

die  
the

# Getuie Witness



## Help Mekaar

As jy op 'n Dinsdag-oggend by die VGK-saal van Sarepta, Kuilsrivier (baie naby waaraan ek self woon) instap, sal jy afkom op 'n groep vrolike, energieke vroue. Freda Hamman, wat onlangs saam met my en Esther Blackaller van die NGK-vroue Malawi toe is, ontmoet my by die deur. Ek voel dadelik tuis en vind die volgende omrent dié groep uit:

Die Helpmekaarklub bestaan alreeds vanaf 1989 en is interkerklik – álmal van Kuilsrivier en omgewing is inderdaad hier welkom! Dié klub vir ouer mense het 'n interessante jaaprogram en sluit opwindende programme soos bidure (elke eerste Dinsdag van die maand), demonstrasies (soos die maak van mooi kaartjies) en Bingo in.

Terwyl ek so na die singende groep vroue kyk, besef ek net weer opnuut hoe spesiaal dit is dat ons almal, alhoewel verskillend, één is in die liggaam van Christus. En kyk net watter verskil maak die kerk en hierdie wonderlike program in dielewens van hierdie groep vroue!

Later die ooggend kom loer hulle jong vroue-predikant, Janine Williams, wat sedert Mei vanjaar die nuwe leraar hier is, ook in. Sy groet die vroue en kyk na die kaartjies wat hulle besig is om te maak, gaan sit voor die klavier en begin lekker bekende liedjies te speel. Sy geniet die gemeente en vertel dat hulle buiten 'n hulpleraar, Gerald Louw (ook verantwoordelik vir hospitaalbediening) vanaf volgende jaar ook vir Pieter Grove as voltydse leraar sal hê.

Toek daar wegry, waai Freda vir my by die deur en ek dink: "Hoe gelukkig is ek nie – nog 'n lekker familiekuiertplek is ontdek! En dit sommer hier op my eie voorstoep!"

Mariëtte Odendaal:  
KGA Kommunikasie



Ds.

Janine Williams en  
Freda Hamman

Kommissie vir Getuienisaksie (KGA) van die NG Kerkfamilie in die Kaapstreek  
Commission for Witness (CFW) of the DR Church family in the Cape Region

## CCAP Harare Synod visits the DRC family

The CCAP (*Church of Central Africa Presbyterian*) Harare Synod became the fourth synod of the CCAP, Malawi in 1965 after being a presbytery of the CCAP Nkhoma Synod. This church was established in Zimbabwe in 1912 as the result of migrant workers, mostly from Malawi and Northeast Zambia, who came to work on the mines, industries and farms in Zimbabwe. Rev T.C.B. Vlok, previously from Nkhoma, Malawi, was the first minister who was willing to serve these Christians in Harare. He started his work in 1912 and stayed there until 1936.

Early in June this year Kobus Odendaal from the CFW (*Commission for Witness*) visited Rev Boloma, General Secretary of the CCAP Harare Synod. He informed us then that they plan to celebrate their synod's centenary in May next year. He also told us that they would like to visit their mother church, the DRC family of the Western and Southern Cape, and personally invite the moderatorates to these festivities.

This was done on the 30th of August at Zikomo in the Strand. Rev Boloma and Chirongo (moderator of the CCAP Harare) met the members of the joint meeting of the moderatorates of the synods of the URCSA Cape Region, DRC Western and Southern Cape, as well as the representatives of the moderatorate of the DRC in the Eastern Cape during this occasion.

Their invitation was received very positively and Rev Lucas Plaatjie, moderator of the URCSA Cape Region, replied on behalf of the group as follows: "I am so excited and feel the joy. Thanks for your visit to keep and strengthen our relationship. We want to honour your invitation."



Together with the moderatorates of the synods of the URCSA Cape Region, DRC Western and Southern Cape, and the representatives of the moderatorate of the DRC in the Eastern Cape.



Fltr: Kobus Odendaal, Lina Hoffman, Prof Nico Koopman and Rev Chirongo and Boloma.

After they had lunch with the moderatorates, strengthening relationships and getting to know one another better, we visited the Faculty of Theology at the University of Stellenbosch and introduced them to the theological history of the DRC. They also met Dr Xolile Simon, lecturer in Missiology, and the dean, Prof Nico Koopman, which was definitely the highlight of their visit to the faculty.

Our visitors' farewell message to us was: "We need you and you need us to strengthen the church in Africa and for all of us to be true witnesses of the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

*CFW: Communication*



>>



# Diensbaar in 'n ander kultuur

Mense wat geroepe voel om vir die Here te werk in 'n ander kultuur, weet dikwels nie waar om te begin om hulleself vir hierdie uitdaging voor te berei nie.

Maralise Potgieter, wat al ses jaar werkzaam is in die hospitaal op Nkhoma, was in dieselfde bootjie en het, voordat sy haar in die onbekende Malawi-kultuur begewe het, by Ryk van Velden van TIW (Toerustingsburo vir Interkulturele Werkers) om hulp gaan aanklop.

Sy vertel:

*"Ek het in Augustus 2005 transkul-  
turele opleiding by Ryk van Velden  
ontvang. Vir my was dit baie besonder  
omdat hyself 'n sendeling in Malawi was  
en die lief en leed van sendeling-wees  
ervaar het.*

*Die kursus het ook ingesluit om met iemand soos Marina Prins van Member Care SA te kon gesels. Sy is ook 'n enkelvrou en is terdeë bewus van watter uitdagings die hoof gebied moet word.*

*Ryk het ook by my eie kerk, die Durbanville Metodiste Kerk, gaan praat en ons gemeente voorberei op hulle rol as my ondersteuners.”*

Die NG Kerkfamilie het TIW aan die Hugenote Kollege tot stand gebring om lidmate en gemeentes met toerusting en fasilitering by te staan om hierdie interkulturele uitdagings die hoof te bied. TIW probeer 'n brug bou tussen teoretiese insigte oor interkulturele bedieninge en die konkrete aanbidding, diens en getuienis in 'n multikulturele omgewing.

Dit is nie net mense wat buiteland toe gaan wat by hierdie toerusting baat nie. Ons word almal al hoe meer uitgedaa om oor kultuurgrense heen te beweeg, net hier waar ons woon en werk. Daarvoor is TIW se oriënterings-kursusse by gemeentes ook besonder toepaslik.

Kontak dr. Ryk van Velden gerus by [rvvelden@hc.sun.ac.za](mailto:rvvelden@hc.sun.ac.za) of 021 873 0025.

# Redaksioneel

Editorial

## Verskeidenheid in eenheid

Hierdie *Getuie* vertel van 'n groot verskeidenheid bedieninge waarby ons betrokke is en van baie mense wat dien en getuig. Een tema staan uit: "Ons leef en werk saam in Jesus se een liggaam, sy een kerk".

Die stories in ons publikasie onderstreep almal hierdie fokus. Ons is almal verskillend, manne en vroue, ouer en jonger, uit verskillende agtergronde, kulture, plekke, besig in verskillende kontekste. Máár, ons skep doelbewus al hoe meer ruimtes vir ontmoeting saam, vir belewing van mekaar, vir saam dien.

Ons sien hoe die eenheid van Jesus se liggaam binne ons familie al hegter groei. Ons besef al beter ons is nie onafhanklik nie, maar interafhanklik van mekaar, saam gevoeg en geroep, mekaar se hoeders, saam die Here se goeie nuus vir ander, vir nou, oral. Ons hoor hierby mekaar se diep versugting om die eenheid sigbaar te sien en beter te beleef. Juis vandag, huis in ons kleiner wordende wêreld. Vreemdes – Ghanese, Somaliërs, Kongolese, Franse – kom letterlik by ons woon én soek Jesus se versoening, eenheid, geregtigheid sigbaar, tasbaar, huis by ons.

