

# LUTHERAN PORT ELIZABETH

Friedenskirche www.lutheran-pe.org

No. 2014.5 Oct/Nov 2014 Lutheran Church Springfield Port Elizabeth - Newsletter



People are not all good or all bad BUT all people are Forgiven! Extract from Sunday (21 Sept 2014) Sermon

# Christ and His Church invite you! Christus und Seine Kirche laden dich ein!

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#### **Planned**

#### **Pancake Stall**

Sunday 26 October 2014@ 10:00

#### **Christmas Bazaar**

Saturday 1 November 2014 @ 09:30

### Regular

# Weekly Home Church 19:30

Wednesday evenings (Combined: English and German)

# Monthly Open Door 11:00

Coffee Morning
Last Wednesday of the
month

#### **Farewell to the Meylahn Family**

Sunday 21 December 2014 11:00 Divine Service 12:30 "bring and share" lunch 14:00 carols, music & cake



#### **Gebetskreis/ Prayer Group**



Contact person: Christel Schädler

083 590 4698

Please contact Christel with your prayer needs.

## Children's Services 2014

All children are invited to our Children's Services which will be held during the following Divine Services:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month: German @ 09:30

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month: English @ 09:30

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month: English @ 09:00; German @ 10:15

This year Elizabeth Köpke and Kerilee Thompson will lead the English Children's Services and Barbara Meylahn will lead the German Children's Services.

A big thank you to these ladies. We appreciate you!

Family Service geared towards the Youth, Young Adults and Students in our congregation are held **on the last Sunday of every month**. (All children are invited to stay in the Sanctuary during the sermon on this Sunday.)

Contact numbers are:

Elizabeth 083 232 6624 Kerilee 041 371 1793; Barbara 082 221 0104 Anthea 083 709 7868

Bringing children to church may not always be easy, but as members of the family they are needed by all of us to complete the circle at God's table.

The Body of Christ assembled is incomplete in their absence.

# Harvest Thanksgiving Erntedankfest

We celebrate our annual Harvest Thanksgiving on **Sunday** 19<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at Friedenskirche. The **English** service will commence at 9:00 and the **German** Service at 10:15. We ask our members to bring fruits, vegetables etc. (fresh or canned) to place on the altar. These offerings will be donated to Wabamkela.

#### Your donations are greatly appreciated.

We will pass on them to the Wabamkela Crèche and members who are in financial distress.

# NEWS FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

#### Food for Thought

"Ministry is a lifestyle. It is not something we Christians do from time to time or on special occasions, but we do it all the time.

Most of the time ministry is not organized. Ministry happens in daily life situations. When I walk or drive in my car down to the mall and I see someone who is so poor that he is barely clothed, dirty, seemingly hungry and with a facial expression of hopelessness, it is just "natural" for a Christian to stop and do at least something about the situation - just because of God's love for me and for that person.



I am not going to think that God has not given me the

gift of mercy, of giving or of helps or what the case may be. I am not going to think that I'll rather walk or drive by, because God will send someone with the gift of mercy or whatever to do something about the person's situation. Whatever my abilities and gifts are, I'll just stop ... and help; just be Jesus' hands and feet to that person, however inadequate my help might feel or appear to be." (Frikkie Neser: Journey)

#### **Church Council**

Church Council will meet again on the 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> of October in Cape Town. We are eagerly awaiting the report on your responses to the questions relating to the 'the Process of Listening'. These will help us as a church to constructively and prayerfully move forward, seeking to understand better what God is calling us to do. I would like to thank everyone who engaged constructively in this process.

A meeting with some members of the ELCSA(N-T) Church Council has taken place in Cape Town to look at both synods' decision to enter into an "engagement in view of marriage".

The following statement is a summary of the discussion of the meeting:

Both ELCSA (Cape) and (N-T) at their synods in 2013 adopted a motion of "engagement in view of marriage" between the Churches. The respective church councils were tasked to take the process further.

