar experience of bodily existence in an actual place. Jesus rose with a resurrection body and so will we. A body that can experience a place, a new place which is perfect.

He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. (Acts 10:41)

Jesus was flesh and bone, raised to life. Thomas touched him, (Jn 20:19), He ate with the disciples, (Jn 21) He walked and talked with them, (Lk 24:15) and he even breathed (Jn 20:22). There was something different about this flesh and bone, however, because: Mary could not hold onto him (Jn 20:17) and he walked through walls and doors! (Jn 20: 19) and then he went into heaven with this new body (Acts 1:9)

For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence. (Heb 9:24)

We, too shall be raised, just as Jesus was raised:

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. (1 Cor 15: 21-23)

who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. (Philippians 3:21)

We know that the saints are raised to everlasting life.

Jesus said to her (Mary), "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; (John 11:25)

But what will it be like? Well...Paradise! And here you'll have to get out your bible, I don't have the space.

We'll have a permanent home (Jn 14:2)

With Jesus (Jn 17:24)  
It will be forever joyful (Jn 16:22)  
We'll be kings (Lk 22:30)  
A Heavenly City (Rev 21)  
    Radiant (vs 11)  
    Apart and protected (vs 12)  
    Immoveable (forever) (vs 16)  
    No need for light of sun (vs 23-25)  
    Glorious (vs 26)  
    Pure – free from sin (vs 27)  
No more of the ills of our time:  
    No Sea (fear and terror) (Rev 21:1)  
    No Sorrow (Rev 21:4)  
    No Crying (Rev 21:4)  
    No Pain (Rev 21:4)  
    No Curse (Rev 22:3)  
    No Night (Rev 22:5)  
    No Death (Rev 21:4, 1Cor 15:26, 2 Tim 1:10)  
We'll be glorified (Philippians 3:21)  
Receive rewards (Col 3:24)  
Receive a crown, or at least one! (1 Cor 9:25, Jas 1:12)

My own personal favourite, though, is being introduced to the Father  
because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and  
***present us with you in His presence.*** (2 Corinthians 4:14)  
Wow! We're going to stand with Jesus as He presents us to God the Father. Wow! Royal introduction! Together....  
There's much more in the scriptures about heaven, but no space.  
May you become like Paul, who said, "If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet  
what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is  
better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.(Phil 2:23-24)  
Like my sister Jenny, you are a citizen of another place.  
Love  
Tony

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### **In the Family**

**Congratulations** to **Timothy Snyders** and **Justine Coldman** who celebrate their coming of age on the **8th** and **23rd**  
May respectively.

**Congratulations** to the following members who also celebrate special birthdays during May:

Bernie Wicomb turns 30

Jeanine Clark turns 40

Stella Pietersen turns 50

Anna Stanley turns 60

**Belated congratulations** to **Neville and Hilda Dreyer** who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on 26  
March.

**Congratulations** to **Felix and Cynthia Pina** on their 55th Wedding Anniversary on Friday 16th April.

### **MARRIAGES**

**Denise Dahms and Craig Strudwick** were married on 6 March 2010.

**Byron Smith and Jessica Smith** were married on 13 March 2010

**Vicki-Lee Davies and Barry McNamara** were married on 27 March 2010.

**Brenda Wild and Danie du Toit** were married on 17 April 2010.

## **BAPTISMS**

**Jaimee**, daughter of **Neil and Linda Stanford**

**Mikayla**, daughter of **Mark and Taryn van der Merwe**

**CONDOLENCES** to **Pauline Smith** who lost her mother on Friday 16 April.

### **Barnabas' Corner**

After six months of constant pain and immobility and after hearing from a specialist that “nothing will help - just wait out the 18 months it will take to heal itself!” I plucked up the courage to ask Katie Schoeman for some advice on the treatment for a frozen shoulder. Katie agreed to give me some physiotherapy and all I can say is “Thank You Lord for the skills You have given to Katie.” After only two sessions under Katie’s well trained hands the pain levels decreased and after a few more sessions I am now almost pain free, PTL! I can also touch my left shoulder with my right hand!

