

# St Michael's Anglican Church, Bryanston



## VESTRY 2023

### REPORT BOOK

#### **Parish Vision**

*St Michael's will be a vibrant, growing,  
inclusive community of God's people.*

#### **Diocesan Vision:**

*To achieve a shared vision and practice  
of the ministry of all believers.*



Diocese of Johannesburg

# **ANDREW WILLIAM SLAWSON**

**Member of the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants**

**Membership number 03343382**

**21 Devil's Tooth Place  
Glenvista Ext 6  
2091**

**Report by the Independent Verifier  
to the Members of the Parish of St Michaels, Bryanston**

-  
I have reviewed the attached annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022, which were prepared on behalf of the Council by the Treasurer. From my review I can confirm that these annual financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records of the Parish and that, in my opinion, adequate records have been maintained. It is not possible to verify income before it is recorded in the accounting records as cash received.

I note that the following matters which are referred to in the Stewardship Report by the Rector and Church Wardens will be brought to the attention of the Parish Council and will be tabled at Vestry:

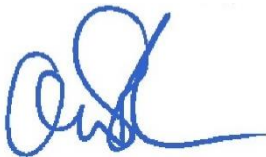
None

I further report that the following matters have not been included in the Stewardship Report and have not been resolved to my satisfaction:

None

## **Opinion**

Subject to the above comments, in my opinion, the attached Balance Sheet at 31 December 2022 fairly represents the financial position of the Parish at that date, and the Income Statement fairly represents the results of its activities for the year ended on that date.



AW Slawson  
Chartered Accountant (SA)  
Independent Verifier

13 February 2023

# Income Statement as at 31 December 2022

INCOME	2022	2021
<b>Parish affairs</b>		
DG, Tithes, Dues, etc.	4 010 319	4 043 219
Collections	428 429	284 476
Donations, thanksgiving and bequests	399 907	1 754 582
General fundraising	67 700	66 419
Special Efforts	30 000	30 000
Donations/Income for specific projects (Social Responsibility)	50 000	55 250
<b>Financing income</b>		
Interest Received (External)	103 289	78 296
<b>Gross income</b>	<b>5 089 645</b>	<b>6 312 241</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>1. Spiritual formation</b>		
Quiet days and retreats	5 400	
Clergy costs paid by parish	469 344	361 845
Clergy stipends paid through Diocese	851 623	710 055
	<b>1 326 367</b>	<b>1 071 900</b>
<b>2. Vibrant Christian Community</b>		
Church expenses (Including welcoming)	3 674	486
Sanctuary Expenses	8 801	5 329
Worship expenses	159 152	138 708
Diocesan contribution	587 760	606 204
	<b>759 387</b>	<b>750 727</b>
<b>3. Social outreach</b>		
Educational support	100 000	100 000
Feeding schemes	101 118	108 389
HIV/AIDS	7 800	7 450
Home based care	45 937	43 201
Poverty alleviation	60 000	60 000
School, hospital, prison ministry	36 987	33 566
	<b>351 842</b>	<b>352 605</b>
<b>4. Visionary servant leadership</b>		
Catering	525	775
	<b>525</b>	<b>775</b>
<b>5. Prophetic relevance</b>		
Tithing from income (Diocesan Welfare)	30 000	30 000
Sunday School Expenses	1 676	3 000
Youth Expenses	4 349	4 535
	<b>36 025</b>	<b>37 535</b>

## Income Statement as at 31 December 2022 continued

EXPENSES	2022	2021
<b>6. Sustainable structures <i>Administration expenses</i></b>		
Audit/accounting fees	3 000	3 000
Bank charges	9 421	5 725
Insurance	43 330	39 807
Municipal charges (Lights & Water, etc. - NOT Rates)	203 160	180 527
Rates and Taxes (Not payable on church property)	18 804	
Office administration & Consumables	376 659	367 211
Post Retirement costs - clergy and laity	-	131 400
Repairs and maintenance excluding property	80 965	60 755
Repairs and maintenance to property	84 485	79 790
Security	380 908	345 465
Staff Costs (UIF, Pens Contribution etc.)	201 461	193 049
Staff Salaries (Laity)	1 147 119	1 125 503
	2 549 312	2 532 232
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>5 023 459</b>	<b>4 745 774</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) before tax</b>	<b>66 186</b>	<b>1 566 467</b>
<b>Taxation on commercial activity</b>		
Total taxation	-	-
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) after tax</b>	<b>66 186</b>	<b>1 566 467</b>
Transfers to (from) Funds	65 000	1 566 000
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>1 186</b>	<b>467</b>

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
Accumulated Funds (Retained Surplus)		7 642 588	7 642 122
Prior year correction			
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		1 186	467
Surplus Carried Forward		7 643 774	7 642 588
Special Purpose Reserves	2	4 413 973	4 593 610
<b>Total Reserves</b>		<b>12 057 747</b>	<b>12 236 198</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	1	7 615 765	7 615 765
Land & Buildings		7 615 765	7 615 765
Motor Vehicles		-	-
Furniture and Fittings		-	-
Church & Office Equipment		-	-
<b>Investments</b>		-	-
Loan Deposit Fund		-	-
Special Purpose Investments		-	-
Other Bank Investments		-	-
<b>Current Assets</b>		4 815 945	5 075 979
Debtors and Prepayments		2 370	1 500
Deposits with Municipality		349	349
Current Account		4 809 868	5 070 180
Petty Cash		3 359	3 950
<b>Less Current Liabilities</b>		373 963	455 546
Creditors		373 963	455 546
<b>Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)</b>		4 441 982	4 620 433
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>12 057 747</b>	<b>12 236 198</b>

# NOTES to the Financial Statements

## Note 1 Fixed Assets Buildings

Buildings are shown at cost in the financial statements. All buildings were professionally valued during 2020

The insurance value at 31 December 2022 is R32 500 448

In terms article XVIII of the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Southern Africa:

Ownership of all property, both moveable and immoveable is vested in the Trustees of the Diocese of Johannesburg

The title deeds of all property are retained by the Diocesan Office, St Joseph's Diocesan Centre c/o Good and Herman Street, Sophiatown.

## Note 2 Special Purpose Funds

Name of Funds	Roof Repairs	Choir	Fellowship	Fford Fund	Fixed Assets	Special Appeals & Youth	Garden of Remembrance	Ministry Development	Mothers Union	Other	Theological Education	Major Maintenance	Bequest	Good as New	Total
<b>2022</b>															
Balance brought forward from Prior Year	274 451	6 120	95 842	1 738 131	39 202	30 367	42 593	23 881	0	58 336	57 960	399 516	1 745 558	98 335	4 610 292
Deposits into Fund	0	0	16 250	76 816		2 095	7 100	0		28 000		1 800		46 966	179 027
Transfers into Fund (Income Statement)	25 000				15 000										40 000
Sub Total	299 451	6 120	112 092	1 814 947	54 202	32 462	49 693	23 881	0	86 336	57 960	401 316	1 745 558	145 301	4 829 319
Transfers out of Fund (Income Statement)															0
Payments out of Fund	-20 628	-1 080	-14 028							-13 729			-315 880	-50 000	-415 345
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>278 823</b>	<b>5 040</b>	<b>98 064</b>	<b>1 814 947</b>	<b>54 202</b>	<b>32 462</b>	<b>49 693</b>	<b>23 881</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>72 607</b>	<b>57 960</b>	<b>401 316</b>	<b>1 429 678</b>	<b>95 301</b>	<b>4 413 974</b>
<b>2021</b>															
Balance brought forward from Prior Year	247 951	1 370	94 342	1 686 589	45 000	28 367	33 293	43 881	72 705	57 002	57 960	397 516	245 558		3 011 534
Deposits into Fund	1 000	5 750	1 500	51 554	2 000	2 000	9 300		49 456	29 700		2 000	1 500 000		1 654 260
Transfers into Fund (Income Statement)	25 500				15 000										40 500
Sub Total	274 451	7 120	95 842	1 738 143	62 000	30 367	42 593	43 881	122 161	86 702	57 960	399 516	1 745 558	0	4 706 294
Transfers out of Fund (Income Statement)															0
Payments out of Fund		-1 000		-12	-22 798			-20 000	-40 510	-28 366					-112 686
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>274 451</b>	<b>6 120</b>	<b>95 842</b>	<b>1 738 131</b>	<b>39 202</b>	<b>30 367</b>	<b>42 593</b>	<b>23 881</b>	<b>81 651</b>	<b>58 336</b>	<b>57 960</b>	<b>399 516</b>	<b>1 745 558</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4 593 610</b>