Ons broers en susters in Afrika en elders is mekaar s'n – sáam deel van Jesus se een liggaam. Sáam verantwoordelik vir die talle uitdagings. Ons groot uitdaging vandag is nie "ons vir hulle" of "hulle vir ons" nie, maar hulle en ons sáam vir mekaar, met die Goeie Nuus vir die wêreld. Uit Nigerië, Kenia, Soedan, Angola, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mosambiek, Msinga, Makhathini, Oos Kaap, die Kaapse Skiereiland hoor ons al sterker: Ons groot verskeidenheid is sáam versoen in Jesus se een liggaam, sy hande en voete, sáam versorgend van mekaar, tot diens, tot getuenis, tot seën vir ons wêreld vandag.

## Diversity in unity

This *Witness* tells of a great diversity of ministries with which we are involved and about many people who serve and witness. One theme is apparent: "*We live and work together in Jesus' one body*".

All our stories emphasize this focus. We all differ, men and women, older and younger, from diverse backgrounds, cultures, places, busy in different contexts. But, we purposefully create spaces for meeting together, for serving together.

We observe how the body of Christ grows closer in our family. We realise more and more that we are not independent but inter-dependent, put together, called together, each other's guardians, together God's good news to others, for now, everywhere. We also hear each other's longing to see the visible unity and to experience a better taste of it. Today indeed foreigners – Ghanese, Somalians, Congolese, French – literally live next door and they seek Jesus' reconciliation, unity and justice among us, visible, touchable.

Our brothers and sisters in Africa and elsewhere and we, belong together – together we are members of Jesus' body, together responsible for many challenges. Our challenge is not "we for them" or "they for us", but they and us together for each other, with the Gospel for the world. From Nigeria, Kenya, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique, Msinga, Makhathini, the Cape Peninsula we hear clearly: Our great diversity is united and reconciled in Jesus' one body, his hands and feet, mutually caring, serving, witnessing, and blessing our world today.

Johan Botha



Students called to  
serve the Christians  
in Zimbabwe



On a recent visit to Morgenster, Zimbabwe, I attended one of Henry Murray's lectures at the Murray Theological College. I was wondering how it happened that these students have decided to make this career choice. Henry shared some of their stories with me:

## *Tafadzwanashe Chivhoko:*

"I was born a third child in a family of five who were all born again Christians. My father was a blind ordained minister of the Reformed Church in Zimbabwe. Both my parents are deceased now. I am married to Dorcas Chivhoko, and blessed with a baby boy, Nenyasha Joseph.

"I was born again in 1996 and God called me into ministry in 1997. I have a passion to teach God's Word and one of my visions is to spread and teach the Word by writing books. My studies at the Murray Theological College are helping to shape my theological thinking and insight. I hope to be used by the Lord one day to train other ministers at a Theological Seminary.

"The Lord, Who has begun this in me, will see it to its fruition. May his Name be glorified!"

Luke Haisaq

"I was born on 10 May 1983 at Glen View Maternity Clinic in Harare. My parents divorced before I was born, so I was raised by a single mother.

"At the age of five I went to stay with my maternal grandmother in the rural area of Gutu in the Masvingo Province. I started my primary school studies in 1989 at Kubiku School. My mother was taking care of my food, clothing and school fees.

"In 1993 my mother passed away, leaving me with no source of income. However the Lord being there for me, my maternal relatives started to look after me. I proceeded to O-level and did very well in 1999. In 2001, while I was looking for a job, the one who was taking care of me after the death of my mother, also passed away.

"In 2002 the Lord raised up other well-wishers from my mother's side who pledged to pay for my fees if I happened to be admitted at a tertiary institution. In September 2002 I started to study for a diploma in education at Morgenster Teacher's College.

"When I finished my studies in 2005 I went to work in Muzarabani from where I received my calling to full time ministry. In January 2009 I commenced my theological studies at Murray Theological College.

"My life is characterized by moving from one guardian to the other. I appreciate what my maternal relatives have done for me up to this end. My hope is now only in the One who called me to do His work. I believe that He will see me through. He will meet all my needs – spiritual and physical.

"Despite my background I am determined to reach the highest level possible in theological education. I hope to enrol with Stellenbosch University, Justo Mwale Theological Institute or any other institution which offers world class reformed theology."

*Henry Murray hensansjm@gmail.com*

# 'n Ontmoetingsplek vir denke en kultuur

*NetACT, in samewerking met EFSA en die Fakulteit Teologie het vroeër vanjaar 'n drie-daagse werkswinkel oor Geslagsgelykheid aan 'n groep internasionale teoloë aangebied.*

Ek kyk na die toehoorders, waarvan die meeste uit Afrika-lande kom, en herken hier en daar 'n paar bekendes, soos Phoebe Chifungo van Nkhoma, Malawi en Petria Theron, vroeër van HEFSIBA op Vila Ulónguè, Mosambiek. Julie Claassens is besig om 'n lesing te lewer oor *Gender, Culture and Scripture: Teaching Gender at Stellenbosch University*. Professor Claassens, en die volgende dag ook Simon Gilham van Windhoek, Namibië, spreek relevante taaitoffies soos manlike oorheersing, die waninterpretasie van Bybelteksteverse ten onregte van die vroulike geslag, disrespek en geweld teen vroue – simptomaties van onsiek samelewings – kaalvuis aan.

Ek gaan later op hulle webwerf

([www.sun.ac.za/teologie/NetACT.html](http://www.sun.ac.za/teologie/NetACT.html)) en lees die volgende uit Elisabet le Roux se aanbieding: *"Why Sexual Violence? The social reality of an absent church:*

*Seminaries are one of the most fertile grounds for connecting with future pastors and training them to be truly active in addressing SV. The seminary environment is a meeting place for African and Western thought and culture which creates space within students for new thoughts and ideas.”*

En voor my sien ek die rye studente van Malawi, Mosambiek, Zimbabwe, Angola, Zambië, Nigerië en Kenia wat oor jare heen via NetACT aan die *meeting place for African and Western thought and culture* blootgestel word. Mense wat hier op nagraadse vlak, danksy instansies *which creates space within students for new thoughts and ideas* 'n geweldig positiewe invloed op hulle kerkgemeenskappe kan hê. Mense soos Jacob Katani, ook van Nkhoma, Malawi, wat ek onlangs in Stellenbosch



raakloop, entoesiasties besig met sy Meestersgraad in Teoloogie – 'n broer in Christus, wat aktief uitgenooi is om deel te word van dié *fertile grounds for connecting*, as deel van ons groot familie in Afrika.

Mariëtte Odendaal: KGA Kommunikasie  
Kontak gerus vir prof. Jurgens Hendriks  
van NetACT by [jhh@sun.ac.za](mailto:jhh@sun.ac.za)



ICMA Wêreld-konferensie in Hamburg Augustus 2011

"Dit was die tiende konferensie van sy soort en het *Promoting Seafarers' dignity* as tema gehad. Die hoofpunt van besprekking was die totstandkoming van die *Maritime Labour Convention* (Maritime Arbeidskonfensie) – ook bekend as die MLC – en het die basis gevorm van al die besprekings wat plaasgevind het rondom geregtigheid vir seelui.

