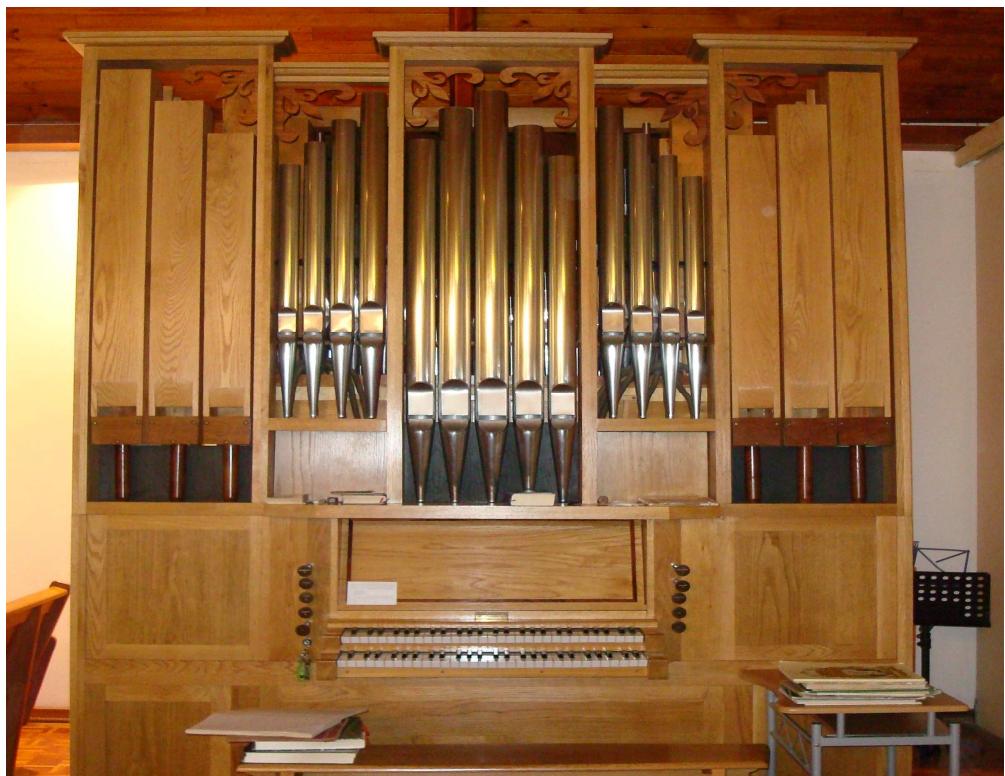


Lutheran Church Springfield - Port Elizabeth



Friedenskirche



*Christus und Seine Kirche laden dich ein !*

*Christ and His Church invite you !*

November 2009 / Dezember 2009 / Januar 2010  
November 2009 / December 2009 / January 2010

# *Notice Board*



## **PLANNED EVENTS:**



### **Oktoberfest Pancakes**

During the Oktoberfest to be held at the German Club  
on **30, 31 Oct & 1 Nov 2009**.

Contact Anthea Burger.

### **Weihnachtsmarkt / Christmas Fete**

**Sat 7 November 2009 starting at 09H30.** Come and be part of this fun annual event – bring your talent and be part of the team!

Invite your friends to also come to this unique "Weihnachtsmarkt".

### **Work Day -Church Centre**

**21 November 2009**

### **Family Camp**

**Planned for the weekend of 4 - 6 Dec 2009**

# Aus der Gemeinde



## Gottesdienst in Uitenhage

Wir treffen uns regelmäßig einmal im Monat im Hause der Familie Krieg zum Hausgottesdienst. Dazu laden wir alle in Uitenhage herzlich ein.

In der Regel ist das Beisammensein am Montag nach dem ersten Sonntag des Monats.

Der Hausgottesdienst fängt meistens so um 18h00 an und es gibt anschließend noch eine Tasse Tee oder Kaffee mit herrlichem Kuchen.

Alle sind also herzlich dazu eingeladen.

