



Spring in Kleinmond, at The Grail Centre

### MTHIMKHULU COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### October

- Life skills and basic computer training for youth 18 - 25 years ( You can still sign up) - Kleinmond & Bettysbay only
- Cancer month: awareness event
- 31 October: Mthimkhulu Smartkids Debutant Ball

#### December

- HIV/AIDS awareness campaign

### TRAINING FOR TRANSFORMATION

#### Regional Think Wells - July and August

- A Regional Think Well was facilitated in Zimbabwe on the 26-27 July and it was attended by 15 Tft graduates from three countries (Zimbabwe, Zambia and Mozambique).
- A Regional Think Well was facilitated in South Africa from 24-28 August and it was attended by 12 Tft graduates from two countries (South Africa and Mozambique).

#### October - December

- The 2014-15 Diploma Course Phase 1 will be held in Kleinmond, South Africa, from 10th October - 7th December with 32 participants.



**"Think Green - Please do not print this newsletter unless you really need to"**

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#### "Die LAPPOP" ( Ragdoll) visits Mthimkhulu Smartkids Educare centre

By Hazel Apollis

Plato said: *"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything."* At the Mthimkhulu Smartkids educare centre, we focus on making music and song an integral part of the children's development.

On Friday, 5 September 2014, a team from the Department of Social Services (Caledon office) came to entertain our little ones at Mthimkhulu Smartkids.

They acted out the "DIE LAPPOP" story to the kids, by singing and a short drama. The kids were quiet while watching this performance and talked to all of the characters afterwards.

The purpose of this drama was to illustrate the meaning of appreciation every person you come across; friends and family are important and that you should also love yourself - because you are unique and precious in your own way.

Reverend Schunke from the United Reformed Church in Kleinmond, also visits the kids every Friday, blessing them with songs and bible stories - the kids seem to interact with him very well and look forward to his visits every week.

Ending off with the words of Cherly Lavender: *"The fact that can make beautiful music is less significant than the fact music can make beautiful children."* Please follow this project on their Facebook page: Mthimkhulu Smartkids - [www.facebook.com/mthimkhulu.smartkids](http://www.facebook.com/mthimkhulu.smartkids).



5 September 2014, Mthimkhulu Smartkids Educare centre

## Training for Transformation Grail Centre Trust Consultant visits Zambia

By Sec. Rev. Denis Sikazwe, United Church of Zambia

LUSAKA: Grail Centre Trust, a South African based Non-Governmental Organisation that has been conducting Training for Transformation sent its consultant to Zambia, UCZ in particular. The consultant came basically for three things: 1. to follow up the centre's Alumni based in Zambia, 2. To hold a Malawi – Zambia Conference for its alumni. 3. To sample projects initiated by its alumni. The Conference was held at the Commonwealth Youth Institute at the University of Zambia campus from 22nd to 23rd June 2014.

The Conference was officially opened by Synod Bishop of the United Church of Zambia, His Grace Rev Bishop Mutale Mulumbwa on 23rd June 2014. Before he could officially welcome the participants, who were drawn from Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe, the Synod Bishop noted that the Grail Centre Trust was a non-governmental organisation that God had raised in our time to carry out a prophetic ministry on the continent of Africa.

He contended that Training for Transformation programme had come at no better time as this. He was quick to mention that the United Church of Zambia has been running a theme "Seeking the church transformed" for three years. He stated that it was the Grail Centre Trust that responded to our cry and became our angel of light when the centre decisively came along to journey with the UCZ in search of life affirming transformation process when five (5) UCZ diaconal workers namely: Deaconess Chipasha, Namatama Mubita, Judith Lungu, Esther Nyirenda and Deaconess Sichali were admitted into the Training for Transformation programme. These were followed by another group of (6) more diaconal workers on the same programme comprising of Deaconess Violet Sikaundi, Mary Nakamba, Alice Zulu, Audrey Manda, Elizabeth Nachali and Deaconess Kafwimbi.

He further noted that since the training of these workers the church has seen holding of workshops for women and youth. There has been more community participation and a rise in self help group's establishment where ever these workers are.

The church has also seen proactively in resource mobilisation. There is also tremendous improvement in their research skills. He added that it was gratifying to note that one of the graduates of Grail Centre had been appointed Head of Department for Community Development and Social Justice.

He disclosed that the United Church of Zambia in partnership with the Council for World Mission has together embraced the concept of missional congregation. This initiative requires the expertise of these diaconal workers.

The following day the consultant went for an onsite check of the projects initiated by graduates of the centre. The first to be visited was the Matero Consistory Women's Group comprising of 19 women groups, divided in two (2) the widows and the self-help group.

The programme included presentations of what kind of projects they are involved in and how those projects have changed their lives for better. Women showcased their products. Among the items were bags made of used plastic bags, door mats, plastic garden chairs for renting out. They had also established low interest microfinance clubs. These women were under the leadership of Deaconess Chipasha.

The consultant was later taken to Kafue Boys Secondary School where Deaconess Chipasha had organised women to raise funds for the purchase of a deep fryer for the school kitchen, and later went to Kafue Health Centre where they also bought a machine that facilitates and guarantees safe motherhood in the labour ward.



Workshop in Zambia, 22nd – 23rd June

## Spring at the Grail Centre

By William Scrooby

It is spring and the gardens are coming to life at the Grail Centre, flowers are blooming and the birdlife is booming!

If you are a nature lover and want to experience the wonders the Overberg has to offer please feel free to give Lerne a call on 028 271 3410 or email her on [grailadm@mweb.co.za](mailto:grailadm@mweb.co.za) for a quote on our cosy down to earth self catering accommodation.

## **ABOUT US**

The Grail Centre Trust is based in Kleinmond, Western Cape. This Not-for-Profit Organisation delivers two programmes, namely Training for Transformation and Mthimkhulu Community Development Programme. In addition, the Grail Centre Conference and Retreat Centre can accommodate groups of up to 50 people.

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