“Heelwat relevante onderwerpe is bespreek, waarvan die volgende belangrik sake spesiale aandag gekry het:

"Die ontstaan van die MLC 2006 is nou in een dokument vervat nadat alle vorige resolusies herskryf is. Hierdie uiter moeisame proses het baie onderhandelinge tussen die drie partye (die skeepsienaars, die regerings en georganiseerde arbeid) gevorg. Agtien

lande het alreeds die MLC onderteken. Die mikpunt is dat nog twaalf lande dit voor die einde van 2011 sal onderteken. Dit sal die MLC tot internasionale wetgewing verhef en selfs lande wat dit nie onderteken het nie, sal daaraan onderworpe wees. Inspekteurs sal op grond van die wetgewing die reg hê om bote te inspekteer ten opsigte van die vasgestelde MLC-standaarde. Die voordeel vir lande wat reeds die MLC onderteken het, is dat hulle nie noodwendig deur inspekteurs ondersoek sal word nie, omdat hulle reeds aan die standaarde voldoen.

"Nog 'n saak waaraan aandag gegee is was die *Seafarers' Bill of Rights*. Met die bystand van ICMA is 'n dokument opgestel wat die basiese regte waarop seelui aanspraak kan maak, omskryf.

"Ons het ook besoek gebring aan die Seemansentrum van Hamburg om te sien waarom dié sentrum deur die seelself as die beste ter wêreld gekies is.

"Nog sake soos primêre gesondheidsdienste, maatskaplike dienste, opleiding en ook die protokol aangaande die hantering van seerowery-slagoffers deur die hawens wat die eerste ontvangers van



Vlnr: Rodney van Wyk, Carin Brink en twee persone van Mission to Seafarers van Richardsbaai, tydens die konferensie in Hamburg.

sodanige nuus is, was op ons agenda.”

En so help ICMA as 'n internasionale, ekumeniese bedieningsorganisasie waarby ons eie seeluibediening inskakel is, dat geregtigheid in die wêreld van werk deur die verskillende rolspelers ernstig opgeneem en toegepas sal word.

*Lees die volledige verslag op die  
webwerf, [www arbeidsbediening.co.za](http://www arbeidsbediening.co.za) en  
kontak Carin Brink gerus by  
[cbrink@kaapkerk.co.za](mailto:cbrink@kaapkerk.co.za).*



Sisters of Africa in Christ

When we arrived at the airport in Lilongwe, Malawi, we immediately noticed Phyllis Katsulukuta, dressed in a cheerful blue and white uniform of the CCAP Nkhoma Synod's Women's Guild. With her was Gertrude Kaligande, Vice-President of the Women's Guild and they embraced us with a spontaneous welcome greeting.

We were invited by the Nkhoma CCAP Synod's Women's Guild to attend their triennial conference at Chongoni. I was there on behalf of the CFW (Commission for Witness), joined by Esther Blackaller, CFW representative of the DRC Women and Freda Hamman, CFW representative of the URC Women.

At Nkhoma we went to greet Rev. Chifungo (General Secretary of the CCAP Nkhoma Synod) at his office.

before we were booked in for the night at the houses of Maralise Potgieter and Pieter and Estelle du Plessis. After a warm welcome from Rev. Chifungo he explained the meaning of the whole series of historic photos in his office – from the very first missionaries who did missionary work on behalf of the DRC family in Malawi, to this day. He expressed his sincere gratitude towards us visiting them and stressed the importance of our partnership as DRC family in Africa.

The next day we joined the women at Chongoni for the conference, where we were overwhelmed by their hospitality. Mrs Mthiko from Malingunde ensured that we could follow the lectures, and translated everything in English on paper and sent the sheets one-by-one for us to read. We formed close friendships with the delegates of CCAP

Blantyre Synod and also got to know the delegates of the IRM Mphatso Synod of Mozambique. We sat together in groups and discussed questions such as how one's lifestyle witnesses that you belong to the Lord. We prayed and praised God together as one big family.

At our departure on Saturday, we were surprised by the women's appreciation for our visit. We were dressed in their colourful church attire, while more than 400 women were singing in choruses.

This was a historic moment indeed – sisters of the DRC family worshipping across cultural boundaries as one in Christ, bound by His blood for more than a century.

*Mariëtte Odendaal*  
*CFW: Communication*



Omarm verskeidenheid binne eenheid

*“Ek moes my gemeente leer om ámal wat daar instap, huis te laat voel as deel van God se kerk. Geen ‘voting’ meer oor hierdie sake nie – laat ons na mekaar luister en mekaar aanvaar.”*

Aan die woord is Marc Loos van die Verenigde Protestantse Kerk in België. Marc, Egbert Rooze en 'n paar afgevaardigdes van verskillende gemeentes binne hulle kerk, is op besoek aan Suid-Afrika. Marc en Egbert is hier om te praat oor "The Significance of Belhar for the church in Belgium and Europe" by die Universiteit Stellenbosch se Fakulteit Teologie. Hulle het jare lank alreeds 'n verbintenis met die VGKSA en beskou hierdie kontakgeleentheid met die Kweekskool as 'n besondere afspraak op hul solidariteitsbesoek.

Die Verenigde Protestantse Kerk in België was die heel eerste kerk in die buiteland wat die Belhar-belydenis reeds in November 1998 as een van hulle kerk se belydenisskrifte aanvaar het. 'n Belangrike rede hiervoor was dat, alhoewel België en Suid-Afrika se kontekste in baie opsigte van mekaar verskil, daar tog ook baie raakpunte bestaan. België het, net soos Suid-Afrika, te kampe met moeilike sosiaalpolitiese- en ekonomiese uitdagings.

In 'n land met multi-kulturele gemeenskappe en 'n verskeidenheid spiritualiteite, was die Belhar-belydenis vir hulle as kerk 'n groot inspirasie. Dit het hulle ook uitgedag om, volgens die Woord van God, werklik die liggaam van Christus hier op aarde vir veral minderheids-

groep te word.

As Protestantse kerk binne 'n oorwegend Rooms-Katolieke samelewing weet die Verenigde Protestantse Kerk hoe dit voel om as deel van die minderheidsgroepe in 'n land behandel te word. Hulle maak maar 1% van die gelowiges uit; daarom kan hulle identifiseer met die immigrante-arbeiders, oorlogsvlugtelinge en selfs die armes in België – die groepe teen wie die gemeenskap verskeie mechanismes gebruik om minderhede uit te skuif.

Dit het by hulle die vraag laat ontstaan: "Maar waar is die kerk?" En by die antwoord uitgebring – *Ons moet leef vir die gemeenskap*. Hulle het ook vir hulself ernstig begin afvra: "Hoe moet ons die Bybel lees?" En die Belhar-belydenis is vir hulle in hierdie proses 'n baie belangrike lens.

Marc vertel dat sy gemeente in Gent in een van die armste dele van die stad is, met baie immigrante en meer moskees as Rooms-Katolieke kerke. "Die hele wêreld sit langs jou," sê hy, "jy kan dit nie ignoreer nie." Hy moes sy gemeente dus leer hoe om mense vanuit 'n vreemde kultuur in hulle kerk te verwelkom, en lees elke Sondag 'n opsomming van die Belhar-belydenis as aanwyser en inspirasie in 'n kerk wat die verskeidenheid binne die eenheid van Christus se liggaam wil omarm.

