



The Wind Call

The Christian Community in and around

Cape Town: February – April 2020

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Good wine for the future.

As we, as a movement for religious renewal, enter into a new year, a new decade and approach one hundred years of our existence, we may well ask ourselves what is it that needs to be renewed in the decade and century ahead. Continuity of movement and change suggests continuous creative activity by all involved – each and every one of us. Out of what source do I draw inspiration for this ongoing newness?

Perhaps the story of the marriage at Cana can point us in the right direction. St John refers to Christ's deed of changing the water into wine as the first of his signs. We are quite familiar with signs. We have road signs, hand signs, first signs of the onset of illness and we talk about the sign of the times. These signs all point to an underlying reality but are not the reality themselves. They simply indicate the existence of these realities to us and we understand what they are telling us.

Christ's deed at the wedding at Cana was possibly the most significant of all signs. It indicated that a new reality had come into existence in the world which was to usher in a completely new direction for human development. As Christ's first sign, it also indicated the essence of what his whole ministry on the earth was to be about.

The scene is a wedding – a ritual for the uniting of the masculine and the feminine principles in the human being and for the striving to overcome, to a degree, the one-sidedness of the male or female constitution in the couple. This unifying needs great strength of self. Ever since the time of Noah, the strengthening of self was achieved with the help of wine. Noah's first task when he emerged from the ark was to plant vines and to teach people how to make and drink wine so that they would gradually come to a sense of self and not simply be an extension of the divine.

By the time of Christ wine no longer had the same beneficial effect as in earlier times. The "wine effect" had faded away and so Jesus' mother was stating a fact when she said that they have no more wine. A completely new source of strength was needed for the sense of self – now no longer from outside but from within. Christ himself was this new source of 'I' strength. When he let his power stream into the water it had a far greater "wine effect" than the old wine had - and so the master of the feast asked the groom why they had kept the good wine until last.

This sign of Christ indicated that the beneficial role of alcohol for the human being had come to an end and that the only way in which the 'I' could be strengthened throughout the whole future of mankind was through the power of the Logos which He had brought down into the stream of humanity's development. It also indicated that the whole stream of creative forces of the Godhead could only in future work through the portal of the human soul. Humanity would have to play an ever more central role in the bringing about of the future. However this would only be possible through the power of the 'new wine' – that is the power of Christ within the individual person's soul.

Everything in the future will rest on the ability of individuals to listen to the Christ within their soul and then to "do whatever He tells you" as his mother said to the servants at the wedding. This is our source of inspiration for the coming year, decade and century. It can only open itself to us when we turn to him in peace and not through fear and anxiety about the future and the state of the world.

What needs to be renewed above all else in our movement and in the world is the resolve to create, nurture and sustain an inner, personal and intimate relationship with Christ in which we learn to share and above all listen and then act.

Following on from the leading article and the question of what needs to be renewed in our time is the growing importance of the deed of reading for the souls of those who have died.

We must never lose sight of the fact that a huge resource of help lies within the possibilities of those souls who have died and who, during their lives, had a connection to the renewed sacraments and the impulse for religious renewal in the world and also to spiritual science.

This is of particular importance when we ask "who is going to step up to carry this impulse into the future?" This a very urgent question in our region and in our time and the souls of the dead will, out of their widened perspective of the situation in the world, have a deep appreciation of the importance of this question and a great desire to help in this regard.

This desire to help can only be fulfilled when we strengthen them with our reading for them and when we earnestly turn to them with our questions and challenges.

An understanding of the importance and potential which lies within the deed of reading for the dead is something which needs to be renewed.

We all can help to engage the participation and assistance of these souls in our own lives and in the life of our community and movement.

Richard Goodall.

Visiting Priest.

We had a visit from Rev. Frimut Husemann from Germany .He was in Cape Town from 21 November till 4 December. He delivered some very interesting talks. Our warmest thanks to him for all the many hours of work that he put into painting the chapel. We hope to have the chapel in service soon again.

Advent Garden.

We had a very successful Advent Garden on 30th November. Thank you to Estelle for the story and also to the group of helpers who set up and provided the refreshments . A big thank you to Michelle for being the Angel.

Richard's visit to Europe.

Richard Goodall visited Europe in early December and spent some time with his wife Christina in Switzerland. She sends greeting to the whole community. He participated in the Threshold Conference in Dornach where he delivered a lecture.

Hille Detta Sieckmann 1926 to 9 December 2019

Hille Sieckmann who was well known to most of the community passed away on 9 December 2019. Our condolences go out to her family and friends. Thank you very much to Barbara Herbert and her helpers for doing the beautiful flower arrangements for Hille's funeral on Saturday 21 December 2019.

Feedback about the Children's Camp 2019.

(We thank Kenau Bester for her feedback about the camp. It gives us a wonderful picture of the event and the experience that the children had.)

