

TODAY'S SERVICE

Series: Advent

Reading: Hosea 14: 1-9

Topic: Evergreen Tree

Preacher

08h00 Lauren Fick

09h30 Lauren Fick

Society Stewards

08h00 Andrew Boake

09h30 Andrew Boake

Organist

Thelda Ekron

CONTACT NUMBERS & OFFICE HOURS

Minister: Sean McGuigan

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Seans's day off is Thursday.

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Vuyelwa's day off is Monday.

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Monday - Thursday:

08h00 - 16h00

Friday:

08h00 - 13h00

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DMC YOUTH

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9H30-10H30)

Sunday School caters for all children from 2 years old upwards. We long to introduce them to the Lord Jesus Christ so that they can build their lives in his loving care. We do this through stories, videos, crafts and games. Please encourage them to come regularly so they don't miss out. And please pray for us in this important task.

We wish all our children, teachers & parents a blessed & peaceful Christmas & pray God's continued blessings on all as they enjoy their holidays & on those who will be travelling.

We are desperately in need of teachers and helpers for the pre-school class for 2019. Please pray about this and consider whether you might be part of the answer to our prayers.

Sunday School reopens **on 13 January 2019.**

SERVICE AND GENEROSITY

SOCIAL CONCERNS

STATIONERY - We identified schools in Namaqualand requiring stationery for 2019. The needs are: HB pencils, blue pens, erasers, pritt, sharpeners, small books with no lines, hard cover books with lines, small & big. Please leave at the help desk or office.

PANTRY CUPBOARD - our pantry cupboard is running low. We are making an appeal for non-perishable food items. Please deliver to the church office or leave at the help desk.

SOUP KITCHEN ROSTER 2019 - will all those who have volunteered to assist with the above, please collect their new roster for **2019** from the mail boxes.

CAR GUARD - We would like to give Patrick a small bonus at the end of the year. If you would like to donate something please speak to Yvonne.

PAPER BANK - The bin at the bottom of the car park is for paper collection. DMC gets paid by Mpact for all that is collected. We use these funds to supplement the soup kitchen. We need to have 800kg paper each month, otherwise they will remove the bin. Please help us keep this worthy cause going.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COMBINED MORNING SERVICES - will be held on **23 & 30 December at 09h00.**

NO EVENING SERVICES - on **16, 23, 25, 30 December & 6 January.**

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - will be at **23h00.**

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES - will be at **07h30 & 09h00.**

THE CHURCH OFFICE - will be closed from 27 December 2018 - 2 January 2019.

SOCIETY STEWARD MEETING - Tuesday 8 January at the church at 19h00.

LEAVE DATES for STAFF 2018/2019

Sandra Fairbairn: 14 December - 3 January

Jeffrey Valentine: 18 December - 11 January

Caroline Erens: 18 December - 10 January

Sean McGuigan: 26 - 30 December

Yvonne Engelke: 4 - 11 January

Vuyelwa Ntshinga-Yawa: away till 13 January

OTHER NOTICES

MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES will re-commence **16 January.**

CHRISTMAS EVE and CHRISTMAS DAY OFFERTORY - the entire offertory goes to Methodist Children's work, supporting our Children's Homes, Creche's and Edu-care Centres.



DMC FAMILY NEWS

Prayers

Please pray for the following people in their time of need:

Rev Vuyelwa Ntshinga-Yawa
Pat Chipps

Flowers

The flowers in the church today are in loving memory of Herbert Rutondedzo Rinashe, who passed away 22 December 2016. Sadly missed and never forgotten. From Jackie, Naomi, Nathan & Nelinha Seyaseya. "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away" (Rev. 21:4).

Birthdays

We wish you God's Richest blessings as you celebrate your special day

Roy Lureman	16 December
Nolan Daniels	16 December
Claire Kleynhans	17 December
Barbara MacDonald	17 December
Agnes Stainton	17 December
Samantha Griebenouw	17 December
Nicholas McKinley	17 December
Linda Knoetze	17 December
Lindsay Knight	17 December
Ashley February	18 December
Annette Coetzee	18 December
Val Kemp	18 December
Larenza Kruger	19 December
Janine Janssen	19 December
Michael Graham	21 December
Emmanuel Mensah	21 December
Josephine During	22 December
Vanessa Lovell	22 December
Glenn Brown	22 December
Harry Donaldson	22 December

***O Ephraim, what more have I to do with idols?
I will answer him and care for him.
I am like a green pine tree (Hosea 14:8).***

NEXT SUNDAY: 23 December 2018

COMBINED MORNING SERVICE

Baptism

Preacher

09h00 Rev Sean McGuigan

Society Stewards

09h00 Isaac Adom-Aboagye

Welcome and Offertory Stewards

09h00 Wessel & Margaret Oosthuizen

Help Desk Stewards

09h00 Thelda Ekron

Sound Desk Operators

09h00 Simon Conradie

Data Projector Operators

09h00 Nicole Barnes

Growing A Family Aflame,
Sharing God's Love with All



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Minister's Note

16 December 2018

Christmas trees are fun to decorate and beautiful to look at. But we aren't quite sure why we have them. Whilst some point to its pagan origins, legend has it that Martin Luther, the great Christian reformer, was walking home one winter's evening, mentally preparing a sermon, when he was suddenly awed by the beauty of the starlight twinkling through the evergreens. To share the scene with his family, he cut down a young fir tree, took it home and wired candles to the branches.

The Christmas tree's origin may be uncertain. But here is a reliable promise to ponder next time you see a Christmas tree. God says through the prophet Hosea:

*O Ephraim¹, what more have I to do with idols?
I will answer him and care for him.*

I am like a green pine tree (14:8).

In Christ, God has become for us the great "evergreen". We are set free from the idolatry often associated with this season to live under His shade and care. We become, like Him, faithful, rooted, wise, fruitful, yes - evergreen. A blessing to a dry, needy world.

God Bless,
Sean

¹Hosea uses the name Ephraim to refer to the Northern Kingdom of Israel.