*Lees meer oor die Verenigde  
Protestanse Kerk in België by  
[www.vpkb.be](http://www.vpkb.be).*

KGA: Kommunikasie



*Simcha  
Ministry to  
Jewish People*

co-operates with other organisations in the Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism network sharing the gospel with Jewish people. Linda's\* story illustrates this in a practical way.

Linda was born in London and is a Jewess from an Orthodox Jewish background. One day she saw people in the Waterfront Shopping Centre in Cape Town where she was working at the time. They were wearing T-shirts with *Jesus made me kosher* printed on them. She approached Steve asking him what they were all about. Steve was part of a team of *Jews for Jesus* doing outreach in Cape Town. He told Linda about *Jews for Jesus* and shared the gospel with her. Linda agreed to a follow-up visit and gave her contact details to Steve.

At the start of the outreach Michael Sischy, Director of *Jews for Jesus South Africa*, arranged with Edith of *Messiah's People* to help with the follow-up afterwards. Edith in turn asked Cecilia to help her. So it happened that Linda's details landed in Cecilia's hands.

Cecilia called Linda and was invited for a visit. This became the first of many visits and many cups of tea. They became friends. Cecilia shared with Linda from the Bible and about Messiah Jesus. They often prayed together and saw answers to their prayers.

Then all of a sudden Linda became very ill. She was not able to stay by herself any longer and had to hire a nurse-aid. After the first weekend with the nurse-aid Linda called Cecilia. She told Cecilia that she prayed with the nurse-aid. Something had happened to her; she was a changed person.

Cecilia visited Linda the next day and realised a miracle had happened. Linda was no longer frightened and insecure, but filled with joy. Cecilia asked her a few questions and realised that Linda believed in Jesus as her Messiah. She prayed, committing her life to Jesus.

Before Cecilia had a chance to tell Linda what kind of changes to expect in her life, she shared with Cecilia that she saw people in a different light. The impatience and criticism she used to feel towards people made way for tolerance and love. Linda now attends a weekly Bible Study group and will hopefully become part of a Messianic congregation one day.

\*not real name

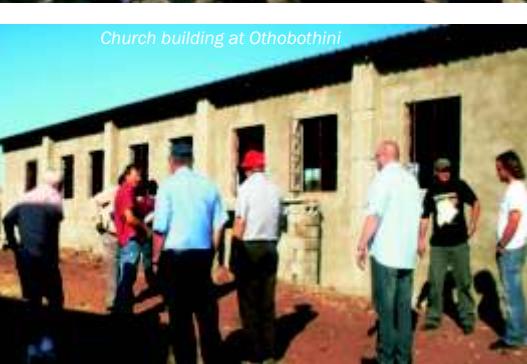
*Francois Wessels and Cecilia Burger,  
simchaministry@gmail.com*



### *At the nursery school.*



## *Church building at Othobothini*



A group of approximately 15-20 people of diverse ages are sitting on the ground in a semi-circle, facing towards the left. They are in a natural setting with trees and a small wooden structure in the background. The people are dressed in casual outdoor clothing, including hats and sunglasses. Some are holding items like a water bottle and a backpack.

# *Retreat* in Makhathini

*Frank van Rensburg, minister of the DRC congregation, Mtubatuba, who recently attended a retreat in June by the circuit of Melmoth in Makhathini, shares his witness:*

"Amongst many other experiences, the people we met in Makhathini, made a deep impact on us. Evangelist Joseph Gumede, blind from date of birth, heartily welcomed us at Othobothini. He testified that he was totally blind from birth. His life changed when he heard the gospel of Jesus Christ by the testimony of a student of theology in the area. He asked a friend to lead him from house to house and committed himself to spread the Gospel. His wife not only supports him, but she is also a committed Christian. Rev. Gumede's life story and work touched me personally and should be an inspiration to us all.

"He then testified regarding the process leading to the construction of the new church building. When it became clear that the original small church became insufficient and urgently needed repairs, the congregation prayed for the blessing of the Lord and made themselves available and commenced with construction without a budget or guaranteed funding. Everybody contributed something and they manufactured their own bricks. The building is now nearly finished and a monument of dedication, love and support.

"We proceeded to KwaNgwanase where we were accommodated in the facilities of the church. The love and hospitality experienced from Rev Lourens and Jeanne van der Westhuizen and their children was wonderful.

"In areas that sometimes can only be reached with a 4x4 vehicle, voluntary care workers walk daily to make a difference in

the lives of people with almost no ability to take care of themselves. One of these workers is Agrinet. Without a real income she walks from 8 in the morning until about 4 in the afternoon to take care of people in need. She joyfully goes on with her mission to touch the lives of others through Jesus Christ our Lord.

"It was a privilege to visit one of the nursery-schools in the Shemulela area where we met Lungani Mandlakazi. He works with a social approach and takes overall responsibility for the social needs of a large area. One of his functions is to oversee the equal distribution of any supplies that become available and in the process he works in close relationship with the care workers.

"We then moved on to an unemployed father with children in his care. The only help he gets is from people that assist out of their own poor existence. Besides that, there is no income; he also does not yet receive any pension money. We presented him with a *bucket of hope* and his appreciation was sincere.

"After the visit, we realised that the ministry faces enormous challenges, that the spreading of the gospel is not a simplistic exercise, that the value of a support visit lies in reassuring people that others do care in the name of Christ, that contact with people in supporting ministries are very important, that God is working in his church and the hearts of people, and that continuous prayers will be required for the guidance of our Lord."

Contact Louwrens van der Westhuizen  
at [weshuis@hantam.co.za](mailto:weshuis@hantam.co.za)

IRM-gemeentes in die bos leef vir Christus

"Die kerk leef waar lidmate die liefde van Christus in omgee vir mekaar onderling ervaar, ook hier ver in die bos." Dit is die mening van ds Daniel Phiri, die vorige moderator van die IRM (Igreja Reformada em Moçambique) van die Mphatso-sinode in die Tête-provinsie van Mosambiek.

In Mei vanjaar was hy, die assessor, ds Samuel Kassolo en Kobus Odendaal van die KGA, op besoek aan verafgeleë gemeentes in die heel noorde van die Tête-provinsie.

Elke gemeente het 'n tiental buiteposte (*prayer houses*) en die dominees moet ver afstande met hul motorfietssies op sandpaaie aflê om lidmate te bemoedig. Die kerk groei vinnig.

## In die konstruksiedorp van die Cahora

Basa-dam, Songo, neem jong leiers ywerig die leiding. Die area is gereed om 'n nuwe gemeente te vorm en vra dat die sinode 'n ervare dominee sal stuur om met die opbou te help.

Ds Ganizani Halissone van die gemeente, Kandama, naby Kassuende teen die Zambiese grens, is in sy eerste jaar in die bediening en ondervind goeie steun van die kerkradslede in die opbou van die gemeente.

Uit dankbaarheid vir die besoek van die leiers, bring lidmate, uit die min van wat hulle het, trosse piesangs, bone en pampoene. 'n Vrolike gees heers in die gemeentes. Hier kan jy werklik Christus se liefde ervaar as jy sien hoe gemeentelede vir mekaar omgee.

*Kontak Kobus Odendaal by  
mission@kaapkerk.co.za vir navrae*



*Piesangs, bone en pampoene  
word deur die gemeentjie as  
geskenke aan die gaste  
gebring vir padkos.*



Kobus in gesprek met kerkleiers oor die opbou van hulle gemeente

*Leiers by Dzolomondo, buitegemeente van Furancungo met ds Samuel Kassolo en Kobus Odendaal (heel reg). 'n Groot sekondêre skool naby bied groot geleentheid vir jeugbediening.*



# Valuable to Jesus Campaign



The *Valuable to Jesus* campaign was launched in Cape Town about four years ago to warn children against sexual abuse, prostitution and pornography. The programme is presented at primary as well as at secondary schools and has spread to many other parts of the country. We believe that the Lord wants to bring an end to these atrocities through his Church and in his Name, through focused prayer and compelled action.

