Arbeidsbediening
Industrial Ministry

IMSA
Industrial Ministry in South Africa
Cape Region

nuusbrief • 2017 • newsletter

Landa Bester bedien van Transnet se personeel in Saldanha.

’n Unieke ekumeniese bediening in Vredenburg

“As ek donkermôre opstaan om my kinders reg te kry om betyds by die skool te kom, skarrel om my huis in orde te kry voordat ek ’n bus na die fabriek waar ek werk, betyds te kan haal en uiteindelik, na ’n dolle gejaag by my werk opdaag, is dit asof daar ’n groot hand van liefdevolle genade en liefde op my skouers kom rus as ek hoor ons word weer vanoggend met die Woord bedien.”

So sal Vredenburg se bykans 500 werkgewers en -nemers wat gereeld deur Arbeidsbediening se geestelike werker, Landa Bester, en vrywillige hulpwerkers in die werkplek bedien word, getuig.

Wat Vredenburg uniek maak, is dat 16 van die 17 vrywillige hulpwerkers predikante of pastore is – wat ’n unieke ekumeniese bediening! Die meeste van hulle is ook deel van die ekumeniese groep (wat ander bedieninge in die Weskus ook insluit) wat elke Dinsdagoggend saambid.

Landa vertel: “Deur die jare het ons mekaar se harte leer ken en mekaar leer vertrou – die fondament van goeie verhoudings. Die klem het intussen verskuif van ‘Kerkvisie’ na ‘Koninkryksvisie’. Die hulpwerkers beskou die hulp wat hulle aan Arbeidsbediening bied as ’n geleentheid en nie ’n ‘werk’ nie. Die ekumeniese groep reël ook lofprysingsgeleenthede, gesamentlike dienste en biddae waar lidmate van verskillende denominasies saamkom.”

Die CBEF (Christo Bester Ekumeniese Fonds) het uit hierdie ekumeniese groep ontstaan wat nie-winsgewende organisasies en projekte wat fokus op die opbou en sosiale ondersteuning van die Weskusgemeenskap bystaan.

Kontak Landa Bester by lanbester@vodamail.co.za vir meer inligting.

“Helping me to handle the challenges I face”

“I once attended a service of Ben de Goede that helped me to face the challenges of the day with the required insight and the right behaviour. It made such an impact on my life and as a result I now ask Ben to come and minister to our employees whenever they are going through difficult times and need spiritual support or guidance.” This is the testimony of the manager of Fabrinox, one of the factories in the Paarl, to explain what Industrial Ministry has meant for their business.

The spiritual work that Industrial Ministry does in the working environment is deeply appreciated. Employers and employees are very grateful that they can receive the Word at their place of work: “It strengthens one’s faith and is a big support.”

The biggest challenge that Industrial Ministry faces in Paarl is getting managers where ministry is already taking place, also involved.

Business people and friends of Industrial Ministry during this year’s Special Breakfast in Paarl.

It was particularly special when an organisation, after having decided to stop Industrial Ministry’s prayer sessions at their premises, had to reinstate it because the employees refused to accept management’s decision to stop it!

Contact Vera Blaauw at verablaauw47@gmail.com for more information.

Plaasarbeiders in Ceresvallei leef vir die Here

As jy in die lente tussen Ceres se pienk vrugteboombloeisels ry of sneeumanne in die Witzenberge bou, sal jy bly wees om te hoor hoe daar in hierdie pragtige vallei ook moeite gedoen word om die talle plaasarbeiders geestelik te bedien.

Willie Smit, geestelike werker van Arbeidsbediening, besoek gereeld van die plase om die magdom werknemers geestelik te help bedien. Dit word gedoen in samewerking met Patmos, 'n plaasbedieningsorganisasie.

Een van hul besoekpunte is die plaas, De Eiken, waar Wilhelm de Kock en sy seun, Hugo, boer. Hulle het so 'n passie vir die Here dat hulle 'n lokaal op die plaas laat oprig het waar hulle en hul werknemers elke Maandag-, Woensdag- en Vrydagoggend om 07:00 byeenkom vir godsdiens.

