



# DBC Reports (2023)



welcome to  
**Our Family**

at DBC

Our purpose is to be a Biblically functioning community of believers who demonstrate the relevance of JESUS CHRIST in today's society, turning people who are far from Him into fully devoted followers of His.



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Demonstrating the relevance of JESUS CHRIST in today's society

## Core Values

OUR PURPOSE IS TO BE A BIBLICALLY FUNCTIONING COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS WHO ARE DEMONSTRATING THE RELEVANCE OF JESUS CHRIST IN TODAY'S SOCIETY, TURNING PEOPLE WHO ARE FAR FROM HIM INTO FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF HIS.



- WE VALUE being a contagious community of servants who love God and love others.
- WE VALUE being compassionate caregivers to all people.
- WE VALUE cultivating believers of all ages as models of His character.
- WE VALUE being committed and equipped ministers of His grace and love.
- WE VALUE caring and visionary servant leadership.
- WE VALUE the communication of God's word through Bible-centred preaching and teaching.
- WE VALUE corporate worship and prayer, always being open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- WE VALUE responsible stewardship of spiritual gifts, talents, finances, resources and time.



*Demonstrating the relevance of Jesus Christ in today's society*

## Senior Pastor

**BASIL SPARKS**

### THE YEAR AT A GLANCE:

- 2023 Theme/Vision - ROOTS BELOW, FRUIT ABOVE. This has informed many of decisions along the way, but especially when it has related to our preaching focus for the year.
- Our most recent preaching focus has been on 'What God has Done.' But we have also had the opportunity to preach through the book of John and the Fruits of the Spirit during the course of 2023.
- Groups: The groups I have personally been involved in have been the Senior's Group, a Life Group that meets in our home, and our Thursday Morning Men's Group. Each of



these has been well attended and we have covered many subjects/books of the Bible, along with having many deep, meaningful, and spiritual conversations. Other groups have continued to thrive, and I have been encouraged by the leaders and their commitment to their respective groups. However, it would help if there were additional leaders to start more groups.



- Finances 2023: There have been numerous challenging moments with our finances this year. However, each time we have experienced God's incredible supply. I have come to realise that it is impossible to predict Church finances. But that is okay as it has helped us to grow in faith – looking to Him in all circumstances. Take a moment look at David's report on our finances to the end of October.
- People coming to DBC: Post Covid we have seen many people visit DBC, with many joining. However, our numbers continue fluctuating. Online services have created a new dynamic with some people watching online rather than coming and joining in with the service. We discourage this as we are meant to be in community. The online services have helped, however, with those who travel and others who physically aren't able to join each Sunday.
- Cedarhill Family Church: Please continue praying for Cedarhill. Our financial commitment to them will continue for one more year. Pray God continues growing their congregation. They are ideally situated for the kind of growth that is happening in that area. But it has been tough for them, and they need our prayers.
- Struggles: Many families, from DBC, had to face enormous challenges and struggles this year. There have been health challenges, family deaths, financial trials, and many more different challenges. Please continue praying for people, you may know, that are experiencing deep trials.
- Our Leadership: It has been a joy to work with our team (Elders, staff, deacons, and interns). They have been a wonderfully committed group and have worked hard in their respective areas of ministry. There are many plans for 2024 and we look forward to a vibrant, energy filled year of following where God leads.

- Nolene Dollery – Administration
- Brett Taylor – Elder and Worship
- Keith Westberg – Elder and Next Gen
- Cary-Ann Joynt – Friday Night Childrens Ministry and Schools Ministry
- Annemarie Haker – Cleaner
- Retha du Preez – Intern
- Lydia Mizen – Intern
- Bradford Crofton Ball – Intern
- Richard Southey – Elder and Missions
- Gareth Friend – Elder
- Zane Joynt – Elder
- Nick Haupt – Marriage
- Jill Peper – Prayer
- Johann Fourie - Men
- Tania Miller - Care
- Jayne Marais – Women
- Simon Marais – Facilities
- David Barnes – Treasurer (Church and DBC Life Trust)



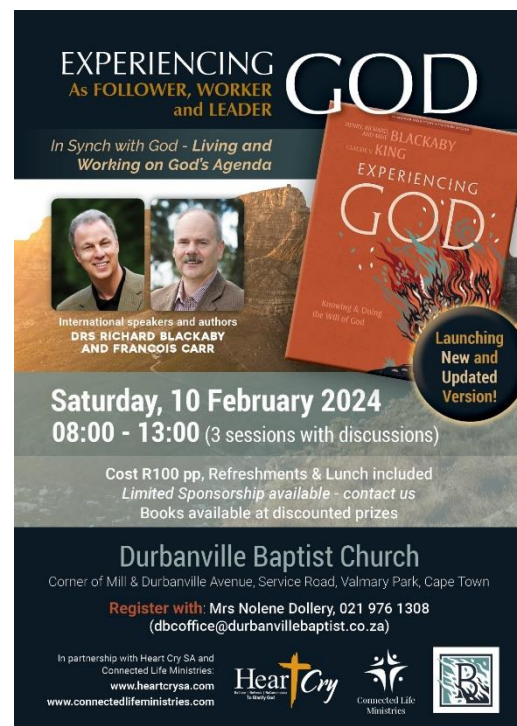
## HOW GOD HAS BEEN WORKING

- Over recent months it has been wonderful hearing how God has been at work. Many of you have incredible stories and testimonies of God's faithfulness towards you. We also recognise that God continues to work and that he is still busy with all of us. He is changing us. Continue in your hunger for His righteousness.
- We have seen numerous people baptised this year. We give thanks for every person who has taken the step of obedience.
- It was wonderful to see how God has worked, in the lives of children and teens, at our recent Holiday Bible Club, camps, etc.
- God has been at work in so many and varied ways throughout the year. Our prayer is that you continue looking to Him to help you move forward in your faith. To take the next step.

