



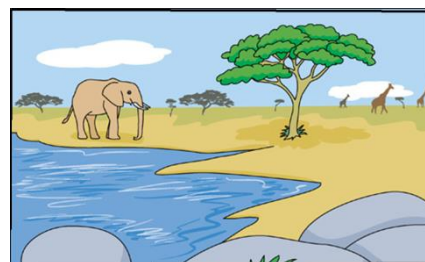
## JAEI Green Parish Activity Reports - 2017 Year

### St. Andrews, Pimville

- The church has not been active in the implementation of green parish.
- The Parish Leaderships are aware of it and the Rector is trying to get into the Ministries of Church as of 2018.
- The Rector has undertaken that this will also be integrated in the implementation of the Diocesan Vision and strategic objectives environment Committee.
- Some members will be found to form the Environment committee
- Some Environment dates will be observed like the September Environment month, Water day and electricity conservation day.
- The Rector will also be supporting with his passion and experience of having served in the JAEI

### St. Augustine's, Orange Grove

- We continue to use energy saving light bulbs, recycling paper and collecting bread tags and bottle tops for charitable causes.
- Carol Johnson – a professional horticulturist – and her helpers Ephraim and Edwin have worked very hard to beautify the garden surrounding the Church. Ven. Lynda Shimmin, Jill Daly and Patrick Cawker have donated many fine plants. Carol has concentrated on indigenous species and water-wise plants for easier maintenance and, of course, in appreciation of South African flora.
- Congregants were encouraged to observe the 2017 Lenten Fast. Last year Barbara Thorne led the prayers on one of the Tuesday Communion Services using an environmental prayer by the Most Reverend Archbishop Thabo Makgoba. Barbara also used a Savannah drawing (below) to encourage the Young People's Church / Sunday school participants to identify and name South African animals living in this biome. We believe that it is important that young people in particular take the environmental message to heart. The children were given a selection of animals to stick onto an enlarged picture to make a truly South African scene. We did get a few tigers and pandas as well!!!
- To celebrate the Season of Creation, Barbara delivered an illustrated talk) on Biodiversity with a plea to conserve life.
- Barbara, Carol, Wendy Arend and Liz Palm joined a JAEI eco-breakfast at St. Francis in Parkview and were delighted to hear Mark Anderson talk about Bird Conservation in our country.
- On World Wetlands Day, this year, we read a beautiful poem by Gorden J. L. Ramel during our Tuesday Communion Service.
- As a congregation we are still very new at this initiative and our numbers are low. However, with help, we aim to be even more visible and active in 2018.



### St Francis, Parkview

- Eco themes, including hymns, feature regularly in our services, including in particular the Season of Creation.
- The monthly Environmental prayer diary is circulated to all parishioners.

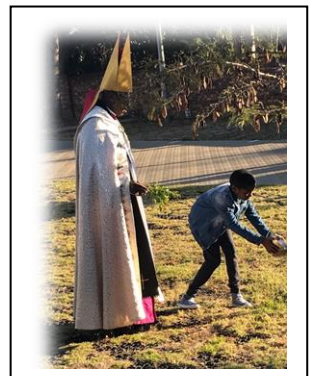
- We are posting appropriate information on our website and Facebook page.
- Articles on environmental topics are included in each of our quarterly parish magazines.
- Some of our monthly Park Views talks have covered topics with environmental implications. These included Ian Jandrell's talk on 'How Lightning Forms – and Why it Strikes'.
- We have an eco-group committee which meets most months in the year and considers and organises activities to promote our green environment objectives.
- We held an Eco-Eucharist in Melville Koppies which was well supported and enjoyed. It is likely to become an annual event.
- We held a fun run at the Zoo in September.
- A pet eucharist was held in the church garden in October, and a talk was given by Ban Animal Trading on "Adopt don't Shop" for animals.
- The committee's proposal to install photo-voltaic cell to produce electricity during the day was accepted by Council. subject to raising the required funds. This is receiving attention.
- We have established a number of marked waste bins on the church premises for different materials to better enable recycling.
- We have had approval from Council in 2017, and have in January 2018 installed an Mpact Ronnie Bin just inside the Church property for parishioners to deposit their waste paper and cardboard. We shall be encouraging local Parkview residents to support the initiative. We hope to raise funds for the disadvantaged from the proceeds.
- Plastic straws are an international waste problem and we are investigating options to reduce consumption amongst parishioner families.
- We are looking for opportunities to involve our youth in eco activities, in line with the recent Diocesan Synod focus on youth.
- We are busy investigating use of affordable green cleaning products at the church.
- A number of out-door events are being planned for 2018.



