

## Notices for August

**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
June		70 314		81081
YTD	521 750	507 269	538 745	486 527
<b>Balance 20 742</b>				

# WELCOME TO HILTON METHODIST CHURCH

<http://hiltonmethodist.org.za>

**2ND AUGUST 2020**

Artwork by Sr. Mary Stephen "The Depths of Distress"



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

### Rev Paul Oosthuizen

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### Admin: Christel Klein

[admin@hiltonmethodist.org.za](mailto:admin@hiltonmethodist.org.za)

### Children: Michelle Hctor

083 772 4940

[children@hiltonmethodist.org.za](mailto:children@hiltonmethodist.org.za)

### Youth: David Elliott 083 564 1104

[youth@hiltonmethodist.org.za](mailto:youth@hiltonmethodist.org.za)

Dear Friends

It has been hard to listen to those families wrestling with illness this week- whether it is those infected with COVID-19 or other illnesses. The reality of a family member being in hospital and being unable to visit them, at times to even contact them, is an incredibly frustrating and difficult moment. I read this week of a son sitting in the car park outside the hospital and shouting at God as their dad lay inside on a ventilator in ICU. I cannot imagine their feelings and concern, having not been there myself- all I can believe is that it is overwhelming. One thing I find comforting is that when the son writes about shouting at God, he is in good company!

The Psalms which are the worship songs of our faith, are often beautiful in their wonder and praise for God, but also raw in their honesty and vulnerability. We read of moments when the Psalmists cry out with a sense of abandonment, sit in the dust in despair, confront the reality that their enemies surround them, and struggle to make sense of a world where evil at times seems to prosper. They feel free to share these emotions with God, they trust that God is the God who longs to hear their hearts desire, who is comfortable hearing their anger, pain and frustration.

I am also struck how these songs so often end with a refrain that starts with a 'but' or a 'yet'- as the Psalmists enter into the space of prayer sharing with God what they are going through, somehow they begin to become aware of the presence of God and something shifts within them- not always in their context- but in their perspective. They notice that God is not the author of their suffering, that God is not the agent of their pain, rather God is the one alongside them, God is the unshakeable rock from whom they can draw strength. God is their comforter and sustainer. The most common description of God from the Old Testament is the Hebrew word 'hesed'- translated most often as 'steadfast love'. The God they encountered was and is a God of steadfast love. Love that continues in the face of struggle, pain, heartache, illness and despair. Love that never gives up, even in the face of sin and evil. Love that is unconditional.

I find in these times what I need most is spaces of prayer, where I can root myself in the reality of this unconditional love of God- that I can once again turn my face to notice that God's face shines upon me with grace and love. I need to sit for a moment basking in the presence of this pure love, so that I can enter again into each moment of my experience knowing that God is with me and loving me through it.

I trust and believe that as that son cried out in the parking lot, the God of steadfast love was close and available with all the resources that son needed to sustain him through what he was experiencing.

I pray that you will meet the God of steadfast love in each moment of your life.  
Blessings Paul

<http://hillonmethodist.org.za/Sermons>

## KID'S CORNER

⇒ Jonah the Backward Prophet (Faith Room)

<https://youtu.be/p44BCPf28So>

The Story of Job (Hope Room)

<https://youtu.be/58fcoLkJ67c>

⇒ **ZOOM JUNIOR YOUTH Programme starting on 21st August** for 5 weeks Junior every Friday @ 5pm for 40 minutes. Jam-Packed with games, craft, experiments ... and more! Please contact Michelle to receive the link.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

⇒ **SENIOR YOUTH—NO** Senior Youth Programme next Friday and Sunday. We will resume again from **Friday the 14th of August .**

## Lectionary Reading for the coming week

Genesis 37:1–4, 12–28; Ps 105:1–6, 16–22, 45b (UMH 828);

Romans 10:5–15; Matthew 14:22–33

## Birthdays in August

03 Hugo Naude 0332390728

05 Carolyn Milsom 0333434492

05 Mark Bisschoff 072 814 9545

06 Marion Hind 0333434991

06 Nicolynne V d Walt

079 109 6157

06 Thando Molefe 074 259 1930

07 Ronel Dovenhage

0769893119

07Jenny v Rooyen 0767691039

10 Elianna Hctor

12 Joy Jones

13 Jackie Muir

14 Jessie Usher

18 James Bilbrough

20 Zara Bisschoff

22 Andre Boshoff

22 Gill Ducasse

22 Reuben Oosthuizen

24 Joyann Goddard

24 Zama Gama

25 Les Williams

## 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...***

little Theo and Serfontein family; Doreen Kruger; Luyanda Mbense; Mora & George Payne; Theresa Naidoo; Oosthuizen Family; Gary de Winnaar's father and cousin; Rick Mattison; Ann Boshoff's family for the loss of her mother; Irene and Clive Rodda's family, Dunbar family, Rita Meiring, Gilfilian family, Megan Tatz—for all who mourn her loss.

Pray for all who work to provide care, resources and support for those affected by COVID-19 and all those ill at home and in hospital, and those who face unemployment.