En wat is dan nou lekkerder as om daardie tyd van die oggend jou eie koffie of tee met die aankoms te gaan maak? Daar staan dan 'n kan kookwater gereed en elkeen van die bykans 200 werkers staan in 'n japtrap met hul warm drinkdingetjie in die hand. En dan wag daar nog later 'n heerlike toebroodjie met die eerste teepouse ook!

Tydens hierdie dienste word daar lekker gesing en musiek gemaak met tromme, 'n klawerbord en 'n kitaar, wat Wilhelm vir hul aangekoop het. Die plaaswerkers het 'n vroue- en manskoor wat vir niks terugstaan nie. En Sondae val die naburige plase ook by hierdie groep in en dán hou hulle behoorlik kerk!

Wilhelm getuig dat daar eers heelwat drankmisbruik op die plaas was, maar sedert hulle hierdie dienste hou, het baie arbeiders hul lewens verander.

Wat 'n wonderlike seën is hierdie plaasbediening vir beide die permanente en seisoenwerkers!

Kontak Willie Smit by
083 231 2744 vir meer inligting.

EDITORIAL

When Eddie Orsmond writes the following in the chairman's letter, "… the biggest social and economic challenges in South Africa have deepened over the past few years …", the management of change becomes more than just the politically correct thing to do – it becomes a necessity. We have no choice but to make adjustments and re-evaluate. We **have to** continuously change and renew so that Industrial Ministry's core values and focus on the world of work can continue to deepen.

"Our workers must also look at their individual ministries incisively so that their thoughts can be **renewed**, their hearts be **softened**, their feet **accelerated** and their hands able to **collect**." This is how Mike Burnard of *INcontext Ministries* thinks about the times in which we live and why we need to constantly re-evaluate.

With every edition of this newsletter we see the fruits of this ministry. We share in each other's experiences and the experiences of others and THOSE are our stories!

I invite you to read, listen to, experience and share 1 Cor 3:6 – which encapsulates the Hope that there is in Jesus Christ: "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase."

Thank you to every member of the Industrial Ministry team who shares the gospel with the people who cross their paths, and for doing it with so much love and compassion.

Carin Brink
Streeksbestuurder: Arbeidsbediening Wes-en Suid-Kaap
cbrink@kaapkerk.co.za

REDAKSIONEEL

Wanneer Eddie Orsmond in die voorsitterbrief skryf: "... die groot sosiale en ekonomiese uitdagings in Suid-Afrika het die afgelope jaar verdiep ...", dan is die bestuur van verandering vir seker 'n noodsaaklikheid en veel meer as die verwagte polities-korrekte ding om te doen. Ons het nie 'n ander keuse as om aanpassings te maak en te herevalueer nie. Ons **moet** deurlopend verander en vernuwe sodat Arbeidsbediening se kernwaardes en fokus op die wêreld van werk, kan bly verdiep.

"Ons werkers moet ook indringend kyk na hul onderskeie bedienings, sodat hul denke kan **vernuwe**, hul harte kan **versag**, hul voete kan **versnel** en hulle met hul hande kan **versamel**." Dit is hoe Mike Burnard van *INcontext Ministries* dink oor die tye waarin ons vandag leef en hoekom ons deurlopend moet herevalueer.

Met elke uitgawe van die nuusbrief sien ons die vrug op die bediening, deel ons in ander en in mekaar se belewenisse en DIT is ons stories!

Ek nooi jou uit – lees, luister, ervaar en deel 1 Kor 3:6 van die Hoop wat daar in Jesus Christus is: "Ek het die saad van die evangelie in julle harte geplant en Apollos het dit nat gehou, maar dit was God wat gesorg het dat daardie saad groei".

Dankie vir elke werker van Arbeidsbediening wat hierdie evangelieboodskap met soveel liefde en omgee aan mense oordra en ook bemoeienis maak met hulle wat op ons pad kom.

