

## PEACE

The other day I awoke with a sudden start and a fearful mind and cried, “*Oh soul where is peace? Have I lost it, or is it only hidden by some transient cloud? Tell me quickly how it shall be restored to my anxious heart?*”

And listening I heard the Voice say: *Peace is one of God’s choicest gifts.*

It rides on the wings of the storm and is like the calm that follows the ocean swells, the refreshing loveliness after the rain, the quiet centre of the whirlwind where there is no fear or movement. It nestles in the heart like the deep places of the ocean, serene and unruffled by the storms that trouble the surface.

But more than that it permeates the whole atmosphere of the heart and vitalizes its very breath, even as the air fills our lungs and sends life-giving oxygen through our bodies.

*This peace abides through the day or night* - by day it radiates courage and warmth even as the sun sends out its strengthening beams. By night it lies like a canopy over our heads, a protection wide and deep, even as the sky lies above us calm and infinite.

God’s peace is like the *breath of spring, the comfort of a mother’s arms, the wonder in a baby’s eyes, the steadfastness of the mountain peak.*

***But peace abides only where God’s spirit controls.*** When its life is threatened, we know that human desires have superseded the divine Presence and will. ***Then we must fix our eyes again upon God with and rest in Him.***

Peace is the Gift of God only to those whose lives are lost in Him. “*And my people shall dwell in peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places*”.

“*The peace of God which passeth all understanding*” is for those who have learned to pray and to live according to God’s will and plan.



There’s a peace in my heart that the world never gave,  
A peace it cannot take away,  
Tho’ the trials of life may surround like a cloud,  
I’ve a peace that has come there to stay!

Mrs W Murphy

# Trinity Methodist Church

LINDEN, JOHANNESBURG



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

*26 April 2015*

Jesus replied, *“If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.*

All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid”*

John 14: 23-27



Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: *Rejoice!* Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. *And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4: 4 -7



To the Church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ - their Lord and ours:

*Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Corinthians 1: 2-3

**CONGRATULATIONS to Dolphine & Gilbert Hughes** on the occasion of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on 1<sup>st</sup> May. May the love of God surround them & keep them.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Sincere apologies to Nancy Shaw** for incorrect information about her in last week's Link. Nancy is well and not suffering any ailment, we thank & praise God.

**GORDON BENNETT** (wife Charlotte) now home, but visits the hospital frequently.

**GRAHAM** (Barbara Atkinson's brother) cancerous wart to be removed 11<sup>th</sup> May.

**LAWRENCE DAVIES (wife Joy)** is not at all well, suffering with memory loss, chest pains, stomach problem & headaches.

**REBECCA OWENS (mother Heather)** her body has rejected the bone marrow transplant & there is nothing more the docs can do. Without medication she only has a few weeks to live & with medication the doctors give her about 6 months.

**RONA (Julian Cloete's mother)** passed away this week. Our thoughts & prayers are with Julian, Marjorie & family at this sad time.

**ELMA MITCHELL** had a bad fall on Thursday, & was admitted to hospital.

**WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:**

**THE VIOLENCE IN OUR COUNTRY** We pray for the victims of violence in our city centres these past few weeks. Pray that peace & calm be brought to bear, along with insight and clarity of thought for our President, and for the safety of police seeking to control these attacks.

**LIZELLE SLABBER** (husband Martin) is still in a lot of pain but recovering slowly. They thank everyone for their prayers.

**NORMA MORGAN** had a fall recently and hurt her spine; she finds great difficulty walking to the dining room at Elm Park, which has left her somewhat depressed.

**EDWARD POLLARD (Mark & Haley Pollard's Father/ in law)** recovering from bad fall & suffering with cancer & emphysema, he is presently at home.

**NORMA HART (Kate's Mom)** recovering slowly, she is still tired and weak and needing a plenty of rest.

✠ **GLEN PARNALL** her heart is now fine but she is suffering with a nasty cold.

✠ **PAT BLACK** is now home with up & down days, at times she feels despondent.

