

Our next *4M membership course* commences on 18 March. Anyone wishing to become a member to please complete a membership form (available from the table in the foyer) and to hand it to Rod, one of the Elders or to the office.

PLEASE NOTE:

We know that BPC members have been taught to have a generous heart BUT we (Rod, Pam, Louise and the Pastoral Staff) ask members to not give money to anyone on a Sunday. Please direct them to contact the office and our well-oiled Pastoral Team will assist them or guide them to an organisation which can assist them. It is our policy to give a hand-up and not a handout. So, should you be approached on a Sunday ... say gently: "I have been asked by the Pastoral Staff to not hand out money at worship on Sundays. Please give me your name and number and I'll ask them to contact you tomorrow, or, if you prefer, please pop in at the office and speak with Pam or Louise tomorrow before 1pm. In so doing, you are a) supporting our policy and not undermining it and b) giving the person a chance to better their living circumstances through a good support system which we have in place with various organisations and we will assist in accordance with our policy.

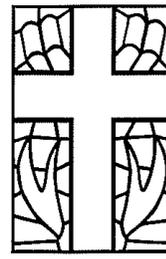


APPEAL FOR GRADE 9 BOOKS

If your child has completed Grade 9 and you no longer require his/her books, and are willing to part with them, would you please be so kind as to contact Pam or Louise because we have a family who could use them. Thank you.



Our collection for the Christmas dinner for the homeless giftbags starts in March with pocket tissues and toiletpaper.



CHRIST CENTRED
SPIRIT FILLED
BIBLE BASED

BELLVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of The Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa

PO BOX 552, BELLVILLE 7535
LINGEN STREET, BELLVILLE 7530
TEL: 021 948 2417 / 021 948 2529
FAX: 021 948 2419
E-MAIL: office@bpc.org.za
WEBSITE: www.bpc.org.za

3 March 2019

Dear Friends

We are into March! And Easter is just around the corner. Starting this Wednesday 6 March is The Season of Lent. For 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday (you do not count the Sundays in the 40 days) many Christians around the world fast in some way.

The 40 days represent the 40 days Jesus was in the wilderness before He began His public ministry. And, of course, He was terribly tempted by the evil one in that time. Remember Hebrews 4:15 says: "He was tempted like us in every way!"

Fasting in Lent is a good discipline: Whether you give up something for all 40 days (alcohol, some food stuff, TV, etc.) or perhaps fast from food, 1 day per week for the 6½ weeks doesn't really matter. But I do ask you to give it a go! And, as with all our lives, say "Lord Jesus I offer this to you!"

Worship well and come with joy into His Presence.

Always with love,

Rod

Minister: Rod Botsis (082 921 5179)

MES is in need of volunteers at our After School programmes.

This year MES Cape Town started with after school services in Belhar and Scottsdene. (Part of our sisters company's housing estates). We provide a safe place to 50 primary school children at each location. We assist with homework and offer educational programmes to the children. Our youth worker needs assistance with the running of these programmes.

Volunteers can commit to help on a daily, weekly, hourly or monthly basis. The programme takes place Monday to Thursday from 14h00 tot 17h00.

For more information please contact Anelle at 021 949 8736 or anelle@mes.org.za

Help MES to change a heart in the city!
#ChangeMaker #DoSomething #MouldEmpowerServe



"THOSE WHO BRING SUNSHINE TO THE LIVES OF OTHERS CANNOT KEEP IT FROM THEMSELVES."
James Matthew Barrie

What's happening at BPC this week?

TUESDAY	9 00am	Office Prayers & Pastoral Meeting
ASH WEDNESDAY	9 30am 10 00am 7 30pm	Pilates. Contact Helena 082 471 7288 Men's Bible Study AA/AIAnon, AIAtTeen Contact 021 913 4283
THURSDAY	9 30am 9 30am 8 00pm 8 00pm	Women's Bible Study GKM Prayer Meeting Narcotics Anonymous. Contact 088 1300 327 NarAnon. Contact 088 129 6791
FRIDAY	7 30pm	FUSION YOUTH meet at DPC with the Durbanville Presbyterian Church Youth. Contact Emma: 082 091 0939
SATURDAY	9 00am	ALPHA COURSE CONTINUES. Please use the weekly guide to pray for the course.
SUNDAY	7 30am 9 30am 9 30am 7 00pm	Worship Worship Children's and Teenz Ministries Worship

BPC Home groups meet every week. For more information on who to contact and areas, please consult our website (www.bpc.org.za) or Facebook page, our monthly BellPress magazine (available in hard copy or on the website) or the Church Foyer Noticeboard.



PLEASE ADD TO YOUR DAILY PRAYER LIST ALL OUR SENIOR MEMBERS AND THOSE MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT WELL: Hannelie, Lizette and Pearl Kotzé. (Please let the office know of members needing prayer to be added to this list. RELATIVES/FRIENDS NEEDING PRAYER:

Craig Wood (Sandra Cawcutt's son-in-law)

CONGREGATIONAL VISITATIONS: Our "Sharing and Caring" Congregational Visitations is resuming. About 240 members have already been visited. Please welcome those visiting you.

PRAYERS FOR ALPHA : DOES GOD HEAL TODAY?

The LORD sustains them on their sickbed and restores them from their bed of illness. Psalm 41:3

- ✚ Pray for the hosts and helpers for wisdom and guidance as they discuss the topic of healing.
- ✚ Pray that the guests would know God's love for them and those they love.
- ✚ Pray that the guests would better understand healing, and that they would be uplifted and encouraged by the times God healed in the past and from testimonies where God is healing today.



Rod's health Having prayed for Rod on Sunday, here is an update about the pain in his legs and feet. Rod has seen 3 specialists this week and together they confirmed he is diabetic and has probably been so for a while with none of the normal symptoms being evident. However, the pains in his legs and feet are a direct result of the diabetes (don't bother to google this as you are not likely to find any explanation unless you are a medical professional). The pain is not likely to go away according to the specialists but perhaps with learning to be diabetic and some pain management with medication the pain may lessen.

To be quite clear:

1. He is diabetic
2. The pain he has been having relates to being diabetic but is not likely to go away, but may lessen over time.

Rod is deeply grateful for the prayers.

Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting, is the first day of Lent. It occurs 46 days (40 weekdays plus 6 Sundays) before Easter, According to the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, Jesus Christ spent 40 days fasting in the desert, where he endured temptation by Satan. Lent originated as a mirroring of this, fasting 40 days as preparation for Easter. Every Sunday was seen as a commemoration of the Sunday of Christ's resurrection and so as a feast day on which fasting was inappropriate. Accordingly, Christians fasted from Monday to Saturday (6 days) during 6 weeks and from Wednesday to Saturday (4 days) in the preceding week, thus making up the number of 40 days. Ash Wednesday derives its name from the practice of blessing ashes made from palm branches blessed on the previous year Palm Sunday, and placing them on the heads of participants to the accompaniment of the words "Repent, and believe in the Gospel" or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return".