

ashing our eyes clean with Easter water.

EVERY EASTER MORNING when we go up the mountain to watch the Easter sunrise, we walk down again in silence to wash our eyes clean and clear with Easter water. Why do we do this – other than to be able to find Easter eggs more easily? Behind this lies a mystery.

What takes place at Easter that fundamentally changes everything to do with earthly existence – happens in inner seclusion. The great spiritual battle between good and evil and the mighty deeds of transformation take place hidden in the depths of the grave of the earth. The resurrection takes place in a secluded garden at dawn and the resurrected one appears at first to one lone person only. The process of the transformation of the earth begins within the earth. With this, the way of bringing about fruitful transformation is established for the whole future of earth and mankind. It always begins inside. It is not by outer means with huge armies and weapons of force and destruction that evil is overcome and meaningful change introduced. It is through the inner process of carrying the light of love into the darkness of evil that evil is robbed of its power. Evil is powerless in the face of love

Easter today is meaningless to us if it does not become a personal inner reality which lives in our daily life. For Easter to become relevant in our lives we need to look at our lives through eyes washed clean with Easter water.

All too often we wait for outer events to decide the direction of our outer lives and the state of our inner lives. That is like waiting for the mountain to be eroded away from blocking our chosen path or like completely changing our path so as to evade the offensive mountain. The Easter way is quite different. It says: 'transformation and change come from within. Live your life from within – connected to the one who transforms the earth from within the grave of the earth through the power of Divine love and you will see how outer things will come about which remove the mountain from your path and place it is the sea. Live from the inside out!'

We generally tend to think that our certainty is founded on what is fixed in matter. The earth is our certainty – the rocks, the mountains that are always there – fixed and dependable. But actually when it comes to life it is the formless, ever moving, ever selfless, ever flowing, and ever giving element of water that is our true security. For our inner soul life it is the same. It is Christ as the source of the water of life who is our true certainty and security – and the substance of this water of life is love. We too can learn to flow like water imbued with the light of the sun which sustains its vitality through continuous flow and continuous giving and receiving. It may sound like a complete contradiction – but never the less it is true to say that if we want to maintain our stability we need to learn how to flow like ever receptive water imbued with the love that streams from Christ. For then we find inner certainty in an outwardly uncertain world.

We learn to unite in our thinking with the power that moves mountains and places them in the sea – with the power that roles away the stone from the grave so that life of certainty for the future can rise from the grave of despair.

Richard Goodall.

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Synod held in Cape Town from 3 - 7 March 2014.

Dear Cape Town Congregation!

We, that's five priests from the Southern African Region and Vicke von Behr from Berlin, spent five days in Cape Town for our Regional Synod. It was a great joy to have a new colleague, Malcolm Allsop, in our midst as well as Vicke von Behr.

We spent many hours on translation work and other issues and could work in a very fruitful and concentrated way in your very inspiring and sheltering buildings. It was special that everybody was able to stay on the church premises or with the Goodalls (except for myself who chose to stay with the Feiters).

Thus we all had the chance, and enough time, to admire the new cottages on your premises (two of us were even able to stay in one of them), as well as Richard's refurbished office and the garden project of the Goodall's son Florin. I think you have one of the best-planned and versatile buildings for the different needs of congregational life, and the small chapel for the weekday services is an absolute jewel.

So we worked effectively and with good energy, being helped in every need or wish by our dear colleague Richard and his assistant Marilize. We had the joy of seeing "Blood Brothers" at the Athol Fugard Theatre and getting a glimpse of the ocean on that side of the mountain on the Wednesday evening.

We were warmly and caringly greeted by many of your congregation members that just came by to say hello. It was a joy to see the residents of the cottages walking around on the premises, caring for the garden, chatting to the people and having

(Cont next column) ...



Back row from left to right: Reingard Knausenberger (Lenker - Johannesburg), Peter Holman (KZN), Vicke von Behr (Erzoberlenker, Berlin), Malcolm Allsop (Johannesburg). Front: Kine Voigts (Windhoek) and Richard Goodall (Cape Town).

(Cont. from previous column) ...

established themselves already in such an independent way.

Jessica Abramson and Barbara Herbert spent many hours catering for our ever hungry stomachs and we had the most delicious food prepared by members of the congregation.

Daily Eurythmy with Cobie gave us back our sometimes fading life forces and the weather god was extremely sympathetic towards us during our stay. So it was great being in Cape Town with you!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU – all of you - and all the best for your work, your dreams and challenges. Hope to see you soon,

Kine Voigts, Windhoek.

(Continued from previous page ...)

From Richard Goodall:

A very big thank you goes to all those who provided food and those who prepared the accommodation for the regional synod at the beginning of March and most especially to Jessica Abramson (who had a fractured forearm) and her helper, Barbara Herbert, who so wonderfully cared for all the priests and served all the meals and teas. It was all very much appreciated and it went off without a hitch. Well done!