<b>Note 3 Creditors</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Accruals	124 170	91 057
Annual DG	100 925	106 428
Bridge & Library Fund	500	6 500
Brothers Breakfast	3 710	3 710
Christmas Appeal	4 090	4 200
Diocese (surplus)	25 000	146 960
Good as New	-	98 335
Mothers Union	86 242	-
Parish Retreat deposit	-	-5 400
Patronal Festival	5 569	-
Retirement Fund	23 756	3 756
	<b>373 963</b>	<b>455 546</b>

## Retirement Fund - Income Statement at 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
<b>INCOME</b>		
Income on funds invested	40 117	35 169
Donations received	-	-
Write up/(down) value of investments	(124 577)	279 679
	(84 460)	314 848
<b>EXPENSES</b>	23 293	24 195
Management Fees	23 293	24 195
<b>SURPLUS for the year before grants</b>	(107 753)	290 653
Grants to beneficiaries	132 000	130 015
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the year</b>	(239 753)	160 638
SURPLUS brought forward	336 346	175 708
<b>SURPLUS carried forward</b>	<b>96 593</b>	<b>336 346</b>

## Retirement Fund Balance Sheet at 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
<b>TRUST FUND</b>		
Balance transferred from St Michael's Trust Fund	1 387 695	1 387 695
Balance brought forward		
Fund administration - deficit per income statement	96 593	336 346
	1 484 288	1 724 041
<b>Represented by:</b>		
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>		
Unit Trusts at market value	1 460 532	1 720 285
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
St Michaels	23 756	3 756
Account receivable		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Account payable	-	-
	1 484 288	1 724 041



# Retirement Fund Notes on Financial Statement

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared incorporating the following principal accounting policy.

### *Investments*

Investments are held at book value. Any write-downs or write-backs to carrying value are recognised in the income statement.

## 2. TAXATION

The Fund's income is not taxable in its hands due to it being a component of St Michaels Church.

## 3. CASH FLOW STATEMENT

No cash flow statement has been prepared as, in the opinion of the trustees, the cash flow information is readily apparent from the annual financial statements presented on Retirement Fund page 12

## 4. DISTRIBUTION EVENT

In terms of a Deed of Transfer dated 28 February 2012 between the trustees and the Parish Council of St Michael's Church, the Trust Capital was distributed by the Trust to the Parish Council on 29 February 2012.

## St Michael's 2023 Budget

	2023	2022
<b>Income</b>		
<b><i>Parish affairs</i></b>		
DG, Tithes, Dues, etc.	4 575 044	4 301 883
Collections	424 971	290 000
Donations, thanksgiving and bequests	200 000	180 000
General fundraising	100 000	80 000
Special Efforts	70 000	50 000
Donations / Income for specific projects	30 000	30 000
<b><i>Financing income</i></b>		
Interest Received (External)	77 000	57 000
<b>Gross income</b>	<b>5 477 015</b>	<b>4 988 883</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>1. Spiritual formation</b>		
Clergy costs paid by parish	489 391	439 344
Clergy stipends paid through Diocese	900 241	857 873
	1 389 632	1 297 217
<b>2. Vibrant Christian Community</b>		
Church expenses (Including welcoming)	2 628	290
Sanctuary Expenses	10 926	4 162
Worship expenses	175 083	161 390
Diocesan contribution	640 002	587 761
	828 639	753 603

## St Michael's 2023 Budget continued

	2023	2022
<b>3. Social outreach</b>		
Educational support	105 000	100 000
Feeding schemes	102 924	122 066
HIV/AIDS	8 190	7 800
Home based care	48 132	45 792
Poverty alleviation	63 000	60 000
School, hospital, prison ministry	37 028	39 305
	364 274	374 963
<b>4. Visionary servant leadership</b>		
Catering	1 500	1 500
Synod	3 500	3 500
	5 000	5 000
<b>5. Prophetic relevance</b>		
Tithing from income (Diocesan Welfare)	30 000	30 000
Sunday School Expenses	8 500	8 500
Youth Expenses	8 500	8 500
	47 000	47 000
<b>6. Sustainable structures</b>		
Audit/accounting fees	3 000	3 000
Bank charges	10 255	6 000
Insurance	50 055	46 680
Municipal charges (Lights & Water, etc. - NOT Rates)	210 455	206 340
Rates and Taxes (Not payable on church property)	52 740	
Office administration & consumables	397 378	369 436
Post Retirement costs - clergy and laity	203 000	0
Repairs and maintenance excluding property	88 678	100 000
Repairs and maintenance to property	65 086	85 000
Security	404 846	401 589
Staff Costs (UIF, Pens Contribution etc.)	214 996	204 930
Staff Salaries (Laity)	1 126 276	1 072 644
	2 826 765	2 495 619
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>5 461 310</b>	<b>4 973 402</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) before tax</b>	<b>15 705</b>	<b>15 481</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) after tax</b>	<b>15 705</b>	<b>15 481</b>
Transfers to (from) Funds	15 000	15 000
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>481</b>

# Treasurer's Report

Brian Smith

As we emerge from the covid lockdowns it has taken some time to recover and we are still not fully back to "normal". I would like to thank the community of St Michaels for the great support given to the church during this period and sincerely hope that we will, with God's guidance return to being able to worship in the manner that we are used to. Given the circumstances, St Michaels parish has succeeded in delivering a good set of results for the financial year ended 31 December 2022. We ended the year with a small surplus of R66 186 before transfers to special funds. An amount of R15 000 was transferred into the Fixed Assets fund to cover capital requirements. The surplus of R 51 186 and R25 000 of the surplus has been allocated to the Roof Repair special fund and R25 000 has been allocated to support the work of the Diocese, resulting in a nett surplus of R1 186 for 2022. We are truly grateful to God for his blessings and give thanks for His great provision.

Deposits into special purpose funds amounted to R 179 027 largely driven by the Fford Investment fund interest received. Payments out of special purpose funds amounted to R415 345, largely due to the cost of replacing the church carpeting.

The Balance Sheet is supported by cash reserves of R 4 809 868.

## **Income**

The key elements that make up the bulk of the income are Dedicated Giving/Pledges, Collections, Fundraising events, Donations and Thanksgiving, and Interest Income. Parishioners contributions from Dedicated Giving Pledges were static at R4 million. Plate Collections increased by 15% to R 428 429 due to the return of worshippers to services. Income from Donations, Thanksgiving/Harvest were pleasing and we are grateful to the contributors and to all the parishioners for enthusiastically supporting the Thanksgiving/Harvest drive. Our fundraising activities, continued in earnest in the current year. St Michaels hosted a golf day in November organised by the Fundraising Committee. The committee raised R 67 700, despite the terrible weather conditions on the day. Thank you to what we have achieved during a difficult year.