*9 Wistaria Street  
Fairbridge Heights*

*Kontaktpersonen:*

*Hagen und Edelgard Krieg:  
Handy: 082 537 0265 – Edelgard*





## From the Pastor's Heart

Dear congregation and friends,

I have recently been reading some very provocative and jolting books about Lutheran theology that have rekindled my fervour to be a Lutheran theologian. After all, when I was ordained, nearly twenty years ago (on the First Sunday in Advent 1989), I pledged that I would do my work on the basis of Scripture and our Lutheran Confessional writings.

Over the years I have honestly tried to be as scriptural as possible, leaving no stone unturned in trying to understand the texts which are set for our sermons. What I have neglected to some degree is to keep in mind how our confessions are given to the church as a whole, to use as tools for expressing and focussing the message of Scripture. Especially the Small Catechism of Martin Luther (one of our central Confessional Documents) can be seen as a short and precise summary of all that the Bible teaches. Sadly I and most others in the Lutheran church have thought that it was something that we have long outgrown and which, if at all, can be used only for the instruction of teenagers who somehow have to “get through” confirmation class.

A recently published book has shown me how neglectful I have been and has encouraged me to rediscover the Catechisms (Luther wrote a Large and a Small Catechism). Timothy J. Wengert has published a book called: “Martin Luther’s Catechisms, Forming the Faith” (Fortress Press, Minneapolis 2009). In our English House group we discussed this matter and came to a general agreement that we should read this book together. Perhaps I could encourage more people to join such a conversation about the core of our Reformation faith.

The Lutheran catechism is “the school of liberation from having to be religious”. Because we are saved by Grace alone, through faith we are free from the constant religious urge to save ourselves, which all humans without exception have in them (as the story of Adam and Eve in the Bible shows).

The Christian Gospel, understood properly, is not the message that we can make a decision for God with a little help from our dear friend, Jesus and with a lot of manipulative pressure from many preachers. No, the Christian Gospel, as witnessed to in the Scriptures and summarised in our Confessions, is the Good News that God came to earth in Jesus of Nazareth, who went to the cross, where he died “FOR YOU”! What this act of God “FOR YOU” means and how it impacts your life is the theme and content of the Catechisms. And, as Martin Luther said, we can never ever graduate from this school of Freedom during our earthly life – we will need to return to this school bench again and again, because what we learn there is just too good to be true and so we forget it, or it becomes blurred by all the other “religious messages” that we are bombarded with daily.

Let's all become scholars again in the school of liberation from having to be religious.

Felix Meylahn

## WATCHWORD for 2010

Jesus Christ says: Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. (John 14,1)



## Was dem Pastor auf dem Herzen liegt

Liebe Gemeinde und Freunde,

Ich habe in den vergangenen Monaten einige sehr herausfordernde Bücher gelesen, die mir die lutherische Theologie wieder neu nahe gebracht haben. Als ich vor fast 20 Jahren ordiniert wurde (am 1 Advent 1989), habe ich ein Gelübde abgelegt, daß ich meinen Dienst als Prediger des Evangeliums auf der Grundlage von Schrift und Bekenntnis tun würde. Das habe ich, so weit ich es selber beurteilen kann, eingehalten. Besonders in meinen Predigtvorbereitungen habe ich gewissenhaft versucht, die vorgeschlagenen Texte der Bibel so gründlich, wie möglich, zu verstehen und auszulegen.

Was ich jedoch im gewissen Sinne vernachlässigt habe, ist die Arbeit an unseren Bekenntnisschriften. Von diesen ist uns wohl allen der Kleine Katechismus Martin Luthers bekannt. Aber auch diesen habe ich oft „links“ liegen gelassen in der Meinung, es sei ein zu einfaches und altmodisches Bekenntnis, das kaum noch zum Konfirmandenunterricht brauchbar ist.

Ein Buch von Timothy J. Wengert, „Martin Luther’s Catechisms, Forming the Faith“ (Fortress Press, Minneapolis 2009), hat mich eines besseren belehrt. Die Katechismen Luthers sind eine wunderbare Fundgrube für unseren Glauben, sind sie doch als Zusammenfassung der biblischen Botschaft insgesamt gemeint. Darum möchte ich gerne in unserer Gemeinde neu anfangen, den Katechismus zu lehren und zu lernen. Er ist eine Schule der Freiheit der Christenmenschen.

