

## ALIGNMENT

Falling in line with God's plans

COME AND PRAY: TUESDAYS, 9AM



Gifted  
to  
Serve

(1 Peter 4:10)

## The Grace Team

Our next meeting is on  
**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August at 10h00**,  
downstairs at the church.

*All ladies welcome!*

For more info, please contact Eve (082 854 9633)



## SPECIAL APPEALS

*There are a few special projects / upgrades we are appealing for donations towards*

If you are able to make a donation towards any of these (over and above your usual giving) please use the item as reference when making deposits.

- ★Hall TV R10,000
- ★Solar Panels R35,000
- ★New Property Fund
- ★Coffee Machine – **donated! Thank you!**



PORT ELIZABETH

## EMMAUS COMMUNITY

Men's Walk: 5-8 September  
Ladies Walk: 12-15 September

*The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal programme growing Christian disciples.*

If you would like to sponsor someone, please contact Rev Paul (084 523 5352) or Lew or Judi Slade (066 450 6370 / 084 604 2226)

Forms are available in the office

# BIBLE STUDY NOTES



## **Thursday: Bearing Grudges** – **Matthew 9:18-26**

This story of the raising of the 'ruler's' daughter is told in Mark and Luke in more detail. They clarify that the ruler was Jairus who was a leader in the synagogue. As such he was a VIP in the orthodox Jewish community. He would have been one of those who had been critical of Jesus. Yet now, at his wits' end, he came to Jesus as a last resort. Knowing who he was, Jesus could have held a grudge and refused to help. But that was not Jesus' way. And it shouldn't be ours. Is there someone you resent or hold a grudge against?

## **Friday: Taking Sides – Matthew 9:32-38**

The gospel writers often highlight the reaction of various people to the teaching and miracles of Jesus. And very often they paint a polarised picture. After Jesus had healed the blind man and the man who was mute, we're told the crowd were amazed. These were ordinary people who saw in Jesus someone who had both compassion and power. In contrast the Pharisees perceived him as a potentially powerful threat. How do you see Jesus?

## **Saturday: The Ordinary made Extraordinary** – **Matthew 10:1-8a**

How often have you heard other Christians say: "Oh I couldn't possibly do that!" Or: "I don't know enough." Look down the list of those chosen to be Jesus' closest disciples. They were very ordinary men. They had no wealth, no academic studies, no social position, yet these were the ones Jesus chose as the foundation of God's Kingdom on earth. No-one should ever think they have nothing to offer Jesus. It's been said that Jesus takes ordinary people to do ordinary things extraordinarily well.

## **Monday: Clean the Slate! – Matthew 9:1-8**

In Biblical times the prevailing belief was that illness was caused by sin – spiritual health affected physical health. Modern medicine has also recognised that sickness can be psychosomatic. That was the reason Jesus first forgave the man his sins before healing him of his paralysis. The man needed to be freed from the burden of his sin, real or imagined, before he could bring himself to believe he was healed. It would serve all of us well to regularly 'clean our slate' with God through confession and repentance.

## **Tuesday: Heavenly Minded – Matthew 9:9-13**

Here's a trap which lies in wait for all of us! We can become so heavenly-minded that we are no earthly good! The Scribes and Pharisees, who were so critical of Jesus, thought that it was enough to follow the strict letter of the law. They were so caught up in their own self-righteousness that they ignored the physical and spiritual needs of others around them. We can sometimes make the same mistake – going through the rituals of daily prayer and church on Sunday, and thinking we've done our spiritual duty. The only true expression of our Christian faith lies in what we do for others. And most importantly in what we do and say when we are with those who have no faith.

## **Wednesday: Adapt or Die! – Matthew 9:14-17**

Jesus gave two illustrations of how an old garment and wineskins could not adapt to something new. Isn't that true for very many of us? We are so used to the way we do things that we find it hard to accept that a new way may be better. Our world is changing at an amazing rate – cell phones, computer tablets and many other technologies have all happened in the last 30 years. In the same way there are new generations of Christians whose expressions of praise and worship have changed. Ask the Holy Spirit to help us to keep our minds open and receptive.



"It is for us to pray  
not for tasks equal to our powers,  
but for powers equal to our tasks,  
to go forward with a great desire  
forever beating at the door of our hearts  
as we travel toward our distant goal."

- Helen Keller

## CELEBRATIONS

### Birthdays:

Enallah Gondwe 12<sup>th</sup>  
Richard Johnson 12<sup>th</sup>  
Rodney Smith 13<sup>th</sup>  
Ross Whale 13<sup>th</sup>  
Petronell Mennen 14<sup>th</sup>  
Terence Griffiths 16<sup>th</sup>



*Have a wonderful,  
blessed day!*

*This week we pray for our following church  
members and their families:*

**Rob & Sandra Parsons**  
**Mick & Gail Paterson**  
**Guy & Mareé Pearson**  
**Lindsay & Noelle Pearson**  
**Paul & Maureen Pizarro**  
**Barry & Ann Phillips**



**Praying for  
each other**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Should you wish to join our prayer ministry  
and be a part of our prayer chain, or if you  
have a personal prayer request, please  
contact either

Rev Paul Mosdell 084 523 5352  
or Pat Munro 079 525 2189



## WEEKLY SERVICES

### Worship Services

Sunday mornings at 08h30

Everyone welcome!

### Sunday School

Sunday mornings at 08h30

During local school terms

All ages are welcome!

Contact Anneke May: 073 192 3709

## ST FRANCIS UNITED CHURCH

**1 Walton Rd, St Francis Bay**

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 08h30-13h00

Telephone: **042-294-1943**

Email: [stfrancisunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancisunitedchurch@gmail.com)

Facebook: **St Francis United Church**

Instagram: **stfrancisunitedchurch**

Website: [www.stfrancisunitedchurch.co.za](http://www.stfrancisunitedchurch.co.za)

## GIVING

*Donations, offerings, tithes and planned giving can be  
deposited into our church bank account and  
referenced as such.*

*If donating toward a specific project or purpose, please  
reference your donation accordingly.*



**zapper**

## BANK DETAILS

St Francis United Church  
Standard Bank,  
Branch (050015)  
Current Account 288098684



# ST FRANCIS UNITED CHURCH

11 August 2024

# WELCOME

*A warm welcome,  
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
to all who are joining us in worship today.*

*If you are new to our church and would  
like to become a member, please fill out a  
fellowship form available in the foyer.*

## Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 40:27-31  
Hebrews 12:1-6

**Please feel free to contact us!**

Office Queries: 042 294 1943  
Minister in Charge: Rev Paul Mosdell  
084 523 5352