## **Expenditure**

I'm pleased to report that the parish met all its expenditure obligations across the six objectives of the Diocese – Spiritual Formation, Vibrant Christian Community, Social Responsibility, Visionary Servant Leadership, Prophetic Relevance, and Sustainable Structures in the 2022 financial year.

Total parish expenses (excluding special funds expenditure) increased by 6% to R 5.02 million during the year under review. The increase was largely driven by increased clergy costs arising from having our team fully with us during 2022.

We are also pleased to report that we have paid our contribution of R606 204 to support the ministry of the Diocese. We have also set aside the additional contribution of R25 000 from the surplus. Our total contribution of R 587 760 to the Diocese represents 13.2.% of our parishioner's contributions, 3% lower than the previous year.

## **Balance Sheet**

The Balance Sheet is in a sound financial position and includes cash resources of R 4,8 million at year end (2021: R5.1 million). The cash resources are sufficient to cover the costs for the current liabilities and other special purpose fund requirements that may arise.

As required, our verifier Andrew Slawson, has checked our financial statements and duly signed them off as truly and accurately reflective of the affairs of the parish.

## **2023 Budget**

The Parish Council has approved a challenging break-even budget for the 2023 financial year comprised of the following:

Total Income from Parishioners contributions and other income of R 5 477 015 – this is a 7,6% increase over the prior year actual figures achieved. The economic climate in our country remains challenging, so we have set a conservative budget using 2022 actual income as a basis. We believe that, with God’s help, we will achieve our income budget with the continued support from parishioners.

Total Expenditure of R5 476 310 – this is a 9% increase on the prior year actual expenditure. The parish expenditure includes a contribution of R 640 002 to the Diocese of Johannesburg. The budgeted contribution to Diocese represents 12.8% of our parishioners’ contribution. We will make every effort as done in the previous years to increase this contribution based on actual income received.

The major changes in budgeted cost increases for this year encompass a charge for post-retirement medical aid costs for clergy for which we enjoyed a payment holiday in 2022 and for which we have budgeted R 203 000 and the increased municipal rates due to a change in the assessment on the church houses for our clergy.

The budget is an extremely challenging one in an increasing cost environment and will need, as always, to be strictly managed over the year.

### **In Conclusion**

I would like to thank the office staff under the capable leadership of our Administrator, Darryl Prangley for her great dedication in working tirelessly to manage our books and produce financial statements on a monthly basis.

May God bless you all as you continue to worship our God in this wonderful environment that He has provided for our use

## *Churchwardens Report*

Mokaedi Dilotsotlhe, Siyavuya Mhlanga, Robert Adams

On behalf of the Parish Council, we would like to present the report which highlights the milestones achieved in implementing the objectives and plans outlined in the Church Wardens’ report and Rector’s Statement of Needs presented at the vestry meeting of 2022. We would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to our parishioners who use their God-given talents to serve others and contribute to God’s kingdom.

### **Wardens’ Focus**

In 2022 the work of the Wardens was focused on returning the parish to pre-pandemic levels. To that extent, we are very pleased to report that following the further relaxation of the Covid-19 regulations, in particular the wearing of masks and easing of limitations on gatherings in June 2022, our Parish begun to speedily return to normality in the second half of the year, leading to a healthy increase in church service attendance. The increase in the number of services (07h00, 08h15, and 10h00), together with the offering of full communion, the re-introduction of after-service refreshments as well as the resumption of church choirs resulted in a positive momentum. We hope and pray that this will continue into 2023. Further to this, together we paid particular attention to the following:

### **Maintenance of our Land and Buildings**

Through prudent budget management, our properties continued to be well maintained. New carpets for the church were procured and installed in June. After consultation with the Heritage Foundation, work is currently underway to start the repairs to the Bolton Block Roof. The plans are currently going through the approvals by the Heritage Foundations and the City Council, and it is expected that the repairs will be completed in the second quarter of 2023.

### **Finances**

We are pleased to report that the finances of our parish are satisfactory. We received gross income of R5.1m against a budget of R5.0m, and after expenses of R5.05m we ended the year with a surplus of R50k. Our expenses are well aligned to the Diocesan vision and are a fair reflection of the activities of the respective portfolios of the parish and our vision. The balance sheet remains sound, with sufficient funds to cover liabilities and special funds.

### **Activities of the Council Portfolios**

The worship portfolio was incorporated under the domain of the clergy, and we continued to drive the work of the Communication, Discipleship, Fundraising, Growing in Faith Together (GIFT), Hospitality & Events, Maintenance, Pastoral Care, Social Responsibility and Youth portfolios. With the easing of the Covid regulations, most of the portfolios gained momentum in the second half to the year. It is fair to say that while most have performed well, others still need to gain momentum. The hospitality portfolio was instrumental in hosting several events, and the fundraising portfolio exceeded its income target through the delivery of harvest and golf day initiatives. We are pleased that we met our social responsibility commitments to the various projects. We worked with Gift of the Givers and Hope Africa to provide support to the April KZN floods, contributing 55 boxes of dry goods and R12 500. We remain indebted to the leaders of the various portfolio leaders and the generosity of our parishioners who passionately assist with their time and resources.

### **Technology Capability**

Our investment in our technology continues to pay dividends in enabling the ongoing provision of online services, virtual meetings, and parish communications. During 2023 we will be investing in television screens and audio-visual links to the main hall to accommodate service overflows, which are becoming more frequent.

### **Response to the Electricity Crisis**

In 2023 we will be investigating alternative energy sources to keep the church building, the Bolton Block (administrative) and the Main Hall powered during periods of loadshedding so that there is less disruption to the church services and office work.

### **Insurance**

St Michael's is up to date with payments of insurance premiums, and the parish has met diocesan requirements for adequate cover.

### **70th Anniversary Celebration**

Plans are underway for the celebration of our 70th anniversary on 1 October 2023. The logo and theme (Celebrating 70 years of faithfulness and gratitude) have already been unveiled to the parish.

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

The wardens have completed the annual review of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) between the parish clergy and the parish council. The MoUs are in place for Rev Matthew Wright and Rev Sharmain James.

### **Interim Priest and appointment of new Rector**

We very pleased that in December 2022 we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Rev David Edwards. His role is to offer support to the Parish and Archdeacon and the other clergy assigned to the parish during a period of searching for a new Rector. We welcome Dave with open arms and pray that he leads us with love and grace over the next six months. The Diocesan chapter has already started applying its mind on a suitable Rector for our parish and that process will be supported by the revised parish profile which is being finalised. We pray that this process runs speedily and smoothly.

### **The Keeping of Records and Inventories**

As required by the Canons of the Church and the Rules of the Diocese the wardens have kept proper records and inventories.

### **Conclusion**

The past year has been bitter-sweet. We started the year still under the cloud of the lock-down restrictions which thankfully subsided and allowed us to return to our normal state as a parish. We were saddened by the unexpected departure of Ven Moses and Rev Alison Thabethe, but we are equally pleased for them in their new opportunities they've been called to in God's kingdom. We thank Ven Moses for his leadership over the past four years, and the clergy together with all the staff for their dedicated service to the parish throughout the year. We thank the Lord for your generosity and service, and for his overall guidance and blessings in all we do.

