

# Trinity Methodist Church

LINDEN, JOHANNESBURG



*Prayer is the key of the morning and the bolt of the night.*

*13 December 2015*

## *3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT*

The Pastoral Care Portfolio *wishes our Trinity family and friends a blessed Christmas filled with the hope, love, joy and peace which come from our Saviour, Lord and Friend, Jesus.*



*Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
And his name shall be called Emmanuel"*

And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.

And the angel said to them, *be not afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people, for to you is born this day in the City of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.*

*And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."* And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ***"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!"***

Luke 2: 8-14

***This is the last Link for 2015. The Link will commence on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2016.***

We thank you for your faithful prayers over the year and we give praise and grateful thanks to our Lord for the healing that has taken place during the year. *Many have been strengthened and comforted with the assurance that they are part of the Trinity family who pray for and care for one another.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**BRONWYN** (2yr old living in Australia - granddaughter of Corrie Jurgens) was bitten by the family rotweiller and is having surgery.

**PRICILLA** (79) Mother of Beverley Jacobs is a chronic renal patient. She had a fall and fractured her hip and her condition is critical.

**HERB ANSTADT** (wife Barbara) has pneumonia.

**RENEE CHAMPION** broke her kneecap which was reset, we pray for full healing as she relies on being able to drive to earn an income.

**ANGIE RENS** we pray for peace and healing for her and children following them being part of a traumatic incident involving a young child.

**ELAINE VERMAAK** is having a hip op next week at **JHB Gen**; she is a high risk patient for having an anesthetic. Pray for protection during op & a speedy recovery.

**SONJA PITOUT & DEONA BROUGH** lost their mom last week.

**JENNY WILLIAMS** had to go under anesthetic again in order to remove any remaining bacteria from a bout of meningitis.

✠ **HEATHER CLARKE** had her gall bladder removed, pray for a speedy recovery.

✠ **KEVIN PLAGÉ** (Durban) had a large tumour removed from his chest cavity.

✠ **AUDREY NEWBERRY** is having a colonoscopy on Mon, pray no cancer is found.

✠ **JENNY WENTWORTH** is undergoing a procedure to remove a growth from throat.

**WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:**

**MEGHAN EURELLE** after some serious setbacks she was discharged on Wed & is making good progress. Her family & friends are grateful for God's working through all the prayers

**BRENDA** (Kathleen Catto's daughter) – has to have her lymph glands removed – her family remains positive that there will be no further need for treatment.

**KOTIE and CHILDREN** are struggling to adjust after a recent divorce; we pray that her ex-husband will honor his commitments.

**GLEN** (Laurie Drake's sister) has started radiation and chemo. We pray for a good response to the treatment and for her family who are supporting her.

**BRIDGIT** there is an improvement after a very traumatic time – pray for continued healing and strength for all family members supporting her.

**JENNY** (Shirley Williams' daughter) is back in hospital due to a setback, pray healing.

✠ **MAURICE ADAMS** is still struggling with his back although there is improvement.

✠ **ELLA** – struggling with increased anxiety – pray for a sense of peace and calm.

✠ **SARAH BROWNE** is recovering well from hysterectomy, thanks to all for prayers.

✠ **LEANNE** (husband Darren, daughter Jamie-Lee) we pray for her full recovery.

✠ **GARRON** May he be conscious of the love of Jesus touching and guiding him.

✠ **FLORENCE OTIENO** may our Lord open the door to a new position for her.

✠ **KATE WATERSTON** medication increased, may this be effective in her healing.

**CHRONIC LIST:** *Gloria McPherson* (emphysema), *Denese Pieterse* (severe pain), *Thembile* (back problems), *Anna Wadsworth* (90 – very weak), *Woolf Schulze* (dementia), *Sean* (schizophrenia), *Reef* (USA - on-going problems), *Omar* (kidney problems), *Peter Clarke* (back problems), *Steven Basson* (Atrial fibrillation), *Lanie* (Marie Palmer's godchild - domestic problems), *Val Tyler* (heart fibrillation), *Louis Brugman* (heart problems), *Duncan Edwards* (stroke), *Pat Levins* (very ill), *Julian Squires* (skin grafts), *Audrey Newberry* (low blood pressure), *Sue* (hip replacement), *Sumi* (depression), *Harold Adams* (frail), *Miguel Moco* (13 - rugby injury), *Henrietta Small* (breathing problems), *Patti Price* (recovery from surgery), *Zelma's sons* (home on bail), *Ella Waterston* (7 - chronic anxiety disorder), *Sebastian Msimang* (prostate), *Kerry* (severe back pains), *David* (heart problems), *Jean Thompson* (heart problems), *Tobias Steyn* (lungs & heart problem), *Bishop Peter Witbooi* (back problems), *Bob Douglas* (VP shunt), *Frances Simpson* (broken hip), *Slade Hodge* (motorbike accident), *Elaine Vermaak* (in pain), *Jancsi* (missing) *Jean & Doug Cole*, *Baby Bella*, *Denise Hill* (fracture of pelvic bone), *Madeleine* (unemployed & depressed), *Greg & Rebecca* (difficult times), *Daphne Schrieder* (broken pelvis), *Kerry* (leg problem), *Fleurette Poultney* (low blood pressure), *Trevor*, *Wayne* (AIDS), *Jenna* (juvenile arthritis), *Ron Edmunds*, *Natalie Wright*.