On 4 August a task team comprising of the bishop, president of synod and treasurer of each church met to address the issue in more detail. The following was agreed upon:

The aim is one Church which serves and empowers its congregations to fulfil their local calling, and where these congregations constructively engage with one another.

The task team divided into sub-teams on structure, laws and finances. Each of these sub-teams is encouraged to think outside the box, rather than just adapting or amalgamating what we have.

The next meeting in November 2014 will discuss the suggestions. After that you will receive a next report .

# NEWS FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

<u>Combined Pastors Convocation</u> of the pastors in active service of both the ELCSA(N-T) and ELCSA(Cape) will meet in Malmesbury from the 14<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> of September 2014. The topic is: "Thy Kingdom Come." - The Church – God's People – Gathered in Christ and Sent into the World."

We want to spend this time together to prayerfully listen to God's Word, to each other and to the world (into which we are sent), we want to discern the calling and future shape of the Lutheran Church in South Africa, so that we can participate in building the church with care. In this way we want to explore what it means to become one church, discern the kind of church we are called to be.

#### Personnel

Rev. Christiane Simon's term of office has ended at the end of August 2014. We thank her for her dedicated service in the Stellenbosch / Somerset West congregation, the church, and in the CCW Pastor's Convention. We wish her God's richest blessing for the way forward.

Rev. Felix Meylahn has served the Friedenskirche congregation in Port Elizabeth for 14 years, as well as the St Paulus congregation in Bloemfontein. He and his family will move to Stellenbosch in January 2015. We wish them wisdom and strength for the remaining months in Port Elizabeth and also for the move at the end of the year.

Rev. Rüdiger Lutz has been elected by the Michaelis congregation in Vryheid, Kwazulu Natal. He will be seconded to the ELCSA(N-T) in March 2015. We thank Rüdiger for his loyal service of 25 years in the Eastern Cape. May the new challenge be a blessing to him and Silke.

We congratulate Frank Schütte who has passed his 2<sup>nd</sup> theological exam on 13 August. He was ordained by Bishop H. Müller on 17 August in Pretoria. He will start his ministry in the Augsburg congregation on 1 September.

#### **Vacancies**

Due to the above mentioned transfers the following congregations will become vacant: Friedenskirche (Port Elizabeth), St Paulus (Bloemfontein), St Andrews (East London), St Paul's (Macleantown) and St Paul's (Stutterheim). Let us carry these congregations in our prayers, as they seek a pastor to fill the post.

#### St. Johannisheim – a ministry of the Cape Church

An extract from the annual report by the chairman: "After having identified and being well on our way in solving the financial and structural problems of the St. Johannis Organisation (Old Age Home and Retirement Village) we are now embarking in a campaign to position the organization in the centre of the outreach programs of the German friendly communities in Cape Town. We are primarily interested in the humanitarian support which people can offer the residents of the St. Johannisheim by visiting them, participating in their daily activities and by so doing improving their quality of life". Let us as a church, through the congregations, especially in the Circuit Conference West, support this important ministry through prayer and in kind, where possible. We wish the management team, staff and residence God's richest blessing.

#### Gilbert Filter

#### From the Pastor's Heart

#### Dear Friends!

So there we were, over 40 pastors gathered together in Malmesbury to meet, to get to know each other and the two churches to which we belong – after all, our churches' Synods had decided that we "were engaged in view of marriage" – which in plain language means, our two churches are working towards unity.

What this unity would look like and how one would go about establishing it was part of the reasons for our meeting. Quite early on it became clear however that our larger concern was to be: what does it actually mean to be church in our situation today. And we agreed that our calling is to be part of God's Mission into this world, bringing the Good News of Christ's death and resurrection for the salvation of all, out into the very places where we live and work. Each congregation and every parish of our two churches (The ELCSA Cape Church and the ELCSA N/T) needs to refocus on how to be a missional church, how to discern God's particular calling and then find good ways to embody that calling.

