



Somerset West Church of Christ

PO BOX 965

Somerset West, South Africa 7130

Phone: +27 21 851 2990

E-Mail: churchofchristsw@telkomsa.net

Web: www.swchurchofchrist.co.za

19 March 2019

Dear Loved Ones,

Paul and Hettie Gerber greet you fondly with the February report of the Lord's church in our area, our family and the school news.

Family: Rudi and family are finding their feet in Ireland. At the time of this writing, both Rudi and Ilse are waiting on replies for their job applications. They have moved a little closer to Dublin but prefer to live in the country – about an hour's drive from Dublin. They meet with the congregation in Dublin and seem to be making friends. Ray, Debbie and the girls are fine. The Taylor family, from Hermanus, are moving to Ireland also. They left yesterday. This will be a big loss for the church and the Henderson's as they are such close friends of Ray and Debbie.

Hettie and I are doing well. I have had my ears tested and have a set of hearing aids! For the first time in a long time I have no tinnitus at times, and that is a huge blessing.

The attendance figures for Somerset West are as follows:

Date	3	10	17	24	
Sunday Study	61	118	96	117	
Assembly AM	141	157	152	151	
Assembly PM	30	25	30	25	
Giving	R5302.00	R7159.00	R6153.00	R4946.00	
Midweek	65	70	70	75	70

The exchange rate in February was R13.3619/ \$1

We had a great meeting with the elders during our monthly men's training when we discussed certain aspects of the work of the church. The elders made an announcement of three new deacons as well as plans for youth work and addressing some problems regarding transport and benevolence.

In Somerset West there were two baptisms in February and various studies are on-going. One of the graduates from the school left to go and work in Malawi. I used Joy as my translator, and I know he will be a blessing as he returns to his home town- the third largest in Malawi.

The school is continuing with three subjects this term, namely, Personal Evangelism, The Preacher and His Work, and Life of Christ. We have two preachers from close to Cape Town who teach and one of the local personnel. One of the new Zimbabwean students had to return to Zimbabwe for personal business reasons and plans to return either by the third term 2019 or the first term in 2020.

Elders

Jankel Friedman
Ashley Paulse

jankelf@hotmail.com
pashley@telkomsa.net

Evangelist

Paul Gerber
Ben Little

pg13@mweb.co.za
benmel@mweb.co.za

We started a satellite school in Vredenburg – some 2 hours from here. Three students meet on Monday and Tuesdays, while their wives get together on Mondays for class work. They meet for 6 hours per day and have four subjects per term. My brother Malan and I share the one Monday and Tuesday slot when he teaches Biblical Authority and I teach Biblical Leadership. The students are eager to learn, and they are all involved with congregational work.

The Vredenburg personnel arranged a door knocking campaign in the Town of Hopefield. I picked up the local students and joined up with the group from Vredenburg. We distributed pamphlets and invited all to a Gospel meeting. The response was good, and several visitors turned up during the meetings.

I also took the local students to the town of Hermanus where we led the service in that town. Although the Taylor family will be leaving soon, various visitors came during February, and we pray for good growth.

Hettie and I have been involved in the teaching and preaching program of the Central congregation, close to Cape Town, twice a month. I am doing a study on first principles, while the sermons are designed to enhance and build on the studies. I am also teaching a leadership class there on the third Sunday afternoon of every month. The February attendance for the leadership class was 15.

I preached at a Malawian congregation closer to Cape Town. Four people responded for prayer. The purpose of the visit was to start a Mobile Bible School Program. It was decided to set aside two Sundays per month to educate those who attend on the subject of “Biblical Interpretation.” The classes will meet on the first and third Sundays for four hours in the afternoons from the 1st Sunday in May. We plan to involve 6 preachers from the Cape Town area to do the teaching. During the planning meeting in the afternoon 25 men from 7 congregations attended. Please pray for this project.

Please pray for the following people: Johan - stomach cancer, Werner - Motoneurons disease, Marlene - vertigo problems, Shirley - early dementia, Cora, my sister-in-law is in a coma – not expected to live much longer, Doreen – a Malawian lady who has cancer and her return to Malawi has been delayed because of airport problems in Blantyre. Celeste – had swine flu and struggles to regain her strength.

We appreciate letters, cards, emails and Skype calls from various supporters in the USA. Thank you for your love, care and support.

Because of a cross

Paul

Hettie's Little Corner

Rudi, Ise and family have sent us pictures of Ireland. It looks like a beautiful area and we look forward to visiting them there sometime. They seem to like the town they are in now and will possibly stay there as it is on the main line to Dublin by train if Rudi gets the job there and the public transport there is very efficient.

I feel for Debbie as her best friend, Janice, has also moved to Ireland and I know it will be a huge void in both her and Janice's lives. With the technology we have now, it will be easy to chat every day if they wish.

Love to you all from our home to yours. Hettie