



# THE SCC TIMES

Dear SCC Family,

**July 2023  
Edition: 4**

I hope you've been able to stay warm and dry as this winter weather settles in. Sticking with Daniel, we read:

*But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine ...*

**Daniel 1:8**

The powerful, Babylonian king has taken the finest and brightest young nobles (including Daniel & his friends) from Jerusalem to train them for his service. His plan is to integrate them into his culture and make them Babylonian – giving them new names and immersing them in the language and literature of Babylon.

Daniel and his three friends go along with everything. They answer to their new names, they thrive in their studies, and they surpass all the Babylonians at being Babylonian! God gives them wisdom and understanding because He's planned for them to have influence in the royal court. Daniel engaged with his new environment; and has the freedom to do so. In fact, he must do so. God's people are not to withdraw from where God has placed them, but to engage at every level – social, political, and educational. God expects His people to be culturally and socially involved – influencing through social media, serving in civic organisations or on school Governing Bodies, even playing sport at local clubs. God is Ruler of the world, and His people must bear witness to Him in every aspect of it, not least in caring for the vulnerable and serving those in need. We serve God *in* the world. But we are not *of* the world!

Daniel *resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine (1:8)*. Having integrated in so many ways; why refuse the royal food and wine? Why not eat from the king's table? Although the text doesn't tell us explicitly, it's most likely political – to do with submission and allegiance (see Daniel 11). Eating from the king's table implied fellowship with him, expressing acceptance of his over-lordship and assumed loyalty to him. Daniel could not do that!

That was the line where involvement became assimilation; where interaction became allegiance; where he'd have stopped being an Israelite and become a Babylonian. This is the line where allegiance to God is compromised! In resolving not to partake of the royal food, Daniel displays faithful allegiance to God rather than to Nebuchadnezzar. God expects that same loyalty from His people today. He expects us to serve in the world and among the world, and that we will do so without compromise of His name. We too must resolve to honour God, rather than to please man. So, we will need to be counter-cultural on occasion; going against the flow, standing against the crowd, speaking against social wrongs as we remain faithful to God.

As we live in this world at this time, let us resolve not to compromise our character or conduct as we resolutely remain loyal to God; and may He give us the wisdom, courage and strength to do so.

**Yours together in Christ, Luke**

## BIRTHDAYS in JULY

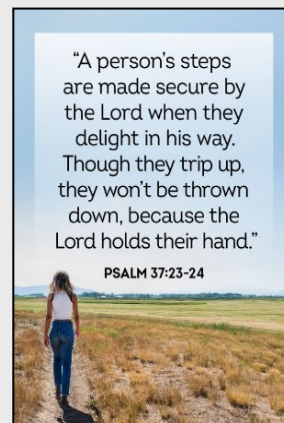
**2 July:** Aubrey Tropper  
**7 July:** Annick Grobbelaar  
**9 July:** Christian Stewart  
**17 July:** Laura O'Caroll  
**26 July:** Nerissa Jeppe  
**26 July:** William Rea  
**29 July:** Brian Simpson  
**30 July:** Hendré Odendaal

## ANNIVERSARIES in JULY

**8 July:** William & Eunice Rea  
**23 July:** Brian & Alison Simpson

"A person's steps  
are made secure by  
the Lord when they  
delight in his way.  
Though they trip up,  
they won't be thrown  
down, because the  
Lord holds their hand."

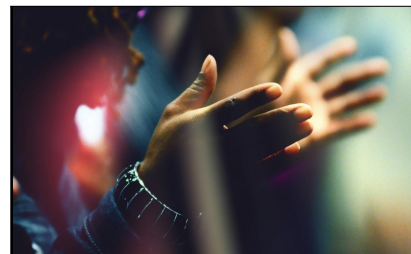
PSALM 37:23-24





## UPCOMING Dates for your Diary

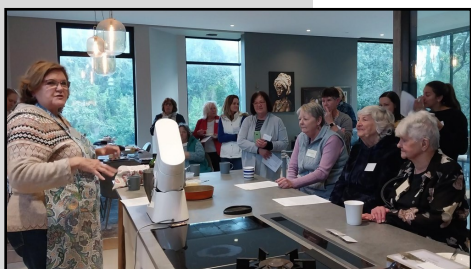
**23 June - 18 July** - School holidays  
**18 - 20 July** - Prayer meetings in Community Groups  
**24 July** - Council Meeting  
**29 July** - Men's Event  
**31 July** - Community Group Leaders Meeting  
**22 - 24 September** - Church Camp - details to follow



*"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth".*

*1 Corinthians 13 vs 4 - 6*

## LADIES Tea in Newlands



On **Saturday, 10 June**, the SCC ladies met together for a special tea in Newlands. The ladies enjoyed some delicious tea & cakes followed by a demonstration by Sarah Dunn on how to make a garlic & rosemary focaccia bread.



Jenny Inglesby did the talk, which was titled **"Women to Women - About Life & Godliness"**. She shared from the book of **Titus** how we, as women, ought to be grounded in Gods word, so that Godliness and self control would be displayed in every area of our lives. We learnt that, as women, our main sphere of influence and our God given calling is in our homes as wives to our husbands and moms to our children. We also learnt that it is precisely this Godly living in our homes that we are to teach and model to younger (and older) women around us. She also shared some practical suggestions on how we can be more involved in each others lives so that ministering to women at SCC would not only happening at special ladies events, but that it would be taking place informally on a "One-2-1" basis with one another. As we do so, the opportunities to teach and encourage one another will increase and the needs of women at SCC would be met. The biblical model of women teaching and modelling Godly behaviour to one another would become a reality in our church community and the gospel will become more attractive to those looking on.