Not paid for a year: Fishermen seek help

Dane du Plessis is very serious about his calling as a missionary amongst seafarers in Cape Town Harbour. He is also passionate about standing up for those who are discriminated against and in this regard he is often supported by Cassiem Augustus, an International Transport Federation (ITF) inspector.

"It is a privilege that, despite the fact that we come from different religious backgrounds, we are able to work as partners towards accomplishing our mutual goal: To fight for the rights of seamen who are ill-treated and underpaid."

Dane explains, "A week ago, Indonesians approached Cassiem and myself, telling us that they have not been paid for the past year. Recruiting agents usually promise Indonesian farmers a 'working opportunity' in which they can travel and earn dollars. What they don't tell them, is that they will not get their first six months' salary, seeing as it will go straight into the pockets of their agents. These specific Indonesian fishermen, however, have not been paid for a WHOLE YEAR!

"It is only when they reach a port that is willing to help them that they receive what agents owe them in terms of outstanding salaries. If ITF had not been situated in Cape Town Harbour, with a focus on helping these fishermen, these Indonesians would most probably have served their two year contract without seeing a cent at all.

"After contacting the agents, the owners and agents have agreed to pay the money that they owe, but we are waiting on guarantee letters from the agents before the vessel sets sail. The process we undertake in helping fisherman is an ongoing one and one which we will continue to support. I am therefor extremely grateful that Cassiem (who has a heart for seafarers), as partner of Biblia Harbour Mission, is able to help these fishermen. I consider it a blessing that I can be used by God to help those in need."

Contact Dane du Plessis at biblia@kaapkerk.co.za for more information.

Kalk Bay's only female fisher now drug free

"This is so amazing! All glory to God! Just being there, caring for the needs of others, makes such a big difference in the lives of those who have been abandoned by others."

Marvin Petersen of Biblia Harbour Mission Kalk Bay explains, "Martinetta, the only female fisher in Kalk Bay, had been struggling with drugs for more than twenty years by the time she approached us for help roughly two years ago. What followed was a difficult time during which we constantly ministered to her and even got in contact with her mother in Pretoria (who was very glad to hear that there was someone reaching out and trying to help her daughter).

"We had an intense time with Martinetta in the beginning of this year as well. She was always very tearful and emotional, wanting to stop using the drugs that was tearing her life apart, but struggling to do so. We could see that Martinetta was serious about changing her life for the better, so we encouraged her to become part of a drug rehabilitation programme and she followed our advice.

"Unfortunately she stopped attending the rehab after only a couple of days and we didn't see her again for quite a while.

"Recently, however, she popped in out of the blue, looking healthy and excited! She thanked us for all the time we spent listening to her and encouraging her. She has been drug-free for six months and is still going strong!

"Please pray for this courageous woman and the journey she is on. Please also pray for us as we strive to support and encourage so many people in need."

Contact Marvin Petersen at marvin.spetersen@gmail.com for more information.

Rev. Jannie Booysen and URCSA Mfuleni's Bright Star students

Mfuleni's Bright Stars development programme

Bright Star is a personal and leadership development programme consisting of 3 modules aimed at developing skills for living a balanced and meaningful life.

And what does the youth of URCSA Mfuleni, Cape Town, have to say about this inspiring programme, recently facilitated by Rev. Jannie Booysen, spiritual worker of Industrial Ministry?

Cwenga Moya, "This programme builds up my self-esteem and it changes me to become a better person than I was."

Zandile Pieterse, "The programme has motivated and inspired me; now I'm more confident about myself and my life purposes."

Kuhle Cekiso, "This programme means a lot because it can give me opportunities. It broadens my perspective on how I look at life. This workshop will come in handy for future references."

Palesa Dyakopu, "This programme means a lot of things; this also helps to develop your selfworth and helps you to see other things in life differently. It can also help to build your selfesteem and communicate with other people around you."

Contact Rev. Jannie Booysen at impak2@kaapkerk.co.za for more information.

