

REACHING OUT

Reach Out Newsletter 2023-2

Dear Trinity Family

The end of the first quarter and the second quarter of the year have seen the successful running of our two annual drives - the Easter Egg and Blanket Drives. We have, once again, been overwhelmed by the generosity of the Trinity family and are grateful that the drives continue to receive so much support year after year.

The privilege that we have as a portfolio to take the money given by Trinity members to reach out to various people and organisations in the community is not something that we take lightly, but is something that is only possible through you, the members of the congregation. Thank YOU for what is made possible through your selfless tithing, donations and time given when needed.

We hope you enjoy our second newsletter.

Happy reading! 😊

HOLIDAY CLUB NEWS FROM KATE

This year from 27 to 31 March we had our annual Holiday Club program where we had about 130 children attending to join for worship, quiet times, crafts, games and of course a teatime snack 😊 This year was especially wonderful as we had two orphanages join us where we had the opportunity to connect with the children and build relationships.

Holiday Club has been happening for around 35 years and it is one of Trinity's longest and biggest outreach ministries. It is for this reason that it falls under (and is financed by) the Reach Out Portfolio. The funding from the portfolio goes towards the preparations, crafts, games, food, juice, and décor for the week. The Reach Out Portfolio, Children and Young Family's Portfolio, and the Youth Portfolio all work together to make this event what it is.

This year we had 38 leaders, who volunteered their time and energy, to come and help lead the children into a deeper relationship with God. These volunteers made the week the success that it was, and we were so grateful to share in leading and building relationships together. Overall, the Under the Sea themed Holiday Club was one of my favourites as everything came together so well and there were so many God filled moments that stuck out for us. We give thanks for the support of our congregation who made it possible and for the blessing that it was to be part of something so meaningful!

SOME SAD NEWS

We were sad to be informed recently that the Faith Based Initiative (FBI) organisation that Trinity has been supporting for a number of years is closing down. The FBI was established in 2004 and operated at the Rahima Moosa Women and Children Hospital's in the Pediatric HIV Empilweni Clinic and the Helen Joseph Hospital, as well as in the neighbouring communities of Newclare, Brixton and Coronationville. They provided refreshments, clothing, activity materials and other support to those attending the clinics.

PROJECT FOCUS: TSHEPO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

The Tshepo Community Development Initiative was founded in 2007 by the Linden fraternal of churches (Trinity Methodist Church, GK Linden, Northcliff Union Church, Hillside Vineyard Christian Fellowship, Roosevelt Baptist Church, Aan-die-Berg, St Thomas Anglican Church and New Creation Family Church). Their specific focus is on the community of Windsor and the surrounding areas with an aim to serve the homeless and unemployed people (through the job creation and job rehabilitation centre at the corner of Pendoring and Weltevreden Roads in Northcliff) and youth (through the Afterschool Education Centre in Windsor East) in the community.

What they do

Tshepo means "hope" which fits well with their mission "to develop programmes and implement initiatives that will empower people holistically in order to live independent, sustainable and meaningful lives".

To date, Tshepo has developed four programmes.

1) Youth Development

An after-school programme has been set up at the Windsor East Recreation Centre and provides a place for approximately 40 children to receive a meal and help with their homework. They also have a strong focus on reading and literacy and run a computer-based reading programme for kids and have a library of children's books to encourage reading among the children there.

Tshepo reaches other youth in the community by holding a monthly event called Project Ngonyama at the centre (which reaches 250 to 300 children) and supporting church-based youth programmes in the area.

2) Job Creation

Serving the unemployed people in the area takes place in three phases at Tshepo:

- Assessment by a social worker and placement of the individual into the work rehabilitation programme (where they will learn some skills, work shifts and get paid a stipend).
- Placement of individuals in more permanent positions.
- Developing new enterprises.

3) Sizanani Garden

Tshepo has developed a vegetable tunnel to grow organic seasonal vegetables. This programme enables the learning of new skills and forms part of the work rehabilitation programme, provides food for the feeding scheme and helps to generate some income.

