

# THE SCC TIMES

Dear SCC Family,

In Matthew 16, Peter declares Jesus to be *“the Christ, the Son of the living God”* (v16). Peter sees Jesus in kingly terms – the term *Son of God* was used to describe God’s anointed and forever King (2 Samuel 7) who destroys the enemies of God’s people, and in whom God’s people find refuge by coming under His rule (Psalm 2). In response, *Jesus replied: “You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church”* (v18)

Jesus isn’t making Peter the pope ... but affirming that he (& the disciples) will play a foundational role going forward. Peter knows he’s NOT the church’s foundation, later describing Jesus as the *chosen* and *precious cornerstone* (1 Pet 2:4). But Peter, along with the others, will serve as the foundation – a foundation of those who confess Jesus as Saviour & Lord, as Christ & King. In anticipating this, Jesus affirms certain truths about the church:

**The Church is the POSSESSION of Christ.** The Church belongs to Jesus – not to Peter, not to the disciples, and not to the first members. The Church is Christ’s ... *bought with His blood and built by His Spirit*. We have no claim on it as if it belongs to us ... *the church belongs to Jesus*. And He’s free to do with it as He pleases. The good news is, Jesus is pleased to grow His church so His people become more like Him. So, we look to Him to lead us and guide us, even through difficult, emotional, and changing times ... *we trust Him to build His church and build it He will!*

**The Church is the PEOPLE of Christ.** The word *“church”* speaks of an assembly/gathering. It identifies with Israel gathering at Mount Sinai but now God’s people gather before Jesus to hear God speak through Him and to respond in worship and the obedience of faith. The defining mark of God’s people isn’t their political identity but the personal identity of the One before whom they gather – Jesus. *Our community identity is not rooted in biology but belief in Jesus!* We are bound together not by our ethnicity, education, or economics; not by our preferences or personalities; not by our likes or dislikes – *but because we have come to Jesus*. In Him we are One!

**The Church will PREVAIL with Christ.** Not even death will overcome His church. Neither Jesus’ I’m pending death – because Jesus is the son of the living God who’ll be raised to life. *Indeed, His death and resurrection are the basis for the church*. Nor our inevitable death because the church will transcend this world as believers from all nations, tribes and tongues gather before Jesus not just in the earthly realm but, more importantly, in the heavenly realm too ... *from where they can never be removed*. Our great assurance is that we will prevail if we stick with Jesus ... so, don’t lose heart and don’t be discouraged!

**The Church must PROCLAIM our Christ.** Jesus entrusts Peter & Co, and later the whole church, with a great responsibility – *the keys of the kingdom* (v19). Keys lock & unlock, they close & open. Jesus entrusts His people to make entrance to God’s kingdom available through their witness, through their proclamation declaring Jesus is the Christ. To be entrusted with these keys is to be entrusted with the gospel and commissioned for gospel witness. Our responsibility is not just to know Christ, but to make Him known ... so others might know Him and enter into eternal glory. Hence, we love God and love people when we proclaim that Jesus is Lord.

Jesus’ teaching about the church gives us a sense of belonging and entrusts us with a sense of purpose. May we find our identity and purpose in Christ and be the church that He calls us to be. The next SCC Times will be published at the end of July. **Yours in Him, Luke**

## BIRTHDAYS in JUNE Edition 12

- 1 June: Shirley Nel
- 2 June: Ross Pickford
- 2 June: Oliver Venter
- 2 June: James Malan
- 4 June: Sihle Tholo
- 6 June: Sophie Mulligan
- 9 June: Tom Malan
- 9 June: Mia Snyman
- 10 June: Vanessa Pickford
- 11 June: Ilhaam Smith
- 11 June: Kayleigh Cronje
- 13 June: Kyla-Rei Mulligan
- 13 June: Jaiden Radue
- 15 June: Myla-Rose Flynn
- 16 June: Sarah James
- 19 June: Viola Nicol
- 19 June: Patrick Nuthall
- 21 June: Chris O’Carroll
- 21 June: Warren Williamson
- 21 June: Isiplo Mdonga
- 25 June: Zara Snyman
- 27 June: Francois De Villiers

HAPPY  
Father's  
Day



## UPCOMING Dates for your Diary

- 3 June** - Council Meeting
- 8 June** - TWELVE23 (Young Adults Fellowship)
- 16 June** - Father's Day
- 1 July** - Kids Holiday Club Training Day
- 02 - 05 July** - Kids Holiday Club (with TCC)
- 7 July** - SCC Hike
- 8 July** - Community Group Leaders Meeting
- 14 July** - Ladies Worship Evening
- 15 July** - Kids & Youth Leaders Meeting

*“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?” **Matthew 6: 25***

Join us for the 2024 Men's Convention

**BOOK NOW**

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9am-3pm

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CTMC  
CAPE TOWN  
MEN'S CONVENTION  
1996

*“Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!”*

**Ecclesiastes 4:9**

**PRAY FOR:**

- Michael’s health - that he would remain strong to complete the ministry tasks ahead of him.
- SIM Zambia as we face many exciting changes in our Lusaka Team this coming month.
- The growth of the children’s ministry.
- That God would bring people to church that have gifts of music and children’s ministry to assist in carrying the load.
- That God would increase our support to cover our required budget.

**PRAISE GOD FOR:**

- The safe travels to Mongu and back.
- Using the time in Mongu to speak to our hearts.
- That Renee was restored to good health.
- Women and Men’s Fellowship meetings that took place this month.
- The new Explore group that has started in Matero, Lusaka.

**NEWS From Our Mission Partners:  
Michael & Renee Watson**



The month of May has passed in a bit of a blur. We have been hard at work in ministry at Christ Church Lusaka and even done some travelling outside of Lusaka. We have done our best to keep on top of things while facing sickness, fielding curveballs and enduring more than 12 hours of load-shedding daily.