Houtbaai sê: "Tot siens Gerhard ... en hallo Sandra"

Gerhard Pietersen

Sandra Leeuwner

Gerhard Pietersen wat die vissers van Houtbaai Hawe vir die afgelope jare geestelik bedien het, het vanjaar 'n ander pos aanvaar. Hy is nou die Direkteur van *Africa Inland Mission* (AIM) en is in Plumstead, Kaapstad gestasioneer. AIM behels oa die mobilisering van Suider-Afrikaners vir sending onder Afrika se ongeveer 900 onbereikte groepe.

Dié geliefde *pastor* wat al 'n bekende gesig tussen die hawestalletjies, by die Biblia Kiosk en by Snoekies op die hawe was, sal beslis baie gemis word. Gerhard het veral gefokus op die bediening van vissers in geestelike nood. Hy was ook betrokke by die breër gemeenskap en het Biblia Hawesending op die Preprimêre Skool Hangberg se Raad van Trustees verteenwoordig.

Buiten Gerhard se hart vir die jeug en sy ondersteuning van 'n groep vroue wat op Vrydagaande programme aanbied om die jeug van die strate af te hou, was hy ook betrokke by sokkerafrigting as evangelisasiemetode onder seuns.

Kontak gerus vir Gerhard by Director.za@aimint.org as jy meer van AIM wil weet.

Intussen het Sandra Leeuwner Gerhard se plek ingeneem.

Sandra wil veral op die vissersgemeenskap se vroue en kinders fokus en is alreeds indirek by hulle betrokke as administratiewe beampte by die Preprimêre Skool Hangberg. Dit maak dit vir haar baie makliker om toegang tot die families van die vissersgemeenskap te kry.

Sandra is 'n opgeleide pastorale berader. Sy het studeer by SATS (South African Theological Seminary) en wil veral Bybelstudiegroepe aanbied, woordbediening en pastorale berading doen.

Kontak Sandra Leeuwner by sandra@worldatwork.net vir meer inligting.

Mag die Here julle beide, Gerhard en Sandra, in julle nuwe roepings in oorvloed seën.

Spiritual care for Metrorail's people in need

Collins Bomali works as one of Industrial Ministry's spiritual workers at Metrorail and ministers to the employees of the various train stations. In this ministry the personal challenges people have to face affect him deeply and he supports them on a spiritual level.

During one of his recent prayer gatherings at Eerste River Station, he noticed one of the woman starting to cry after he read to them from Revelation 2:10 – he was explaining how God frees us with his salvation plan for our lives.

Afterwards, this woman told him her story: She had been a drug dealer for a long time and had herself been addicted to marijuana and alcohol. As a result, Social Services removed her children from her care and, seeing as she could not keep up with her car payments, the car company took away her vehicle as well.

Then, one day, someone came to her home with a pamphlet containing Joh 1:1 and this pamphlet touched her so deeply that she decided to accept the Lord as her Saviour.

After that she got a job at Metrorail and she was able to start a new life. The tragic part is that she is still struggling to get her children back. Collins was able to advise her to get the help of a lawyer and he prayed for her.

May the Lord continue to bless the good work you do, Collins.

Contact Collins Bomali at mcbomali@gmail.com or impak2@kaapkerk.co.za for more information.

Collins Bomali en Cynthia Klaas

Vlnr: Annette Srydom, ds De Mist van Zijl, ds Floors Meyer en Samuel Juba. (Anette dra 'n Bright Star-bril as demonstrasie van hoe die bril waarmee ons na die wêreld om ons kyk, ons houding bepaal).

Dit woel behoorlik in George!

Nadat 'n groep geestelike werkers van Arbeidsbediening van George, Mosselbaai en Oudtshoorn vroeër vanjaar 'n opleidingseminaar van die *Bright Star*-lewensvaardigheids-program te George bygewoon het, het drie van George se werkers later in Bellville opleiding as fasiliteerders ontvang om hierdie program self te kan aanbied. Hulle was Samuel Juba (geestelike werker van die plaasbediening in George), ds Floors Meyer (voorsitter van Arbeidsbediening in George, Tuinroete) en ds De Mist van Zijl (geestelike werker van George). Annette Srydom (vrywilliger van Mosselbaai) was ook deel van die groep.