This is why I would like to remind us of the calling that our congregation discerned some years ago when we took part in the "Partnership for a Missional Church" process here in Port Elizabeth.

# To call people together to tell them the Story of God's faithfulness

in such a way that they can find their place in this story and then become story tellers for others in the world.

Let us recommit to this calling and find new ways to embody it here in the Friedenskirche in Port Elizabeth. We've still got the best story to tell! Let's be creative in doing exactly that.

In Christ, Felix Meylahn



#### Was der Pastor auf dem Herzen hat

#### Liebe Freunde.

da waren wir nun zusammen, über 40 Pastoren in Malmesbury. Einander und unsere Kirchen kennenlernen – das war ja klar – unsere Synoden hatten sich ja "verlobt" und wollen "heiraten" – also, die beiden Kirchen, Kapkirche und Natal/Transvaal-Kirche sollen sich zusammenschließen. Wie diese Einheit nun aussehen soll und wie dieser Zusammenschluss passieren soll waren also Fragen, die wir besprechen wollten. Dabei kam ziemlich früh heraus, dass unsere größere Frage die sein sollte: Was heißt es eigentlich, Kirche zu sein in unserer Situation heute? Wir waren uns einig, dass unser Auftrag als Gemeinden und Kirchen der war, an der Mission Gottes in der Welt teilzunehmen, die Gute Nachricht von dem Sterben und Auferstehen Jesu Christ zum Heil für Alle, in die Welt hinaus zu tragen, und zwar gerade dort wo wir uns befinden in unseren Gemeinden. Jede Gemeinde unserer beiden Kirchen sollte sich erneut fragen, was es heißt, eine Missionarische Kirche zu sein, Gottes besonderen Ruf an dem Ort, wo sie gerade sind, neu zu entdecken und dann gute Wege zu finden, diesen Ruf vor Ort aus zu leben. Darum möchte ich unsere Gemeinde an unsere Berufung erinnern, die wir vor einigen Jahren erbeten und erarbeitet haben, als wir an der "Partnership for a Missional Church" hier in Port Elizabeth teilnahmen.

Menschen zusammenrufen, um ihnen die Geschichte von Gottes Treue in einer Weise zu erzählen, dass sie ihren Platz in dieser Geschichte finden und dann selbst Geschichtenerzähler werden für weitere in der Welt.

Das ist, denke ich, immer noch eine gute und zukunftsweisende Zusammenfassung unserer Aufgabe und ich möchte alle dazu einladen, sich erneut damit zu beschäftigen, wie wir diesem Ruf Gottes hier in der Friedenskirche in Port Elizabeth am besten entsprechen können.

Mit herzlichen Grüßen, Felix Meylahn

# Gottesdienste October 2014 Divine Service

#### Losung für Oktober 2014

Ehre Gott mit deinen Opfern gern und reichlich, und gib deine Erstlingsgaben, ohne zu geizen. Sir 35,10 **Watchword for October 2014** 

Be generous when you worship the Lord, and do not stint the first fruits of your hands. Ecclesiastes 35.10

05.10.2014	16. Sonntag nach Trinitatis	Gottesdienst mit Abendmahl 09:30	Hebräer 10,35–36. (37–38) 39
12.10.2014	17th Sunday after Trinity	Divine Service Holy Communion 09:30	Ephesians 4.1–6
19.10.2014	Harvest Thanksgiving	Divine Service 09:00	Ephesians 5.15–21
9	Erntedankfest	10:15 Gottesdienst mit Abendmahl	Epheser 5,15–21
26.10.2014	19th Sunday after Trinity	Family Service Holy Communion 09:30	Exodus 34.4–10

# Gottesdienste November 2014 Divine Services

#### Losung für November 2014

Lernt, Gutes zu tun! Sorgt für das Recht! Helft den Unterdrückten! Verschafft den Waisen Recht, tretet ein für die Witwen! Jes 1,17

#### **Watchword for November 2014**

Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphans, plead for the widows.