## St Michaels, Bryanston

St Michael's Bryanston continued to promote care for God's creation. Here are some highlights:

- World Environment Day/Youth services in June
- Bishop Steve blessed new houses, the new eco-friendly car park and newly planted indigenous trees at a ceremony on 10 June
- We hosted a parish Hike on June 16 to Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve in Mondeor (over 50 attended)
- We hosted an Eco movie night with Journey of the Universe
- pre-Lent quiet day with the theme Connecting to God through God's Creation on 10 February held in outside spaces at the church (over 50 attended)
- a talk on the Antarctic on 24 Feb 2018.



## St Michael and All Angels, Weltevreden Park.

The Eco-Team continues to be active throughout the year with a variety of events and have been involved in various outside activities.

### **Sunrise Service – 5 February**

The annual Sunrise Service was held on **Sunday 5 February 2016** at Kloofendal starting at 06:00. Despite VERY inclement weather, the Service was enjoyed by those who attended. Fr Doug Torr presided and Mo Tshule and Chris Langsford were the music providers.



### **Kloofendal hike - 4 March**

Steve Roper led a very successful hike through Kloofendal with 18 participants.

### **Snow leopard Presentation - 24 March**

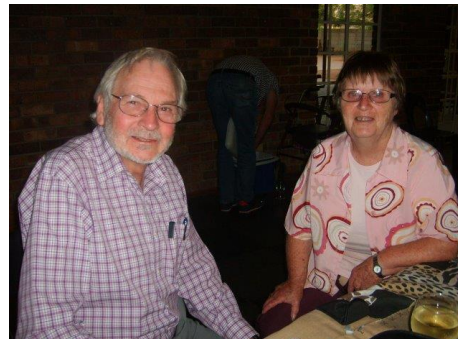
Once again St Michael and All Angels, Weltevreden Park, had the honour and privilege of hosting a presentation on the elusive, and utterly magnificent, but critically endangered Snow Leopard, given by leading expert Dr Rodney Jackson from Sonoma, California, USA.

After a delicious meal provided by “The Golden Girls” (St Mike’s Social Committee), over 100 people sat absolutely enthralled by the brilliant presentation given by Dr Jackson who gave us an update on the project over the past 2 years. His knowledge and deep passion for this magnificent cat remains very inspiring.

With a considerable donation from Margaret Jackson (Rodney’s mom and member of St Mike’s Eco-Team) who asked for donations to *Tape Aids for the Blind* in lieu of gifts for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, the book “*Vanishing Tracks*” written by Darla Hillard (Dr Jackson’s Partner) about the work of the Snow Leopard Conservancy, has been recorded into audio book form. A copy of the audio book was presented to Margaret by the CEO of Tape Aids at the evening. Over R1000 was raised for the Snow Leopard Conservancy Project.



*Dr Jackson in presentation*



*Rodney Jackson & Noeleen Mullet*





*Some of the audience attending*



*From L-R: Darla Hillard, Dr Rodney Jackson, Margaret Jackson, Noeleen Mullett & CEO, Tape Aids*

### **Earth hour – 25 March**

Posters encouraging participation in Earth Hour were put up on the Eco-notice boards as well as in the pew leaflet. An email reminder circular was also sent out to encourage parishioners to take part in the event.

