



VISION

JUNE 2018

Ministers Report Back Annual General Meeting 2018

Life in our ever changing world has become extremely complexed. The key word in society is relevancy, in other words, if we did not exist would we be missed and will people notice that we are no longer around? This question also applies to St Davids. Would the community notice the difference if we as a church closed our doors? Your faithful attendance and support of St Davids validates our relevancy. While we too often take our church for granted there is no doubt that we are making a difference in the community and we long to raise our profile so that we can optimize our role as a church and thereby positively impact the community.

As many church groups capitulate and yield to the pop culture of our time, St Davids stands firm on the conviction that God's Word cannot and shall not be compromised. With the arrival of a new dawn for South Africa we would be wise to implement a plan to maintain our uniqueness and yet be open to changes that will enhance our relevancy. The message we teach and preach is unchangeable, but the method we employ needs some fine tuning. As our Lord leads us and as we become more sensitive to His purpose and plan for St Davids we'll respond appropriately and rise to the challenge. An old adage is worth quoting "Involvement equates to development." In other words if you want to grow in your spiritual life get involved in the life of your church. It has been most gratifying to see how some

members have blossomed in their faith because of their pro-active involvement in the church.

We held a very successful South African Food Evening that produced the effect we anticipated. Laura Speed and our WA Ladies have been absolutely marvelous in catering for post funeral teas and have hosted some special guest speakers. The St Davids Ladies have contributed handsomely to several church costs in upgrading our facility. Frans Schoeman has been willing and helpful in offering his time and expertise in repairing and maintaining the building. Val Dunn and her team of willing helpers have made a big difference in our delivery to orphans and the needy. By supporting our Mission endeavours we were able to help in rebuilding a crèche that was burnt down and provided toys and items for the crèche in Motherwell. We have not solicited publicity for our work of charity because the honour and glory belongs to the Lord.

I thank our secretary for her efforts and her enthusiastic involvement is appreciated. I am aware that there are pros and cons to rotating our pastors and that consistency and momentum are vital to progress, but be assured that we will explore the best formula in our pursuit for excellence. The red post box is still available if suggestions, concerns or affirmations need to be made. The truth is marching on.

Dr Bruce Woolard
Senior Minister

Proverbs 3:9-10 “Honor the Lord with your wealth then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.”

Treasurers Report

AGM Sunday 20th May 2018

Overall we are in a good position with R437245.65 in the bank at the year ended for 2017.

Our 2017 annual financial statements show a slightly lower loss than we had in the prior year, this being mainly due to an increase in revenue from collections & fundraising and there was a marginal reduction in overall expenses for the year.

During 2017 the main assets purchased were the projector and screen for the Church as well as a smaller projector for use by the CORE & Sunday school and the office computer had to be replaced due to the previous one being struck by lightning. These items are being depreciated over three years as set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Our SA Food Festival fundraising event proved to be a great success and assisted in generating some extra profit for the year.

It is encouraging to see that our Planned Giving has remained stable in the 2017 year compared to 2016

NEW APPOINTMENT—TREASURER

Melissa Potgieter did a sterling job as our interim Treasurer for the year 2017 and was voted in unanimously as the new St Davids Treasurer at our AGM held on Sunday 20th May 2018. Melissa is the daughter of deacons Josh and Sheryl van Dyk. She is a qualified CA. We are blessed to have her expertise and acumen oversee St Davids finances. The Diaconate is delighted to have her join the Finance Committee.

Melissa is a keen runner and she also enjoys cycling

and we are grateful to all our members that faithfully contribute to this project.

The use of Electronic Fund Transfer via online banking seems to be growing as a popular method of Planned Giving.

New church signage was purchased during the year which seeks to boost our image as a church for all ages.

From the annual financial statements attached it must be noted that our expenses are exceeding our income annually and thus we need to work conservatively with the funds we have available.

We have embarked on a tin project for 2018 – where your small change can make a big change – and we trust that this will generate some additional income throughout the year. Thus far we have had a great response from our members.

I would like to thank our church secretary, Elzunia, for all her assistance with keeping the financial information in order and up to date at the office so that it is ready for processing when I require it.

Our 2017 financial records have been converted from handwritten ledgers into an electronic format and with St Davids moving into a more modern age I would like to propose that we appoint a new auditor.

I request that the members consider the attached quotation and I propose that we appoint Mazars as our new auditor for 2018. (*Members present unanimously voted and accepted the proposal*).

Thank you to all our members for their faithful and continued support.



Whoever serves me must follow me;
and where I am, my servant also will be.
My Father will honor the one who serves me.

John 12:26



WELCOME NEW DEACON ELISE BURTON

It is with great delight that we introduce Elise Burton who was unanimously voted in at our AGM on Sunday 20th May to join our vibrant Diaconate team.