## PLANS FOR 2024



- Again, we look to the Lord for His help during 2024.
- Our vision for the year is that of getting back to the basics of our purpose statement and simplifying ministry into three main areas: **Simplify: Love God, Love People, Share Jesus.** We seek to be a Biblically functioning community of God's people who are demonstrating the relevance of Jesus Christ in today's society. Turning people who are far from Him, into fully devoted followers of His. Key words for 2024: Discipleship, community, and outreach.
- Encourage people with our three asks: Take the Next Step, Join a Team, Invite a Friend.
  - Take the Next Step: We would like you to identify what the next step in your spiritual growth is, and to take it. Take responsibility for your spiritual growth.
  - Join a Team: If you are not already serving in the Church, then start.
  - Invite a Friend: I have been encouraged by the willingness, that many of you have shown, to invite friends to events organised by the Church. Please keep doing this as well as asking God to help you share Jesus with others.
- Experiencing God with Richard Blackaby: Toward the beginning of February Richard Blackaby will be sharing in a weekend of ministry with us and the community of Durbanville.
- One Big Event: During 2024 we would like to do one event together, with all the various ministries involved, as a Church. This will more than likely take the form of a Church picnic/braai at one of the beautiful spots around Cape Town. Be sure to keep an eye open for detail.
- Smaller Events: We also wish to do smaller, quick win, events during the course of the year (Boerie rolls after the service, pancakes, etc.). The idea with these is to provide opportunities, outside of Life Group, for people in the Church to connect. We would like to present you with an opportunity of getting to know others in the Church, in a less structured way.



## DBC LIFE TRUST

- Our Projects: Our distributions will give you a clear picture of where our money is being spent:



## Distributions (To end of October 2023)

○ Pensioners	268 800
○ Delft Homework Club	42 000
○ Sinekamva School	32 000
○ Shilo School of Learning Bursaries	6 600
○ Morgenster Aftercare	5 194
○ Poverty Relief	20 900
○ BU Assembly – Pastors	7 000

**Dispersed to end of October                      382 494**

Our two most recent projects are two, yearly, bursaries we have made available, to two students, at Shiloh School of Learning. We also ramped up our efforts at Sinekamva with a fundraising cycle in October. A big thank you to ever person that supported us. We raised just on R100 000 (R8000 is in commitments that have not come into the trust yet). Thank you too to every rider that participated in this fundraiser. It was loads of fun.



At our Church meeting at the beginning of December, trustees will be appointed for the next two years. David Barnes, myself, Nolene Dollery, Anthony Dollery, Richard Southey, and Jill Peper will stand for another term. A big thank you to Marthinus Greef and Warren Hamer for

the time as trustees. They have both decided not to stand for re-election. David Crawford has been nominated to stand, for his first term, as a trustee for the trust.

I am ever grateful for the incredible role that the trust has played in so many people's lives. It is good to know that we are able to bring relief into the lives of the most vulnerable in our country. Thank you for standing with us in this regard. For more information, please take a look at the brochure on our website: [DBC Life Trust « \(durbanvillebaptist.com\)](http://durbanvillebaptist.com)

## PERSONAL

At the end of February 2024 Heidi and I would have served at DBC for 23 years. These have, at times, been tiring and tough years, but they have also been very blessed. We have loved serving God and you through those years. There have been painful moments but there has always been joy. We love this body of believers, so thank you for loving us.

2023 has been a busy but a good year. In many respects, I am extremely tired. But often the result of my own doing.

My book continues to sell steadily. I am grateful for the feedback that I have received from people that it has been of benefit to them. At the recent Baptist Union Assembly, a copy of Unshackled was given to every delegate. I am grateful for the opportunity to get a copy into the hands of every person attending the Assembly. I trust it will be useful.

Our children continue to do well in their respective work environments. And it is our joy that they are both serving the Lord in their respective Churches. Christopher in London and Kaitlyn in Somerset West.



# *Administrator*

**NOLENE DOLLERY**

Looking back at 2023 I am quite encouraged by the growth and improvement in various areas of administration. Planning Center has been a “game changer” in better managing and co-ordinating events and it offers other, behind the scenes, functions that assist me in my role in administration. Co-ordinating our teams of volunteers has offered a few challenges, but I feel that we have found new and innovative ways to do so and keep all necessary functions running smoothly. The better we communicate and co-ordinate between the various ministries, the more excellent our serving and ministering at DBC will become.