Isaiah 1.17

02.11.2014	Gedenktag der Reformation	Gottesdienst mit Abendmahl 09:30	Philipper 2, 12-13
09.11.2014	3rd last Sunday of the Church Year	Divine Service Holy Communion 09:30	1 Thessalonians 5.1-6
16.11.2014	2nd last Sunday of the Church Year	Divine Service 09:00	2 Corinthians 5.1-10
	Vorletzter Sonntag im Kirchenjahr	10.15 Gottesdienst	2.Korinther 5, 1-10
23.11.2014	Last Sunday of the Church Year	Family Service Holy Communion 09:30	Hebrews 4. 9-11
	Presentation of English & German Confirmands		
30.11.2014	1st Sunday in Advent English Confirmation	Family Service Holy Communion 09:30	Matthew 21,1-9

7.12.2014 Deutsche Konfirmation

Meeting our Bishop Gilbert Filter:

The eagerly anticipated and awaited visit of Bishop Gilbert Filter materialised over the weekend of Thursday 7 to Monday 11 August.

A detailed programme was drawn up which provided ample opportunity for Bishop Filter to meet members of our congregation and consult with the Extended Church Committee tasked with filling the pastoral vacancy due to the acceptance by Pastor Felix Meylahn to move to Stellenbosch as from January 2015.

Naturally we were also privileged to listen to Bishop Filter's sermon on Sunday 10 August.

On Friday our visitor was given the opportunity to see parts of the city in which we live including the site of the original Friedenskirche in Central and Wabamkela Crèche. Unfortunately the scheduled visit to the German Consulate did not take place due to his absence from the city. The first opportunity to talk to some of our members presented itself at the Curry Cup Match played at the Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium in the evening.

Saturday morning saw the meeting of the Extended Church Committee with the Bishop taking place in Henry Newman's beautiful residence "Elliotdale". This was followed by lunch at the German Club and meetings with the Confirmands at the Manse and the Children's Church Workers in the Church Centre thereafter. In the evening various congregation members had the opportunity to meet the Bishop on a social basis at a bring and braai at the Burger home in Summerstrand.



On Sunday we heard Bishop Filter delivering the sermon within the framework of the Divine Service conducted by Pastor Meylahn.



After the service Bishop Filter addressed us in our hall before the Bring and Share Lunch. He explained the implications and complications of finding and calling a successor pastor to our congregation and indicated that more concrete progress will become available at the end of September.

We do have to console ourselves with the possibility of a vacancy for some time. Every effort will be made to keep this as short as possible and to ensure that either visiting or temporary pastors will

conduct regular services.

Bishop Filter expressed his joy with the brief "getting to know you experience" with the Friedenskirche Congregation.



We are full of praise to our Lord for this blessed visit!

# <u>Ladies Tea— Held on Saturday 09</u> <u>August 2014 @ 10h00</u>









# Meylahn Family Farewell Sunday 21 December 2014

We extend an invitation to all congregation members and congregation friends — please come and join us in wishing Felix & Barbara and their children a fond farewell.

A combined (English and German) divine service will be held on Sunday 21 December 2014 @ 11h00.

Following this service we will meet in the hall for a "bring and share" lunch @ 12h30.

Afterwards we will sing some carols, enjoy a musical number by the talented Meylahn family and end the afternoon with coffee and cake @ 14h00.

# Bazaar to be Held on Saturday, 1 November 2014 @ 0930

Planning has already started with many stall holders hard at work preparing for this important event in our congregation.

We need your "HELPING HANDS" - please offer whatever assistance you are able to make whether it is baking, sewing, crafts, plants etc. Or maybe you do not have time to offer but can donate baking ingredients etc.

Please speak to any of the committee members.