### **Holiday club – 22 March**

Noeleen Mullett facilitated an environmental session at the annual Holiday Club. She used endangered and threatened species as the topic. (The Theme of the Holiday Club was *Kung Fu Panda*.) Noeleen used felt board to illustrate this and a puzzle activity was also used. The session was thoroughly enjoyed by the children who took part.



*Putting together the threatened species puzzle pieces*



*"Hug- a-Panda"*



*Part of the Holiday Club group*

### **Eco-quiz – 12 May**

An Eco-quiz was held for the monthly Social on 12 May. A lot of fun was had by all, and participants came away with some new environmental insights. Each participant was given a prize, all of which were all made from recycled materials.



### **Winter walkabout - 8 July**

Unfortunately, the weather turned out very rainy and bitterly cold, which deterred many. However, a small stalwart band joined Andy Branfield on a birding walk through Kloofendal. Despite horrendous weather, a count of 28 species was achieved – one (African Spoonbill) being a very rare occurrence to Kloofendal



### **Season of Creation – 10 September**

How loss of Biodiversity affects Climate Change was the theme throughout the Liturgy for all three Services for the Season of Creation. St Mike's Drama Group presented a 2-Act playlet entitled "The Ark in the Garage". The message was profound and resonated with many people.







### Quiet morning – 16 September

Revd Kevin Balkwill led a special Quiet Morning entitled “Time to em-Bark” using tree bark as the theme. Participants found the content inspiring and challenging.



### Water harvesting/renewable energy

The planned water harvesting is still in research stage because of the difficulty in siting the tanks.

#### General

- Eco-theology, environmental hymns and prayers as well as encouragement for a less consumeristic lifestyle are an integral part of Services and highlighted continually.
- Prayers from the monthly JAEI Enviro-Prayer diary are included in the weekly pew bulletin and the Eco-notice boards are updated regularly.
- The Waste Management project continues.
- A number of invasive species have been removed from the gardens during the year.
- St Mikes continues to be represented by Noeleen Mullett on the JAEI (Johannesburg Anglican Environmental Initiative) Committee.

There are various activities planned for 2018 – details will be published in the Pew Leaflet as they happen.

# St Monnica's, Halfway House

## 1. Introduction

The St. Monica Environmental Desk under the stewardship of Fr. Clayton Moitsiwa was initiated by four ladies who volunteered their time and resources to get the Ministry off the ground. The call to service was as a result of the fact that St. Monica's Anglican Church was a registered an Eco-Congregation and a member of the Johannesburg Anglican Environmental Initiative (JAEI) but there was no activity since the passing of our the Environmental Coordinator and Church Warden Mr. Mulaudzi. "May his soul rest in peace and rise to glory."

## 2. Project and Activities Undertaken

The Environmental activities started off in January with prayer and reflection. The main aim is to create awareness on issues pertaining to good stewardship of God's creation in all its diversity. Articles and prayers were written and published on the Messenger on a bi-weekly basis in accordance with themes as indicated in the JAEI and the St. Monicas's Environmental desk annual calendars. The following articles were published on the Messenger:

### 2.1 #Savewater

This campaign aimed to create awareness on water savings in the mist of the country drought as a result of low rainfall rates. This resulted in a drop in dam water levels and water restrictions in certain areas of the country. The St Monica congregation as a community in Gauteng province receives water from the Vaal dam and was affected by various levels of water restrictions.

The Congregation and the broader community of the Gauteng Province were called to use water sparingly in order to reduce serious water shortages. A few water saving tips were shared to remind ourselves how best we can save water.

### 2.2 Wetlands

This article highlighted wetlands as one of the world's most important environmental assets that are important for human survival. They are rich in diversity of water birds in Southern Africa (totalling 130 species) and also wetlands of international importance. This was published in line with the commemoration of **World Wetlands Day** which commences on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February each year. The St. Monica was called to spend time and observe how the ecosystem works. It is instrumental to filtering water, prevents flooding and it is home to a diversity of plants, insects and animals. The community is encouraged to dedicate time and resources aside to clean and restore ailing wetlands.

