

The Wind Call

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN AND AROUND CAPE TOWN:
MAY – JULY 2021

The Vine

One of the most empowering pictures in the Gospel is that of the vine in John 15. Especially in these times when there is such a massive and overt effort to undermine the integrity of the individual – this picture of the vine can give us great inner courage to live a fruitful life and really make a difference in our own local circle of influence.

What does it mean to live a fruitful life? Our whole task as a human being is to play a role in transforming ourselves, the society around us and the earth itself from its fallen state into a more whole and healed state of being. “Fallen” in this context means disconnected from its primal spiritual origins and spiritual content. The healing process is therefore one of reuniting – which is why at the root of all healing processes is the mysterious world of relationship. Our task as fruitful human beings is therefore to create living relationships with our own bodies and with everything that surrounds us – the natural world, the social world and the spiritual world.



A living relationship in this sense is one in which there is something living in between the two parties which nourishes both. I cannot bring this about without changing how I am within myself. This change includes embodying a deep interest and respect for the other; the need to be in a space which is able to give and not only receive; the need to be totally accepting of what is and at the same encouraging of what wants to develop and grow. In short, I need to practice real love – and here I find that I have a huge deficit of capacity. I simply cannot do this out of a big and willing heart. I am far too small for the task especially when I don't like the one that I must now love!

It is when I come to realize this that the picture of the vine becomes such a wonderful orientation for my everyday life. In the picture that Christ gives of the vine, I am not the vine itself, nor am I the gardener or the fruit. I am a humble branch which unless it is connected to the vine and thereby allows the sap of the vine to flow through it, is totally unable to fulfil its task of bringing any fruit into existence. It is in effect useless to the gardener and so is cut off and burned.

Christ is the vine – and the sap that flows through his being is the creative stream of cosmic love which brought everything that we see into existence. It is the stream from which we became more and more separated through the effects of the fall and to which we need to re-connect if healing is to take place. When I see my role in life as a branch which can willfully allow this flow to take place, then my own smallness becomes irrelevant. What flows through me is the most powerful thing that exists and so anything becomes possible.

My most important task becomes staying connected to the vine of Christ in my thinking and in my feeling. He then can unite with my will and so becomes the content of what weaves between me and everything else as a healing impulse and which brings about the fruitfulness of my life.

In this state of connectedness there is no space or need for fear.

Richard Goodall

Whitsun Festival

I am very happy to be able to tell you that there is now a new enthusiastic festival group led by Anreas van Breda who will be preparing a Whitsun festival for the children. The festival will take place on Whitsun Sunday afternoon the 23rd of May at 16:00 in the church.

We still have to be aware of the fact that we are not permitted to allow more than 50 people into the church building at a time and therefore it may be best that only children and their parents attend the festival. Others who come must be prepared to be refused entry if the maximum number of people is already reached. We ask for your understanding in this regard.

Faye Huxham

Our condolences go out to the Huxham family for the sad passing of Faye on 22nd April. Faye was only 42 years old and had been suffering from leukemia for some time. She received the anointing in full consciousness at her own request. The particular circumstances around her death necessitated the holding of a private funeral for her which I held with only her brother Matthew present. We wish the whole family much strength in this difficult time.

Thanks

A very big thank you once again to the whole Feiter family for purchasing and bottling our grape juice for the coming year as a contribution to the church. Much appreciated!

Class 1 children for the children's service

Please note that the preparation for the children's service for the class 1 children and their parents will take place on Saturday 8th May at 10:00 in the children's room at church. Please spread the word about this around to anyone who you think would like their children to attend.

The Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place at 11:30 on Sunday 30th May.

Please make a point of trying to attend this important event in the life of our community.

Whitsun. Stirring of preparation 500

This year you are all invited to the Dobson's house at 16 Willow Road Constantia for a 'bring and share' garden lunch and stirring of the 500 preparation after the Whitsun Sunday service.

Any music offerings to accompany the process are most welcome.

Bring empty bottles so that you can take some of the preparation back home to spray on your garden. It would be great if a number of people could come back to the church property to help spray the church grounds.

Confirmation for 2022

A meeting is planned for those parents who would like their children to be confirmed next year on Wednesday evening 9th June at the church at 19:30.

Please pass this information on to anyone who you think may be interested.

It would be great to have a large group on this the centenary year of the founding of the Christian Community.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the intrepid group of crafters and doll makers led by Heike Prinz who have already sold over R2000 worth of their dolls this year towards the church coffers.... Also to Sabina Mossolow and Christina Goodall who prepared and bottled all of the delicious olives on sale in the church foyer which were donated by Sabina and came from her own property....

Also to Julia O'Leary for selling a number of Ray Lacey's books on the meditations and visions of Anne Catherine Emmerich and thereby raising a few hundred Rands worth of funds for the church.

A big thank you to all of you!

All of these wonderful efforts help to make up for what we lost by not being able to have a fair last year.

More thanks

Thanks to a donation from John Penfold's estate we now have lovely new curtains in the Children's room.

A big thank you must also go to Richard for buying paint and painting the Children's room.

Flowers for the Church

Last but not least. Please can we have donations and help with the flowers.

Please contact Hanna Hack if you can help.

Email : hannahack@gmail.com

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