4) Integrated Social Work Services

The social worker is the first point of contact for anyone who goes to Tshepo looking for help. An assessment is usually done before the individual is referred to the appropriate programme. (e.g. work rehabilitation). Tshepo also serves as a place for the individual to have a meal, take a shower, receive clothing and assistance to open a bank account and apply for an ID book and, essentially, take the first steps in getting back on their feet.

COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY 2023

Following the success of last year's Community Service Day we are looking forward to holding our second annual day on **Saturday 26 August.**

We are needing some extra help though so if you would like to be involved in the general organisation or the planning of one of the specific activities for the day, please contact Lauren (083 288 3187).

Trinity's specific involvement

Trinity provides financial support on a monthly basis with the money given contributing to the social worker's stipend and some general costs. Previous financial support also went towards a stipend for an aftercare supervisor. Our weekly soup kitchen, run on a Saturday morning, is one of a few soup kitchens run through the week by the churches in the fraternal. The social worker works to integrate Tshepo's services with these soup kitchens. With the relationship that exists between Trinity and Tshepo, referrals of individuals who come to Trinity looking for help can be made to the social worker at Tshepo who provides further assistance as described above. As one of the founding churches, a Trinity member is required to serve on the Tshepo Board and this role is currently filled by one of the Reach Out portfolio members.

Recent developments

The Tshepo board has recently appointed Alet Geldenhuys as the new general manager, effective from 1 July 2023. Alet replaces Japie Krige who resigned to take up a role in ministry with Melville Kruisgemeente in March. Alet holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree in social work and has 20 years of experience in the field, most recently with Tutela, where she also gained the necessary management and administrative skills that make her the ideal candidate for the role.

How you can support Tshepo

Apart from the support that Trinity already provides through the Reach Out Portfolio, you can support Tshepo in the following ways:

- Make donations
- Cook meals (to be served at their soup kitchen or aftercare)
- Volunteer at the aftercare
- Join in the annual golf day
- Support their enterprises by:
 - Buying fire wood
 - Refilling and exchanging your gas bottles
 - Having your car washed
 - Buying compost, lawn dressing, potting soil, vegetables and plants
 - Supporting their pop-up shops and food trucks
 - Using their tree feller



IKAGENG ITIRELENG SUPPORT

Many of you will recall the Ikageng food boxes that could be packed and donated pre-COVID. While we no longer collect actual boxes, monetary donations are still welcome and this money is then paid on a quarterly basis to Ikageng's food supplier for Ikageng to draw against when purchasing supplies. If anyone wishes to make a contribution for this purpose, please deposit your donation into the Trinity bank account with the reference " Food boxes".

EASTER EGG AND BLANKET DRIVES

This year's Easter Egg Drive was one of the most well supported in a few years. We ended up with a total of 5684 eggs which were packed (mostly into packets of 2 eggs each with an Easter message from Trinity) and distributed as follows:

Fred & Martie's Soup Kitchen (Claremont)	806 packets
Best Health Solutions (Carol Dyanti)	498 packets
Ikageng Itireleng	440 packets
Trinity Soup Kitchen	55 packets
Alexandra Sunday Schools	219 packets
Meadowlands Sunday Schools	219 packets
Jordan House Old Age Home (Westbury)	94 packets
The Place of Hope (Orange Farm) creche & Sunday School	275 packets
WEP Children's Home (Northcliff)	20 packets
Montgomery Haven	80 packets
TMC Holiday Club	5 boxes (<i>containing 36 eggs each</i>)
David House (Resthaven Ministries)	7 boxes

We held our egg packing day on Sunday 2 April following the 9:30 services and a number of efficient and enthusiastic helpers came together to make it a successful and fun morning. One really special thing about the packing day is that there is a task for people of all ages and this year the packers ranged in age from under 5 to over 75. Those of us who were removing the plastic from the boxes couldn't keep up with the speed at which the eggs were being packed and 2626 packets were put together in a very short time. If you weren't able to be there this year, be sure to join us next year (mark your calendars for the Sunday before Easter Sunday)!





The eggs were so well received – here are some messages of gratitude from the organisations...