We are living in an age where reality is slowly disseminating into virtuality, and as such it is becoming increasingly difficult for children to unplug and disconnect from the digital world. The Children's Camp is an opportunity for children to escape the screens and stressors of daily life and embrace all that it is to be a child. The structure of the camp is one of mutual cooperation and community where children from an array of disparate cultural and economic backgrounds buy into a particular kind of social impulse created by the camp community.

Every day offers a unique set of activities within the parameters of a carefully structured program designed for the artistic, emotional and physical development of children ranging between the ages of 9-15. Daily activities included a block crafting session making kaleidoscopes, multi-coloured rubix cubes, terrariums made from plants, earth and moss harvested from the farm, clay structures built in the forest and circus activities. Afternoons were set aside for games and swimming where children were encouraged to work in teams which aims to foster an impulse of social cohesion- no one child can win unless the entire group does. This impulse is

carried over into all aspects of the camp. Mealtimes are an opportunity not only for children to replenish and enjoy the wonderful food prepared by the cooks, but also a time for connecting to one another through conversation. Evening meals are followed by hot chocolate and story time, where each evening a helper is tasked with telling a story, often of great adventure and journeys of growth and development. This aims to calm the children after a long day of physical exertion and laughter so that they are able to enter into their dream worlds with tired limbs and happy hearts.

The final evening of the camp is planned slightly differently for cabaret. Here each child is encouraged to showcase a particular skill they feel confident enough to share with the entire group. This year's program included a wonderful demonstration of circus skills learnt throughout the camp, an outstanding violin duet performed by Phoebe and Willow McIntosh, a piano recital by Gabriel Leedenberg, a show entitled "The Tallest Man" by Brodie Rijdsdijk and Milan van Eeden and much, much more.

After a week on the camp, there is a marked shift in the consciousness of the children as they disconnect from the outside world and embrace the joys of being a child.

The 2019 Christian Community Children's Camp marks my 7th year as a helper on this camp. I first became a helper in 2012 and have since not missed a camp. My experience of being a helper is slightly unique to the rest of the camp helpers as I was never a child on the camp and therefore have always experienced it from a somewhat more adult/ outsider's perspective. And yet, I suspect that may be the reason why I enjoy the camp so thoroughly; I see how valuable the camp is for the children who attend and it and how I might have benefitted from it had I had the opportunity to have gone at their age. Moreover, the 10 days I spend on the camp (the helpers go 2 days early to set up before the children arrive) allow for me to become part of a community which shares a common goal- to be in service of the children. Where every task, no matter how laborious it might be (i.e. leveling the washing up and kitchen tables or pegging down ropes on the soccer field), is worth the sweat and exhaustion because, even in the smallest and perhaps inane way, it serves the larger camp community. I thus find the experience of becoming a part of the camp community a special gift as it breaks with what I perceive to be a culture of the individual, and rather offers a space to buy into a healthy collective consciousness.

Kenau Bester, Camp Helper.

Thanks.

A very big thank you is due to Raphael of the Waco company who donates the use of their delivery truck to transport us to and from camp every year. This year they also provided us with the 90m of cable needed for our fridge. Also to family Sieckmann who allow us the run of their very special farm every year for the camp. All the children feel as part owners of the farm while we are there. This was Leza Sieckmann's last camp as cook as their family immigrated to Switzerland straight after the camp. Lastly thanks to all the cooks and helpers and especially Gabriela Antoine for running the camp so smoothly.

Richard.



Fun in the sun at the Children's Camp on Wildgarten Farm, Hermanus.



Thanks.

Thank you to Howard Dobson for obtaining our Christmas tree and thank you to both Barbara Herbert and Howard for decorating the tree.

A very big thank you to the McIntosh family for generously financing the purchase of the new fridge for the church children's camp. The cooks will love you forever as it changed their lives on camp!!!

Easter walk and Story.

As usual on Easter morning we will meet at the Rycroft Gate at Kirstenbosch half an hour before sunrise. Remember to bring some money in case they make us pay to get in. Also bring Easter eggs for your children and some tea and Easter bread to eat after the story in the gardens.

New Study Group.

We are hoping to start a new study group with the parents who bring their children to the Children's service. Others will of course be welcome to join. We envisage four to six week blocks of once a week meetings so that no one feels that they have to commit for a prolonged period of time. Interested people please contact Richard and then we can decide when best to meet and what to study.

Marilize King retires

After being the secretary of the Christian Community for 20 years, Marilize has retired. She is already saying that she does not know how she found the time to work! She is busy getting ready for the next phase of her life. We hope that she can pursue all the interests and activities and hobbies that she has not had time for while working for our community. She will also have lots more time now to spend with her young grandson. She will be sorely missed for all her knowledge about our church and community but more than that for her caring, kind nature and words of wisdom. Thanks for all the training sessions and for being available on call to help me on my new journey as Church Secretary.

May Munroe



Art tour to Munich and surrounds.

Cyril Coetzee will be leading an art tour to Munich and the surrounding area in June this year. He is still looking for a few people to Join and make up the numbers. If you are interested and would like to find out more please phone him directly 084 760 2092 and he will send you the itinery and details.