

Contact



Provincial Newsletter of the Anglican Women's Fellowship

United in Prayer, Service & Love

Message from our President Pumla...Alleluia Christ is risen!

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, I hope you are well and in good physical and emotional health.

This year is speeding ahead, my head is spinning, there is so much to be done. But Phillipian's 4: 10-13 is firmly in my head all the time " 10 I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. 11 I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength." Whow, what more do I want, with God on my side, who can be against me?

On the 10-12 February, I attended the first Diocesan Conference of the new Ukhahlamba AWF. Thanks to Diocesan President Ms Mazoe Fini and her Executive, for a job well done, " God who knows and sees all things, will greatly reward you for all your hard work".

On the 17 March I attended the AWF Leadership Workshop presented by Past Presidents Sylvia Adams and Ray Overmeyer for the Diocese of False Bay. This was a wonderful opportunity to see these two ladies who continue to use their skills to grow and empower the AWF beyond their terms. Thereafter, I proceeded to Dr Pat Gorralla's home for the celebration of Aunt Pat's 82nd Birthday. Please keep her in your prayers as she battles with her health. I sealed off my weekend in Cape Town, by attending Mothering Sunday Service at the St Johns the Evangelist Parish in Belgravia, with the Cape Town Diocesan President.

This weekend (13-15 April) I will be joining the Diocese of Kimberley and Kuruman in their 43rd Annual General Meeting, where they will also be celebrating their Diocesan Centenary.

The Provincial Executive will be holding its next meeting hosted by the Diocese of Swaziland, from the 17 to 20 May 2012. We will be finalizing details for the Provincial Council meeting in October 2012. I am looking forward to this and I hope all Dioceses are busy fundraising to ensure that their delegates are well covered.



Icon of the AWF turns 81yrs: Pumla with Aunty Pat

The 2nd Edition of our handbook is out and I hope that all Dioceses have made their orders. It is my wish that every member of our guild has a copy. I am looking forward to your comments. The webpage is improving and I hope you are using it to get information about our guild.

Should you have any suggestions or recommendations of how we can improve our interactions during Provincial Council, please do not hesitate to forward them to us or your Diocesan President.

In the meantime, continue to Revive others by Relating the good news of our risen Lord and remember to Rejoice in Him always.

I remain yours in Prayer, Service and Love

Pumla Titus
Provincial President



From the Liaison Bishop's Desk

It started out as spending time with my mother when I come in from work. Mum enjoyed it very much – she still enjoys very much – and it is (when I'm a round) our special time together. I must confess that these days I try very hard to be home – and free – for that "holy" period from 6.30 – 7 pm from Mondays to Fridays. And a further confession, I have even resorted to using the recording machine when it seems that I will not make it!

Why is 7de Laan so popular among so many of us? I suspect it is so because of Zinzi who is great in her role as skinnerbek! She has great difficulty, in fact, it is impossible for her to keep things to herself. As one character says on occasion: "Oh dear! Zinzi knows about it....the whole place knows about it!" is her part so good because she reminds us of ourselves? It seems that the producers know a winning formula and we see that Zinzi has hardly left the scene to pursue her on screen love life and she is succeeded by Kim.

Maybe we should remember what we like in her character and learn a trick or two from her and Kim. We sometimes want to preserve the news of God's mighty deeds as the best-kept secret. We seem not to be keen about skinning the good news about what God is doing in our lives and in the world. We experience so many juicy snip-

pets of God's involvement in our lives and his love for us. We are continually overwhelmed with the good news of God's love and generosity.

During these days Christians are celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus and we give thanks to God for that mighty event – that great display of God's awesome power. The Passover events are a clear demonstration that our God is in charge despite the turmoil we see around us – destruction, war, lawlessness... We give thanks during these days that God loved the world so much that he held nothing back to prove it and make that love real. We rejoice that our God continues to offer us that awesome power for our pilgrimage, our life of faith. This great God with his high demands for holiness and kingdom values also makes it possible for us to live up to those high standards.

Surely this is good news! So why are we generally so reluctant to shout it from the rooftops?

Matthew and Mark give us two different initial reactions to the resurrection. In Mark their reaction to the stupendous news of the resurrection was to go away and say nothing to anyone, "for they were afraid," (Mk 16:8) while in Matthew they ran, though afraid, with great joy to spread

the word to the other disciples. (Mt 28:8) Fear can paralyse us and we can miss crucial opportunities. We can be afraid that people will not believe us, ridicule us. We can be afraid because we feel inadequate – that we do not have the right language or words to convey such profound things.

The interesting thing is that we sometimes go out confidently to tell a savoury story and share a bit of gossip even if we are not sure of all the facts.

When we experience God as a reality in our lives – when we have tasted his love and goodness – we must share it so that others may also be aware of God's desire to play an important and intimate part in their lives. Let us not sit on the good news. Our wonderful and great God wants us to be the bearers of the good news of a loving, forgiving and saving God.