Lees meer oor die waarde van die program op bl 4 en ook by http://imsacape.christians.co.za/bright-star-programme/)

Kontak Betsie Fourie by arbeidsbediening.tuinroete@gmail.com vir meer inligting.

Plaasarbeiders word geestelik toegerus

'n Dissipelskapprogram word nou al vir langer as ses jaar op die plaas, Platrug, naby George aangebied.

Die plaaseienaar, George Kuyler, het daarmee begin en bied dit weekliks aan. Dit het so gewild geword, dat daar nou al ses plase daarby ingeskakel het. Daar word ook baie moeite gedoen om seker te maak dat almal verstaan; daar word dus in aldrie tale (Afrikaans, Engels en Xhosa) gekommunikeer; Mbulelo Ngobo help as tolk met die Xhosa.

Hierdie Woordgebaseerde program help hulle om te ontdek hoe waardevol hulle vir die Here is, en help hul ook om hul leier-skapsvaardighede te ontwikkel.

Kontak George Kuyler by snr@kuyler.co.za vir meer inligting.

Volunteers, employers and congregations in Worcester – we need you!

PA Venter Shopfitters is one of Industrial Ministry Worcester's 40 ministry points for many years. They have even gone so far as to provide Industrial Ministry with an office on site. They have an "open door" policy towards the ministry and, because of their large staff, they have even provided Industrial Ministry with a speaker's stand and a microphone to assist them in their services. All of this contributes to making ministering so much easier.

One of the biggest challenges in Worcester, however, is getting the employers involved by having them attend some of the services with their staff. The Industrial Ministry team in Worcester also pray that businesses will become more accessible and that more volunteers will come forward. They would also like to revive the farm ministry.

Another challenge involves businesses no longer making use of Industrial Ministry's services because they have Muslims on their staff (which shouldn't be a problem, of course, because attending these services is not compulsory). It remains, however, a wonderful opportunity for those who want to be ministered to in the Name of Jesus Christ.

Congregations can play a big role in introducing Industrial Ministry to their communities. Please feel free to invite your local Industrial Ministry team to come and share with the congregation how Industrial Ministry can add value to businesses and the community as a whole.

Robert Pickford ministering at PA Venter.

Contact Daphne Kirsten at daphne@dutoitesterhuyse.co.za for more information.

(PAK) Namaqua is drie jaar oud!

Die Olifantsrivier-vallei en Namakwaland vier in Junie vanjaar hul derde jaar van 'n nuwe uitgebreide gebied vir Arbeidsbediening. Dit was nadat Jaco en Sandra Leeuwner in Junie 2014 op die plaas, Biesiesfontein, aangekom en begin werk het onder verskillende gemeenskappe waarvan sommige deur die Rietpoort Kliniek bereik is.

Arbeidsbediening word al vir etlike jare in sekere areas van die streek verteenwoordig. In die laat 80's vroeë 90's het Johann Jordaan maandeliks vir oom Johnny van der Merwe teen die Weskus op vergesel met sake-ontbyte. Later het Arbeidbediening voortgegaan in die Springbok-area onder leiding van ds Steyn McCarthy (NGK Namakwaland) en past. Johann Fourie (AGS Lofdal) by wie Jaco in 2014 aangesluit het.

Ockie en Lenie Coetzer het in Junie 2015 op Biesiesfontein begin nadat Jaco 'n tweede plaashuis vir die bediening bekom het om hulle in te huisves – hul uitsluitlike doel was om aan te gaan met Biesiesfontein sodat Jaco en Sandra op die groter streek se ontwikkeling kon fokus.