*Straatwerk* has had the privilege of reaching out to women involved in prostitution and their children for many years. We found that a shocking amount of children get abused sexually and innocently get caught up in the web of prostitution. We believe that it is time to come together, all over South Africa, in abolishing these atrocities!

As part of the campaign we use hand-knitted dolls and handmade hearts, symbolising:

- you are lovingly handmade by the Almighty God (the dolls/hearts are handmade, with love);
  - there is no one like you (every doll/heart is unique – not two are exactly the same);
  - you are extremely valuable, no money can pay for you (the dolls/hearts are not for sale), and
  - God wants to keep you safe in the palm of his hand (the dolls/hearts fit in your palm).

Elsabé du Plessis from Hopetown was introduced to the *Valuable to Jesus* campaign by the Bultfontein coordinator, Mariette Helmuth. Elsabé told us that three women from Hopetown's home for the elderly knitted 60 dolls, but that was only the start. Other willing hands came to join them and they now meet on a weekly basis at Tikitana Bible School, where they knit stuff and decorate the dolls.

Since then, *Quilting Bees* of Hopetown also decided to take part in the making of dolls for the *Valuable to Jesus* campaign. They make dolls from fabric and dress them in cute outfits.

On 23 July, the day before the winter holidays started, Elsabé and her group went to their first school, Tikwana Bible School, where they shared their message with 70 Grade R learners. Elsabé says: "... the Lord was good to us on our first visit; everyone was very receptive. Our prayer is now to visit all the primary schools in the third term and to reach all the Grade 1 to 7 learners".

It's amazing to see how men and women throughout the country are standing together to make a difference in their communities. We do, however, need more coordinators in many of our cities and towns.

Contact us at 021 930 8055 /  
[www.straatwerk.org.za](http://www.straatwerk.org.za)

## Japan-drade word weer opgetel

Toe ons in die sewentigjare studente op Stellenbosch was, was my ouers baie geïnteresseerd in die werk van Missie Japan. Op daardie stadium was Koichi Mino 'n jong, nagraadse student in teologie, besig met sy meesters- en later doktorsgraad in Ou Testament onder die studieleierskap van die destydse professor Dirk Odendaal. My ouers het Koichi en 'n vriend, Timo, plaas toe genooi sodat hulle huis kon voel in Suid-Afrika en sodoende is hegte vriendskappe gesmee.

Nadat sy studies voltooи is en hy met Maretha van Tonder van Stellenbosch getroud is, is hulle terug na Japan om voltyds as predikantspaar vir die Reformed Church in Japan te gaan werk.

Ons paaie het uiteen geloop tot byna dertig jaar daarna, in 2006, toe ons dogter, Helena, nagraads in Japan gaan studeer het en ons "per ongeluk" op die Mino's se e-posadres afgekom het. Maretha en Koichi het besonder baie moeite gedoen om Helena te ontmoet en sodoende is ons vriendskap van jare gelede weer hervat.

Toe ek in April hierdie jaar in Japan was, was dit dus vir my baie belangrik om die kerkdiens van die Koichi's se gemeente in Tokio, Ebisu-distrik, die derde Sondag voor Paasfees te kon bywoon. Dit was vir my een van die wonderlikste belewenisse in Japan. Toe ek en Helena met die straat afgestap kom, staan Koichi ons al en inwag voor die mooi kerkgebou se ingang en groet ons in perfekte Afrikaans!

Toe ons in die kerk tussen die ander lidmate gaan sit, raak ek stil in verwondering - om te dink hier sit ons in een van die grootste stede ter wêreld, tussen medegelowiges van 'n totaal vreemde kultuur, derduisende kilometers van Suid-Afrika, en ons aanbid dieselfde God, vanuit 'n gesamentlike gereformeerde verbintenis wat oor eeuë heen strek. En ons is almal deel van een groot familie in Christus.

Maretha het die diens in Afrikaans op papier vertaal sodat ons die boodskap kon volg, en Koichi het die groeteboodskap van Johan Botha, namens die KGA, in Japannees aan die gemeente getolk.



Na die diens is ons deur Maretha en Koichi vir middagete by 'n nabijgeleë restaurant genooi voordat hy weer moes teruggaan vir verdere kerkverpligte.

En ek sal altyd sy entoesiastiese woorde oor die borde kos onthou: "Die Boodskap van Jesus is só wonderlik!"

Mariëtte Odendaal: KGA Kommunikasie

# Gakkie Galief sê “Sorry!”

Gakkie se verhaal is een van 'n man wat gereeld tronk toe gestuur word, sy gesin in die steek laat, en sy seun sonder 'n pa laat grootword ...

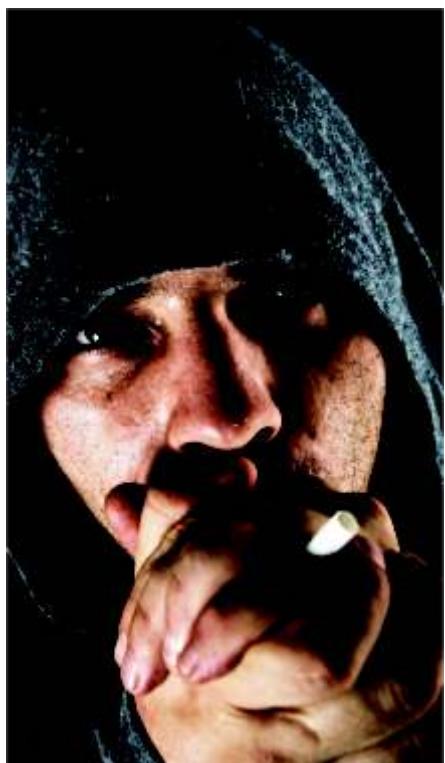
Gakkie handhaaf die ritme van dan in en dan uit die gevangenis wees. Terwyl sy vrou swanger is, gaan hy in. Toe sy seuntjie drie word, is hy uit; maar hy is nie daar toe sy seuntjie skool toe moet gaan nie, en ook nie toe hy hoërskool toe is nie. Toe sy seun agtien jaar oud word, is hy wel weer vir 'n rukkie uit, maar kort daarna weer in.

En toe word sy seun siek – siek tot die dood.

*Herstellende Geregtigheid* fokus sterk op die herstel van verhoudings: met God, met jou familie, met jou slagoffer. Pastoor Jonathan Clayton van *Hope Prison Ministry* wat die kursus in *Herstellende Geregtigheid* in Pollsmoor aanbied, is gemoeid met Gakkie se herstel. Hy probeer hard om



# Desperate Mother opens her Heart



One of *The Project Good Hope's* facilitators (ministering Muslims) witnesses the following story:

"During visitation in the area where we usually reach out in the Helderberg-basin, I knocked on a door, and a Muslim woman opened. I sent up a silent prayer for help and introduced myself, adding that I am a Christian woman. Her immediate reaction was, 'But I am a Muslim'.