### 2.3. Earth Hour

Theme: **Carbon Fast for Lent and Load Shedding on our own terms.** An invitation was announced during the 9 O'clock service with an endeavour to urge the congregants to take advantage of the opportunity to do their bit address the Global Climate Change issues, care for creation and increase its sustainability. A picnic to this effect was held to afford an opportunity to fellowship and engage in meaningful conservation about protecting our environment. As this event coincided with Lent, it was an opportune time for the St. Monica community to grow in the desire for God, to do His will and to have a deeper appreciation of creation and practice a calling to be trustworthy stewards of creation. The Earth Hour was celebrated on 25 March 2017.

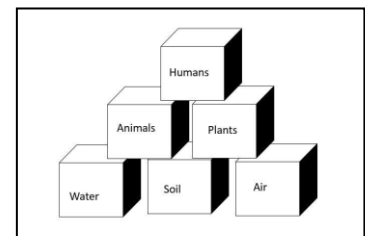




## 2.4 World Environment Day

**Theme: Connecting People to Nature-** This event is celebrated annually in St. Monica's during the Season of Creation and the liturgy of creation was followed during the church service. This service is also a children service where children render a play that they have prepared (Drama: The Building Blocks of Life: Written by Liz Taylor (Wessa)) to the rest of the congregation and the service ends with tree planting. The drama highlighted the plight of Rhino Pouching and the building blocks of life which comprises: Humans, Animals, Plants Water, Air and Soil.

Three sets of boxes were stacked as shown in the picture and displayed in front where the drama took place for everyone to see. The service for the day ended with a tree planting session with each class planting its tree in the Junior Church grounds.



## 2.5 Recycling Drive

The Focus of the recycling drive is on paper recycling as other types of waste require a lot more resources to establish. This is a continuous activity and paper dome is empties by Mpact recycling company as and when it is required.

## 3. Conclusion



In total, there was a good response from the congregation and a few more activities will be added in 2018 in order to get the whole congregation involved.

## St Stephens, Sunninghill

### Parish Hikes – Nicky Humphries

- Nicky Humphries continues to organise parish hikes, especially on public holidays, and this is well supported by fellow parishioners.
- The purpose of the Hiking Group is to take time out from our busy lives to appreciate God's creation, to fellowship with each other and to connect with our Heavenly Father through "Walk and Worship." In 2017 the hiking group enjoyed three-day hikes and two weekend hikes.
- The first day hike was to Shelter Rock in the Magaliesberg on 21 March, Human Rights Day. A crowd of about 30 people attended, a good mixture of adults and children. The main hike was a challenging 8km up the mountain, with a much easier 5km available. The children had seemingly limitless energy and managed the longer hike with ease. There was a lapa to relax in and we enjoyed a braai afterwards.
- The hike to Leeuwenkloof in Broederstroom on 24 September took in farmland, a long, dark cave and a walk along the ridge. About 20 hikers attended and again we enjoyed a braai afterwards.
- A hike with a difference was the Heritage Hike where we joined with parishioners from St Luke's Orchards and members of the public. This was a 10km guided walk past the old and interesting Westcliff houses built by the "Randlords" at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and into the "flatlands" of Killarney. We learnt a lot of local history as well as getting a good workout and there were many requests to join a similar Heritage Walk in the future.
- Our first weekend hike was in May to Wag'n'Bietjie near Bela Bela. This venue had a mixture of farmland and mountain, with lots of animals to see, especially some buck at the campsite and some curious young ostriches. Accommodation varied from bunk beds in wooden huts to well-appointed chalets. Our group included 18 adults and 3 small children and we had a most enjoyable weekend.
- The second weekend hike was a camping trip to Golden Gate National Park in October. Thirteen of us endured a weekend of freezing cold wind blowing through the campsite, but nevertheless enjoyed some lovely hikes in this beautiful park and a trip to nearby Clarens where amazingly it was warm and sunny. Communion at the top of the mountain was a highlight on Sunday.
- The hiking group has purchased two tents and some mattresses so that those who would like to try camping but don't have equipment will be able to join us. Don't be afraid to give hiking a try as we cater for both the fit and the unfit. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your fellow parishioners and enjoy the majesty of God's creation.