Na ds McCarthy en past. Fourie se aftrede, het Jaco 'n nuwe Plaaslike Arbeidsbediening Komitee (PAK) saamgestel wat bekend staan as PAK Namaqua. By PAK Namaqua betrek hulle egpare as spanne by die komitee wat dit in hul geval veel meer doeltreffend maak:

- **Willie en Carin Conradie**: Jaco en Willie het saam in Namibië gematrikuleer in 1983. Groot was hul vreugde toe hulle mekaar na bykans 33 jaar weer raakloop tydens 'n Gideonsbyeenkoms naby Vredendal. Willie is verbonde aan die Matzikama Munisipaliteit as Direkteur Korporatiewe Dienste en Carin is maatskapplike werker by die Olifantsrivier Vereniging vir Persone met Gestremdhede. Beide van hulle besef die waarde van Arbeidsbediening en pas dit toe in hul onderskeie werksplekke.
- **Johann en Winnie Jordaan** het hulle in Klawer gevestig waar hulle as geestelike leiers van *Go in Faith Ministries* 'n Bybelskool en uitgebreide bediening na die gemeenskap tot stand gebring het.

Baie dankie aan elke persoon, gemeente en onderneming wat betrokke is by hierdie suksesverhaal.

Die Leeuwners se bedieningsvoertuig arriveer op Biesiesfontein in Junie 2014. Vlnr: Jaco en Sandra Leeuwner, Willie en Carin Conradie in die middel, en Johann en Winnie Jordaan regs.

Kontak gerus vir Jaco Leeuwner by jaco@worldatwork.net vir meer inligting en hoe om betrokke te raak.

Oudtshoorn continues to bring Hope!

André van Staden ministering to the staff of Mr Price.

Oudtshoorn is one of the places in the *Klein Karoo* where Industrial Ministry functions very effectively. This is thanks to efforts of the spiritual worker, André van Staden, and volunteers like Patrick Telemachus who minister to 73 businesses on a regular basis.

Some of the places Carin Brink (Regional Manager of Industrial Ministry in the Cape region) recently visited, included Mr Price, Centry Properties and the squatter community of De Hoop where 16 people currently live in shacks next to the railroad.

She tells the following of this experience, "With my visit to De Hoop the squatters told me that they always look forward to André's monthly visits because it fills them with fortitude."

The biggest challenges for Oudtshoorn include the strongly established culture of begging, poverty (which leads to drug addiction and the abuse of alcohol) and unemployment (which is the primary cause of all these problems).

It is, however, very encouraging that the churches in Oudtshoorn have such a positive attitude towards Industrial Ministry. The *Oudtshoorn-Noord* Congregation of the Dutch Reformed Church, as well as the Presbyterian Church, have granted Industrial Ministry the opportunity to lead a service during the course of the year by means of a core message and song.

Contact André van Staden at wes1@telkomsa.net for more information.

Healthy Industrial Relations in Wellington

"Here in Wellington we are privileged to have businesses that make an effort to keep the communication between employers and employees open and healthy. It is, of course, not always so easy," says Johan Crous, spiritual worker of Industrial Ministry in this beautiful town.

"We often hear that employees are an organisation's biggest asset. That is why industrial relations between people in the work place are so important. Communication between management and employees regarding decision-making, facilities, conflict, problem-solving, unions and matters involving collective negotiations, should be open and accessible."

Johan testifies, "It is easy to see where these processes are in place and where management takes part in the prayer sessions. Businesses where this happens experience the blessings and benefits that result from it. A healthy working environment has healthy and happy employees."

Rhodes Food Group's management team.

Contact Johan Crous at crousjm@telkomsa.net for more information.

Ja, ek wil baie graag 'n medewerker van Arbeidsbediening word.

Hier is my offer van R200 R100 R50 of R .....

Merk wat van toepassing is:

- Ek wil graag 'n bydrae maak van R_____
- Ek het 'n tjek gestuur na Arbeidsbediening, Privaatsak X8, Bellville, 7535
- Ek het 'n direkte deposito in Arbeidsbediening se rekening gemaak. Verwysing: Arbeidsbediening. (Faks die inbetalingsbewys na 021 957 7181.)

FAKS (021 957 7181) of e-pos (cbrink@kaapkerk.co.za) asb u besonderhede.
My naam en adres: .....
.....
Tel: .....E-pos: .....