"I assured her that I appreciate meeting Muslim women, and that, in fact, I have already made many friends among them during the past twenty years. Salama (pseudonym) reacted by saying, 'Come in, madam'. Her mother also approached. After a few sentences about the weather the woman suddenly opened her heart. She informed me, 'My son of 15 is a *tik* addict. He is seldom at home and

only comes here for clean clothes and sometimes to eat something. We have already spent more than R13 000 on institutions and treatment. He has already been hospitalised, for his organs started failing. We had to watch at his bedside. This morning, when he dropped in here again, I informed him that there are rules in this house, and if he is unwilling to comply with them, he should rather leave. And that is what he did'.

"In a stream of words from a very painful heart, she said among other things that there was no hope. In my own heart I wept with this mother. But with a godly assurance I told her, 'Yes, that is true: for human beings it is indeed impossible, but with God healing is still possible. He created your son, and He can heal him'.

"I asked whether we might pray for him, and she was more than willing. Together we bowed in prayer. But I was unable to pray: my heart was overburdened. I merely wept with her for her son. I cried to our Great Physician, to Him who healed everyone when He was on earth, and who is still the same. Deep in my heart I knew that He heard

"I visited her repeatedly. They appreciated it and every time they asked me to pray again. One day she noted me in the vicinity and asked me to come and have a look. He was peaceful and, according to his mother, free from drugs. Together we thanked the Lord.

"Subsequently they sent him to Kwazulu-Natal to a Muslim institution in order to protect him against drugs and for further education. I knew that would not safeguard him. We continued praying for him. After a few weeks the institution sent him back because he was once again completely addicted. Back home he continued his old life and eventually landed in prison. There he repented to Jesus and asked his family to forgive him. For months he was free once more.

"But we know it is only Jesus who can free him completely. Will you join in prayer that his entire family will come to the light and accept Jesus as Saviour and live for Him alone!"

Contact Project Good Hope at  
[projectgh@telkomsa.net](mailto:projectgh@telkomsa.net)

# Missie Japan

Op 12 Augustus het Stéphan van der Watt, sendeling-predikant van die *Reformed Church in Japan*, aan die KGA kom vertel van die werk wat hulle doen op die eiland, Shikoku. Carina, sy vrou, en hulle twee kinders, Annlie en Cornelius, deel in die bediening en woon in die stad, Tokushima.

Hulle word deur meer as negentig gemeentes ondersteun uit die NGK-familie in Wes- en Suid-Kaap, Oos-Kaap, Vrystaat en ook van die buiteland soos van Skotland, Amerika en ander.

Japan is die land van die opkomende son. Keiser Akihito is die simbool van die staat en die eenheid van die mense. Hulle het duisende gode en het nie 'n enkelvoudige woord vir 'god' nie.

Shintoïsme vier hoogty wat beteken dat voorvaders en natuurgode aanbid word, veral die vrugbaarheids - en welvaartsgode op Nuwejaarsdag. Die vier absolute waardes, naamlik harmonie, respek, reinheid en kalmte geld. Hierdie



Vlnr: Ben du Toit, Stéphan van der Watt en Johan Botha tydens Stéphan se besoek hier.

in 'n amptelike vennootskap

met die *Reformed Church in Japan* saam te werk. Daar is tans 19 gemeentes op Shikoku-eiland, die huidige fokusarea van hierdie vennootskap, waarvan die Tokushima-gemeente een is. Die werk van 'n predikant-sendeling bestaan, volgens Stéphan, grootliks daaruit om baie goed te kan luister, te leer en om te gee.

Missie Japan is daarop ingestel om verhoudings te bou en vennootskappe te vorm met verskeie theologiese instansies binne die NGK-familie wat veral verrykend kan wees ten opsigte van praktiese teologie betreffende sake soos familiegerigte bedieninge asook pastorale sorg en berading in Japan.

Raak gerus betrokke by hierdie kosbare bediening van ons broers en susters in die land van die opkomende son.

Kontak Stéphan van der Watt by [stephan@missiejapan.co.za](mailto:stephan@missiejapan.co.za) en lees meer oor hulle werk by [www.missiejapan.co.za](http://www.missiejapan.co.za)

## Straatwerk Projek OPRUIM/Jesus Saves

Straatwerk traces its origins back to the late sixties to a youth group that had a deep concern for society's outcasts, for those who were broken and hurt and those who starved for love. Today Straatwerk is a non-profit organisation and still has a strong evangelistic focus.

*OPHELP Projekte* is a rehabilitation programme which aims to rehabilitate broken and homeless people who are not yet able to act productively and responsibly. As individuals participate in the projects, they learn to appreciate hard work as a source of income.

In any given week we offer a different path to about 250 people, who range from drug addicts, alcoholics and spiritually broken people, to refugees from Zimbabwe, Malawi and the Congo.

The successes of the programmes in the city bowl have led to expansion to other parts of the city. This project can be started on small scale and with very little funding. With careful management it can successfully fund itself after a while.

Please refer to our website for more information: [www.straatwerk.org.za](http://www.straatwerk.org.za)  
The love of Christ compels us!  
(2 Corinthians 5:14)

## Our Mozambique Eye Outreach

We were a team of four ophthalmologists, two nursing sisters and one optometrist from South Africa and from Nkhoma, one nursing sister and a Malawian male theatre nurse, who arrived at Vila Ulónguè in Mozambique on Sunday afternoon the 28th August. It was our tenth visit to Vila Ulónguè for eye work.

From South Africa we brought about 180 pairs of reading glasses and lots of eye medications. The instruments and operating microscope as well as eye ointments and drops came from Nkhoma.

On Monday we started with a clinic at the local government hospital where a multitude of eye patients were queuing up to see us. We first saw all the blind patients, mostly cataracts needing operation and admitted them to the hospital. There were also many older patients who came for reading glasses so as to be able to read their Bibles again and the optometrist was kept quite busy.

The next two days, two doctors went to outlying clinics to see patients and on the third day again at the hospital, while the other two were in the operating theatre. By Thursday evening a total of 508 patients had been screened, 157 pairs of reading glasses distributed and 64 operations, of which 59 were cataract removals, done.

It is always very rewarding to see and

hear the patients' reactions when the eye dressing is removed on the day after operation. One old man, when asked in Chichewa, "Can you see?" responded in English with "too much!" Another one threw his hands up in the air and praised God. On Friday all the patients were gathered together and we said good bye to them. It was a joyful occasion. Patients were singing praises to God and one old man of 95 years, stood up and in a trembling voice made a moving speech, thanking God and the doctors and telling us that he was blind for so many years and now he can see again.

We praise God for blessing our outreach and give Him all the honour and we also want to express our sincere appreciation to all our supporters in South Africa for prayer, financial and moral support.

God is indeed a wonderful God.

Contact Dr Chris Blignaut at [lowani@mweb.co.za](mailto:lowani@mweb.co.za)



**Met my hamer, troffel en spykers ...**

*In my huidige pos as projekbestuurder, bly ek die Here dankbaar vir al die blootstelling wat ek oor jare gehad het aan verskillende ambagte en handwerk. So het Hy my toegerus sodat ek steeds op my ouerdom diensbaar kan wees, asook die gesondheid om die talente te gebruik wat ek van Hom ontvang het. Soos in Eksodus 35:30 – 36:1 staan: “Die Here het hom toegerus met sy Gees sodat hy met vaardigheid ...enige werk kan doen. Die Here het vir hom die begaafdheid gegee om ander as vakmanne op te lei”.*

Aan die woord is Piet du Plessis, boumeester van die opgradering by Nkhoma-hospitaal, Malawi. Hy vertel:

"Dit was vir my so 'n wonderlike ervaring die Sondagoggend, 13 Maart 2011, toe ek na 16 jaar weer die kerkgebou op Nkhoma binnestap. Die blydskap van die Malawiërs om my weer te sien, het my laat voel asof ek nooit weg was nie. Prys die Here daarvoor, want ek het onmiddellik huis gevoel. Boonop was dit ook Nagmaal daardie oggend.