Elise is the wife of Deacon Kevin Burton and mom of our C.O.R.E, Youth Leader Dylan Burton. What a family blessing to the ministry of St Davids. Elise has been a source of great assistance with supervising the C.O.R.E. Sunday morning teas and involved herself in various other areas of the church ministry. She has a caring and compassionate nature and will love meeting you at the door on Sunday's. Welcome Elise!

Letter to God

Dear God,



I'm sorry you made Sunday when you did. You see, we could attend Church more often if your day came at some other time. You've chosen a day that comes at the end of a hard week. Saturday, you know, is the one time we feel we should enjoy ourselves. We go shopping, or to the movies, or visit places and people and sometimes we have to go to a cricket match. We never get to bed early on a Saturday – it's often past midnight before we switch off. So you can see it's almost impossible to get up on Sunday morning – you've chosen the very day we want to sleep late! I mean no disrespect, God, but you must realise that you have picked the day on which we have the biggest dinner.

Then you must think of Jack who works hard all week.

On Sunday morning he goes fishing; sometimes he plays golf, sometimes he likes to catch up on odd jobs. It's really his only chance to work on the car and mow the lawn. Then he's in his old clothes and his hands are greasy – you couldn't expect him to get off to Church like that. By evening, of course, he is exhausted and you don't want a tired mind, do you?

I'm telling you these things, God because I want you to get our view point. We would like to go to Church. The real reason we can't manage it is that you have chosen the wrong day. If you'll select another day, we shall be glad to be more faithful.

Yours sincerely,

I.M. BUSY

HEBREWS 10:25

“not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some...”

WHAT GIFTS DO YOU HAVE TO OFFER?

(A sermon by Dr Bruce Woolard in July 2012)

Where and how do spiritual gifts as listed in 1 Corinthians 12:1-7 fit into the programme of the church? The church is likened to a physical body. The writer uses an analogy for the church describing it as a body with a central nervous system with gifts of speech, touch and sight, etc. Every believer who confesses Christ as Saviour is baptised by one Spirit into the Body of Christ. There is a diversity of gifts in this unity. Although the body is a unit it is not meant to conform to a uniformity. In other words, the eye and the ear are part of the same body but their function is not the same. Unity is different from uniformity. The word "uniformity" means that everything is the same. "Unity" in the Christian context is being united despite our diverse functions. Some of these gifts as listed in the Scriptures served as a foundational phase such as apostles and prophets. In the First Century the Bible was in the process of being written and revealed. In this transitional period God used apostles and prophets to lay the foundation upon which we now build, now that the Bible is complete. New revelations are not necessary. Some of these gifts were foundational and therefore have already fulfilled their purpose. Other gifts are functional or service gifts and therefore continue to serve the Body of Christ today. The purpose of the gifts of the Spirit is to edify or build up the Body of Christ, the church. God calls upon us to show maturity and 1 Corinthians 13:11-12 explains that a child is not fully grown and therefore will do childish things, but when he becomes a man he ceases to do the things he did when a child. We may boast of being "children of God" but unless we reach maturity in Christ we will not be able to act and behave spiritually. Carnal, worldly and childish behaviour is to be tolerated among those who are still babes in Christ. The gifts ought to build up the body into a mature unit that will consist of men and women of God (spiritual adults). The in-filling of the Holy Spirit enables us to produce fruits of the Spirit – Galatians 5:22-23 – and the Gifts of the Spirit to benefit believers in the fellowship.

The following are some practical examples of how you can use your gift to bless, encourage and mobilise fellow believers at St Marks:

Making a meal for someone else, Telephone others with a word of encouragement., Redistribute DVD or CD copies of sermons, Diligently pray for others, Get involved in fund raising projects, Cooking or baking, Serving tea, Personal encouragement, Doing hospital visitations, Talking to children, Sewing or crafts, Greeting people in the hall, A desire to work with teenagers, Writing cards/notes to people, Playing any musical instrument Sharing your testimony in Church, Organising a function, Talking to the elderly, Taking someone in need shopping, Writing articles for a Newspaper, Illustrating tracts with artwork – freehand or computer graphics, Catering for a large function.



02 Cathy Wensley **04** Connor Smit **06** Elise Burton, Grant Woolard **09** Joyce Zeiss, Sydney Corbett **10** Hugh Jeffrey **11** Jessie McMorland, Philip Hanekom **12** June Standing **13** Hilary Wakeford, Jan van Eeden, Patty Welgemoed, Shawn Taylor **14** Louise Stevens **16** Diane Schoeman **18** Kevin Burton **20** Brenda Dysel, Lisa Ross, Patrick Brett **21** Margaret Fraser **22** Jo-Ann Outram **23** Monica Rogers **24** Tony van Rensburg **25** Mavis Tapson **27** Cherise Enslin, Letitia Clinghan **29** June Willard **30** Richard Leith.

For your convenience should you wish to make a direct deposit into St Davids bank account the church banking details are as follows: St Davids Congregational Church Nedbank (Chq Acc) Account No: 1268 035 025 Branch Code—126817.