## Monitor & ensure eco-friendly status of parish – John Wilson and Nicky Lowe

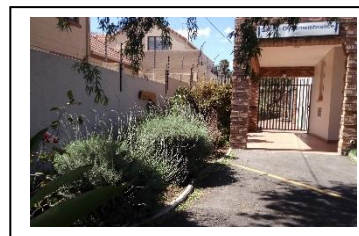
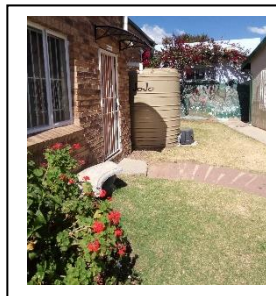
- **WATER/ELECTRICITY/PAPER USAGE:** John Wilson continues to report on the above usage and we are in good standing with this to date
- **Cups:** Nicky Lowe continues to do her bit, coordinating input, representing St Stephens at JAEI and ensuring that we keep our carbon footprint low. Recent examples are that when we hosted 350 women for a Diocesan Anglican Women's Fellowship Quiet Day on Saturday 29 July, we used our china cups and washed them throughout the morning (for the three servings of tea and coffee) rather than use polystyrene cups.
- Again, for our Sunday School Fun Day on Saturday 5 August, Nicky applied through the parish council member in charge of the Sunday School, Finess, for permission to invest in more plastic cups. This was approved and Nicky bought the brightly coloured cups, which were labelled for each child to use on the afternoon. Afterwards, Pat Leman cleaned the names off the cups so that they are available for future use. When tea is served after the 8:30 service the cups are used for juice for the children.
- **Chairs:** When we replaced our chairs in the church, we donated the old blue chairs to among others, Macauley House church school in Milpark and St Georges Anglican Church Kokosi, 185 Motaung Street Fochville. Repurposed and replaced.
- **Cars:** When the AWF (Anglican Women's Fellowship) attend functions at other parishes we car-pool, as happens with many other portfolios.
- **Wormery:** Our parish administrator, Georgette Parry, continues to keep the wormery going, ensuring a rich supply of worm tea for our garden.
- **Waste:** We have recycling bins, and our admin block effectively recycles all waste. We support recycling and when there are leftovers at church functions these do not go to waste, but get shared with the needy. Even scrapings from plates get collected for a parishioner to take home and boil up for soup for their dogs.
- **Repurposing:** When the Boulders Sunday School class baked Pretzels for a Lenten class activity, Nicky Lowe, repurposed a whole lot of little cardboard and plastic tubs used for sample tastes in the local supermarket.
- **Repurposing:** For the Lenten series of "What's your story?" Rev Bev and the facilitators of the Wednesday night and Thursday morning groups repurposed misprinted A3 calendars, so that parishioners could draw their River of Life on the back of the calendars.
- **Our parish library:** a team of volunteers helps our library champion, Felicity Raubenheimer, to look after our library. This is housed in a room off the church, which used to be the vestry and has recently been renovated so that the priest's vestments can be kept there as the main vestry has become overcrowded with altar servers' and related folk and clothing. Two built-in floor to ceiling cupboards were installed and the sink changed. It has been necessary for the team to spend extra time cleaning the books and shelves since the dusty alterations were made.
- **Full use of our parish resources:** Related to 2.2 above, **NEW NETCARE PARKING**, the daily use of our tarred parking means that the full extent of the property is used. There is no waste. Each of our buildings is used regularly, with a pre-primary school running in the hall and classrooms during the week, and Sunday school during the 8:30 services. To this end our main kitchen was renovated to bring it in line with health and safety regulations. Other clubs (running, AA, Alanon, Weight-watchers, sewing) and special language worship services happen regularly in our venues. The church and hall are also used for weddings, funerals and celebrations.





