

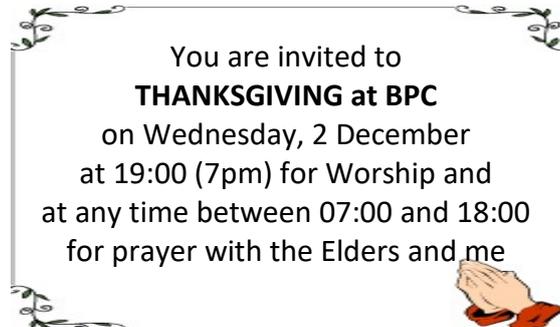
BELLVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of The Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa

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CHRIST CENTRED
SPIRIT FILLED
BIBLE BASED

3 November 2020



Dear friends,

In the Bible, John Chapter 7, is a picture of Jesus in the temple in Jerusalem teaching a crowd of people. It is the Feast of Tabernacles, a 7 day long feast remembering the time the people of Israel spent in the Wilderness before going into the Promised Land. It also was a Harvest Festival. It is a lovely time in the Hebrew year – lots of joy and Thanksgiving.

John 7:37 reads: “On the last and greatest day of the Festival ...”

BPC’s Day of Thanksgiving really is the greatest day in our Calendar. It has become so because of you! (I am not forgetting the great days of our Christian faith: Christmas, Good Friday, Easter Resurrection day, the Day of Pentecost.)

- BPC’s Day of Thanksgiving has grown from an ordinary Sunday in December and an extra offering to a whole day where 100s of members come one-by-one, family-by-family into the church to pray. Almost all who come let me pray with them and for them. We pray about the year and we pray about the path and joys of the year. We give thanks! And very often those Thanksgivings are prayed with tears.
- At the end of the day (7pm) we gather for a worship service with lots of singing and a few members talking briefly about “why I want to thank the Lord Jesus”. No sermon but we say the Apostles’ Creed and give thanks by name for all who have been baptised during the year, and by name for all who have become members at BPC during the year. We also declare we believe in the Resurrection of the Dead and life everlasting as we remember, by name, all our members who have died during the year.

- We also make a special Thanksgiving Offering, either when we come for prayer during the day or at the evening time of worship.

Somehow these simple, ordinary acts of worship have become the greatest day in our BPC calendar.

This year will be my 41st and last Day of Thanksgiving with you but I will never, ever stop giving Thanks to Jesus for you – BPC.

* This year has been terrible for many people all over the world. And all of us have been touched and affected by loss, fear and a sense that the world has changed forever. What has not changed and never will is the promise Jesus made at the Feast of Tabernacles in John Chapter 7: “Come to me; if you are thirsty, come to me. I will give you living water flowing from your innermost being, deep within you”.

** I am hoping this year each of you will come to the church sometime between 07:00 and 18:00 to pray with me and some of the elders.

*** I also hope as many as possible will **book a place for the service of Thanksgiving at 19:00.**

**** I urge each one of us to make an offering – a sacrificial offering to especially thank Jesus for 2020. Please use the envelope(s) enclosed.

If it is easier, please feel free to make an EFT payment. Only the bookkeeper sees the depositor details.

Bank details:

Bellville Presbyterian Church

Standard Bank

Tyger Manor Branch

Branch code: 050410

Acc. No.: 071896619

Reference: Thanks

I look forward, with joy, to seeing you on Wednesday 2nd of December, BPC’s Day of Thanksgiving.

As ever, much love and

God bless you



Rod