So, let us get into some wholesome and up building skinner.

May the joy of the Risen Lord and the power of the Holy Spirit warm your heart and empower and equip you to spread the good news of God's love.

+Oswald Swartz

Twenty Year Anniversary of Women Priests

In 1992 Provincial passed a motion that the Anglican Church in Southern Africa would ordain women.

To mark the twenty years of this historic event a service of celebration will be held in St Georges Cathedral on Sun 9th Sep at 2pm.

Our preacher will be Archbishop Thabo Makgoba.

Congratulations Archbishop Thabo!

It is with great pleasure that we the Anglican Women's Fellowship wish to congratulate The Most Reverend Dr Thabo Makgoba on his inauguration as Chancellor of the University of the Western Cape. We look forward with confidence to Dr Makgoba's positive contribution to the growth and development of this University.

A true son of African soil.

We wish you well as you start your new role.



Great Fellowship, Worship and Prayer in the Diocese of Lesotho



The 6th Diocesan Conference was held at St Saviors in Leribe from 25th-27th December and started with mass led by Rev Ntlamelle who encouraged AWF to be truly anchored in the Christian religion and feed ourselves more with scripture as satan does not target the weak in spirit; but wants the spiritually strong people.

This teaching greatly started us off on a course of spiritual revival on the first day of the conference. Members made their testimonies on; their growth as AWF members; Abuse of all people by people especially in our families; praying for good rains and we lit candles in memory of our departed AWF members.

The conference had invited speakers to raise awareness to members on the 2011 theme on 16 days of activism on gender based violence: "From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Let's Challenge Militarism and End Violence Against Women"; Positive Parenting, Child and Women Abuse and Christian Leadership, to empower members on how to handle leadership appointments in the AWF and the church.

The Lesotho Diocesan Conference was graced by the presence of Mrs. Monica Thaele as Provincial representative, Mrs Segwe Diocesan President of Freestate and members from Botsabelo and Qwa qwa in the Freestate.

Monica honoured the conference by leading members to a tree planting session around the Parish yard. She planted a memorial mop tree, and we hope that all trees will grow to be silent sentinels, honorable monuments, and for decades to come will be active participants in nature's plan.

Most importantly this was carrying forward the Archbishop's call to care for our environment as he said; "We cannot effectively care for God's people if we do not care for God's planet, our environment" at the 22nd AWF Provincial Conference.

The Editor's Note

Christ is Risen, We are risen, Alleluia! I greet you all in the name of our risen Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. As we continue to celebrate the glorious good news of the Resurrection, may the power of the Saviour be present to bless, guide and direct us as an origination. Yes we have risen to new heights and I trust that all is well in your respective Dioceses. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who so willingly shared information with the broader family in the Province; we are always waiting for news. My sisters it's been a wonderful opportunity to learn about what you are all doing in your Dioceses, and I'm sure the whole Province will agree with me that we have all been blessed. Please keep our Provincial President and the Executive in your prayers as we prepare for our next Executive meeting in the Diocese of Swaziland from the 17 – 20 May, 2012 also pray for our Provincial Conference and the Diocese of "Christ the King who will be hosting us. Provincial Conference will be from 24 – 28 October, 2012.

With much love and blessing,
Lucille Henniker

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Women World of Prayer Day in the Diocese of Ukhahlamba



Women assembled at The Cathedral of St Michael & all Angels for the Womens World Day of Prayer. The Speaker of the day was Mrs Bongwiwe Sidumo-Jaggers, who delivered a very touching speech. It was our (AWF) first time to organise such an event and we hope that it wont be the last. We thank Khoks, our Cluster Leader, Pat Diergaardt and Sis'Push (Provincial President) for all the support. May God bless you guys. The collection of the day will be deposited to the WWDP's account. - Nokuzola

Greetings from the shores of the Diocese of False Bay

Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Execute true justice, Show mercy and compassion to everyone" - Zechariah 7:9 The diocese of False Bay, at the Compassion Day service, launched a campaign challenging all branches to knit a "Mother Theresa" vest for new born babies. It was ascertained that many new born babies, especially babies born with HIV/AIDS in the disadvantaged communities go home with wearing nothing more than a nappy and maybe wrapped in some of the mother's clothing. This challenge was well received and at, the Thanksgiving Service an amount of more than 600 baby clothing items were collected, about 460 knitted vests and beanies and those who could not knit bought clothing. What an overwhelming experience.

The members in the Diocese are also very fortunate to have two Past Provincial Presidents on our door step, Ray Overmeyer and Sylvia Adams. They have formed a team (Lucille Henniker, and Jacoba Kleinsmith also serve on the team) and conduct workshops for the members of AWF. At this particular workshop they explained in detail the role of the office bearers (at branch level), viz chairperson, secretary, councillor and treasurer. All the members who attended the workshop thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship and left feeling more positive and informed to take up office within their respective branches. May God richly bless you. - Sandi Williams