Katie, thank you so much for using your skills to bless not only me, but the many others whom you treat. May the Lord continue to bless you and your practice.

Caryl

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A BIG thank you - this time to the Percherons for the wonderful musical evening presented by the Cape Town Male Choir. What a pleasure to listen to such a big group of men singing so beautifully. It makes me look forward to joining with the angels in the choirs of praise in Heaven one day!

Thanks to those responsible for all the “lekker eetgoed” and the “voggies” ??? provided!

I LOVE being a member of BPC!!

God bless

Verona

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### **BPC Women's Fellowship Annual Report**

We commenced the year with a Communion/Dedication service led by Rev Rod Botsis. Our theme for the year was taken from 2 Thes 1 :3-12 “Work with faith, hope and love to His glory until He comes again”. In March our rededication service was led by Mrs Anlene Taljaard, who preached on the theme “Faith”.

During the year we had a variety of guest speakers. A talk on the care given by the Tygerberg Hospice, a demonstration on cloth painting, MES gave an enlightening talk on service provided by them to the underprivileged in the community, a talk about the history of public libraries in Cape Town with special emphasis on Bellville, who received an award as the best managed library. Our video this year was an interesting one on Prince Charles’ garden at Highgate. The home visit was hosted by Cynthia Pina and the theme was ‘Getting to know you’ where we shared our earlier lives, places of birth, marriages etc—with lots of laughter all round.

Our annual retreat was at the rose garden in Durbanville. The guest speaker was Rev Mels Baars who is completing a two year assignment with the J L Zwane U P Church in Guguletu. The bible study was from the book of Ruth and Rev Baars gave an interesting talk on the life of Ruth.

We visited the Eleanor Murray Home in May as well, having tea and chatting with the residents; this is always a special treat for us. The annual retreat with UCCSA was held in Pniel this year where Rev June Major led the Bible study. Despite the cold and rainy weather, it was enjoyed by all and we received a warm welcome by the people of that small community.

We had our May conference of the Western Cape at the J L Zwane church in Guguletu—the theme of the day was ‘Leadership Succession’ taking the Bible reading from Joshua 1:1-9. At the conference the new executive for the Western Cape was elected. The birthday celebration of the UPWF was in August at the Mowbray Church where the new executive was inducted as well.

In August, one of our members, Janet Shepperson, passed away. She had been a member for many years and will be lovingly remembered and missed by her friends in the fellowship.

We ended our year with Christmas lunch at Mushroom and Meringues in Welgedacht which was enjoyed by all.

This being my last year as President and member of the executive of the fellowship, I would like to thank the ministers, church secretary and Percherons for their support and encouragement over the last six years. I would also like to thank the members of the executive for their loyal support and encouragement as well.

HERMONIE ROWLAND  
PRESIDENT—WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP BELLVILLE

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### **A View from the Pew**

Kobus Mulder is busy helping to organise a four-day party to which 30 000 people have been invited however, that is not the main problem. It is the dinners in Beira, Kigali, Johannesburg and the week he is going to spend with French cheese makers which prevented him from writing his usual letter this month.

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### **Mission & Evangelism News**

After almost 10 years of living in small places (the cabin on the Doulos included) we have been given the opportunity to live in a 5 bedroom house, with a garden and pool – and a cottage on the premises. The house capacity is 8 people and is child friendly. Pinelands is very central for airport runs and all the beautiful places to visit in Cape Town - but it has a huge BUT.

The present condition of the place is very sad – run down and really not liveable. Andre has this amazing talent and ability of seeing the finished product and has assured me that it will be transformed into our God dream-come-true.

We have been given the task for 5 years to run this ministry and will continue our work with OM.

We need your help - there is no furniture and it needs painting and cleaning and fixing - in fact there is nothing in the house so whatever you can think for a home - if you hear of anyone who has furniture they do not need please let them know about the need. Our contact number is 084 7222 988 084 7222 988 . We have always said that it is only God that could make this happen and we trust that it will be a place where many people will leave refreshed and blessed.

We have decided to call it El Shaddai.

We are excited to see the development and would value your prayers.

Love from us  
Andre and Peggy Kritzinger

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