"Toe ek en Estelle die versoek in Desember 2010 kry om te hoor of ons

nie bereid is om by die hospitaal te kom help nie, was daar by ons geen twyfel dat die Here ons nog 'n geleentheid wil gee om diensbaar te wees nie.

"In Desember 1984, toe ek by *Toevlug Rehabilitasie-sentrum* in Worcester ingestap het, het ek al vir Estelle gesê, as ek vir hierdie werk 'nee' sê, sê ek eintlik 'nee' vir die Here. Daar het ek nege jaar gewerk.

"In April 1993 het Kobus Koch van die Sendingkantoor my gevra om eers 'n jaar onbetaalde verlof by *Toevlug* te neem om Nkhoma toe te gaan. Dit het vir my menslik onmoontlik gelyk om vir 'n jaar sonder 'n gewone salaris te moes klaarkom. Ons oudste seun, Lourens, was toe 2de jaar-student op Stellenbosch, Jeanne was 1ste jaar op Verpleegkollege en Michelle in graad 1. Maar soos die gesang egter lees: *As U ons roep, hoe kan ons zweier?* Die Here het egter 'n salaris voorsien en die agt jaar wat daarop gevolg het, is 'n verhaal op sy eie van God se genade. Ses jaar daarvan was op Vila Ulónguè in Mosambiek.

“In 2001 het ons teruggekeer na Suid-



Piet vertel sy storie aan Freda Hamman van die VGK Sarepta, Kuijlsrivier, tydens haar besoek aan Nkhomma.

mekaar: *As die Here ons wil gebruik om weer te gaan, is ons bereid.* So is ons droom weer eens in Desember 2010 bewaarheid.

“Hier is ons nou weer op Nkhoma na soveel jaar. So het die Here egter 'n besondere en spesifieke pad wat Hy met ons elkeen loop. Ons het deur die jare ervaar hoe die Here ons seën wanneer ons bereid is om alles aan Hom oor te gee en Hom te vertrou vir alles.

Mattheus 6:33 sê dat ons sy Koninkryk eerste moet soek.

"Ons bly die Here ewig dankbaar om hier te wees, maar besef elke dag en bely dat ons niks sonder Hom kan doen nie."

## *Msinga - a place of hope in hopeless conditions.*

Wednesday the 31<sup>st</sup> of August was something like a peep into heaven, seeing the uncountable multitudes before the throne, all worshipping the Lamb! Representatives from every congregation of the Afrikaans



Dutch Reformed Church and the Zulu URCSA in the uThukela municipal district, KwaZulu-Natal; representatives from the Dutch organisation, *Bijzondere Node*, a German volunteer and some Ladysmith community leaders and business people all met at eThembeni Community Centre, Ladysmith. They listened to a report by the community project coordinators, working in remote poor communities at uThukela, Mhlumayo and Limehill.

The Dutch partners assist with the capacity building of Christians, mainly members of URCSA, in these poor communities, in order to equip them to be salt and light in their own communities. Statutory services provided 214 counselling sessions, 125 court appearances, 188 statutory reports and 300 foster care related tasks.

Community projects reached 909 children at schools with Life Skill programs. 550 children were reached through weekend camps and holiday clubs. 79 families and 1 459 children were involved in the Family Values programme. 65 Self Help groups for

rural women are functioning, empowering more than 600 women. More than 500 crèche teachers are in training, taking care of more than 10 000 children. 791 food parcels were distributed. 597 volunteers were involved in the various projects. The different projects touched 5 821 people's lives, not counting the crèches.

Volunteers were trained in *Home Based Care*, Life Skills training, and 51 student social auxiliary workers were trained in cooperation with the *Negmadi Training Institute*. They can now deliver services in their communities.

It all shows that if the body functions with all its members in full connection, miracles can take place, and the world can be reached. Hope can again appear in hopeless conditions. What a privilege to be part of such a body, where the members are interconnected by sinews of love!

Contact Lourens Schoeman at  
[lgschoeman@telkomrsa.net](mailto:lgschoeman@telkomrsa.net)

# Never stop trusting God

Although the William Murray Secondary School for boys at Nkhoma, Malawi, doesn't present additional mathematics (referred to as "adds" by the learners) as a separate subject, Chikondi Chiumia bought the books and bravely braced himself to master it all on his own. When the matric 2004 results were published, we rejoiced when he passed "adds" with flying colours.

As his teacher, I could not help but notice the strength of character in this soft-spoken, gentle student. He loved the Lord with a joyful abandonment and complete trust, true to the meaning of his name - Chikondi means "Love". It soon became apparent that he had financial problems; he was on the point of leaving the school, when a sponsor was found for him. I asked him about his dreams, and he said he wanted to become an electrical/electronic engineer.

In spite of very good matric results, Chikondi was not selected for University or the Polytechnic of Malawi, because there are simply not enough study opportunities. He moved in with family in Lilongwe, with no prospect of further studies.

With job opportunities always scarce, Chikondi started to earn a meagre income from teaching extra mathematical classes. After two years, his spirits were at the lowest ebb ever. But he never stopped trusting God for a way forward. Some parents who were pleased with the progress their children made under his tutoring, recommended him as a teacher in mathematics to a primary school in Lilongwe. Due to the

shortage of math teachers, this is common practice, and Chikondi was accepted.

After teaching at this school for a while, Chikondi heard about a new course to be introduced at the Polytechnic: they were going to start running parallel engineering courses over weekends in Blantyre. The same classes that are being taught during the week would also be fitted into a tough schedule every weekend. Although the fees were way too high for him, Chikondi felt this is what he should do, and he started working and planning towards this goal.

As a stepping stone, he started to attend basic electricity classes in a technical school in Lilongwe. These fees were met by his family and his private math classes. He concentrated on the wiring of buildings, and after one year he started to earn money by working privately. He also went back to teaching at the school to increase his income, and during weekends he worked as an electrician. He saved as much money as possible, and then he enrolled at the Polytechnic's weekend engineering program. At this point Chikondi stepped into a gruelling schedule: From Mondays to Fridays he taught at the school in Lilongwe, then got onto a bus for the four hour drive to Blantyre, to be in time for the weekend's engineering classes which starts Friday evenings. Every Sunday afternoon after his last class, he took the evening bus back to Lilongwe, to be in time for school on Monday mornings.

After six months the fees and all the

traveling costs had drained his hard-earned savings. Just when it seemed he had to give up, somebody started to assist him partly, and he could continue. After three tough years of burning the candle at both ends by studying, teaching and commuting the memorable day arrived when, thin and wan, he received his Advanced Diploma in Engineering with very good grades - second best in class.

Soon he got a job with ESCOM Malawi. The wonderful bonus is that ESCOM will sponsor him, in due time, to do a five year degree in Electrical Engineering.

I look forward to reading the yet unwritten chapters of Chikondi's life, and those of all the other Chikondis of William Murray School.

*Elsabet Smit, teacher at William Murray Secondary School at Nkhoma, Malawi.*



*Chikondi Chiumia (left) with Elsabet Smit and a friend*



**Lettie Naude** was onderwyseres in Zimbabwe tot in die oorlogtyd, eers op Zimuto en later op Morgenster by die Skool vir Dowes. Sy was 'n suster van Delene Blignault, dr. Chris se vrou.