**CANCER LIST:** *David Edwards*, *Anton Marais*, *Nola Dodds*, *Hilda Louter*, *Val Warren*, *Dudley Middleton*, *Marguerite*, *Peter*, *Myrren* (18), *Diane Turner*, *Maureen Lupton*, *Martin vd Merwe*, *Russell Jones*, *Ursula Ryder*, *Lesley Steyn*, *Don Carneson*, *Louise Shaw*, *Brian K*, *John Sandison*, *Cindy Saunders*, *Marina van de Ruit*, *Brian Tromp*, *Elizabeth Innes*, *Greg Cleeve-Edwards*, *Joanna*, *Joy vd Klis*, *John Clarke*, *Bill Coulle*, *Rev Hans Visser*, *Colleen*, *Gordene*, *Maureen Booth*, *Marie Vosloo*, *Nick Breytenbach* (leukaemia), *Elaine Orpen*, *Mykel*, *Brenda Hulshoff* (leukemia), *Ingrid Ingram*, *Clive Glover*, *Eric*, *Ulrich Bracht*, *Brian* (leukemia), *Jaco Barnard*, *Deidre Standsfield*, *Nan Tippett*, *Trevor Bartlett*, *Terry*, *Michael De Roos*, *Heather* (John Simmonds' sister), *Chris Matthews* (B cell lymphoma), *Everard*, *Marjorie Baird*, *Rhona*, *Chantelle*, *Rob Densham*.



‘Luke’s Gospel account of the Christmas event is full of activity... and yet, in the middle of the frenetic action, here is this woman wrapped in mystical silence... She demonstrates the necessity of a quiet place within ourselves at Christmastime—that place where we are most ourselves in relation to God.

*"It is a place of silence, not because it is untouched by all the activity of our lives, but because it is capable of wonder.* Every prayer begins with silent wonder before it turns to words. Our first response to God is dumbstruck awe at who he is and what he has done for us."

**O God**, as we close our eyes and allow our minds to go to the quiet place help us to learn how to welcome advent and prepare for the coming of Christmas.

**Bring us into the stillness, into Your presence, that we may learn what it means to ‘wait on the Lord’, to welcome Your coming in this Holy Season**

## THE SHOEMAKER'S DREAM

One of the most beautiful of all Christmas stories was told by the American poet, Edwin Markham, about a cobbler, a godly man who made shoes in the old days.

One night the cobbler dreamt that Jesus was coming to visit him the next day. The dream was so real that he got up early the next morning, went to the woods and gathered green boughs to decorate his shop for the arrival of so great a Guest.

He waited all morning, but his shop remained quiet, except for an old man who limped up to the door asking to come in for a few minutes of warmth. While the man was resting, the cobbler noticed that the old fellow's shoes were worn out. *Touched, the cobbler took a new pair from his shelves & made sure the stranger was wearing them before he left.*

The cobbler continues to wait, but his only visitor was an elderly woman. He had seen her struggling under a heavy load of firewood, and invited her into his shop to rest. *He discovered that she had had nothing to eat for 2 days so he gave her a nourishing meal before she left.*

As night began to fall, the cobbler heard a child crying outside his door. The child was lost and afraid. *The cobbler went out, soothed the youngster's tears and, with the little hand in his, took the child home.*

When he returned, the cobbler was sad. He was convinced that while he had been away he had missed the visit of his Lord.

Now he lived through the moments as he had imagined them: *the knock, the latch lifted, the radiant face, the offered cup. He would have kissed the Hands where the nails had been, washed the Feet where the spikes had entered. Then the Lord would have sat and talked with him.*

In his anguish, the cobbler cried out,

*"Why is it, Lord that Your feet delay?  
Have you forgotten that this was the day?"*

Then, soft in the silence a Voice he heard:  
*"Lift up your heart for I kept My Word.  
Three times I came to your friendly door;  
Three times My shadow was on your floor.*

***I was the man with the bruised feet.  
I was the woman you gave food to eat.  
I was the child on the homeless street."***