

## REACHING OUT

### *Reach Out Newsletter 2023-1*

Dear Trinity Family

We are so excited to be sharing the first of hopefully many quarterly Reach Out newsletters with you!

The vision of the Reach Out Portfolio is “Growing our family spiritually by actively building relationships through service to our community, our country, and our world”. The Portfolio seeks to achieve this within the context of the Great Commission in Mathew 28:19 and Acts 1:8. As a portfolio and church community we have the privilege of being able to serve and make a difference in our community at Trinity; in the broader community in Johannesburg, Gauteng and South Africa; and outside South Africa using resources (monetary and other) given by you.

The aim through our newsletters is to keep you updated on the activities of the portfolio and what we’ve been able to achieve (or plan to achieve) through your generous donations, provide details of ways in which you’re able to get involved and to give you a little bit more insight into some of the organisations or projects that we support.

Enjoy! 😊

#### ***HEART-WARMING NEWS FROM THE SOUP KITCHEN***

Since Pastor Glen Stuart (Pastor at Gold Reef City) visited the Soup Kitchen last year and talked to the men about receiving Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, 10 men were baptised by Pastor Glen, Rev John Wessels and Pastor Derek Adcock. This year there are 11 men who have asked Jesus to be their Lord and Saviour and so we hope to have another baptism service soon. Thank you to all the Soup Kitchen volunteers who give of their time and money to provide and serve the food each Saturday morning.

#### ***PROJECT FOCUS: PLACE OF HOPE, ORANGE FARM***

The Place of Hope, Orange Farm provides support, hope and a place to worship to the community of Drieziek Extension 5 in the southern area of Orange Farm just north of Evaton and approximately 47 kilometres/45 minutes south of Linden. Trinity (through the Reach Out Portfolio and individual members of the congregation) has been involved in supporting the Place of Hope over the past, approximately, 12 years, almost from the time it was established.

## History of the Place of Hope and Trinity's involvement

The Place of Hope started in 2011 when Thompson Ngobeni and Brian Nell (a member of Trinity) secured a stand, designated for a "Community Facility" in the newly laid out township of Drieziek Extension 5. The area at that time mainly consisted of families living in informal structures/shacks on surveyed sites that had been allocated to them.

The intension of Thompson and Brian was to establish a church that could minister to the needs of this community. Services, and any other activities, were initially held in a second-hand marquee that was erected on the site. Thompson and his family lived in a wooden "Wendy house" adjacent to the marquee. Trinity assisted with the casting of a concrete floor for the marquee as well as the subsequent repair of a tear in the marquee's roof.

With the deterioration of the condition of the marquee over the years, the Church decided in 2017 that it needed to start construction of a permanent structure. Trinity (through the Reach Out Portfolio) was able to assist with funding the completion of the building, and the church was officially opened later that year with much celebration.

### ***HAPPENING NOW***

#### **EASTER EGG DRIVE**

5 March - 2 April

Visit the Reach Out tables after the services to donate marshmallow eggs or money OR do an EFT into the Trinity account (Reference: Easter Egg Drive).



### ***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED***

#### **MOZAMBIQUE MISSION**

We are looking for volunteers to be part of the team to organise and head up this year's mission to Mozambique. If you are interested or for more information please contact Lauren (083 288 3187)



In 2018 the Place of Hope started a small crèche, using the church building and 2 shacks that had been erected on the property, to relieve mothers in the community of child care responsibilities so that they could seek employment. Nola Dodds, a member of Trinity and a dedicated teacher, passed away and bequeathed an amount of money to be utilised for educational purposes. Utilising these funds, Marlene Roos, also a member of Trinity and friend of Nola, organised the construction of a permanent building for the crèche, which was completed in 2019.



### ***DONATIONS NEEDED***

The crèche at the Place of Hope is in need of stationery and other materials. For more details, please contact Marlene (082 553 3663).