# Geburtstage / Birthdays

#### October 2014

01-Oct	Gunter Fröhlich
08-Oct	Willie Lokotsch
11-Oct	Alie Coetzer
17-Oct	Maxi Jachens
19-Oct	Ulrich Koch
20-Oct	Babs Meylahn
26-Oct	Benedikt Meylahn
28-Oct	Sophie Sternberg
30-Oct	Patrick Septoe

#### November 2014

01-Nov	Florence Arends
03-Nov	Brighid Sonnenberger
04-Nov	Holly Eichhoff
05-Nov	Christian Kenneth Bürger
07-Nov	Louis Eichhoff
08-Nov	Erica Thompson
10-Nov	Janusz Meylahn
10-Nov	Merle Cairncross
21-Nov	K. Felicity van Rensburg
28-Nov	Albert Rohrmoser

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

Our congregation is struggling financially. The position is critical. We are behind with our Levy Payments to the Cape Church as at 31 August 2014 with R76 767.96.

Please assist your congregation to raise the necessary funds!

Kindly support our Christmas Bazaar

# Contributions/Donations

Payment can be made directly to the church, by means of a deposit into the church's bank account or via electronic fund transfer (EFT). Please do not forget to provide your details under the reference section.

Bank: First National Bank, Walmer Branch

Branch Code: 211217

Account Name: Lutheran Church Springfield

**Account Number: 534 200 32476** 



# Records Update / Korrekturen

If you are aware of any discrepancies, e.g. inaccuracies in spelling of names, incorrect address details, tel. number, or even not receiving newsletters etc. please <a href="write">write</a> down the corrected information and forward to Pastor Meylahn (pastor@lutheran-pe,org)

or one of the church wardens (e.g. membership@lutheran-pe.org).

Sind Sie umgezogen oder haben Sie festgestellt, dass wir Ihre persönlichen Informationen nicht korrekt gespeichert haben - wie z.B. Schreibweise Ihres Namens, falsche Adresse, Telefonnummer, Geburtsdatum - dann bitten wir Sie, uns dieses schriftlich mitzuteilen entweder an Pastor Meylahn (pastor@lutheran-pe,org)

oder einen Kirchenvorsteher (z.B. membership@lutheran-pe.org).

## Church Committee 2014

Rev Felix Meylahn 33 Luke Avenue, Springfield PE (Pfarrhaus/Manse) P.O. Box 5039 Walmer PF 6065 pastor@lutheran-pe.org 041-367 1986 H 082 579 6381 **Geoff Andrews** 45 Kent Road. North End PE 6001 (Committee Chairman) chairman@lutheran-pe.org 041-484 1861 H 041-365 1835 W 041-364 1676 FAX 083 287 4199 Gerhard Fröhlich 63 Boundary Rd, Morningside 6025 treasurer@lutheran-pe.org (Treasurer) 041-360 3317 H **Reinhard Walle** 4 May Way Sunridge Park 6045 (Membership Information) membership@lutheran-pe.org 041-360 6769 H 079 490 0104 **Anthea Burger** 31 Erasmus Drive, Summerstrand 6001 warden1@lutheran-pe.org 041-583 5423 H 083 709 7868 **Carol Buschhold** Lorraine PE 6070 248 Circular Drive. warden3@lutheran-pe.org 041-368 5976 H 076 134 3333 **Deana Deutschman** 16 Melsetter Estate Lovemore Heights 6070 warden5@lutheran-pe.org 041-368 3551 084 580 6783 Colin Lentz 13 Miles Avenue Charlo 6070 warden6@lutheran-pe.org 041-368 4463 081 353 9479 **Henry Newman** Walmer PE 6070 81 Villiers Road, warden2@lutheran-pe.org 041-581 3907 H 078 703 7003 **Lionel Sonnenberger** 18 Finch Street. Cotswold 6045 warden4@lutheran-pe.org

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