I am amazed at how quickly the year has gone by. I am excited at what lies ahead for 2024. Our vision for 2024 is one that personally lies close to my heart. I continue to enjoy the supportive role that administration offers to the various ministries within the church and will continue to strive for excellence in that role.

## *DBC and DBC Life Trust Finances*

**DAVID BARNES**



### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the period ending

**31 OCTOBER 2023**

**QGM – 03 DECEMBER 2023**



# DESIGNATED FUNDS

## Summary

FUND NAME	BALANCE 01/01/2023	EX GENERAL FUND	OFFERINGS & SPECIAL GIFTS	DISBURSEMENTS	BALANCE 31/10/2023
Designated Giving Fund	11,095	-	18,580	(18,807)	10,868
Care Fund	55,855	31,171	10,356	(43,237)	54,145
Interns Fund	-	-	39,350	(34,049)	5,301
Missions Fund	85,326	685,761	-	(663,940)	107,147
Building Fund	5,223	-	-	-	5,223
Men's Ministry Fund	1,001	-	1,084	-	2,085
Women's Retreat	-	-	14,448	(14,448)	-
Marriage Ministry	-	-	600	-	600
Holiday Bible Club	-	-	61,617	(59,934)	1,683
Facilities Upgrade Fund	-	-	45,800	-	45,800
Equipment Replacement Fund	70,007	31,171	18,518	(67,602)	52,094
Delft Christmas Gifts	761	-	-	-	761
Next Gen Camps	-	-	68,689	(49,514)	19,176
Cedar Hill	7,093	62,342	1,000	(64,689)	5,745
<b>TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS</b>	<b>236,360</b>	<b>810,444</b>	<b>280,043</b>	<b>(1,016,220)</b>	<b>310,627</b>

# FREEWILL GIVING

	ACTUAL GIVING			2023	
	2020	2021	2022	BUDGET	ACTUAL
January	295,335	211,049	243,956	320,700	262,127
February	216,631	272,949	220,325	320,700	250,406
March	328,627	321,901	422,082	320,700	362,379
April	294,873	342,764	246,818	320,700	245,215
May	244,109	248,504	248,717	320,700	288,726
June	326,500	311,969	332,140	320,700	270,266
July	278,695	280,499	270,439	320,700	434,256
August	299,362	269,415	276,488	320,700	340,212
September	258,830	242,539	324,491	320,700	376,258
October	352,746	276,301	372,380	320,700	287,249
November	219,918	319,629	287,421	320,700	
December	344,654	351,162	354,630	320,700	
	3,460,279	3,448,678	3,599,887	3,848,400	3,117,093

# INCOME STATEMENT

	ACTUAL YTD 2023	BUDGET YTD 2023	VARIANCE	ANNUAL BUDGET
<b>INCOME</b>				
Freewill Giving	3,117,093	3,207,000	(89,907)	3,848,400
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>Outside Ministries</b>				
Denominational	124,684	128,280	3,596	153,936
Missions (22% of Giving)	685,761	705,540	19,779	846,648
DBC Life Trust (1% of Giving)	31,171	32,070	899	38,484
Cedar Hill (2% of Giving)	62,342	64,140	1,798	76,968
Care Fund (1% of Giving)	31,171	32,070	899	38,484
<b>Local Church Ministries</b>				
Internal Ministries	101,746	147,500	45,754	177,000
Pastoral Ministries	16,526	19,167	2,641	23,000
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Finance Costs	6,715	16,663	9,949	19,996
Computer Costs	80,184	76,250	(3,934)	91,500
General Expenses	96,662	69,167	(27,496)	83,000
Photocopier Costs	4,703	5,000	297	6,000
Property Maintenance	117,952	100,000	(17,952)	120,000
Equipment Replacement Reserve	31,171	32,070	899	38,484
Salaries	1,589,143	1,626,667	37,524	1,952,000
Utilities	147,104	152,417	5,313	182,900
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>3,127,034</b>	<b>3,207,000</b>	<b>79,966</b>	<b>3,848,400</b>
<b>NET DEFICIT</b>	<b>(9,940)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(9,940)</b>	<b>-</b>

# BALANCE SHEET

<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		3,860,357
Properties	3,860,357	
<b>Investment of Designated Funds</b>		310,627
Investment Account	67,092	
Bank	243,535	
<b>Cash and Bank</b>		54,361
Bank	51,152	
Petty Cash	3,209	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>4,225,346</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>		3,903,263
Balance 1 January 2020	3,860,357	
Balance of 2020 Surplus	10,341	
Balance of 2021 Surplus	42,503	
Balance 1 January 2023	3,913,202	
Deficit for the period ended 31 October 2023	(9,940)	
<b>DESIGNATED FUNDS</b>		310,627
Designated Giving	10,868	
Care Fund	54,145	
Missions Fund	107,147	
Interns Fund	5,301	
Building Fund	5,223	
Equipment Replacement Fund	52,094	
Facilities Upgrade Fund	45,800	
Holiday Bible Club	1,683	
Men's Ministry Fund	2,085	
Marriage Ministry	600	
Next Gen Camps	19,176	
Delft Christmas Gifts	761	
Cedar Hill	5,745	
<b>Creditors</b>		11,456
<b>TOTAL RESERVES &amp; LIABILITIES</b>		<b>4,225,346</b>