# *Rectors' Report*

Ven Moses Thabethe

Dear Parishioners

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:2).*

As we enter this vestry season, this is our chance once again, as the community of God in Bryanston, called together in this place, to think together about what God has called us to do and to be as a congregation. It is an opportunity once again to ask ourselves:

- ◆ What is our collective mission as the parish community of Bryanston?
- ◆ To what do we give our time, our energy and our resources in this church community?
- ◆ Where is God leading us as we move into a new year of ministry?

As I looked back over the four years, I was reminded of a series of workshops which were led by Curtis Love (since 2019) as we journeyed together in reflecting on the questions above. One of the most salient and instructive theme that came out of those workshops was an apt description of St Michael's as a vibrant, inclusive and growing church community. It is said that diversity-oriented churches, despite the challenges they may face, are some of the fastest growing churches. I have seen this come to fruition at St Michael's and I would like to suggest that this is characterised by our efforts to embrace greater racial, ethnic, cultural, and socio-economic diversity – all of these manifested in our worship life.

I thought it worthwhile to reflect upon the Parish community from the following lenses:

## **People.**

One of the most inspiring character of the Parish is the self giving attitude of some of the parishioners. It is a given that most parish ministry is driven by 20% of the congregation. St Michael's, however, has a dedicated team of people who give of themselves to the ministries of this church. I do believe that a lot more could be achieved if many more parishioners offered themselves for ministry in all its varied ways – as young, as old, as diverse, and as future-oriented as we could be.

## **Finances.**

The reality of life at present is that many churches struggle to make ends meet due to a lack of finances. St Michael's has been blessed to have people who give generously in order to enhance ministry. It is this that has enabled us to sustain our outreach ministry, fund the various portfolios that are led by Parish council and continue with an online presence that has become a blessing to many.

## **Facilities.**

The church plant at St Michael's should never be taken for granted. The parish is blessed with ample land that houses all the clergy and ground staff who all contribute towards the viability of the parish. We have managed to grow our facilities to enable meaningful and a sustainable worship life that caters for different groups of people: those online, weekly worship and teaching and formation programmes for children, teens and adults alike. As council, we have always strived to be configured for the future in the way we acquired tools to enhance our facilities.

## **Culture.**

Any entity that is to survive any change needs a culture to carry that change. Rarely is a culture so devoid of potential that values and themes from past history cannot be a bridge to inform the present and the future. The culture of cooperation that exists enabled us to weather the storm of COVID-19 and isolation and saw us growing from strength to strength as we sought various ways of ministering.

## **Reputation.**

St Michael's is a Church community that boasts credibility and a good reputation which helps it to grow as it attracts more people to itself. This is another characteristic that can never be taken for granted in its self-understanding. Our newcomer welcoming evenings are evidence of this credibility and openness as a church that is welcoming and warm. We still need to grow this reputation more, particularly in our embracing of visitors and potential members in our midst in order that they too, come to have a living encounter with a liberating God.

## **Systems.**

We may not always be cognisant of this, but staying connected to existing systems to help carry a vision for the future can be more worthwhile than starting from scratch. We are blessed at St Michael's to have established systems – be it in the form of human resources or the matrix of our portfolio system that helps us connect in order to deliver a meaningful and Godly inspired evangelistic life style. Added to these, are highly skilled individuals whose input and expertise help to steady this ship of a church community.

## **Staff and volunteers.**

As mentioned above, St Michael's boasts gifted, energetic and cooperative individuals who embrace any change that is needed to move. Our clergy, Parish Ministers, administrative staff and those who volunteer in various aspects of our parish life provide an established base from which to serve this church community and those around us who are in need: food for the needy, education for the underprivileged, helping to sustain a shelter for the vulnerable and providing top quality formation programme for children and teens. The often unseen sacristans, flower arrangers and our competent ground staff help to enhance our spiritual and worship experience at St Michael's.

## **Programs.**

In the past year, we embarked on a number of activities as is the practice at St Michael's. We have continued to:

- ◆ **Resource our church community** through our sustained online presence in the form of devotionals such as Sunday pre-recorded worship services , midday prayers, morning prayers, Lenten Course and Advent Course towards the end of the year.
- ◆ **Communicate with parishioners** (through the weekly letters, during in person worship and in surveys asking for your input on various matters).
- ◆ **Hold a Special Annual Service of Remembrance/Comfort** and it was my hope to make this an annual event during the month of Compassion to honour those who have died. This past year we paid particular homage to the choir members who died having served God in music.
- ◆ **Revive the ministry of Servers** – a special word of gratitude to Pumi Miti, whose dedication saw the training of new servers. I pray for the success of this fledgling ministry as more young people join in this sanctuary ministry.
- ◆ **Discern and train more Parish Ministers** - a few more Parish Ministers have been added to the group in order to assist clergy in the liturgical, sacramental and pastoral life of the church. I wish all those newer members, God's sustaining strength as they grow in confidence in serving God's people.
- ◆ **Organize a 70th Celebration Committee** which managed to organize a stunning Patronal Worship Service where our Bishop was present to offer episcopal pastoral oversight. We look forward to this year's celebration of marking 70 years of active ministry since the establishment of the Parish of St Michael.

Sustaining a **vibrant, inclusive and growing church community** requires innovation and communal participation. Each one of us can help and support the other. The church needs the fruits of both sustaining and innovative leadership, and neither can replace the other or be practiced to the exclusion of the other if a church is to enhance ministry in a productive way.

I am still invigorated by Tod Bolsinger's book titled '*Tempered Resilience*' where he says: "*The key to resilience is trying really hard, then stopping, recovering, and then trying again.*" This is what a vestry meeting affords us.

## **A Word of Thanks**

As I write this report, already in another Diocese, another Parish, I would like to thank you, parishioners, for the support you afforded me as rector of the Parish and the clergy, Revd's Sharmain, Matthew, Margaret and Alison, for their immense support of me – each in their own gifted way. My thanks too, to the church lay leaders, the wardens and the Parish Council for your counsel and companionship. The administrative staff are what keep the wheels of St Michael's turning and ensure that parishioners remain connected to ministry provision. Thank you for enabling the ministry of clergy in this parish. As I said during our farewell, I leave a part of myself with you as I also carry you in my heart even as I go and minister elsewhere. I know that a priest of the calibre of Revd Dave Edwards will bring his wise and spiritual leadership to bear as he shepherds you during this transitional period in the life of the Parish. The portfolio leaders shall share more about their various activities in service of God and God's people.

Finally, I always want to conclude by honouring our brothers and sisters, who have gone before us and to thank God for their lives of service to this church and the community at large. May God embrace the bereaved with love and compassion.

# *Interim Priest-in-Charge's Report*

Revd David Edwards

Normally at a Vestry meeting the incumbent reports on the events of the year under review and presents his or her vision for the future. Given that I made absolutely no contribution to this parish's achievements in 2022. I can only comment that the parish is clearly in excellent shape and has recovered very well from the COVID epidemic. Well done to Father Moses and the retiring wardens and parish council.

Given that my tenure here will necessarily be short, and the church is running so well, I hesitate to change anything. The church is in a strong financial position, with good attendances at Sunday and week day services, and with effective outreach.

My function, as I see it, will be to provide leadership to the clergy team and staff and to the new council. Together we will try to grow as a Christian community.

Bridget and I feel very welcome at St Michael's. Thank you for the way in which you have embraced us. I pray that together we will move forward in building the Kingdom of God in this place.