In Christus sind wir nämlich frei von dem Zwang religiös sein zu müssen. Wie diese Befreiung passiert, davon spricht der Kleine Katechismus in ganz einfachen Sätzen.

Im englischen Hauskreis haben wir uns vorgenommen, dieses Buch von Wengert gemeinsam zu lesen und zu besprechen. Ob wir das vielleicht auch in anderen Kreisen der Gemeinde tun könnten? Dazu lade ich ein. Wer an so einem Gespräch Interesse hat, darf sich gerne bei mir melden.

Ich kann auch das Buch für alle bestellen. Ich hoffe, daß wir gemeinsam eine neue Freude an unserem freien Christsein entdecken können.

Mit herzlichen Grüßen,

Felix Meylahn

## **JAHRESLOSUNG 2010**

Jesus Christus spricht: Euer Herz erschrecke nicht. Glaubt an Gott und glaubt an mich. (Johannes 14, 1)

# Aus der Gemeinde

## Congregational News

### WORK DAY AT THE MANSE - 19 SEPTEMBER 2009

Much needed maintenance and repair work was undertaken at the manse on this bright Saturday morning.

Reinhard took care of the electrical work which entailed much climbing up and down a ladder to replace faulty globes, check on electric wires hanging loose and fixing light fittings etc. One of the most important tasks was to get the perimeter security lights working—especially the light above the garage door to ensure the safety of the Meylahn family when coming home after dark.

Geoff was also up and down a ladder most of the morning, seeing to roof repairs. He replaced and patched downpipes among other chores (after an extensive shopping trip to source materials).

Chris replaced/fixed faulty locks on the lounge sliding doors and various doors in the house as well as hanging picture frames.

Charlotte and Anthea helped Benedikt to paint his bedroom walls and Rainhald and Mandy spent the morning clearing garden undergrowth outside Benedikt's bedroom window (with a little help from their daughter, Sarah).

We all enjoyed the time together and Barbara spoilt us with tea and cake half way through the morning.

The next work day is scheduled for Saturday 21 November in the church centre. We will be repairing the hall chairs and tables.

Come along and join in.

# NOVEMBER/ NOVEMBER 2009

Wenn Jesus—und das ist unser Glaube—gestorben und auferstanden ist, dann wird Gott durch Jesus auch die Verstorbenen zusammen mit ihm zur Herrlichkeit führen. 1 Thessalonicher 4,

"We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Him." 1 Thessalonians 4:14

## GOTTESDIENSTE / DIVINE SERVICES

<b>01.11</b> 	<b>Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>GOTTESDIENST</b> mit Abendmahl <b><u>9:30</u></b>	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b>  EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Matt 5 : 38-48 Matt 5 : 38-48
<b>08.11</b> 	<b>Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b> With Holy Communion <b><u>09:30</u></b>	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b>  EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Lukas 17 : 20-30 Luke 17 : 20-30
<b>15.11</b> 	<b>Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b> → 09:00 ← <b>GOTTESDIENST</b> → 10:15 ←	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b>  EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Matt 25 : 31-46 Matt 25 : 31-46
<b>22.11</b> 	<b>Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity</b>  <b>ETERNITY SUNDAY</b>	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b>  <b><u>09:30</u></b>	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b>  EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Matt 25 : 1-13 Matt 25 : 1-13
<b>29.11</b> 	<b>First Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>FAMILY SERVICE</b>  <b><u>9:30</u></b>	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b>  EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Matt 21 : 1-9 Matt 21 : 1-9

# DEZEMBER / DECEMBER 2009

Gott spricht: Ich will euch erlösen,  
dass ihr ein Segen sein sollt.  
Fürchtet euch nur nicht und stärkt  
eure Hände!