# DBC Life Trust

## INCOME STATEMENT BALANCE SHEET

### INCOME

Donations received - Undesignated	179 800.00
Donations received - Pensioners	138 682.95
Donations received - Delft Homework Club	16 200.00
Donations received - Morgenster Aftercare	2 500.00
Donations received - Poverty Relief	5 900.00
Donations received - Sinekamva Ride	91 665.00
Donations received - Sinekamva School	500.00
Interest received	35 479.73
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>470 727.68</u></b>

### EXPENSES

Administration services	435.00
Bank Charges	6 452.55
Printing, postage & stationery	3 178.71
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>10 066.26</u></b>

### DISTRIBUTIONS

Pensioners	268 800.00
Delft Homework Club	42 000.00
Sinekamva School	32 000.00
Shilo School of Learning Busarles	6 600.00
Morgenster Aftercare	5 194.83
Poverty Relief	20 900.00
BU Assembly - Pastors	7 000.00
	<b><u>382 494.83</u></b>

### TRANSFERS TO RETIRED PASTORS DONOR FUND

Interest	<u>29 602.82</u>
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	48 563.77
Accumulated funds brought forward from 2022	159 068.14
<b>Accumulated funds at the end of the period</b>	<b><u>207 631.91</u></b>

### ASSETS

Investment Account	602 277.49
Current Account	107 041.79
	<b><u>714 319.28</u></b>

### RESERVES

Accumulated Funds - Undesignated	113 421.42
Morgenster Aftercare	2 545.49
Sinekamva Ride	91 665.00
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>	<b><u>207 631.91</u></b>
Retired Pastors - Donor Funds	506 687.37
	<b><u>714 319.28</u></b>



# *Worship Pastor*

BRETT TAYLOR



## **HIGHLIGHTS**

One of the things that really stands out for me this year is how our teams have grown in number, maturity, and unity. After feeling the loss of many team members in 2021 and 2022, this has been an incredible blessing.

Another highlight are our “Thursday Sessions” that we started this year. Four times a year we now cancel our Thursday evening worship practice so that everyone in the ministry can come together for an evening of growth and connection. I cannot begin to describe the value that this has had for our ministry.

## **HOW GOD HAS WORKED**

The theme for this year was, “Roots Below, Fruit Above,” and I believe that one of the ways that God has done this in people’s lives has been through hardship. There are many people in our ministry and the church this year who have faced difficulty but have stayed focused on the Lord and deepened in their ability to worship in every season. It has been awesome to end the year with the series, “What He’s Done” and to celebrate and worship God for it.

## **CHALLENGES THE MINISTRY HAS FACED**

One of the biggest challenges we face in leading worship is distraction. It can be so easy to let things of a practical nature steal the focus from glorifying God and

experiencing His presence. Please pray that hearts would come prepared for corporate worship and that the things of this world grow strangely dim.

## **PLANS FOR 2024**

I would love to keep the momentum growing in terms of growth in our teams and our “Thursday Sessions”. In addition to this I would like us to be exceptionally focused on one of our 8 values statements...

*“We value corporate worship and prayer, always being open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit”*

# *Next Gen Pastor*

**KEITH WESTBERG**

## **What has happened?**

Here is a list of events/ministries we have hosted this past year:

- Impact Training
- Interns
- Schools Ministry
  - o Kenridge Primary
  - o Durbanville Primary
  - o Valmary Park
  - o Fairmont High
- Friday Nights
  - o Journey
  - o Reach
- Sunday Mornings
  - o Kids Church
  - o Teen Church
- Bible Studies for Teens
  - o Grade 8-10

- o Grade 11-12
- Young Adult Life groups
  - o Joynt's
  - o Taylor's
  - o Westberg's
  - o De Klerk's
- Cederberg Camp (Young Adults)
- Elevation Camp (Grade 5-7)
- Reach Camp (Grade 8-12)
- Holiday Bible Club
- Matric Tea
- Matric packs and prayer
- Combined Youth Events with other Churches in the Area

#### **Still to Come:**

Appreciation Dinner.

#### **How God has Worked:**

We launched our Grade 6 class after HBC to fill the gap the children feel between Kids Church and Teen Church. Next year the Grade 6's and 7's will be in a class together.

New leaders in our team for Kids Church, which is headed up by Lizette Kotze has seen growth in numbers and in depth of Biblical Understanding.

Our Teen Bible Study split into two distinct groups and there has been growth in both.

Our events such as Holiday Bible Club and camps continue to create momentum for the ministry and bring depth and growth to the lives of those who attend and are a part of the leadership involved.

Numbers have increased across the board for Next Gen Ministries.

There has been a renewed excitement about worship for the teens which is part and parcel with a deeper relationship with the Lord for some of the teens. Teens are expectant for God to work and move in their lives.



### Challenges Faced:

A culture of inconsistent attendance in general has sometimes been an issue when wanting to develop relationships and be a consistent influence in the lives of children, teens and their parents.