From the CateringTeam:

ON MONDAY, 3RD MARCH, six priests had arrived in Cape Town for the Regional Synod. Initially they looked weary but after a week of fine hospitality from the Cape Town Community they left looking much healthier and rosy-cheeked, and with a few complaints – although quite cheerful – about weight gain or way more ??

A very great thank you to one and all for the wonderful food/meals of bread, cheese, cake, biscuits and fruit (including Hanepoot grapes) that were provided. A big thank you to Annette Chouler and Carole Penfold for the granadillas which were much appreciated by our out-of-town visitors – some of the fruit even going home with them!

Linda Merrett provided a wonderful chocolate cake that was used to celebrate Richard Goodall's 21st anniversary of his Ordination Day on 6th March, and also very nearly his birthday (on 11th March). Hanna Hack made amazing bread – it was so good that she should be taking orders and selling it! Thanks also to Bruce and Paola Muirhead for providing the rest of the breads and cheeses and for Marilize King for coordinating the provision of the meals.

A big thank you also to the residents in Timour Hall Cottages, not only for every item we needed to borrow and for allowing us to raid their herb garden, but also just for their presence. There was a wonderful community spirit. Barbara Herbert did a sterling job with chopping, shopping and everything else that needed doing. During the Synod the priests worked very hard, morning, afternoon and evening, with little time off, and they greatly appreciated what the Community did for them and the way they were held in a space where they could get on with their work.

In addition the following people also provided meals or snacks: Julia O'Leary, Sheilagh Dobson, Hanna von Maltitz, Cobie Roelvert-Shaw, Helga Ackermann, Carole Penfold, Annette Chouler, Hanna Hack, Barbara Herbert, Jessica Abramson and Kine Voigts. We were able to provide lots of healthy snacks, in the form of plates of nibbles. to sustain the priests during the working sessions and help keep their blood sugar levels going and their brains active! At least we know by this stage more about what they enjoy eating and drinking (individual preferences have been noted in a little black book!).

Jessica Abramson.

Finance Report.

Dear Friends,

We are already into the second month of the new tax year and so I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who so generously increased their contribution so far. We all know that our daily life is a lot easier when we can count on a regular monthly income and so your sacrifice is much appreciated.

To all those who have not yet managed to get to the bank, please do so. As you know, the suggested amount per month for this financial year is R480. Now, if we were to receive this sum from every individual, there would no longer be a need to continuously reiterate the importance of your donations.

Alas, only about 20 people out of the whole congregation are paying the suggested amount and many others a lot less. Please understand that every bit you manage to add will make a difference, even if you consider it too small. Fortunately, there are also a few that pay more, and some carry up to R1200 per month.

Even with all that, we have had a reduction in regular contributions and I am sorry to tell you that the monthly income for March only covered our running expenses because one person paid their contribution for the whole year.

However, let us look into the future with positive thoughts and hope that more will be able to increase their current payments somewhat and that newcomers to our church will also find it possible to make monthly contributions.

Blessings to you all.

Rosemarie Enthoven.

P.S. We have received an anonymous contribution of R1000 on 22nd April with the reference: "Contribution Plus". Would the person responsible for this transaction please contact me so we can know how to allocate this amount. My e-mail address: pippin@snowisp.com or christianco@telkomsa.net.



Uta & Christoph Jensen.

About to be added to the Cape Town diaspora ...

MANY OF YOU KNOW by now that Christoph and I will be leaving Camphill Village and South Africa. We will be moving to a small Camphill Community in Dingle in the south west of Ireland. These past 34 years of our lives have been for us a time of intense engaging and learning. Without the encounters of many friends and colleagues we would not be who we are today.

The Christian Community played a big part in our lives and was a great source of support of our work at Camphill. I would like to thank you for sharing this with us.

With our best wishes and strength to move forward in all your work you do.

Uta and Christoph Jensen.

Argus Cycle Tour on 9th March 2014.

After a request from our side we received this happy photo of Charles and Annette Chouler while they were encouraging the cyclists passing through their home town of Fish Hoek. Thanks, folks, for adding your own brand of colour! Marilize.

Southern African Regional Council of The Christian Community.

THE COMING MEETING of the Council will be hosted by the Cape Town Community. Between the 22nd to the 24th August 2014 priests and council members from Johannesburg, KZN, Windhoek and Cape Town will be meeting to discuss the regional and international issues that affect our church. This will be an opportunity to meet the Rev. Michael Allsop and his colleagues and for you to find out more about all that needs to happen to maintain the sacraments in our region.

We will be between 15 to 20 people and we ask for volunteers who will be able to fetch and carry from the airport, provide accommodation for two nights and prepare meals (2 suppers, 2 lunches, 2 breakfasts). Please speak to any of the CT Trustees, Richard Goodall or myself if you are able to help.

Leigh Sax.

50 Years of the Christian Community in Southern Africa.

THAT IS RIGHT DEAR FRIENDS! Next year marks fifty years since The Christian Community first took root in this part of the world. This is something for all of us to celebrate and what is more, this commemoration is going to take the form of a festive Regional Conference right here in Cape Town from the 30th April to 3rd May 2015.