## Create and encourage awareness and appreciation of creation

- GARDENS: With water restrictions, that hit us all so hard, our gardens still look great, and our thanks to our vergers and members that assist to keep the gardens in good shape. Our one verger, Andrek, who lives on the premises has a sustenance vegetable garden next to the admin block.
- Our Jojo tank still harvests rain water, although the last rains were so long ago that it's been dry. We have a sprinkler system as a backup to keep the formal gardens irrigated.
- Eco - We include the eco-tips that Noeleen emails to Nicky Lowe in our weekly pew leaflets and our Facebook page. Thank you to Noeleen for sharing these with us. Special thanks to Georgette for fitting them into the pew leaflet and getting them on our Facebook page, and related items on the church notice board.
- Our Garden of Remembrance continues to be a peaceful place of solace for many, as well as making eco-use of the retaining wall behind the church.
- Our gardens were a key part of our 20<sup>th</sup> celebrations as each of our visiting clergy who had played a role in the two decades got to plant an indigenous tree after their respective services. 2016 Celebrated 20 years, a continuing journey. Our theme for 2017 was: **Coming of Age**



- Our Pew leaflet of 4 February 2018 had a centre piece of the Carbon Fast for Lent. This was further reinforced on 18 Feb by the Boulders Sunday School class where 31 grade 5, 6 and 7 children were given copies of the Carbon Fast and many pledged to follow it.
- Previously loved items continue to be donated by Parishioners and collected for distribution by our Social Outreach group. Among the long-standing arrangements is that Meals on Wheels gets all our used bread packets, yoghurt containers, etc, in line with the Carbon Fast to re-use "waste" plastic. Items like radios, kettles, toasters, etc that would otherwise be thrown away are donated to Meals on Wheels who have an electrician who fixes them so that they can be re-used by needy folk.

In conclusion, St Stephens has a vast number of volunteers who collectively ensure that we honour the aims of an eco-parish. We proactively respond to the ecological crisis through good community practice. Eco themes feature regularly in Eucharist services, including in particular the Season of Creation and the Lenten Carbon Fast.



## St Thomas, Linden

- We've stayed with the themes of "connection, reconnection, interrelatedness and non-duality" which in so many ways are both the reason for an eco-ministry and its goal.
- We focused on just a handful of activities last year: a birding morning at Marievale Bird Sanctuary; the screening of the documentary Journey of the Universe based on the work of Thomas Berry and Brian Swimme; following from that a visit to Maropeng (part of our observation of the Season of Creation) and a screening & discussion of the movie "Beyond the River" which although not a conventional "green" movie, powerfully explores the ideas of reconnection and reconciliation all against the background of the Dusi. We observed in a low key way the Sundays in the Season of Creation with special liturgies on the first & last Sundays, also special prayers, collects and hymns. We decided against holding a Blessing of the animals service this year as it's quite tricky balancing the needs of the congregation, with appropriate times and venues. We did celebrate St Francis day at our services that Sunday.
- We've had a long break over Advent, Christmas and Epiphany but will now awaken the ministry for activities this year. We're mindful of other activities happening in the parish for example a 10-week Lent course and fund raising activities and so we plan modestly so as not to overburden the parishioners. The Lenten Fast for Creation Calendar was emailed to all and will be appearing Sunday by Sunday (a week at a time) on our big noticeboard in the narthex. We'll be introducing the parish to the idea of a meditative walk by means of a long Sunday afternoon walk at Delta Park (March). We might build on this with a silent walk perhaps with a labyrinth. Once again, at the time of our Patronal (July) we'll be highlighting the link between heeding the "cry of the earth & the cry of the poor" through our Clothes of Compassion project. Later in the year we'll be exploring contemplative photography and encouraging parishioners to spend time outside (maybe on a special walk) with their camera with a sharing and discussion of the results later. We'll be observing the Season of Creation once again much as we did last year. We'll most probably once again screen with discussion one or two movies/ documentaries as parishioners have responded well to this in previous years.

