

Notices for May

We encourage all fellowship groups to maintain connection with each other- to watch over each other with love to WhatsApp, call, SMS, and email with support, encouragement and love

Society Stewards		Fellowship Groups Leaders	
Name	Tel	Name	Tel
Gary De Winnaar	083 613 6502	Allen Goddard	084 381 9910
Irene Rodda	083 308 2939	Dennis Varty	0724839965
Kirsty Price	082 728 0214	Eric Erskine	0837811424
Odin Axelson	076 773 7155	Joan Houston	0722717599
Shannon Hctor	083 949 7361	Liz du Preez	0825794947
Tsungai Mukomba	066 238 5218	Michelle Hctor	0837724940
		Paul Oosthuizen	0726179878
		Sherryl Yellowley	0825653749
Other Groups			
Sun	Emmaus Accountability Group	on hold	
Tue	Alcohol Support Group	on hold	
Thu	Social Rummicub	on hold	
Thu	Autumn Gold	on hold	
Hope Counselling- If you are in need of counselling this line is serviced by an ecumenical team +27 79 143 8531			

Banking Details:

Methodist Church of SA-Hilton Society
Branch: FNB- 220825
Acc No: 6209 880 5545

2020	Income		Expenses	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
April		75 337		77 259
YTD	347 833	357 331	359 163	335 649
Balance 21 682				

WELCOME TO HILTON METHODIST CHURCH

<http://hiltonmethodist.org.za>

24TH MAY 2020

The Rising (sunrise) by Dan Sproull



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Everyone ALIVE in Christ, Serving Him with Heart, Head & Hands.

Rev Paul Oosthuizen

072 617 9878

paul@hiltonmethodist.org.za

Admin: Christel Klein

admin@hiltonmethodist.org.za

Children: Michelle Hctor

083 772 4940

children@hiltonmethodist.org.za

Youth: David Elliott 083 564 1104

youth@hiltonmethodist.org.za

Dear Friends

I have listened to so many of you over the phone this last while and I am very deeply aware that for so many this is a time of struggle. The sense of anxiety and fear around the future is very near and real. I have heard from those who face illness both themselves and in their loved ones, those who face grief, those who face unemployment, those who face businesses that are stressed to the edge, those struggling to make sense of home schooling and working from home, those who feel isolated and alone within this space. Many of these emotions are ones I feel myself, there is a sense of desolation at times.

One of the learnings of my life is the habit of turning my attention to the light when I am in the dark. I am convinced the light is always present, there may be things that restrict or even block the light, but it is present, and powerfully present even. The struggle in these times is to turn towards the light- to welcome it, receive it and even to delight in it. Sometimes it is helpful to start by remembering previous times I have been able to enjoy the light- God's loving care and presence through my life held in my memories. It's almost like as I look into the past, notice the light in the past, it becomes a mirror that helps me to see the light present now. It helps me to find the light and begin to turn towards it.

There are also other habits that draw me towards the light- the habit of prayer-sharing my life with God in an interactive dance of conversation; the habit of reading scripture; the habit of doing creative things whether it be cooking a lovely meal, baking a cake, repairing something, or making something in the workshop. The habit of connecting to others and enjoying good conversation, even if it is over WhatsApp these days. The habit of silence, and delighting in nature. The habit of exercising with my family, playing games, and laughing. So many of these practices help me to be present to the moment at hand, and to welcome the light of God's love in that moment as gift.

I have found the following quote a still point in my life that I turn to repeatedly:

The philosopher Paul Ricoeur, a Protestant Christian, writes, "I have nothing to reply to those who say, 'There is too much evil in the world for me to believe in God.' God does not want us to suffer. From being all-powerful, God becomes 'all-loving'. God's only power is unarmed love. God has no other power than to love and, when we are suffering, to address a word of assistance to us. Our difficulty is to be able to hear it."

Can I invite those of us who are finding it difficult to hear, to trust and have the confidence to believe that not hearing does not mean God is not speaking, and speaking lovingly! Could you maybe explore those habits or practices that have in

the past helped you to hear and welcome the voice of God's love.
I will hold you in prayer as I know you hold me and we hold the world.
Blessings Paul

Sunday Sermons and Children's ministry online
<http://hiltonmethodist.org.za/Sermons>

Lectionary Readings for the coming week

Read John 7 verses 37 to 39.

Situation - Jesus speaks about streams of living water.

Question - For what purpose do you see the flow of living water?

Prayer - O Lord we thank you for your grace for what flows from us comes almost in spite of ourselves. Help us to simply be the conduits of your living water. May it flow through us as we act as agents of your grace and couriers of your fruitful gifts. Amen.

Birthdays next week

24 Jared Larsen

30 Linda Smallbones0832547482

26 Mike Yellowley0333431243

30 Alison Axelson033 343 0811

28 Jim Johnston0333442383

30 Alta v d Walt0824849501

We have received over 800 cloth reusable face masks; both from the Monday Sewing group, and volunteers in this community. These will be distributed to those in need who cannot access masks. Thank you for your generosity which enables these gifts.

PRAYER Please let us know if you are ill or going into hospital. Join the 'Prayer Chain' WhatsApp Ruth Lubbe on 082 826 0784.

Pray specially for... Dawn Warber; Oosthuizen Family; Sarel & Doreen Kruger; Megan Tatz; Luyanda Mbense; Mora & George Payne, Theresa Naidoo, Jos Stanford; Gary de Winnaar's father and cousin; Rick Mattison; Charles, Clare and their new-born boy Theo who is in neonatal ICU; Irene and Clive Rodda's son-in-law Matt in hospital; Joan O'Connors niece Wendy passed away this past week- please remember her family at this time.

Also all those ill at this time both at home and in hospital, and those who face unemployment.