



**MARCH 2024**

Dear prayer partners,

The saying goes *'Time flies when you're having fun'* well it also does when you are busy. It has been a busy month at Volmoed. Our bookings calendar has been full over weekends and during the week we have had some extra bookings as well.

Our grounds staff have eventually been able to mow the 'jungle' across the river by re-enforcing the planks we have been using as a bridge so that they were able to drive the tractor across it.

Our solar project was well underway with solar panels being installed on roofs and trenches dug to take cables, when I started writing. Now it is all systems go with 90% of Volmoed on solar, so on your next visit to Volmoed you can relax and not plan around loadshedding. We are still trusting for the balance of R200 thousand to come in so please don't stop praying with us in this regard.

Not all the industry has been happening outside. Isobel has been teaching Mpumelelo and Zenande the finer skills of sewing. See the accompanying pictures of the stole and lectern drop that they made, specifically for this time of Lent.



Zenande

Zenande comes to Volmoed on Thursdays as part of the group of VYLTP students and Mpumolelo fetches her on Monday afternoons for these teaching sessions. She is unable to do any of the sewing at

other times as she doesn't have a sewing machine. We would appreciate any help we can get in acquiring one for her. So if you, or someone you know, has a sewing machine that is no longer in use or for which there is no longer space due to down-sizing and a good home is needed for it, please contact the office, Isobel or Zenande as it would be a great help if she could do some of the sewing at home.

The focus of our Lenten meditations this year is the prayer attributed to Francis of Assisi, *'Lord make me an instrument of your peace.'* Should you be interested in these meditations and you are not on our Thursday Chapel mailing list you can contact the office in this regards as well.



Mpumelelo & Isobel



### MARCH VISITORS

- 4—8 Desmond & Leah Tutu Foundation
- 17—22 Karla Mundy & Song Roots
- 28—31 (Easter Weekend) Grace Pentecostal Ministries

### PRAYER REQUESTS

- ◇ Our on going request is for the safety of our staff traveling to work and at work. (Lucas has been off duty for while with an index finger injury.)
- ◇ We are still struggling to get the trustees documents that were submitted to the Master of the High Court in 2021 certified and returned
- ◇ We are also waiting to hear from the environmentalist what our course of action is with regards clearing the grounds at the river after the floods.
- ◇ John who will be celebrating his 85th birthday on the 18th and has retired as Chair of the board of the Council
- ◇ Edwin Arrison as he takes over as Chair of the board of Council until the AGM in August.

The icon course went off well. It was a time of introspection, blessing, learning and fellowship. Charlotte is an excellent teacher. At the end of the week the finished icons were blessed.



*Wishing you all a*



### **Prayer of St. Francis**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen



*Esther @ the*

*Volmoed*

*Family*