A positive challenge is that with a large number of new leaders there have been many opportunities to do training and help them grow. While they are growing though, there are some teething problems.

### Plans for 2024:

A few plans and dreams for the new year to pray into:

- Youth Mission Trip
- New Young Adult Life Groups
- Young Adult Quarterly Events

## *DBC Journey*

(Friday Night Children's Ministry)

**CARY-ANN JOYNT**

2023 has been an exciting year for all of us at Journey. We started the year with Impact training, with the aim of building excitement for the year, training, planning and doing team-building activities – of which our annual Masterchef competition was once again a highlight with the sections producing delicious meals for our judges.

We had a big group of brand-new leaders join our team, and it has been so encouraging to see how they have settled in, become a part of the sections they are in and have been so willing to take on the responsibilities of planning games and writing and sharing stories with the children. I am always so amazed and thankful for our leaders. They are committed to the ministry, give so much of their time on a Friday night as well as planning and preparing during the week - all with smiles on their faces, and



hearts to serve the Lord and share the gospel. The benefit of building friendships, growing in their faith personally and developing the bond of community is also very evident. After Covid we had a very young and mostly inexperienced team, and it has been amazing to see the growth and maturity developing in our leaders.



God has been faithful in sending children each week. We started the year with an average of about 60 children per week. This has grown to our average number of kids being in the 70's. We even reached 80 children a few weeks ago! We are thankful to the Lord that we get to share His Word with these children. Our leaders build relationships with the kids and seeing the trust between them is a very special thing.

One of our challenges is that we feel as if we are in constant competition with school events, for both children and leaders. Many of our leaders are very involved in sport and other activities at their respective schools and Friday nights are very popular school activity and sport match evenings. This is especially evident with winter sport in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> terms and

end of year events in the 4<sup>th</sup> term.

Please keep praying that God changes lives through Journey, that the regular children will be encouraged to invite their friends and that we can have an impact in the families of our community.



# *DBC Schools Ministry*

**CARY-ANN JOYNT**

We have had a busy and exciting year in our community schools this year. We are so grateful that this opportunity still exists for us, and we are thankful for the doors that are open. Having said this, the schools fall under the regulations of the Department of Education when it comes to what is and isn't allowed to be said and so we understand that as invited guests, we need to be sensitive in what we say.

God is so faithful, and He gives us ideas and uses the Christian children in the classes in many instances to share His Word in creative ways. Please pray for those of us involved to be wise and courageous and for the Lord to give us the words to say and the messages that He wants these children to hear.

Keith is part of the JOT team at Durbanville Primary who go in on a Wednesday morning to share with the English Grade 6 classes. He also has the opportunity to be a part of the SCA (Students Christian Association) at Fairmont when he is able. They meet on a Wednesday and Friday during second break and many of our DBC youth are a part of this society and involved in the committee. Our interns have also had the opportunity to join at SCA when able.

I have once again been involved at Kenridge on a weekly basis. At the beginning of the year, I was teaching the Gr 1-3 English and Afrikaans classes as well as the Gr 4-7 English classes. It is exciting that Matthew Christy, as Next Gen Pastor at Protea Valley Church, has also got involved in Kenridge and is now doing the Gr 5-7 English classes. This means that instead of only seeing each grade once a term, I now get to visit each class twice every term and the same for Matthew with his older grades.

We have also been invited to share messages during assembly at Kenridge and Durbanville Prep this past year, including an assembly held especially for Ascension Day.

Please pray that God keeps these doors open for us in the years ahead.

I am also so aware that there are many in our own congregation who are teachers in our local and outlying schools. I know that their hearts are also to show God's love to the children they teach. We are so grateful for their influence as well as the parents from DBC who are involved in Prayer Groups, Governing Bodies, and many different aspects of school life.



# *DBC Interns*

## **BRADFORD CROFTON-BALL**

My time in the DBC Internship has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience, providing a wonderful opportunity to get to know how both DBC and its various ministry efforts work - behind the scenes as well as the awesome people behind them.

The internship saw us involved in a wide breadth of ministries as well as giving us the opportunity to make connections with people within our own church, at DBC, as well as the church at large. Amid helping with the youth ministries, we were also enabled to organise some events of our own – such as the Open Mic Night and DBC's Chess & Chill Tournament – to encourage the further development of fellowship at DBC.

I found that being involved in the church, as an intern, was a perfect opportunity to see the connection between knowledge and action – something in which I am quite interested in my capacity as a student of theology. The internship allowed me to see how even the smallest of things can have such a huge impact for positive change and to show God's love to others, especially within the body of Christ.

Being able to interact with people within the Church, and with those who are passionate about our Christian calling, and who dedicate their time to God's glory through various ministries and efforts, has been a fulfilling experience. But it has also showed me the deep need for more Christians to stand up and get involved in what God is doing at DBC. The internship has been full of opportunities for learning, growth, leadership, service and forming relationships, and I will miss being able to be involved in the church in a full-time capacity next year.