Please be sure to save this date in your diaries as we will all have the privilege of hosting the rest of our Southern African Region over these days.

Richard Goodall.



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Baptisms.

We have had three baptisms during February and March. Congratulations to the following children and their parents:

- Aden Meyburgh (5 yrs), son of Tanja Meyburgh and Lars
 Fischedick (see picture as well as feed-back from his mom).
- Alex Blatcher (13 yrs and one of our Confirmation children this year) and son of Kiki Theo and Shaun Blatcher
- Chloé Summers-Johnson (13 yrs and also a Confirmation child), daughter of Georgia Summers and Kane Johnson (see picture).



Aden Fishedick (5) with his younger sister, parents (center) and flanked by godparents.



Chloé and her mom, Georgia Summers.

Thank to Tanja for the following feed-back:

Aden was playing in the sandpit yesterday and decided to "baptise" me. I was astonished at his ability to recount the ritual, particularly the accuracy of the substances that he carefully applied to my forehead, chin and chest. The baptism was a very meaningful experience for him at age 5, and he often speaks of it with pride in his voice and uprightness in his body.

Thank you to Richard and the community for holding this sacred space for our family.

Warmly, Tanja Meyburgh.

Holy Week and Easter 2014.

THE WEEK STARTED WITH a series of thought-provoking and content-rich contemplations on the events of the day by Richard Goodall. This led us into the Maundy Thursday when we shared a Silent Supper and a reading on the role of Judas and our dilemma in trying to understand him. The somberness of Good Friday encouraged reflection not only on what had happened historically two centuries ago but also what is happening in the present and will continue to happen into the future. Carole Penfold on the piano accompanied Christine Goodall on the recorder with a beautiful piece by Bach, thereby capturing the mood of the hour appropriately.

Thank you again to Richard Goodall for bringing us ever fresh perspectives on this inexhaustible subject. On Easter Sunday the brightness of the flowers and altar cloth were in stark contrast to what had preceded it and the singing of the choir enhanced the mood of joy and renewal. Thank you also to Christine Goodall and the choir for adding to our experience of the Easter Festival with their exquisite singing.

Marilize.



- To **Barbara Herbert** for her help in organizing the cleaning of the lilac curtains inside the church. It was a big job and well done.
- To Heike Prinz and Barbara Herbert who prepared the accommodation for some of the priests during the Synod – they were all very comfortable.
- To **Cobie & Dennis Shaw** for donating a yellowwood sapling for the church garden. It's due to be planted soon in a carefully selected place and we hope to enjoy its shade in years to come.
- To Annette Chouler for replacing the rather tattered door mat in the court yard with a sturdy rubber mat.
- To the **anonymous person(s)** who donated two amounts of R2 000 each on 5th February. Please know that your donations will be put to good use.
- To Rosemarie and Patrick Enthoven for their following further efforts and input: Patrick, for refurbishing the oak table in the foyer below the notice board, originally donated by two of our members. It also involved the making of two new drawers (for the table) from scratch as the old ones were damaged. It is now a beautiful piece of furniture which enhances our foyer. Patrick also made a sturdy stand for the framed picture of the priest. He further refurbished a book shelf which now has pride of place in the library. We are indeed very fortunate to be at the receiving end of his skills and talents.

Rosemarie, for organizing the painting of our library and for re-packing all the books again. This took an entire day but we have another happy room! She also provided attractive plants for the library and the foyer table.

■ To John Penfold and Richard Goodall for repairing various bits of plumbing. It is hardly part of your job description, Richard, so it is much appreciated that you could step in on this particular occasion!

Marilize.

THANKS (continued) ...

Grape Juice.

A big thank you to Ulrich and Gabriella Feiter who once again provided, bottled and delivered all the wine that we need for the whole coming year – what a service. This is a very big hidden contribution to our community's life. Thank you both so much.

Richard Goodall.

Richard and Christine's Silver Wedding on 6th of July 2014.

We invite you all to feel free to join us in celebrating our Silver Wedding. We would love it to be a real community event. The day will proceed as follows:

The Act of Consecration of Man 10:00
Silver Wedding 11:30
Setting up of the hall for lunch 12:00
Celebratory lunch 12:30

If you would like to stay on for the lunch please RSVP to:

mirjammacleod@webmail.co.za
or to: stina.goodall@gmail.com by the 23rd of
June so that we know how many people to cater
for.

Richard and Christina.

Confirmations on the 11th of May 2014

PLEASE ALL JOIN US in welcoming these ten wonderful young people into youth with the very special sacramental gift of the Confirmation Service. It is for them a real confirming of their individual path and task in this life while at the same time an outpouring of spiritual substance to sustain and strengthen them on their way in the world. As we support them we can consider how we, too, are continuously confirmed on our paths through the gift of the sacrament.

Richard Goodall.

Marilize will be on leave from 19th – 30th May during which time the church office will be closed.