The staff and management together with the MCYU of the above mentioned church here at Alexandra would like to appreciate and thank you very much for your donation of Easter eggs on Easter weekend.

We were able to host 130 children within our church and church yard during Easter rally and they were enjoying and playing different games arranged by their teachers and elders.

Thanks for making Easter 2023 so memorable. Blessings to you and every member at Trinity Methodist.

(from Alexandra Methodist Church)

The management of Ikageng wishes to express its deepest gratitude for the donation towards our nutrition support for HIV positive children, Youth headed households.

We always appreciate the support that you give us, the difference you make in our community especially put smile on our beneficiaries face during Easter where all children are enjoying getting Easter eggs from their parents and they had no one buy for them.

We pride ourselves to be associated with the church with principles of love and caring for others. On behalf of Ikageng Board members, Management, Staff and Beneficiaries at large we wish to thank you for the donation, which will ensure that the work we do continues to impact lives.

(from Ikageng Itireleng)

Winter seems to have arrived a bit earlier than usual this year and, with that, the need to kick off the Blanket Drive as soon as possible after the Easter Egg Drive. The support received for the Blanket Drive was also wonderful and we ended up with a total of 163 blankets (58 donated and an additional 105 purchased with the money that was donated) which were distributed as follows:

Fred & Martie's Soup Kitchen (Claremont)	28
Trinity Soup Kitchen	50
Jordan House Old Age Home (Westbury)	17
The Place of Hope (Orange Farm)	43
David House (Resthaven Ministries)	15
Trinity walk-in ministry	10



Grateful blanket recipients from David House (Resthaven Ministries)

TABLE TALK 2023

We are excited to have 3 offerings in the second half of the year...

ONCE-OFF EVENING

Wednesday 12 July

18:30-21:00

At Farina Caffè & Cucina
(directly opposite Trinity)

6-WEEK JOURNEY

Wednesday mornings
16 August – 27 September
(excl. 13 September)

9:30-11:45

FULL DAY SATURDAY

16 September

9:00-17:00

*For more information or to sign up to get involved or attend, visit
www.trinitylinden.org.za/table-talk or contact Liesl (083 995 3433 or
lieslmaryhendry@gmail.com)*

WHAT'S COMING UP IN THE SECOND HALF OF 2023?

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

	WHAT	WHEN
3rd QUARTER	Table Talk – Farina Event	Wednesday 12 July
	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
4th QUARTER	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.

PLEASE PRAY WITH US

As we continue to reach out to the community around us and further afield, we ask that you pray with us for the work being done and for the organisations that we support.

Some specific prayer needs are as follows:

- Mozambique Mission: In accepting that the usual mission trip will not be able to take place this year, that a viable alternative manner can be found of maintaining contact

with the community and maintaining progress on the work completed and evangelical growth achieved on previous trips.

- Table Talk: For the team planning the next sessions of Table Talk, and that the Spirit may move people to attend and grow in their relationship with Jesus and Trinity.
- Community Service Day: That the planning of the day and its varied activities may proceed smoothly and be appealing to Trinity members and friends, that those participating and those benefitting from the activities may be blessed.
- Beneficiary Organisations: That the organisations and their staff, such as Tshepo, Jordan House and Ikageng Itireleng, which are encountering challenging and difficult times at present, may be able to have the strength to face the challenges and be given some certainty and hope that these times will pass.
- Portfolio membership: That more active members of Trinity may be moved to join the portfolio and that a person be found who is willing to assume the Chairperson's position by the end of the year.

NEW REACH OUT PORTFOLIO CHAIRPERSON NEEDED

The current chairperson of the Reach Out portfolio (Alan Kitchin) has indicated that he would like to step down from the role by the end of the year, so we are in need of a new person to take up the reins. Please prayerfully consider this and, if you feel called to fill the role, contact Alan (082 414 2430 or alankitchin7575@gmail.com).

Thank you again for your continued generosity and support. Look out for more details in the Trinity communication on the exciting things happening in the third quarter. We look forward to sharing feedback in the next edition of the newsletter on all that has taken place!

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)