During my tenure as an intern I have grown to a greater appreciation for the work of everyone who is involved in the church and the work and ministry it does for God's glory in this community. I'd like to thank everyone who supported us as interns this year – we couldn't have made it without you! We have had the awesome opportunity to see God working in the lives of young people at DBC and it has been a privilege to be a part of that process. I can highly recommend the internship to any young folks who would like to honour God with their time and go behind the scenes of Church and experience the front lines of ministry to the Durbanville community.

# DBC Interns

## LYDIA MIZEN

As I reflect on my internship experience, I realize how much I have grown over the past year.

Here are some of the key opportunities and learning experiences that I've encountered:

- During my time as an intern, I've had the chance to work in various areas of the church that I haven't worked in before - working with the teens at Reach (which is something I will definitely be continuing next year!), joining the women's ministry team, decorating the prayer room, and helping with general church upkeep, and more!
- Personal Growth: This year has been a good year for personal and spiritual growth. As part of the staff team, during morning devotions, we've gone through God's character, good virtues to have; and we've had many spirited conversations about other biblical topics! As interns, we have also been blessed to have Lizette Kotze lead us through the Veritas course, which dives deeper into understanding the Bible and messages we read.



- Service is at the heart of the church: As previously mentioned, I served in the church in various capacities. Service is at the core of what the church does, and I've been blessed to see it in action as well as be part of it. It's important to approach each task with a servant's heart and a willingness to help wherever needed.

I could go into much more detail, but overall, my internship was a great learning experience that provided me with new opportunities and helped me to grow both personally and spiritually.

Next year, I'm attending Varsity College for teaching. It's going to be a completely new experience, but I'm excited for this new opportunity!



## *DBC Interns*

### **RETHA DU PREEZ**

I have loved being an intern at DBC. Ever since becoming a leader at Children's Ministry (now called Journey Ministries) in 2017, I have put in a lot of time and effort into everything behind the scenes as I don't like being the centre of attention and public speaking is not something that comes naturally to me.

I love admin, from scheduling rosters to organising events (or just organising things in general). Being an intern gave me the opportunity to be involved with a lot of behind the scenes planning and organising. Here are the main things I was involved with at church throughout the year.

- Bradford and I lead the gr8-10 teens life group since February.
- I've continued to lead the actions teams for Kids Church, Journey Ministries, and HBC.
- I lead at Journey Ministries as a Section Head for the gr4s-5s section.
- I started leading at Reach this year.
- I was involved in a lot of the set up for the lessons at Kids Church this year.
- Lydia and I organised the Open Mic night in March.
- I was a leader at and helped organise various aspects of HBC.
- We organised a whole bunch of rooms in the church this year.
- I helped Bradford with the admin side of the Chess Tournament we had during the June/July Holiday.



- I was able to help with the planning as well as leading at both the Elevation and Reach Camps.
- The Interns all did a Course from Veritas Collage on “How To Interpret The Bible.”
- I organised the Matric Tea and the Matric Packs.
- I had the opportunity to attend the Global Leadership Summit 2023 along with the rest of the Church Staff.
- Lydia and I planned the Reach Dance.
- I am helping to organise the Appreciation Dinner.
- I have assisted the pastors in preparation for next year.

The Lord has worked in my life a lot this year and being able to ask and get input from the pastors in my day-to-day life has helped me grow my understanding and knowledge about God and the Bible. I am currently unsure what the entirety of next year holds but will be trusting and relying on the Lord through it.

## *DBC Prayer Ministry*

**JILL PEPER**

The Prayer Ministry consists of the following activities:-

- 1) Saturday morning prayer meeting.
- 2) Monthly prayer diary.
- 3) Prayer requests to the church prayer list.
- 4) An hour in prayer (part of the d4j interchurch outreach).
- 5) An hour in prayer on a given date (with Jericho Walls).
- 6) Women’s world day of prayer (interchurch).
- 7) “Pink house” monthly interchurch prayer leaders group.
- 8) Meetings with prayer deacons from other Durbanville churches (d4j).

Our church has gone through a time of illness and a time of financial strain recently.

Despite this, we have seen the Lord work through the prayers of his people, and have been encouraged by His strength and presence at a time of great difficulty.

# DBC Facilities

SIMON MARAIS

## Overview

As 2023 draws to a close, we reflect on the progress and achievements in the facilities at Durbanville Baptist Church.

### Some key points for the year:

#### 1. Sanctuary Ceiling painting

Progress has been made towards the maintenance and repair of the sanctuary ceiling. After obtaining several quotes, the estimated cost for the project is approximately R60,000. We have already secured R11,000 towards this. However, as the church budget cannot cover the remaining amount, we are reaching out to our congregation for contributions to complete this vital maintenance to the sanctuary's interior.

#### 2. Alternative Power Solutions

Our journey towards energy independence and efficiency has seen great developments:



### - Solar Power Installation:



The success of the "Adopt a Panel" campaign has led to the installation of a solar array, effectively mitigating the impact of load shedding. Thanks again to all who contributed!

An additional lithium-ion battery is on order to further enhance the system's effectiveness against extended load shedding.

Plans include expanding the array to cover all the power phases of the church and installing additional inverters and panels.