## NEWS from our Mission Partners: MICHAEL & RENEE WATSON



Dear Friends,

If I had to choose just a single word to sum up the month of May I would probably say: Growing...(or Learning). In so many ways this month we have been developing our own skills as well as equipping others in our team to grow God's Kingdom. The ministry team

here is certainly growing. We are intimately aware that you are a crucial part of the team that makes the dream work here in Zambia.

### Entrust It to Others

In the first week of May I left Michael alone at home and set off for a training course for women's discipleship. The 7-day course was intense and by the time we reached the end of the course, I wrestled inwardly with mixed feelings. On the one hand, I felt so ready to be back home with my husband, but at the same time I dreaded saying goodbye to these precious women I had bonded with. I had new sisters and mothers that I had met during the course and had influenced my life in such a special way. It was however time to leave and go out to entrust it to others. I had to put into practice what I had learnt.

### Explore Course

This month we also celebrate the successful completion of book 1 and book 3 of the GWC Explore Course. The course work has been completed and the participants (including myself) eagerly **prepared for the exams** which we wrote early in June. Please pray for us as we review our studies and get ready to write the exams. Working through these courses together with the men ear-marked for leadership in Christ Church Lusaka has been a very rewarding exercise. Not only were we growing in our understanding of God's Word, but we have grown in our relationship with one another. It has opened opportunity for friendship and discipleship.

### Please Pray:

#### Thanksgiving:

- Opportunities for personal growth and learning.
- Interim church venue provided by SIM.
- Successful completion of the two Explore Course Modules.
- The #Run4Wheels Fundraiser.
- Discipleship opportunities that we have been given in our ministry here.

#### Prayer Requests:

- The unbelieving young man whom Michael is meeting with weekly.
- Explore students writing exams in June.
- A suitable (and affordable) venue for CCL.
- The weekly Growth Groups for consistency and spiritual growth.
- That the #Run4Wheels fundraiser will be successful and that we will be able to get a vehicle soon.



## GETTING TO KNOW our SCC Family

### SPOTLIGHT on **SHELDON CAIRNS** from our Teen Church Ministry



#### TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOUR FAMILY

I am married to Mandi, and we have two children Samuel 14 and Phoebe who is 8 years old. They go to Wynberg boys and girls, respectively. Mandi and I met in 1999 at a mutual friend's birthday party and we got married in the May of 2003. The kids are very active and enjoy their sports – Samuel is passionate about his basketball and Phoebe about her netball.



#### TELL US ABOUT YOUR CAREER

I run an IT business, Managed Service Provider, which keeps me on my toes most days. We have an office here in Cape Town and one in Bryanston JHB. I did not study anything IT related growing up. We did not even own a pc and neither did the school I attended. After not studying at Cape Tech, I sort of fell into the IT world and grew in that industry and I am fortunate to say I enjoy the work that I do.



#### TELL US ABOUT YOUR CHRISTIAN WALK WITH THE LORD

I was raised in a Christian home and attended Sunday school, youth, and church at AOG in Mossel Bay. I was baptised as a teenager by my father, which was a truly special event in my life. As a young adult I strayed from the Lord. The small-town boy found the allure of the big city life very attractive. After Samuel's birth and encouragement from my mom and Mandi to take him to Sunday school, I reconnected with the Lord through Jason Palacio's ministry at Southern Cross Church. SCC was still being hosted at False Bay Rugby club at the time. I have been walking with the Lord since then.

#### WHAT MINISTRY ARE YOU INVOLVED IN AT SCC?

I am a helper for Teen church, part of the Welcome Team and help the Tea Team as well. I also assist with the regular men's meetings that SCC hosts.

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD?

I enjoy Asian Food, Italian food and of course anything BRAAI.





#### WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES AND INTERESTS?

I love anything to do with the automotive world. Cars, trucks, bikes you name it, I love them. Road trips are also something I love to do with the family. I enjoy anime and manga and when I have the time gaming either on the XBOX or the gaming PC. I also enjoy cooking and love to try new recipes and when I have the time I love Dalebrook dipping!

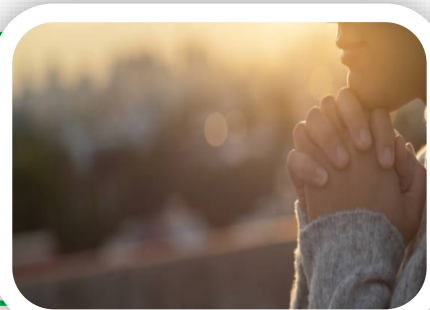
#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE MOVIE AND BOOK?

I am huge fan of Terry Pratchett and the Disc world novels. Rincewind the Wizard, being one of my all-time favs. Movies I would say the original Star Wars Trilogy.



### MATTERS for Prayer

- Give thanks for God's goodness to us in providing a venue for June & July.
- Safe travels for those away or on the road during the holidays.
- Give thanks for the appointment of a new worker to help with family ministries.
- For the Community Group Leaders as they rest during the holidays and prepare for the 3rd term.



*"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another." Hebrews 10: vs 24*

### CHURCH Finances

	Income	Expenditure	Surplus
Full Year 2022	1,154,497	901,068	253,429
Year to date - May 2023	645,207	544,906	100,301

**Bank Details:** Southern Cross Church   Standard Bank   Blue Route (02 56 09)   Acc no: 072 104 791