



AUGUST 2024

Dear Prayer Partners,

As we look ahead to August the most important dates on the calendar are the Trustees meeting and the AGM on the 27th and 29th respectively. Please keep both these events in your prayers. We are thankful that we have had reasonable bookings through out the winter months and August looks to be the same. There is still available accommodation though should you feel like taking a winter break.



On the 15th July a memorial service was held for Alan Maker who, with Margie his wife, used to attend our Thursday morning Chapel services regularly. In his capacity as a minister there were times when he did the homily or presided over the service. As a Volmoed family our thoughts and prayers are with Margie and their daughters.

The 18th was Mandela Day. The youth, participating in the Volmoed Youth Leadership Training Program (VYLTP), joined by people from Camphill and St Peter's Church drummed for 67 minutes as part of the celebrations. Many of the people who attend our Thursday morning service brought non-perishables to the service which we later distributed among our staff, who greatly appreciated these contributions.

The drumming reminded me once again of the rhythm of life, how noticeable it is in nature. In the ringing of the bell at the chapel, with the comforting thought that the brothers are at prayer. Seeing Lena van Wyk's booking—a reminder of a faithful group of ladies who come together every August to pray for their community.

A definite part of our daily rhythm in the office is our morning coffee. While I was having mine this morning I was reminded of the prayer on the kitchen wall in the Service Building (Kitchen/Dining Room)

Prayer at Coffee Time

Somehow, Jesus, I like praying with a cup of coffee in my hands, I guess the warmth of the cup settles me and speaks of the warmth of your love. I hold the cup against my chest and listen, hushed and still. I blow on the coffee and drink. Oh Spirit of God, blow across my little life and let me drink in your great life. Amen (Richard Foster)

Esther

THANKS GIVING

- That there has been minimal damage despite all the wind and rain. (Shifting sands has made the weir impassable.)
- Continued health and safety of our staff.

The brochure for the retreat is available from the office



Dear Volmoed family

The days seem to pass by too fast.

We had a proper winter month with very low temperatures and lots of rain! Due to this we have been selling quite a lot of wood which has been clearing much of the mess left by the storm last year. You will remember that many trees fell over and we had to have a lot more cut in fear of falling and causing damage. So (at last) the saying “one day at a time” is showing results. That day must still arrive for the work around the river. With all the rain and the de Bos dam still overflowing the water levels vary from day to day. Some of the sand has gone but the bank forming a corner is now almost acting as a wall, not allowing the water to flow but rather pushing it back.



On a different note: We had 2 Brotherly birthdays. Both Roger and Aelred celebrated their birthdays in July. Here, Aelred’s art class is celebrating with him.

Further potential good news is a contact at The Master’s office, which might be able to help with resignations and registrations. Please keep praying with us for this process as a new Chairman of the Board needs to be elected in August at the AGM. New Trustees will be announced at the meeting on the 6th August. Please pray for them too. Maybe prayer for Volmoed as a whole is better expressed. The words of the wedding form come to mind “for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health,” as Jesus said and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age

Erik (former Legacy Fellow) led us in prayer this morning and spoke about St Ignatius, whose feast day is on the 31st July. Ignatius was a vane man, but his life took a radical turn when a cannonball shattered his leg on the battlefield. While spending a lot of time in hospital, he discovered two books – one about the life of Jesus and another about the saints. Reading these spiritual works inspired him to give his life to Christ.

As we find ourselves in Women’s month may we follow in the footsteps of Ruth (Ruth 1:16-17)



Mathilda