The long-term goal is to sell excess power back to the city, making the installation cash positive over the medium term.

### - Energy-Efficient Lighting:

We are in the process of replacing old fluorescent tubes with LED tubes in the offices and the vestry, and flat panel LED lighting in the sanctuary.

The hall lighting upgrade is planned for early 2024.

The main floodlights outside the church will be replaced with high-output LED floodlights by the end of 2023, with more LED floodlights to follow around the building.



### 3. Work Party

The Work Party on February 18 was a testament to the spirit of our church family. Many came to showcase their DIY skills, to maintain and improve the facilities. This event will be a recurring initiative in the coming years.





#### 4. Future Projects and Planning

While 2023 was a year of focusing on immediate facility needs, we plan to give more attention to the planning of the expansion of buildings and manses in the upcoming year.

#### Closing Thoughts

Thanks to everyone who has contributed their time, resources, and skills. We look forward to continuing our efforts in 2024 and beyond.

*DBC Missions*

**RICHARD SOUTHEY**

DBC Missions has had an uneventful year so far. We were unable to secure a date for our traditional outreach to Delft, but have set a date for 2024 already, with the intention of combining that event with a missions focused month.

At the end of 2022 we partnered with the Still Bay Baptist Church in providing a holiday program for the visitors to the local camp site. Between Christmas and New Year, a team of our young adults (and some older adults) ministered in Still Bay to the children who were camping with their families. Their time was a great success, and we were asked to return at the end of this year to run the program again. This time various teams will be rotating from 16 until the 31 of December.

Finance has always been a challenge because it is closely linked to the income received in the church finances, but The Lord has always provided for our missionaries, and we are blessed to be in a strong financial position as the year ends.

We currently support missionaries in Senegal, USA, Malawi, Delft, as well as Durbanville and the surrounding areas. We have families involved in reaching the unreached on the African



continent, international leadership teams, church planting, Bible translation, plastic surgery and others working amongst the poor in Cape Town and surrounds.

Please continue to pray for and encourage our missionaries and ministries out in the field. Some of them live and work in really harsh and oppressive environments far away from family and friends.

# Missions – DBC



1. Vaughan & Corne Stannard (Beautiful Gate)
2. The Moller Family (BU Missionaries in Malawi)
3. Japie & Lizette Kotze (Serving with Veritas in SA)
4. Dave and Nicki Bremner (Serving with SIM)
5. The Bonthuys Family (Serving with SIM)
6. The McMinn Family (Serving in Delft, Cape Town, SA)
7. Nikki and Lorna Nikiforos (Serving in Cape Town, SA)

# *DBC Care Ministry*

**TANIA MILLER**

As the year comes to an end, it is always such a blessing to see how the Lord has provided meals for families and individuals dealing with sickness, hospitalisation and other challenges in their lives, thereby relieving them of this extra burden during trying times.

We provided meals for about 20 families for a period of 3 to 5 consecutive days on each occasion. This blessing cannot be achieved without the congregation members who willingly support this initiative.

Meal vouchers are another way in which we bless families who are struggling financially to afford this basic need.

Care bags were also distributed to families and individuals experiencing some sort of personal strife, as a token indication that we are aware of their situation and have them in our thoughts.

If you feel led to bless others through this ministry, please let me know, so we can spread the love to those facing difficult times.

# *DBC Ladies Ministry*

**JAYNE MARAIS**



Our first event for 2023 took place in March and was a lovely breakfast walk on a warm Saturday morning. Forty-six ladies gathered at the church and enjoyed a walk to various homes close by, where they enjoyed some delicious breakfast treats. The highlight was having the DBC Men's Ministry involved, by cooking us some yummy egg and bacon croissants. All those who attended enjoyed some fun games and fellowship along the way.

Our evening event in May was held at Durbanville Baptist and we enjoyed a cooking demonstration by Nicole Neethling of Flour and Oil fame. She taught us how to make authentic samoosas with three different fillings and shared her testimony with us. We were reminded of how God is our great provider, and He knows what we need in each situation.

Our annual retreat took place in September. Once again, we visited the beautiful Rondekuil farm outside Durbanville and were treated to a day of rest, wonderful food, times of reflection and excellent teaching by Salome Geiger. Our topic was Living in Freedom. What a challenge to hear from Salome who works with victims of human trafficking. Salome has founded an organisation called Free to Fly which helps rescue young girls and women who are trafficked and provides them with a safe place.

Our final get together for the year was our very popular annual Christmas event and this year we were taught by Chandre de Jager how to make beautiful, beaded Christmas wreaths. Over sixty ladies gathered to enjoy a time of connecting and fellowshiping with one another whilst getting creative and learning something new.

This year we were so encouraged by all the contributions made by the ladies to various organisations we have supported. We collected stationery and sweets and biscuits for the children at Sinekamva Quali Edu Pre-Primary school and we were able to support Salome in her mission by collecting bags of toiletries for the young women she works with on a daily basis. Thank you to each person who so generously contributed towards these collections this year.

We look forward to what 2024 will bring and wish each lady at DBC a beautiful Christmas and New Year.