St Michael's is in a strong position and has much to offer. It seems imperative to me that a new Rector - someone able to build on the strengths that are already here – should be found as soon as possible. I trust that you will join me in praying regularly for this.

May the Lord continue to bless all of you, and the ministry of St Michael's, Bryanston in the year ahead.





# PORTFOLIO REPORTS

## Communication

Vuyo Yekela

### *Objective*

*Building and managing channels of communication for effective dissemination of information about the life of the church.*

Due to a number of reasons, there was no formalisation of the communications portfolio. Nevertheless communication to the parish and the wider community has continued through the parish office.

- ◆ Sunday services are available each week on our website, Youtube and Facebook channels. This is a 30-40 minute service with hymns and a sermon. The liturgy for this service is also available weekly on the website. For those not wanting to watch a full service, the sermon is published in video and a printable version. These remain on the website for the full week.
- ◆ Daily Midday prayers were also available of all the platforms. The Wednesday healing service resumed in 2022 but due to no one attending it was decided that in 2023 the midday prayers would stop and a short healing service would replace these. This has proved popular with approx. 100 views on a weekly basis.
- ◆ Daily readings and the devotions from Sacred Space are published on the website and Facebook.
- ◆ Weekly letter from the clergy is sent out, via mailchimp, to about 1000 people. This is also published on the website and on Facebook. Links to the pew leaflet as well as the previous weeks sermon (video and PDF) are part of this letter.
- ◆ Weekly pew leaflet is available on the website and printed copies for those who are unable to have access to the online versions.
- ◆ The advent course “Living well through Advent” was recorded and available daily on all the platforms. Printed copies were available for the those unable to access it online.
- ◆ Clergy continue to run the morning prayer on a Wednesday and Thursday via Zoom with the link available on the website.
- ◆ Parish events are published on the website.
- ◆ Special events are published in the weekly letter, pew leaflet, website and Facebook.

## Discipleship

Linda Chipunza

### *Objective*

*Fostering the fellowship and community within the parish of St Michael's and the surrounding areas.*

St Michael's Discipleship Portfolio is driven by intentional Kingdom Building to allow the love of Christ to be known and felt through our activities. The discipleship committee focuses on reaching out to parishioners and members of the community and to extend a warm welcome to all who visit us. Its other focus is having talks or outings to places of interest that will bring people of different ages and cultures together for a time of fellowship outside of the church environment. The discipleship portfolio also oversees the small groups.

This past year, the committee engaged in a number of activities as follows;

- ◆ Organized a meet and greet tea at which the leaders of the various committee portfolios explained what they do and how they see their portfolios working together going forward. This also provided an opportunity for all to showcase their different strategies

- ◆ In the process of getting permission from the City Council to place signs pointing to the church along Main, Mount and Bryanston roads. This should improve the visibility of the church.
- ◆ Working together with the Maintenance committee which is investigating the possibility to place neon lights at the corner of Bryanston and Mount.
- ◆ We had planned for a visit to a flower garden on a Saturday morning but this was overtaken by the Grief Share sessions and training as these were also held every Saturday morning for 13 weeks. This trip has been postponed to springtime when gardens are at their best.
- ◆ The Covid 19 pandemic put a damper on most activities and the committee is looking to a reawakening of all church activities through all small group activities

#### Plans for 2023

- ◆ Work together with the hospitality committee to organize Shrove Tuesday and are happy to report that a number of small groups will contribute to the pancakes, the ever popular magwinya and the tasty fillings and desserts.
- ◆ The committee hopes to meet in March and select specific projects for 2023. The projects will be drawn from the committee's strategy.
- ◆ The committee is desperately looking to recruiting 2/3 other younger members to help with the organization of events.

## Fundraising

Solly Mboweni

#### *Overall objective*

*Fundraising to supplement parishioner's income and assist Exco with investments if necessary.*

#### **Activities in 2022**

Two major fund-raising events were held and both raised more than budgeted.

Loyiso Majija spearheaded the harvest/thanksgiving appeal in October, and thanks to the generosity of the parishioners we were able to raise R113 820 (R33 820 over budget)

In November we had another golf day, which was held at the Houghton Golf Club. Unfortunately, we were rained out. We are going to receive vouchers from that Golf Club that we can offer to those who want to go and play at their own time. We managed to Raise approximately R67 700 which was R12 000 short of the budget. We are grateful to all the organisations who supported the day financially and as players.

#### **Plans for 2023**

We will continue with the two major fund-raising events. The committee will decide if there will be further events.

## Growing In Faith Together

Richard Mhango

#### *Objective*

*To promote spiritual growth to ensure a deepening relationship between parishioners and God.*

The portfolio has not been active in events during 2022 but relied on the clergy planning and running the Pre-Lent and Pre-Advent quiet days, as well as the 2022 Lent course - Baggage and Treasures.

The Lent course was run on Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings in person and online on Fridays at 12:30. Unfortunately attendance on the Wednesday evening and Thursday morning decreased each week. Thursday. It was evident, from regular numbers, that the Friday online was well received.

The Clergy were instrumental in our first Advent course - Living well through Advent. This was a short video speaking into Simplicity and Balance, Simplicity and Letting go, Simplicity and Joy, Simplicity and Faith with short reflections after each video.

The clergy have once again planned the 2023 Pre-Lent Quiet day and Lent course with a theme of Submitting to God. Due to the popularity of the online course last year there will be 3 online groups and two in person groups during the day.

Thanks to the clergy for their involvement.

## *Hospitality*

Sizakele Ngwenya

### **Objective:**

*To provide a welcoming environment for the Church's Visitors, Parishioners and Church Events.*

### **Hospitality Activities**

#### **Funeral Teas:**

The Funeral Teas are running well with an efficient system in place.

#### **Sunday Tea Serving Teams:**

Tea Serving Team Leaders reported that whilst all is going well, a need for more volunteers should be encouraged because in some weeks, Tea Teams run short of helping hands.

#### **Major Events:**

**Patronal Festival 2 October 2022.** This was catered as a "bring and share" and there was more than sufficient food provided for both the breakfast and the lunch, thanks to the generosity of the parishioners. The committee felt that the warming and serving of the dishes for the lunch was a bit cumbersome and difficult to manage.

**Thabethe Farewell 22 January 2023.** The main food theme was Bring 'n Share with a flare of the main warm meal being cooked by the Church Events Hospitality Group at the Church Kitchen facility. The church provided money to purchase the meat and parishioners dropped off their donations towards cooking at Church. Everything was received in time to prepare for cutting and peeling a day before cooking. They also donated the bulk of drinks, cakes and dessert which they brought on the day of the function. There was enough supply of everything, thanks to everyone's generosity.

## *Maintenance*

Merlyn Adams

### **Objective**

*To assist the churchwardens in their duty of maintaining the property*

Work carried out in 2022

During the year there was ongoing maintenance to keep the building and grounds in good condition. There were a few major repairs that were done.

- ◆ The church carpet was replaced
- ◆ Some of the trusses on the Bolton block were repaired
- ◆ A gate motor was replaced
- ◆ Burst geyser was replaced and claimed through the insurance.