Soon after the establishment of the Place of Hope, a vegetable garden was put in place to provide food for congregational gatherings, the crèche and for people in need in the community. The Trinity Youth and Seekers groups held an annual Spring Planting Day during which plants for the new season were planted and the netting over the garden was repaired. During 2020, Rise Against Hunger, under the leadership of Brian Nell, secured funding from the Nedbank Employees Fund to erect proper planting tunnels with overhead irrigation, together with professional assistance with seedlings and other material and the necessary



training to enable the vegetable growing to expand. The intention was to provide vegetables to the crèche and other Early Childhood Development Centres in Orange Farm, to which Rise Against Hunger was already supplying its fortified food packs for the children's meals, and to provide some employment opportunities to people in the area. This has recently been expanded upon by the provision of a chicken coop from Rise Against Hunger.



After the winter of 2021, the wooden Wendy house in which Thompson and his family resided was in a terrible condition and the high winds experienced in Orange Farm were threatening to take the roof off. At the beginning of 2022, the Reach Out Portfolio was able to help with the erection of a small permanent dwelling for Thompson and his family, utilising funds it had planned to use for the upgrading of the vegetable patch before Rise Against Hunger's involvement in that operation.



Funds raised through jumble sales using clothes and other items donated by the Trinity congregation has also enabled flush toilets and a wash hand basin to be erected at the Place of Hope, for use by the congregation and the crèche.



The Reach Out portfolio also distributes a number of blankets from its annual Blanket Drive to the Place of Hope and organises a Christmas Party for the Sunday School with a distribution of gifts to the children who attend. Both of these activities are only possible through the support and generous donations made by the Trinity congregation.



## Future Plans

Besides continuing with the annual activities and support that Trinity is currently involved in with the Place of Hope, longer term plans include the upgrading of the crèche's facilities so that it complies with the requirements of the Department of Social Development's requirements (and now the Department of Education's) requirements for such activities.

Over the years Drieziek Extension 5 has developed and improved with formal housing being erected and water, sewer and electricity services installed. However, there remain many people in the area who experience a daily struggle to live and care for their families, and the Place of Hope continues to be a source of spiritual and material support for these and others within the surrounding community.

## ***AROUND THE CORNER***

### **HOLIDAY CLUB**

27 - 31 March

Please keep this very important ministry in your prayers and visit the table after services to find out how you can help and what donations are needed.

### **EASTER EGG PACKING**

2 April

Join us in the minor hall after the 9:30 services for an enjoyable morning of packing all the donated eggs and bring your family members and friends along too. All ages are welcome!

## ***WHAT'S COMING UP IN 2023?***

Mark your calendars with these drives and activities happening in 2023. Look out for more details on each in the congregational correspondence and/or bulletin.

	<b>WHAT</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER</b>	Easter Egg Drive	5 March – 2 April
	Holiday Club	27 – 31 March
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER</b>	Easter Egg Packing	Sunday 2 April
	Blanket Drive	23 April – 21 May
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER</b>	Mozambique Mission	Early July <i>(specific dates to be confirmed)</i>
	Table Talk – Morning Run	Wednesdays 16 August – 27 September <i>(excl. 13 September)</i>
	Community Service Day	Saturday 26 August
	Table Talk – Saturday Event	Saturday 16 September
<b>4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER</b>	Pop Up Play Place	2 – 6 October
	Orange Farm Christmas Gift Appeal	15 October – 26 November
	Orange Farm Christmas Party	Saturday 2 December

### ***HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?***

- Pray for the different organisations we support and the activities we're involved in through the year.
- Make donations (monetary and other) towards the various drives and other ad hoc requests.
- Participate in the activities/events organised through the year.
- Become a member of the Reach Out Portfolio to be involved in the overall management and co-ordination of the various projects and activities.
- Join one of the sub-committees (Mozambique, Table Talk) to be involved in the organisation around more specific projects and activities.

We are looking forward to what lies ahead for the year and want to thank all of you for your continued support of the Reach Out activities and initiatives. Without your support, contributions and prayer, the work that we do would not be possible!

God Bless

The Trinity Reach Out Portfolio

*If you would like to join the Reach Out Portfolio or find out more about any of the Reach Out activities and how to get involved, please contact Alan Kitchin (082 414 2430 or [alankitchin7575@gmail.com](mailto:alankitchin7575@gmail.com))*