**Ockie Olivier** was dosent aan die kweekskool op Nkharma in die 1970's tot 1980, en was daarna predikant van Lerato (1981), NGSK Mara-Pietersburg (1983), NGKA Lebone (1984) tot met sy

## In Memoriam

*Ons betuig ons innige simpatie met die naasbestaandes van die volgende mense wat die afgelope jaar oorlede is:*

uittrede in 1993.

**David le Roux** was landbou-onderwyser op Kongwe in Malawi vanaf 1959 tot 1963.

**Fossie Foster** was faktotum in Malawi en het later weer op Nkhoma gewerk as hospitaalsekretaris.

**Beatrix van den Berg** is as tikster na Malawi, waar sy haar man, Michiel, ontmoet het. Hy was hoof van die skrynwerkersafdeling op Nkhoma, en het vir 'n tyd lank ook skrynwerkers opgelei. Hy het houtwerk gedoseer aan die onderwysstudente van die opleidingskollege vanaf die vroeë 50's tot 1962.

**Ds Yeremiah Chienda** was lank leraar van die Nkhoma-sinode en tot met sy dood verbonde aan die EAM (*Evangelical Association of Malawi*). Hy was twee maal die algemene sekretaris van die Nkhoma-sinode, maar het ook een termyn gedien as algemene sekretaris van die CCAP General Assembly.

**Isabel Selfridge** het saam met haar man, Jack, eers in die noorde van Malawi evangelisasiewerk gedoen, maar was later leraar van die Nkhoma-sinode, by Lilongwe- en Lingadzi-gemeentes. Jack is 'n paar jaar gelede oorlede.

VGK-jongklomp reik uit na hulle pêlle in die Oos-Kaap



*Ds Kobus van Schalkwyk van die VKG Xhosa-gemeente, Vredenburg vertel:*

“In 2008 wou ons gemeente se jongmense na hulle portuurgroepe in die Oos-Kaap uitreik om die evangelie wat hulle hier op Vredenburg ervaar en kom kry het, terug te neem.

"Ons het dadelik met geldinsame-lingspogings begin en besluit om op Indwe, op die grens van die ou Transkei, te fokus – die naas-armste dorp in Suid-Afrika met 96% werkloosheid.

“Op Saterdagoggend, 19 September het ons na ‘n reis van 1 200 km op Indwe gestop waar ek sommer die volgende ooggend die diens in die VGK moes waarneem! Dank die Vader daarvoor, want dit het ons toegang tot die plaaslike gemeente gegee.

"Dit was aanvanklik maar 'n gesukkel, maar teen Woensdag het die eerste mense hulle harte vir die Here gegee. Aan die einde van die veertien dae het 15 van die 24 spanlede ook tot nuwe toewyding gekom. Vir die eerste keer kon hulle Jesus, voor ander mense, waarlik as hulle Saligmaker bely! (Rom. 10:10)

"Ons kon ook die plaaslike mense daar tot seen wees met die baie en goeie klere wat deur die skoliere van die Hoërskool Vredenburg ingesamel is. Ons kon ook die Bybels, wat deur die Kategese-kinders aangekoop is, aan mense oorhandig. Dit was 'n groot vreugde om se sien hoe mense verander as hulle hul eie Bybel in hulle hande kon vashou.

"In 2010 vertrek ons weer na Indwe met 15 mense. Die Sondag moes ek 'n Nagmaalsdiens waarneem en daarna is ons na die buurdorp om 'n mannebyeenkoms by te woon. Daar was 'n wonderlike gees, wat deur die Heilige Gees bewerk is, teenwoordig. Die plaaslike gemeente se jongmense en lidmate het baie getrou saam met ons gewerk; iets wat die vorige jaar ontbreek het. Hulle het die konsep van tentwerk begin verstaan en daarby ingekoop. Ook was die eenheid baie duidelik te bespeur – alleen waar daar eenheid is, kan die Gees van God werk!"

"Tydens een van ons besoeke verlede jaar, waar 'n ouma vir ons kom vra het

om vir haar gestremde en  
blinde kleinkind te kom bid, het ons  
gedink dat niks gebeur het nie! Tog het  
die ma in 2010 tydens een van die aand-  
dienste opgestaan en kom getuig dat, al  
kan haar seun **nog nie** loop nie, hy al wel  
kan sien!

“Ons kon weer eens Bybels met ons saamneem en die geld vir die Bybels is weer deur die Vredenburg NG Kerk Moeder-gemeente se Sondagskool-kinders ingesamel. Mense het in hulle nood gekom om vir ons te kom smeek vir Bybels.

"Ek loof die droom van die jongmense van Vredenburg VG Kerk (Xhosa) wat die evangelie na hulle portuurgroepe in die Oos-Kaap wou neem. Hierdie droom is beslis nie meer 'n droom nie, maar nou 'n werklikheid. Daardeur is stewige verhoudinge met VGK Indwe gebou, wat nog vir baie jare die vrug sal sien van die droom wat ons jongmense gehad het."

*Kobus van Schalkwyk, VGK Vredenburg  
djvschalkwyk@xsinet.co.za*

# Boeke om te lees

“Millions in Africa are poorer today because of aid: misery and poverty have not ended but have increased. Aid has been, and continues to be, an unmitigated political, economic, and humanitarian disaster for most parts of the developing world. It is the disease of which it pretends to be the cure.”

Dit kom uit 'n nuwe uitstekende boek deur 'n belese vroue-ekonom, gebore in Zambië, **Dambise Moyo**, oor die afbrekende gevolge van biljoene dollar se hulpverlening aan Afrika oor die afgelope 60 jaar. Die boek, *Dead Aid. Why aid is not working and how there is another way for Africa*, bied 'n vars perspektief op die dilemma van armoede in Afrika en die drastiese maatreëls wat nodig is om op die pad van ekonomiese en maatskaplike ontwikkeling te kom. Ook binne kerklike geledere moet hulpverlening sorgvuldig

oorweeg word. Die boek kan gekoop word by *Exclusive Books* of *Kalahari.net* teen R164.

'n Paar ander artikels wat by bg. boek aansluit, kan in die Julie – Augustus 2011-uitgawe van *Mission Frontier* by <http://www.missionfrontiers.org/issue/article/overcoming-poverty> gelees word:

- *Poverty, Getting to the Heart of the Matter*, Rick Wood
  - *A Hand Up Not a Hand-out. Why Enterprise and Business Are Changing Our Approach to Poverty Alleviation*, Peter Greer and Robby Butler
  - *Microfinance. A Look at the Technique as an Effective Strategy for Poverty Alleviation. Hope in the slums*, Peter Greer
  - *Spiritual Capital. How the Church Is Uniquely Equipped to Break the Poverty Cycle*, Ken Eldred

'n Hartlike dank aan alle medewerkers met die samestelling van hierdie uitgawe. Ons volgende uitgawe verskyn in April 2012.

Lees gerus ons webwerf,  
[www.kga.org.za](http://www.kga.org.za), en bly op hoogte  
van al die getuenisaksies binne die  
KGA.

'n Spesiale dankie aan al ons getroue donateurs, sonder wie al hierdie getuienisaksies moeilik volgehou kan word.

*Die KGA kan gekontak word by  
021 957 7204, P/sak X8,  
BELLVILLE 7535 of  
[kgakommunikasie@kaapkerk.co.za](mailto:kgakommunikasie@kaapkerk.co.za).*