# *DBC Marriage Ministry*

NICK HAUPT

## Overview

We had a good and encouraging start to the year after our elders' meeting late last year. While not an "official" ministry trip we did present our "Fight Right" course at the Jefferys' Bay Baptist church in February. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> term we were asked to present a talk on Friday night, mostly to the parents of children who are at youth. We used a video teaching by Gary Chapman on the importance of seeking Him, which ultimately makes a better marriage.



Unfortunately, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> term we did not have any event. Usually Focus on the Family has an event in Cape Town which either we host as a church, or we promote heavily if it is held at another church but this year due to budget cuts at Focus, there was none. However, Elodee and I did attend a couple's weekend at "In Harmonie", a Christian retreat in Franschoek. It was hosted by Focus on the Family with Grame Snell and his wife presenting. It was limited to 13 couples which made it quite intimate. Elodee and I had time to reflect on our marriage, and this gave us a chance to deal with some topics that we had skirted over the years.

The 4<sup>th</sup> term is the time for our usual marriage breakfast. It was quite a success based on the feedback we got, with 20 couples attending. There was only 20 minutes dedicated to "teaching" as we did not want people to feel that they were coming to another "how to fix your marriage" session but rather a marriage celebration event where we could celebrate the years of marriage we have had, and rejoice in our marriages.

## Challenges

We still feel that nurturing/focusing on marriage is not a priority in our church congregation. We are not saying that people don't regard their marriage as important, but we get the feeling it is not prioritized. By the same token I don't suggest that every time we have an event that we have 100 couples attend, but we do find resistance to events. Even when we have the Focus on the Family events at our church (or other venues) the turnout from our church is very low. This was particularly evident with a course that was offered in the first term. When coupled with the general perceived lack of interest in marriage events, it did leave us quite unmotivated.



We also need the elders/deacons/pastors to play a more active role in the marriage ministry. We are always quite disappointed when our leaders and their wives don't make it to our events. We believe that as far as possible, they need to be there, to be an example for the Church. This past marriage breakfast had quite a few elders/deacons attend which was encouraging.

### Plans

Working backwards: We plan to have a breakfast again in the 4<sup>th</sup> term of 2024. We are looking to do the Love & War series again in the 3<sup>rd</sup> term. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> term we will no doubt have another Friday night session at the church. The 1<sup>st</sup> term, at this stage, is open although we are looking at the book/course called, "How not to marry a jerk". It is very substantial course and while not pointedly Christian, the author is a believer, and the book follows Biblical principles. The challenge with this book is that you have to be accredited to even present the course, and it is very expensive. So, the 1<sup>st</sup> term is not settled yet.

Further, we want to introduce weekly communication in the DBC MailChimp. A short verse and encouragement or quote in a section specifically devoted to "Marriage matters."

We would also like the pastors to continue encouraging and promoting marriage in their sermons. We were very aware of the conscious effort that was made in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> terms but since then it did seem to fizzle.

I, as deacon, also did drop the ball this year with regards to regular meetings with our marriage champions, especially the young adults. We met once and generated a lot of excitement, but then the challenges of the year got the better of me. I plan to rectify this by meeting at least once a term to talk, pray and plan so that they can be encouraged, and take that to their life groups.

## *DBC Mens Ministry*

**JOHANN FOURIE**

### **Wild At Heart – Tuesday evening group:**

This group meets from 19h30 every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday evening at the home of Nicholas Haupt. Most of the members are either self-employed entrepreneurs or in high level management positions which means we often share common work-related problems and are able to encourage each other.

This year's focus was on a book called 102 Fascinating Bible studies. Topics such as disciple leadership, being a Christian in the workplace, and dealing with anger and pride were some of the topics presented.

Please give Nicholas a call on 083 284 7583 should you wish to know more or join them.

### **DBC Connect – Thursday morning group:**

The group meets every Thursday morning from 6h00 to 7h00 at the church. This is a very flexible and diverse group in ages and personalities. Everyone is made to feel welcome and appreciated and the focus is to serve, connect and learn. No morning is ever the same, from short topical bible studies to watching global leadership videos where men are encouraged to discuss everyday life challenges.

It is really wonderful to see how these men are eager to learn from, and support, each other.

### **Holiday bible club biscuit baking challenge:**

Both men's groups baked biscuits for the holiday bible club. It was reported that some men ate more than they baked! Who says men can't multi task.

### **Breakfast for the ladies ministry:**

This was the first year the men served the ladies ministry by cooking breakfast for them. The men's enthusiasm and cooking skills were much appreciated by the ladies.

### **Breakfast with Alwyn Uys and Antony Noble:**

The morning was a wonderful blessing and challenge to us. Alwyn shared his tough road and the enormous challenges he faced, as well as his walk with Christ. His powerful testimony brought so much perspective into our lives. This successful event was well attended by men, their children, and friends.

Anthony shared his wonderful gift with us earlier in the year. He painted as he shared God's word, reminding us that God even uses the dark, struggle times in our lives. His message challenged and encouraged all of us.





### Summary:

As we look back on a very busy and challenging year, we thank God for His provision. We eagerly look forward to what 2024 will bring. We trust and know God will continue to use us powerfully to build His kingdom.