2023 Activities

#### 1. Bolton Office Block Roof

- ◆ Architect has been appointed to start with measuring up of the Bolton block buildings

- ◆ Once completed , new set of building plans to be produced
  - ◆ Plans to be submitted to Heritage Foundation and City of Johannesburg Council for approval
  - ◆ Prepare tender documents for appointment of contractor
  - ◆ Obtain three quotations
  - ◆ Select preferred contractor
  - ◆ Present findings and recommendations to Council for approval.
  - ◆ Commencement of construction to be schedule towards end May 2023
2. Essential Power Supply to Church and Admin office
    - ◆ Investigate various options of alternative power supply to address power outages
    - ◆ Energy audit to determine essential load requirements underway
    - ◆ Decide on size of the system to provide power back up support during load shedding.
    - ◆ Obtain thee quotations
    - ◆ Findings and recommendations to be presented to council for approval
  3. Additional Audio Visual Equipment to cover overflow during Church Services
    - ◆ Investigation of various system have been completed
    - ◆ Three quotations received
    - ◆ Findings and recommendations to be made to council for approval.
  4. Painting of Palisade Fence
    - ◆ Request for quotations in progress
  5. Verification /Certification of Fire Fighting Equipment and LPG Installation
    - ◆ All fire fighting equipment and LPG installation to be tested and certified
    - ◆ Process under way to have all equipment certified by end February

## *Pastoral Care*

Shirley Duma

### ***Objective***

*To minister to people who are facing challenges in their lives, emotional, physical or spiritual, and who seek help.*

Portfolio members provide pastoral care through several ministries, including:

- ◆ Anglicare counselling on request, including marriage preparation/enrich;
- ◆ bereavement support;
- ◆ communion visits to homebound parishioners and residents at retirement villages; and
- ◆ the Christ Healing Fellowship and Intercessors who pray for people in need.

The portfolio members include Nomtuse Mbere, Joan Griebenow, Peggy Manganyi, Louise Robertson, Shirley Duma, Pamela Adams (who joined the team in January 2023) and Sam Hermanus, the Pastoral Care Coordinator at St Michael's. We thank Sandra Delaney, Jean Fraser and Eunice Munzara for their assistance in previous years, and remember with gratitude Clare Dolbey for her life, bereavement ministry and service to the broader St Michael's community.

### **Pastoral Care Ministries and Key Contributions**

In the past year, the Pastoral Care portfolio made significant contributions to the life of the church and community in service to God's people. This includes:

- ◆ offering the GriefShare course;
- ◆ resuming services at the San Sereno Retirement Village;
- ◆ championing the return of the Welcome Table on Sundays; and

- ◆ reaching over 150 parishioners, families and community members through the ministries listed above.

These contributions were made possible through the dedication and commitment of the portfolio members. It was helpful to have the covid restrictions lifted as this had paused some of the portfolio's activities such as communion visits and disrupted in-person counselling and gatherings. Following is a brief report on each of the Pastoral Care ministries.

**Anglicare Counselling:** Joan Griebenow

A 13-week GriefShare course (facilitated grief support group) was offered at the church from 3 September to 19 November 2022. It was well-attended by 32 participants, including St Michael's parishioners and members of other churches and faiths. Several participants supported the course as small group facilitators. The course received strong positive feedback with participants describing it as helpful, informative, uplifting and comforting.

Pastoral Care would like to thank the Parish Council, clergy and parish office staff for their support through participating in several sessions and announcing the course during church services and in the pew leaflet, posters, flyers and website. Anglicare is exploring offering another GriefShare course to continue supporting the bereaved and encourage men who are grieving to participate.

Additionally, two Anglicare counsellors supported nine couples who participated in a 5-week marriage preparation course. The Anglicare counsellors also provide this ministry at other parishes. Individual counselling was provided to 25 people on request and the need for this support continues to grow.

In November 2022, Anglicare celebrated 40 years of service which continues to be offered at various parishes in the Diocese. St Michael's started with 10 trained Anglicare counsellors several years ago and currently has five active members whose availability has become stretched and limited. There is a great need to increase the number of trained Anglicare counsellors to meet the needs of our parish community. Pastoral Care has reached out to several parishioners who have expressed an interest in Anglicare and/or have a background in the helping professions. We are pleased to have three parishioners have agreed to be trained, and we encourage other interested parishioners to contact Joan Griebenow for more information.

**Bereavement Support:** Peggy Manganyi

In the past year, 21 support calls were made to recently bereaved families to find out how they are doing and offer support. The phone calls are made 6 weeks after the death of a loved one and again on the first-year anniversary. Anglicare and GriefShare information is shared with the with bereaved families to ensure they are aware of these resources, and to refer them to the relevant support when necessary. Much appreciation is expressed by the contacted families for the support calls and the church's concern for their welfare during their grief.

**Communion Visits to Retirement Villages and the Homebound:** Louise Robertson

Pastoral Care continues to work with several retirement villages, including Douglasdale, Bryanston Village, The Lodge and San Sereno. Monthly visits to parishioners who reside at these villages are conducted by portfolio members/parishioners. As of December 2022, visits to Riverside Manor were handed over to St Stephen's Anglican Church, Sunninghill. This was a positive development because St Stephen's and Riverside Manor are both located in Sunninghill. A significant achievement was made in resuming services at the San Sereno Retirement Village following a long pause due to renovations and other internal changes. After much effort, the Community Manager agreed to resume services for residents on the last Wednesday of the month beginning in early 2023. A roster of three Parish Ministers has been established to conduct the visits and lead the monthly services.

Seven Parish Ministers regularly conduct visits to homebound parishioners and those who reside at the retirement villages listed above. The visits include Holy Communion services, prayers and Bible study. During the past year, more than 30 visits were made, during which Holy Communion was received 197 times by people who were visited (excluding visits by clergy). On average, about 10 residents participate in the services held at each of the retirement villages. Additional visits to homebound and bereaved parishioners are jointly made by members of the portfolio (Nomtuse Mbere, Peggy Manganyi, Sam Hermanus) and members of other church groups such as Mothers' Union, and the Choir.

**Intercessors and Christ Healing Fellowship:** Sam Hermanus

Intercessors and the Christ Healing Fellowship (CHF) share in the ministry of praying for people in need. There are 40 Intercessors whose ministry is coordinated through a monthly pack with a letter of prayer requests and meetings to discuss the prayer list and record updates.

There are six active CHF members whose work is also coordinated through the Intercessors ministry. CHF members are provided with a list of prayer requests and would normally meet on Wednesdays and join the Wednesday evening

healing service to pray for parishioners attending the service. Unfortunately, the CHF meetings were disrupted by covid restrictions and changes in some members' lives resulting in fewer active members and changes in the meeting schedule. The CHF is exploring approaches to revitalise its ministry, increase membership, and adapt to changes such as the new online format of the Wednesday evening healing service. Parishioners who are interested in joining the CHF are encouraged to contact Sam Hermanus for more information.

### **Conclusion**

With thanks to the active commitment of portfolio members, and support from the Parish Council, clergy and parish office, the Pastoral Care portfolio is pleased to be achieving its core purpose of ministering to people who are facing emotional, physical, or spiritual challenges/needs in their lives and seek support. We thank the Parish Council and Parish Ministers for their support in resuming the Welcome Table on Sundays and are pleased to see high activity at the table from the growing numbers of newcomers, visitors and parishioners seeking information about St Michael's.

There is a great and increasing need to minister to people who are facing challenges in their lives, especially during these difficult times. The Pastoral Care portfolio is thankful for our new portfolio member and the parishioners who have agreed to be trained as Anglicare counsellors. We also appeal to other parishioners to join us in this special and fulfilling ministry so that we can sustain the support we provide to God's beloved people.

We look forward to fulfilling our planned activities, including the proposed offer of another GriefShare course, promoting Pastoral Care through opportunities in the church and community, and working with other portfolios to fulfil the vision of St Michael's.