Bankbesonderhede:

Naam:	NG Kerk in SA (Getuienis)
Bank:	Nedbank
Takkode:	198-765
Rek. nr.	1135-900-280
U verwysing:	Noem saak van ondersteuning
Ons verwysing:	U naam en van

Mosselbaai-omgewing se Plaasbediening

"Hoe kan hulle Hom dan aanroep in wie hulle nie geglo het nie? En hoe kan hulle in Hom glo van wie hulle nie gehoor het nie? En hoe kan hulle hoor sonder een wat preek?"

So lees ons in Romeine 10:14, en dis wat Johan en Marietjie Boshoff, geestelike werkers van Arbeidsbediening Mosselbaai doen waar hulle Plaasbediening 10 besoekpunte bedien. Dit vind plaas by sentrale punte waar plaasarbeiders van verskillende plase saamkom, of op indiwiduele plase.

In die bedieningsarea van Vleesbaai is daar twee plase met ongeveer 14 werkers, by Kleinberg is daar een plaas met agt werkers, by Herbertsdale is daar vier plase met ongeveer 30 werkers, by Ruiterbos is daar een plaas met vyf werkers en by Brandwag is daar twee plase met ongeveer 18 werkers. Die Boshoffs bedien ook in Herbertsdale die Laerskoolkoshuis se kombuispersoneel.

Marietjie vertel: "In hierdie bediening kry ons te doen met baie onbereikte mense ten opsigte van die evangelie en het ook elkeen wat nog nie 'n Bybel gehad het nie van Bybels voorsien. Daar is sekere tye goeie meelewing en wanneer vrae gevra word, is daar goeie reaksie.

Johan Boshoff besig om 'n groep plaasarbeiders op 'n plaas naby Vleesbaai te bedien.

"Maatskaplike behoeftes word ook gereeld aangespreek, veral ten opsigte van drank- en dwelmmisbruik. Van die boere het ons ook al gekontak in noodsituasies wanneer werkers geestelike hulp nodig gehad het."

Vir die Boshoffs is hul verskeie bedieninge hul lewensroeping; dis 'n groot voorreg, maar ook 'n baie groot verantwoordelikheid.

Kontak Johan en Marietjie Boshoff by mmeb61@gmail.com vir meer inligting.

Gideons and Industrial Ministry – a formidable team in Swellendam!

Blackie Swart is the eager and inspired new spiritual worker for Industrial Ministry in Swellendam. He is also very involved with the Gideons and is thus able to serve as a valuable networker between various institutions.

In a recent interview he excitedly told the following, "We are 15 volunteers currently ministering to businesses at 18 ministry points. Many of these volunteers minister to the employees who work with them in these businesses. At some of the ministry points where employers are involved the employees are ministered to every day. At other ministry points employees are ministered to on a weekly or monthly basis. Today (18 May) we begin with our 19th ministry point!

"During this event we will also hand out 40 Pocket Bibles (containing the New Testament and Psalms) – 20 Afrikaans, 5 English and 15 Xhosa. The Gideons and Industrial Ministry have a very close relationship and complement each other in many supportive ways (such as with the provision of Pocket Bibles). Ministering also takes place amongst employees at recycling plants (which includes the dumping site).

"Some of our biggest challenges when it comes to ministering include accommodating people from different cultures and who speak different languages, seeing as people want to be ministered to in their own language. Should we attempt to accommodate everyone in this way, the number of services per ministry point will be too many, seeing as there will have to be one service per language. Many employers also prefer the ministering to be done before work starts and thus employees need to be at work earlier than usual, which is difficult for most of them to do.

"Patience is the answer because things don't happen quickly. During this year the wonderful work Industrial Ministry does will be promoted and advertised at the Dutch Reformed Church in Swellendam. There businesses will be encouraged to allow their people to be ministered to. It will also be used as a platform to recruit more volunteers to come forward to assist us in catering to this big need."

Contact Blackie Swart at dps@telkomsa.net for more information

'n Hartlike dank aan alle medewerkers van hierdie uitgawe. Ons bedank ook al ons donateurs wat ons werk so getrou ondersteun.
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