

Restoring the Sanctuary

On Monday the 11th April the great transformation of this amazing Sanctuary begins. We are told that the re-plastering and re-painting of the in-side of the Sanctuary should take about six weeks! (Now you know what to pray for!)

The off-white colour will remain very similar to what we have at the moment and the lime green will be replaced with a shade of blue—attempting to pick up the blue from the stained-glass windows. The entrance and the stair-well area will be a brighter and bolder blue—showing off

the surrounding wood, especially the Cross.

This means that things are going to be a little messy for a while at CMM. Dust, dust dust...so bring a wet “lappie” to clean the pew :-)

From time to time we will have to be creative in how we manage the space as we negotiate the scaffolding etc. All in all it is a small price to pay to have the

beauty of this sanctuary restored.

Talking about price—the re-plastering and re-painting alone is costing about R85 000. The roofing is costing about R360 000. We are financing this through a LOAN from the Circuit.



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Retiling the Leaking Roof

The work on the two “side” roofs began in December. Unfortunately work has been delayed due to the South African Heritage Association objecting to the type of roof “capping” that was being proposed. We are

hoping that this is now resolved and that the work will soon resume. We are hoping that it will only be a few weeks to finish.



Cape Synod 18th-22nd May



Together with the Methodist churches in Sea Point, Salt River, Observatory and Kensington, CMM will be hosting the Cape of Good Hope district Synod. The meeting venue will be in Kensington, and we will have the privilege of having the bishop with us on Sunday 22nd May.

Besides contributing R10 000 to the running costs we will be hosting and providing the Friday morning tea. So we will need many hands and big smiles.

We are expecting 300 delegates.

It would be great if as many of us as possible could add their hand at assisting with Synod. Besides the basic necessities we are in the process of coming up with a number of creative additions to give Synod a little sparkle.

To this end we will be having a **“Synod Creative Morning”** on the 7th May from 9am-12am. Please come along and make a difference in just 3 hours.

As you can see we are cutting things a little fine with hosting Synod during the very week our restoration process is due to be completed, not to mention Easter in between. So it is going to be a challenging time for all.

Please pray for Bishop Hansrod who will be chairing his first Synod—no easy task!

Finally, remember that the opening Service on 18th May at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend this Ordination Dedication Service.

*“An ounce of
love is worth
a pound of
knowledge”
- John Wesley*

John Wesley Original Letter

I know not how, but CMM is in possession of an original letter written by John Wesley the founder of the Methodist Movement. The letter is dated 1772.

As part of our refurbishment of the Sanctuary we will be prominently displaying this historical relic.

We will also be displaying all other memorabilia collected over the years in the **“Time**

Tunnel” of history situated below the organ. This will all be professionally done and by kind donation.

If you have any photos etc. from both Metro and Buitenkant Street days please let us use them to tell the story of our history.

A further dynamic aspect of CMM’s restoration is the installation of glass doors at the three entrances to the

Sanctuary as well as partitioning the back of the Sanctuary off with glass sliding doors as a family room for Sundays.

Together with the clever use of lighting we hope that our entrances will be welcoming and inviting to the people of this city.

The entire cost of these doors will be in the region of R180 000.

Tea Time



Tea Time after the Sunday Worship Service is proving to be quite challenging. I have come to see it as a tiny parable of what faces our country—namely the sharing of resources between those who have and those who

do not have—and to do so in ways that truly respect everyone involved. It is not easy to create this kind of environment and is going to take a lot of work. It will be dependent as much on building relationships with those who are living rough on the streets as it will be dependent on us making sure we have done

everything practically possible to facilitate pleasant and speedy access to the tea and coffee tables.

God has given us an opportunity to serve Jesus in those who the world considers “the least” just two meters from our doors—what a blessing.

Wednesday Church



Over the last three weeks about 30 of us have been reflecting on John Wesley's "Three Simple Rules" at Wednesday Church.

1. Do No Harm.
2. Do Good.
3. Stay in Love with God.

I have found it personally so enriching especially with the 30 min of "silent sitting" before we start at 7pm.

Truly I don't know how anyone managers to get through the week with Jesus without a mid-week-watering-table-moment—to be refreshed and

reminded of his call on our life.

This past week we discussed "Staying in love with God" and we committed to set aside "date nights" with God—special deliberate moments for connecting with each other—as lovers do.

I hope Wednesday Church becomes our weekly "date night".

The "date" includes silence, song; food and thoughtful discussion. You are invited!

"Do No Harm. Do Good. Stay in Love with God"

- John Wesley

Feeding the Hungry

For years and years people of this community have been going out to feed the hungry of this city. This faithfulness is really quite remarkable. All the more so because of how challenging this ministry is to do in ways that really honour the humanity of those who rely on it. The reason for this is because whenever we engage with people from a position of power and strength (i.e. from having some-

thing others need) there is the great potential for the relationship to be patronizing and controlling etc. Therefore this ministry will always demand of us further consideration on just exactly what we are doing and why.

Because of the increased demand and the need for consistency in quality it has been decided that instead of members of the congregation bringing sandwiches the

team will purchase 40 loaves of bread every Sunday morning (insuring freshness and a bulk discount all at once) to go with the soup. The retiring offertory on Holy Communion Sunday will go directly to off-set these costs that will come out of CMM's budget. Please support in this way as well as perhaps committing to serving one Sunday in a month out on the streets.

Generosity

As you can gather a great deal is happening in and through CMM—all of which costs time, energy and money. A huge thank you to all those who give of these so generously and faithfully.

Note we have just been given a clean bill of health from the auditor.

Even though we are doing renovations at CMM our tithing (the

giving away of 10% of CMM's income) remains the first item of our budget that will continue to be honoured—ever remembering that we are not called to be a rich church but rather an enriching church.

To the Executive and Donkeys (Leaders) for your attendance at meetings way past supper time—hats off to you!

Bank Details

Bank: First National Bank

Acc. Name: MCSA Central Methodist Mission

Acc. Number: 62126493204

Branch: 201 709 Long Street



Central Methodist Mission is a city church which is committed to Jesus Christ. We have been called out of division into community and seek to bring wholeness to each other and the world.

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You are born in love - by love - for love

HOLY WEEK

Sun - Palm/Passion Sunday Evening 6pm

Movie: Gran Torino 16LV

Mon - Meet Pontius Pilate

Tue - Meet Mrs Pilate

Wed - Meet Joseph of Arimathea

Thu - Foot Washing/Tenebrae

Fri - Good Friday 10am Service

**Fri - 12 noon to 3pm Three-Hour Service
at Sea Point Methodist**

**Sun - 10am Service of Resurrection and
Baptism**



Not a Sermon - Just a Thought

If you have access to the internet the you may want to go to www.cmm.or.za and click on the little video screen entitled **“Not a Sermon - Just a Thought”**.

These are movie messages from Alan that are only 1min-5min in length.

The hope is that they will give us something short yet meaningful to think about.

They are also ideal to share with others who are not connected to this community—or any community for that matter.

If you have any ideas for this on-line ministry or any topics that you would like to be addressed then please speak with Alan.

Carols by
Starlight
on the
Square