Sacharja 8,13

"As you have been an object of cursing among the nations, O Judah and Israel, so will I save you, and you will be a blessing. Do not be afraid, but let your hands be strong." Zechariah 8:13

## GOTTESDIENSTE / DIVINE SERVICES

<b>06.12</b> 	<b>Second Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>GOTTESDIENST</b> mit Abendmahl <b>9:30</b>	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b> EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Lukas 21 : 25-33 Luke 21 : 25-33
<b>13.12</b> 	<b>Third Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b> With Holy Communion <b>09:30</b>	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b> EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Matt 11 : 2-10 Matt 11 : 2-10
<b>20.12</b> 	<b>Fourth Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b> → 09:00 ← <b>GOTTESDIENST</b> → 10:15 ←	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b> EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Lukas 1 : 46-55 Luke 1 : 46-55
<b>24.12</b> 	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>GOTTESDIENST</b> → 18:00 ←	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b> EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Lukas 2 : 15-20 Luke 2 : 15-20
<b>25.12</b> 	<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b> <b>09:30</b>	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b> EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Lukas 2 : 15-20 Luke 2 : 15-20
<b>27.12</b> 	<b>End of Year</b>	<b>FAMILY SERVICE</b> <b>9:30</b>	<b>Lesungen / Readings</b> EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Lukas 2 : 25-38 Luke 2 : 25-38

# JANUAR / JANUARY 2010

## GOTTESDIENSTE / DIVINE SERVICES

<b>03.01</b> 	<b>Second Sunday after Christmas</b>	<b>GOTTESDIENST</b> mit Abendmahl  <b>9:30</b>	Lesungen / Readings  EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Lukas 2 : 41-52 Luke 2 : 41-52
<b>10.01</b> 	<b>First Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b>  <b>09:30</b>	Lesungen / Readings  EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Matt 3 : 13-17 Matt 3 : 13-17
<b>17.01</b> 	<b>Second Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b> → 09:00 ← <b>GOTTESDIENST</b> → 10:15 ←	Lesungen / Readings  EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Johannes 2 : 1-11 John 2 : 1-11
<b>24.01</b> 	<b>Last Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b> With Holy Communion  <b>09:30</b>	Lesungen / Readings  EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Matt 17 : 1-9 Matt 17 : 1-9
<b>31.01</b> 	<b>Septuagesimae</b>  <b>AGM</b>	<b>FAMILY SERVICE</b>  <b>9:30</b>	Lesungen / Readings  EVANGELIUM / GOSPEL Matt 20 : 1-16 Matt 20 : 1-16

# **Aus der Gemeinde / Congregational News**

## **GAMES AFTERNOON – 19 SEPTEMBER 2009**

We got together for a late afternoon / early evening of games in the hall after the confirmation class had finished their lesson.

Families brought along baskets and soon the skottels were lit. The delicious aroma of sizzling burger patties and sausage filled the air.

After the meal was enjoyed, the serious stuff of snooker, table tennis and board games began in earnest.

There was much lighthearted competition with laughter and loud cheering when a point was won.

The less physical game of scrabble created lively debate regarding the use of “slang” words and occasionally the rules had to be referred to.

The evening ended with a last game that everyone joined in.

A continuously moving circle was formed around the table tennis and each one got to face a ball with the bat. If you missed the ping pong ball you fell out of the game. As the number of people moving around the table decreased so the pace had to increase. The last few people had to run to make it to the ends of the table to face the shot.

Needless to say there was much puffing as contestants tried to catch their breath. Some of us are not as fit (or as young) as others!

A really fun time spent together.

# **Aus der Gemeinde**

## **Congregational News**

### **MUSIC EVENING—09 OCTOBER 2009**

The evening started off with a number of solo and group performances accompanied by the piano and the guitar. There was music from recorders, flutes, clarinets, guitars and the piano.

What a treat it was to sit back and be entertained by such talented young people.

We enjoyed soup and bread during a short interval and watched a gracefully executed dance demonstration. Then it was back to the music programme.

This time we had a rock band perform, a guitarist who played his own composition and a talented soloist singing classical songs.

There was an opportunity too for a sing-a-long and everyone participated enthusiastically.

The evening ended with the Meylahn family singing a well known Irish blessing to us in the German language.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this wonderful evening.

**Barbara extended an invitation to the young people to use the facilities for games evenings and social get-togethers.**

# **Aus der Gemeinde / Congregational News**

## **THANKSGIVING SUNDAY—18 OCTOBER 2009**

This was a day set aside to observe thankfulness.

We celebrated Harvest Thanksgiving, our Bell, our Pastor and our Organ.

Harvest Thanksgiving reminds us that all things are from God—our food, our employment, our homes and families, friends.