*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.  
Psalm 46: 1*

## *Social Responsibility*

Zanele Bacela, Azande Ntshangase

### **Objective**

*To manages the selection of projects to support, budget allocation and regular liaison with the projects, and meeting regularly together with all the stakeholders.*

### **ALEXANDRA EDUCATION COMMITTEE (AEC)**

It is generally accepted that quality education is the only way to break the cycle of poverty, inequality and unemployment. The AEC is in its 26th year of pursuing this objective for the disadvantaged high school pupils in and around Alexandra.

We currently have 249 sponsored high school students, a significant increase in pupil numbers, compared to 2021, thanks to some extra funding. We now have children at 30 partner schools! We have found a need to place our students at quality and well-resourced schools where the class numbers are relatively small and there is good array of extra-mural/sporting activities.

For the first time, we have started a grade 6 programme to run from the start of the year to operate in tandem with the grade 7 programme. There are currently 45 pupils from the overcrowded schools in Alexandra on this programme. In total, we have 177 grade 6 and 7 pupils attending the primary school Saturday School programme.

Together with securing funding, appropriate selection of students is our most important responsibility. The process of selection, which is complex at the best of times, has been made more difficult by the lack of schooling in the lockdown period. The township schools, from which we select our students, were particularly badly affected.

There are 4 types of selection:

- ◆ Grade 8 high school students – largely from the existing grade 7 Saturday School programme
- ◆ Other high school students as required by sponsors – after testing
- ◆ Grade 7 Saturday School participants – following recommendations by the primary schools and aptitude testing.
- ◆ Grade 6 Saturday School participants – through recommendation of the schools in Alexandra.

To meet these criteria, staff work with our partner schools, encourage suitable candidates to apply for our primary school programmes, test them, and then interview them ahead of final acceptance. This is a lengthy process which culminates in the awarding of bursaries and matching the new students to schools and sponsors.

The process of choosing the right courses/degrees and registering for tertiary institutions is a difficult one for grade 11s and 12s. We have traditionally helped this process with vocational testing and individual assistance. This includes advice on possible bursaries to apply for, and payment for the National Benchmarking Tests and one application fee.

An exciting development this year, kind courtesy of Telkom, was the introduction of the Gradesmatch Bridge service. Gradesmatch manages the tertiary process for matrics which, based on the individual's report and points, offers recommendations for study options and institutions (not necessarily considered by the matric) as well as a wide of bursaries available; these are then proposed and managed until final acceptance. Moreover, Gradesmatch (once again courtesy of Telkom) pays for 3 application fees in addition to the one paid for by the AEC.

Our students are currently all fully funded. Our projects are adequately funded as well. Telkom have renewed their support, at just over R1m, for the students' Saturday School academic programme, while FEM have contributed R650 000 towards the grade 6 and 7 Saturday School programme. Teacher workshops, which have been held in person and online, are also largely funded by FEM.

The above paints a fairly rosy picture of robust finances. However, we also need to factor in the increased expenses that come with moving students into the more expensive schools referred to above. To that we need to add the increasing need for devices and data and the escalating costs of taxi fares as fuel hikes continue unabated. The amount we invoice sponsors for, R45 000 (2022), doesn't always cover the individual student's actual costs, let alone a 10% admin fee. There is, therefore, concern that, as senior students leave and we place more children at private schools, these tight margins will be exacerbated unless we increase our fees in line with the increased costs.

We are delighted to share with you the following 2022 matric results and commend the matrics for overcoming the ghastly Covid-related circumstances of a large part of their high school years. We achieved a 100% pass rate in the IEB and NSC matric exams. Unbelievably, for the first time, every single student achieved a university entrance (Bachelors Diploma).

We thank all the friends of the AEC for your support in making this happen.

*Paul Channon - Director of AEC*

## **DOLPHINS ACRE**

Dolphins Acre is home to 44 residents. Our entrance criteria are Schizophrenia, bi-polar mood disorder, major depressive disorder. There are only 2 facilities in the country that take the intellectually disabled who also have severe psychiatric disability as it is just too difficult to care for them. Only 11 of our residents have families.

There 22 residents with intellectual disability plus severe chronic psychiatric disability as well as having co-morbidities such as epilepsy, high BP, diabetes. Twelve previously "normal" people who through no fault of their own developed severe psychiatric disabilities and 10 are Psych-Geriatric residents. These are old folk who have severe psychiatric disability and some of them also have physical disability and dementia.

There are 15 staff member who care for the residents in various ways. 36 of the residents need to be bathed and shaved daily and 25 need to have their bedding washed daily. Checking to see that the residents are wearing sun hats and are not either over dressed or under dressed.

Activities for the residents included

- ◆ daily crafts,
  - ◆ a daily 45-minute walk,
  - ◆ daily strength training for our older folk and exercises for everyone.
  - ◆ a daily prayer groups
  - ◆ a church service every Thursday morning via you tube
  - ◆ a "party" every Sunday afternoon where they are given 4 squares of chocolate and 6 crisps.
- The residents also all work in the kitchen, help with the cleaning and chopping of vegetables.

Challenges that we face are:

- ◆ Load shedding - the cost of running our generators - we must have power to run the nebulizers and oxygen generator.
- ◆ Increased cost of medicine and generics are not a viable option when dealing with epilepsy and schizophrenia.
- ◆ Staff have taken cuts in salary to enable the residents to get the care they need.
- ◆ Outing have not been possible due funds being unavailable

We are blessed to have the support of 4 donors who in total donate R15 100 per month to the Home and thank you, St Michaels, most kindly for your support, it has made a difference and is deeply appreciated, especially in these very trying times for everyone in South Africa and the world in general.

*Louise Gillespie - C.E.O.*

## **GOOD SHEPHERD - STREET CHILDREN**

The Good Shepherd continued their ministry at the beginning of 2022 at the St Aidan's Anglican Church, Yeoville. Reverend Zanele Mtshali-Ngunda took us on a tour of the beautiful church premises and garden and everyone was thrilled with our new base to conduct the soup kitchen and from where hopefully we would operate for many years to come. After the first few months the numbers of attendees increased from 80 to 150 people. There were many more women and children than ever before - in the previous 14 years the majority of attendees had been men. Controls had to be put in place, re bathroom cleanliness, gardens being ruined and general behaviour while in the church grounds. Over time, the people attending came from the surrounding flats, and the street people stopped coming. By the end of the year, only 3 people from previous times remained.

During 2022 there were many challenges:

- ◆ Our cook, Max, our long time cook had to take over as bread winner for his family after the brutal murder of his brother. There was a succession of cooks that never worked out. Eventually Max came back.
- ◆ All the helpers were replaced over time.
- ◆ Clement faithfully continued pastoring to the people coming to St Aidan's every Friday, even though it was a long and costly journey from Krugersdorp.
- ◆ Food prices were climbing and the costs to run the Good Shepherd began rising rapidly.
- ◆ Lukanyo increased the weekly stipends to all the helpers working weekly at the soup kitchen.
- ◆ Most of our big financial donors ceased their donations and no fund raising was done for many years.
- ◆ Lukanyo resigned as chairman towards the end of the year.

Despite the challenges the volunteers all pooled their efforts together well, keeping to Sara's well-constructed roster. Two volunteers were on duty each week. Lynn Gibson continued our relationship with the two Spars in Olivedale and Polofield and we were able to collect the 'past their sell by date' food from both Spars. The volunteers would then meet at St. Michaels church to sort out the food, which was distributed between New Life for Girls and Good Shepherd.

