



The Glen Methodist Church

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18 February 2021

Dear Friends,

Lenten greetings to each and everyone of you. I can't believe that we are already heading towards the end of February! Please take note of some changes that took place since I communicated with you last time:

- Our Secretary at the Glen, Anne Van Wyk, retired after serving the Glen wonderfully for the last 20 years! We thank God for this dedicated Servant of God.
- It gives me great pleasure to introduce our new Secretary, Pasencia Musekiwa, who some of you have already met or spoken to over the phone at the Office. We pray that the good Lord will guide her as she settles down in her new role.
- Wessel has not been too well since the beginning of this year, but we thank God that he's been recovering very well.
- Our Treasurer, Thandi Sakawuli has unfortunately had to resign due to domestic commitments beyond her control. We thank God for Thandi's work, inputs and guidance as our Treasurer, albeit for a much shorter period than she and us would have liked.
- The Stewards have once again appointed Renny Stoltz to be our Treasurer. Welcome back to you Renny!
- One of our Stewards, Lusanda Rataemane, has also had to resign as a Society Steward due to health concerns. We thank God for Lusanda's wisdom and thoughtfulness when she was part of the Stewards Team.
- Once the Services starts taking place, we will start the process of nominating a Steward to fill that vacancy.

Many people have been asking us about In-Person Services at the Glen, especially since the President has given the go-ahead to have gatherings of 50 people. I am happy to inform you that after consultation with our Covid response team and Stewards, we have earmarked Sunday, the **4th April 2021**, as our first in-person and Online Service, which will also be a Communion Service. We have though, also decided to allow those who feels strongly to be in a Church Service when we conduct our Live Sunday Services at 9h00 every Sunday, to please feel free to join us and quietly worship with us, provided they notify the Office midweek. This is allowed with immediate effect, but subject to a very small number of requests received.

Please take note of the following important points:

1. All our Services from the **4th April will comprise only one, 9h00am Service, and the number of Bookings via the Church will determine if we branch out to multiple services.**
2. It is important that people who will be coming to the Service phone the Church office the latest by Thursday preceding the Service, to be placed on the attendance list.
3. **Our Services will continue to be live on our Facebook Page** for those who will not be able to attend in-person.
4. We are considering having Children's/Youth Ministry if we have some bookings for children and Youth, but the booking must be done through Kyle and Glynis(Please phone the Office, and Pasencia will forward the booking to them).

Below are the Guidelines drawn up by our Church Readiness Team under the direction of Dr Trevor Terblanche. Please familiarize yourself thoroughly with them, to enable all of us to conduct services which are as safe as possible for all our Church attendees.

Yours in Christ's Service

Smanga

Glen Guidelines for In-person Church Worship during Covid-19

Glen Covid 19 Update - including In-person Church Worship

Mask / Sanitise / Distance remains the default mode for Covid 19 prevention....Please remember we are All , with Love and Caring, Co-responsible for each other and to reduce the risk of Covid-19 – Continue asking God for Patience to address 'Covid-fatigue' as we continue to together journey through the next 12 to 18 months (into Vaccine-land) – and beyond!

Brief Update:

Our country has been through a harrowing 2nd Covid-19 wave which is now thankfully receding – our thoughts and prayers are with each person , especially 'Glentonians', who has been negatively impacted , remembering their need for practical love and support, Not stigmatisation...!

Regarding currently- novel experimental therapies like Ivermectin, we advise a conservative and prudent approach until its role has been clarified through sufficiently-robust clinical trials; we strongly caution against its use for prevention or in mild Covid-disease, which in any case usually resolves with or without specific medical treatment.

We are grateful for the commencement of our phased Covid-vaccination program with vaccine/s which will be effective against our local strain/s – we strongly recommend that each of us gets vaccinated via the registration-process at the allocated time and place...

In light of the receding Covid 2nd wave, we propose very cautiously re-starting in-person worship-services on the ***first Sunday in April (4th April) , 9am , with a limit of 50 Congregants*** and relevant protocols being followed, including (regretfully) ***No Singing by the Congregation....***

We give God thanks for His ongoing Presence, as we listen for His voice, remembering that we are His implementation-instruments for an evolving and practical Customised Care-ministry during these times...!

Many Blessings