Our Bell has been ringing out for almost 21 years calling all within earshot to come and hear the good news - God has redeemed us. A short “skit” presented by the youth illustrated this so clearly for us.

Felix was ordained on the first Sunday in Advent (29 November) 20 years ago . We give thanks to God for his faithful ministry.

Our Organ has been helping us to sing and proclaim the good news for more than 10 years.

After the Divine Service we gathered in the hall and enjoyed a “Bring and Share” lunch together.

## **Gebetskreis / Prayer Group**

**Contact persons:** Christel Schädler at 041-367 3147  
Marita Fröhlich at 041-360 3317

# REFLECTIONS

I THANK THEE, GOD AND LIKE A CHILD  
REJOICE AS FOR A CHRISTMAS GIFT,  
THAT I AM LIVING—JUST ALIVE -  
JUST FOR THIS HUMAN FACE I WEAR,  
THAT I CAN SEE THE SUN, THE SEA,  
THE HILLS AND GRASS AND LEAFY TREES,  
AND WALK BENEATH THE HOST OF STARS  
AND WATCH THE LOVELY MOON ABOVE.

MATTHIAS CLAUDIUS (1740-1815)

COME, HOLY GHOST, GOD AND LORD,  
WITH ALL YOUR GRACES NOW OUTPOURED  
ON EACH BELIEVER'S MIND AND HEART;  
YOUR FERVENT LOVE TO THEM IMPART.  
LORD, BY THE BRIGHTNESS OF YOUR LIGHT  
IN HOLY FAITH YOUR CHURCH UNITE;  
FROM EVERY LAND AND EVERY TONGUE,  
THIS TO YOUR PRAISE, O LORD, OUR GOD, BE SUNG:  
ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA

MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

## Langsam und blitzschnell

Langsam und bedächtig bewegt sich die Schnecke. Alles Aufgeregte, Schnelle und Hektische ist ihr fremd. Ruhig und gemessen, fast plump und schwerfällig sind ihre Bewegungen. Sie ist das Symbol der Langsamkeit. Auffälliger Kontrast dazu sind die zarten Fühler der Schnecke. Sie bewegen sich blitzschnell, reagieren äußerst sensibel auf jede Gefahr und jedes Hindernis. Weil die Taster und Fühler der Schnecke so zart und sensibel, so rasch und blitzschnell reagieren, kann sie im Ganzen so beruhigt und gelassen ihre Bahn ziehen.

Vielleicht brauchen auch wir Menschen diese wunderbare Mischung aus zarten, wachsamen, empfindsamen Fühlern und einer gelassenen und gemessenen, bedachten und ruhigen Art des Lebens. Wenn unsere Herzensfühler so sensibel und wach alles Gefährliche und Widrige wahrnehmen könnten, müßten wir auch nicht so hektisch und aufgeregt herumrennen. Wir würden die Wirklichkeiten des Lebens rasch und empfindsam wahrnehmen, flink und blitzschnell Gefahren durchschauen und ruhig und bedacht unseren Weg gehen.

Betend und glaubend sind wir auf der Hut, haben unsere zarten Fühler ausgestreckt und gehen mit Liebe und Bedacht, mit Ruhe und Gelassenheit an die Arbeit und in den Tag.

*„Ein jeder Mensch sei schnell zum Hören, langsam zum Reden, langsam zum Zorn!“*

**PLEASE NOTE: CHANGE IN BANK BRANCH -**

**ACCOUNT NUMBER REMAINS THE SAME**



## **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Regular maintenance, repairs and upkeep of the Church Complex is an ongoing requirement. In these difficult times of rising costs, making ends meet is a problem for many of us - including our Church Complex.

Have you made a Rands contribution to the congregation / paid your levy of **R350 \* per month ??**

\* Recommended amount...however please note that due to circumstance, no assistance is too large or too small to make a difference.

Kindly contact Gerhard Fröhlich for more detailed information or if you are able to contribute in any other way. (Contact details on the back of this newsletter.)

Should you elect to make a direct deposit into the Church's Banking Account, you are kindly requested to include your details on the deposit slip "reference" section for the purpose of acknowledgement.

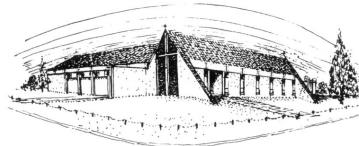
Many thanks.