Volunteers kindly and generously continued making sandwiches which were always distributed at the soup kitchen to the hungry people. A new person was recruited to help collect the donations from the Polofield Spar.

As agreed at the last extraordinary general meeting held in January 2023, the committee of the Good Shepherd believe that the Soup Kitchen in Yeoville should be closed and the remaining funds and operations should be re-purposed for the changing times. Azande kindly organised transport for us to remove our fridges, cupboards and other equipment from the kitchen at St. Aidans and deliver them as a donation to Witkoppen Clinic. We will continue with food collections and delivery to New Life for Girls. The sandwiches will continue to be made and will be given to the Witkoppen Clinic.

A further meeting will be held to finalise our way forward.

*Chris Hervey - Secretary*



## **NEW LIFE CENTRE FOR GIRLS**

Currently we have 18 girls at the house and one mother with three children, who were subjected to gender based violence. Two of our girls wrote matric in 2022.

We are still waiting for the Department of Social Development to register us. This has been a long slow process but our perseverance has paid off as in December the DSD social workers and supervisor visited us and were happy that we had fulfilled all the necessary criteria. They will continue to monitor us with spot checks and a conditional registration should be granted in January 2023.

Financial donation helped us with

- ◆ stipends for the year.
- ◆ rent for a year which enabled us to sign a 5 year lease.
- ◆ security cameras and alarm system
- ◆ a new stove

The generosity of St Michaels supplying food each month has ensured that the girls never lack food, which is greatly appreciated.

Plans for 2023 include

- ◆ a poultry proposal as an income generation project - chickens and eggs.
- ◆ start a vegetable garden.
- ◆ get an electric fence
- ◆ improve security with burglar bars on windows and door.
- ◆ replace the washing machine

***Khopotso Nakin - Director***

## **WITKOPPEN CLINIC**

### **Introduction**

Witkoppen Clinic (Witkoppen), now in its 77th year, is the only clinic in the City of Johannesburg that offers one-stop, holistic patient-centric medical care including comprehensive social services to address the social determinants of health.

### **Social Services Department**

As part of our bouquet of services, Witkoppen has a Social Services Department that works in conjunction with our medical services to ensure patients are treated in a professional and holistic manner. We have the following programmes in our Social Services Department:

#### **Child and Family Care (CFC) Programme:**

Our Child and Family Care (CFC) Programme provides children in our area with care and assistance, protects their rights, and assists parents and caregivers with their responsibilities. Social workers counsel families, couples, and individuals. They provide intensive family support and preventative family strengthening services. We provide home visits, crisis intervention and family preservation. This includes skills development, parenting skills, support groups, and intensive support for problematic families to prevent the removal of children from them wherever possible. Witkoppen also assists with recruiting and training new foster parents.

Under the CFC Programme, the Witkoppen team placed 18 children in foster care during the reporting period. Additionally, we found Places of Safety for 6 children (5 of the children were abandoned and the remaining child was a case of neglect). Currently, we have a caseload of 152 children consisting of foster care cases, court cases and Place of Safety cases.

#### **Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Programme:**

Our Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Programme provides services to OVCs who are identified by field workers in the following informal settlements: Diepsloot Extension 12 and 13, Lion Park and Msawawa. Most of these children's caregivers are affected or infected by HIV and AIDS. The children are supported through 'kids' activity groups, skills development, food security, and empowerment of their caregivers. As such, we provide economic and psychosocial support, poverty alleviations measures such as the distribution of food parcels and strengthen the capacity of parents and caregivers to care for OVCs. Witkoppen's OVC Programme provides psychosocial services to 480 families which includes 814 children.

## **Conclusion**

Witkopen would like to take this opportunity to thank St Michael's for the support throughout 2022 and previously. We truly value this relationship and look forward to it going from strength to strength. Thanks to the kind donations from St Michael's Church, we have been able to provide food parcels to many patients who desperately needed it! Witkopen aims to be the best and as such, we wish to make a difference in as many lives as possible. It is only through the support of donors like St Michael's Church that we can do so.

## **ZEVENFONTEIN / COSMO CITY**

Zevenfontein Education Fund (ZEF) sponsor children in Cosmo City with stationery, school uniforms, school trips, homework sessions and food. The children need to hand in a school report each term, to the social worker, if this criteria is not met the sponsorship will cease the following year.

We really do struggle financially and this year we have lost a couple of sponsors and still need to pay our Social Worker, Mmantime as without her aid we would be in a difficult situation as we do need someone hands on in Cosmos. She is also instrumental in assisting the families to get Identity Documents for the children so that they can attend school.

In 2022 St Michael's donations assisted in getting documentation for one of the children, uniforms and school trips for two children and food cards for four children.

*Nikki Leslie - Administration Manager*

In addition to assisting ZEF, St Michael's supports 17 families with food parcels each month. These are delivered to All Saints, Fourways and given to the families in Cosmo City.

*Youth*  
Tebogo Motlhamme

### **Overall Objective:**

*To encourage young people to learn, engage and get excited about God. To encourage them to become ambassadors of Christ and spread the gospel amongst their peers.*

*"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up, do you not perceive it?" Isaiah 43:19*

It is not difficult to perceive that God is doing a new thing in St Michael's children and youth ministries. This is evidenced by the recent growth in leadership and the return to church of many of our children and young people. This is very encouraging and augurs well for our collective ministries. In 2022, a concerted effort was made to return to normal worship after the disruption of the Covid-19 pandemic. Consequently, several youth portfolio meetings were held, and these involved both junior church and teen church leaders as well as clergy. The main aim of these meetings was to reflect on our strengths and weaknesses and discuss ways in which our ministry to the children and youth could be improved.

One of the decisions of these meetings was to hold a series of Conversations with our young people and other interested members of our congregation. The first of these conversations which was well attended focused on questions about God, while the second dealt with questions about creation and evolution. It is hoped that opportunities for more conversations of this nature will be provided this year.

## **Junior Church Activities for 2022 - Jeanette La Fleur**

### **Admission to Communion**

The 6-weeks admission to communion course resumed in March 2022 after a one year break due to the pandemic. On Saturday 28th May, twelve children received their first holy communion after which there was a special tea for them, their families and other guests.

### **Family Services**

2022 marked the 60th anniversary of St Michael's youth and hence, a special youth Sunday service was held on the 19th June. The service was well attended, and it was heart-warming to hear the marimbas being played again and the children singing in church. Due to the initiative and commitment of some of our young people, marimbas were again played at the Advent Family service on Sunday 4th December. We were blessed to have the Junior church children perform a nativity skit with assistance from teen church members.

### **August Holiday activity**

Fellowship, Fun, Food was the theme for activities which took place on two Sundays during our usual August break. Children engaged in games and fun craft activities which focused on The Creation.

### **Plans for 2023**

The 6-week Admission to Communion course has already commenced and the service of admission is due to be held on the 19th March. We are eagerly looking forward to participating in St Michael's 70th anniversary celebrations and particularly the youth celebrations which are scheduled for the 11th June.

### **Teen Church - Richard Mhango**

Teen church takes place during the 10 am service. The purpose is to create a space where young people can grow their spiritually and fellowship with like-minded individuals. We attempt to create an environment where the youth of the church feel comfortable to authentically engage in topics that they encounter in their everyday lives that matter to them and guide them to see God as their strength and refuge.

There has been an increase in youth attendance and participation in teen church and we look forward to guiding them in their spiritual journey.

### **Word of thanks**

We take this opportunity to thank the Junior and Teen church leaders who contribute to this vibrant and growing ministry.