✠ **RORY & DIANA** pray that problems in their relationship will be sorted out.

✠ **BRENDA SOLOMON** looking for work as carer, husband been retrenched.

✠ **BILL MARRS (wife Marion)** now home and on the road to recovery.

✠ **PATSY TROMP** is not well and her son has been diagnosed with cancer.

✠ **MARI THOMASSET** is to have a knee replacement on 30<sup>th</sup> April.

**LESLEY VIELER** (husband Jonathan) is now back at work full time. She is still feeling tired but getting stronger by the day. Thanks for the prayers.

**KIRSTEN DUGMORE** is recovering well. Alan & Jenny are so thankful for the prayers that have been offered up on theirs and Kirsten's behalf.

**PATTI PRICE** (husband Rob) is now home, although there is some improvement in her walking she has a long road ahead to full recovery.

**RENEE BARNES** John visited her and although she is very weak he found her to be spiritually strong. Renée is staying with her son who is looking after her.

**CHRONIC LIST:** *Gloria McPherson* (emphysema), *Denese Pieterse* (severe pain), *Thembile* (back problems), *Anna Wadsworth* (90 - frail), *Sonette Mac Gregor* (thymus gland removed), *Woolf Schulze* (dementia), *Sean* (schizophrenia), *Reef* (USA - ongoing problems), *Omar* (kidney problems), *Kate Waterston* (cortisol levels), *Peter Clarke* (back problems), *Steven Basson* (Atrial fibrillation), *Lanie* (Marie Palmer's godchild - domestic problems), *Val Tyler* (heart fibrillation), *Elly Winkelman* (frail), *Louis Brugman* (heart problems), *Duncan Edwards* (stroke), *Jenna* (enthesitis), *Pat Levins* (very ill), *Julian Squires* (skin grafts), *Audrey Newberry* (low blood pressure), *Sue* (hip replacement), *Sumi* (depression), *Harold Adams* (frail) *Russell Harrison* (colon problems).

**CANCER LIST:** *Gordon Bennett*, *David Edwards* (UK), *Anton Marais* (Sydney), *Lee Barnes*, *Nola Dodds*, *Tracy Hoy* (UK), *Hilda Louter*, *Val Warren*, *Dudley Middleton*, *Marguerite*, *Peter*, *Myrren* (18), *Diane Turner*, *Maureen Lupton*, *Martin vd Merwe* (Karin Blackburn's dad), *Russell Jones*, *Ursula Ryder*, *Lesley Steyn*, *Don Carneson*, *Louise Shaw* (Texas), *Brian K*, *John Sandison*, *Cindy Saunders*, *Marina van de Ruit*, *Brian Tromp*, *Elizabeth Innes*, *Greg Cleeve-Edwards*, *Joanna* (Maurice's niece), *Joy* (Sam's sister), *Gilbert Hughes*, *John Clarke*, *Dudley Hudson*, *Bill Coulle*, *Rev Hans Visser*, *Colleen*, *Gordene*, *Lizelle Slabber*, *Stuart Dixon*, *Maureen Booth*, *Marie Vosloo*, *Nick Breytenbach* (leukaemia), *Renée Barnes*, *Elaine Orpen*, *Colin Bertram*, *Geoffrey Waters*, *Mykel*, *Brenda Hulshoff* (leukemia), *Ingrid Ingram*, *Clive Glover*.



The storms of life surround me, but I will not be tossed to and fro for I *am anchored in Your steadfast love* and I take comfort in Your mighty presence.

I turn into the wind, unafraid, ready to face each day head on, *flanked with Your power and wisdom*. In the peak of the storm, when I feel I can hold on no longer, *I will call on Your name for peace. I will trust in You and will not be afraid, as I nestle into Your protecting hands*.

How is it that You have such mighty power, *that the tempests in my life cease their crashing winds at Your command?* How is it that *You can calm my raging seas of circumstances and emotions and bring my life into Your control with Your powerful, yet hushed voice?*

Even now, I hear Your whisper, *“Peace, be still. Know I am Your God”*.