Your Church Committee

**Bank: First National; WALMER Branch; NEW Branch code: 21.12.17**

**Account Name: Lutheran Church Springfield; Account No. 534 200 32476**

**Lutheran Church Springfield  
c/o Luke Ave. and Martin Rd**



**Venue for Functions, Meetings, Courses, Receptions etc.**

**For reservations and details contact:**

**Mr G Andrews (Chairman of Church Committee)**

**Tel 041 - 484 1861**

Wir gratulieren sehr herzlich allen  
“Geburtstagskindern” und wünschen ihnen Gottes Segen und Geleit ins neue Lebensjahr.

We congratulate all Congregation Members celebrating their birthday and wish many happy returns and God's speed for the year ahead.

Holly Eichhoff                            04 Nov

Dr D Eichhoff                            07 Nov



Mrs E Thompson                            08 Nov

Mrs F Kellermann                            09 Nov

Janusz Meylahn                            10 Nov

Mr J Boettcher                            19 Nov

Mrs F van Rensburg                            21 Nov



Mr E Keil                                    01 Dec

Mrs J Rohwer                                    08 Dec

Mr Derek Thompson                            24 Dec

Daniela Gädke                                    24 Dec

Darren Lentz                                    26 Dec

Sina Gädke                                    28 Dec

Mr G Fröhlich                                    30 Dec

**Wir gratulieren sehr herzlich allen  
“Geburtstagskindern” und wünschen ihnen Gottes Segen und Geleit ins neue Lebensjahr.**

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Mrs G Lokotsch                    08 Jan

Mr H Krieg                        09 Jan

Victoria Horni                    12 Jan

Robin Arends                    13 Jan

Mrs R Seifert                    15 Jan

Mrs R Rohrmoser                19 Jan

Mr M Koch                        23 Jan

Mrs C Andrews                    26 Jan

Mrs C Sonnenberger            26 Jan

Mr A Brand                        27 Jan

Mrs M Horni                      27 Jan

Mr R Walle                        27 Jan



## **CHURCH COMMITTEE**

Rev Felix Meylahn	33 Luke Avenue, Springfield PE (Pfarrhaus / Manse) P.O. Box 5039 Walmer PE 6065 <a href="mailto:meylahn@mweb.co.za">meylahn@mweb.co.za</a> 041-367 1986 H      082 579 6381
Geoff Andrews (Committee Chairman)	45 Kent Road, North End PE 6001 <a href="mailto:geoff@ecmba.org.za">geoff@ecmba.org.za</a> 041-484 1861 H    041-365 1835 W 083 287 4199    041-364 1676 FAX
Hans Rohwer	233 Villiers Road, Walmer PE 6001 <a href="mailto:hans.rohwer@nmmu.ac.za">hans.rohwer@nmmu.ac.za</a> 041-581 1977 H      082 809 3399
Dorle Kussing	15 La Zen, Alan Drive, Walmer Downs <a href="mailto:kussingh@telkom.co.za">kussingh@telkom.co.za</a> 041-368 6320
Sheldine Septoe	5 Eitemal Avenue, Overbaakens 041-367 5208 (H) 041-365 0502 (W) 083 452 6351 <a href="mailto:pseptoe@mweb.co.za">pseptoe@mweb.co.za</a>
Anthea Burger	31 Erasmus Drive, Summerstrand <a href="mailto:chrisandy@mweb.co.za">chrisandy@mweb.co.za</a> 041-583 5423      083 709 7868
Gerhard Fröhlich (Treasurer)	63 Boundary Rd, Morningside <a href="mailto:gerhardfr@lantic.net">gerhardfr@lantic.net</a> 041-360 3317
Reinhard Walle (Membership Information)	4 May Way Sunridge Park 6045 <a href="mailto:pwalle@mweb.co.za">pwalle@mweb.co.za</a> 041 360 6769 H      079 490 0104



**Records Update:** If you are aware of any discrepancies, eg. inaccuracies in spelling of names, incorrect address details, tel number, or even not receiving newsletters etc. please write down the corrected information and forward to Pastor Meylahn or one of the church wardens.