*Sickness & Health*

The week after we returned from Mongu I (Renee) started to feel sick. It was flu symptoms so I expected to be down for 3-4 days. Nine days later and after a course of antibiotics I was finally up and out of bed.

We were grateful that Michael had withstood the vicious bug. Alas! It seems our joy was short-lived, because he has also started showing symptoms of becoming another fallen victim of the flu bug.

*Vision Trip to Mongu*

Right at the start of May, Michael and I saw a small window of opportunity in our busy schedules and took a trip to Mongu. A vision trip to Mongu has been part of our job description from the time we started with SIM, but we just never found the time or opportunity to go. In looking at our schedules for the upcoming 2-3 months we realised at the start of May that there was one week that we could juggle things to make it available to travel: the second week of May. So after scrambling around to make arrangements we set off on an epic road trip.



*Upcoming Winds of Change*

The month of June is an exciting month here at SIM Zambia as we are expecting the new director of SIM Zambia as well as new staff on the Lusaka team to be arriving. This also signals that our current interim director and personal coordinator (Jeff and Rose Shaffer) will soon be leaving after 30 years of serving in Zambia. Change can be exciting but difficult. Please pray for all of us here in Zambia and especially for Jeff and Rose as they hand over to Kifle and Betty Berhanu. Pray for good transitions for all involved.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your continued prayer and support. We are so grateful that we can share in ministry with you in this way. Please know that you are regularly in our prayers and always in our hearts.



**Thank You!**



## GETTING TO KNOW our SCC Family SPOTLIGHT on KERRYN REHSE

### TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOUR FAMILY

I am married to a wonderful man, Patrick and we have two fur children, Duke and Olivia.

### TELL US ABOUT YOUR CAREER ?

I am an advocacy and policy specialist in the gender-based violence and social justice space. I work together with organisations and government to make sure the law and services work the way they should to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in South Africa.

### WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME, ANY HOBBIES OR INTERESTS?

I love nature and the ocean. When there is time, I enjoy taking the dogs for a walk in Silvermine and when the surf is good, you will find me body boarding at Muizenberg.

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

I am involved in serving the SCC family in the youth, service leading, welcome team and music ministries. It is an absolute joy and pleasure to serve where I can.

### TELL US BRIEFLY HOW YOU BECAME A CHRISTIAN?

I grew up with incredible Christian modelling from my grandparents, aunt and uncle on both sides of my family. As a child and teenager, I was part of Christ Church Sybrand Park. I attended Sunday School and Aunty Penny was the best Sunday School teacher. I attended Youth and Teen church and was confirmed at St James church. I thought I was a Christian then - but I really came to know Christ as my saviour in 2011. At a Memorial Service, my eyes were opened to the fact that nothing I had done was bad enough for God to not accept me. I prayed a prayer of repentance and asked God to come into my life, right there and then and my life was forever changed, and I continue to grow in faith.

### WHAT MUSIC DO YOU ENJOY LISTENING TO?

At the moment, my play list is dominated by Teddy Swims and Phil Wickham. I enjoy a lot of different styles of music, but gravitate to a singer with an "authentic" voice rather than a style of music.

### TELL US ABOUT AN EMBARRASSING MOMENT

In the first assembly in Grade 8, the principal called someone out for talking in assembly - he pointed my way and so I stood up, but it wasn't me. So embarrassed. Still sticks with me today.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD?

All of it. Love trying new food - as long as its banging with flavour, I like it.

### ANY PET HATES?

When others unashamedly step on others to get ahead.

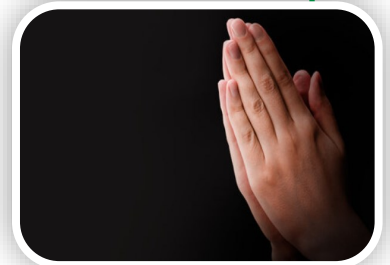
### WHAT'S YOUR DREAM HOLIDAY DESTINATION?

I love travel and travelling to cultures different to our own. I would love to explore Morocco and ultimately, a 4x4 trip through Southern and Eastern Africa.



## MATTERS for Prayer

- Give thanks for the recent Annual Vestry meeting and pray for our newly elected church council: Chip Malan (Rector’s Warden), Leigh Mulligan (People’s Warden) and as Council members: Bruce Heyns, Debra Lumby and David Venter.
- Pray for the impending joint Holiday Club with Tokai Community Church to be held during the upcoming school holidays...both for preparation that needs to happen this month and that many young lives will be transformed by the gospel through this club.
- Give thanks for our church finances and for the generosity of our people to ensure ongoing support for our ministries, mission partnerships and operating expenses.
- Pray for the ongoing discussions about a long terms venue for SCC to facilitate ministry activities and future growth.



*“For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you”. Matthew 7: 2*

## CHURCH Finances

We are so grateful to God for your ongoing partnership as you give regularly towards our operating expenses, mission partnerships and special projects (both at SCC & further afield). Here’s an update of our current financial situation:

	Income	Expenditure *	Surplus / (Deficit)
Jan to Mar 2024	462,300	(428,709)	33,591
April 2024	153,724	(140,991)	15,733
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>619,024</b>	<b>(569,700)</b>	<b>49,324</b>

\* our monthly anticipated expenditure is R157,500.00

Please use the following ways to continue supporting gospel work in partnership with us.

### TWO WAYS TO GIVE:

#### Via EFT



Southern Cross Church  
072104791  
Standard Bank (025609)  
Please reference deposits  
(e.g.: offerings, buildings, missions, etc.)

#### Via SNAPSCAN



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