

# TREE



# NEWSLETTER

Transforming the Educational Environment to a place where God reigns!

## Welcome!



It is a great privilege for me to share stories of transformation with you. After collecting all the stories (and we can only share few of them with you) I am once again amazed by the beauty, the loving power and the incredible potential of the church. With church I mean all the wonderful people that have a passion for God and made a commitment to build his Kingdom in every area of society. We are in the process of awakening a sleeping giant. As TREE we constantly motivate and encourage other people to join us in serving the schools on various levels with the vision of empowering the young generation with a Christ-centered worldview. This will lead to sustainable city transformation.

A few weeks ago God challenged me with a sentence on a flyer that jumped literally into my eyes "If you don't pray for your child, who else will?" Please enjoy the story of Heleen who took this call seriously and the impact that results through her passion. Mobilizing City Changers who understands their responsibility is one of the critical success factors that we have to tackle. I want to thank and honor you for your passionate heart and your involvement in the lives of the young generation that will ignite many other people. Together we can make a huge difference and I am sure that the best is yet to come.

Blessings

Bastian Hagenlocher

## Clothing4Children

We are part of the biggest clothing collection in the history of South Africa. In partnership with the organization **Clothing4Children** and the Blue Bulls we challenge schools to collect clothing until the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. We trust that on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September we will gather in the City of Tshwane more than 100 000 bags. Together with other churches and ministries in the City of Tshwane we will be able to dress 1.2 million people in need and bring a message of love and hope.

Please contact us at [basti@doxadeo.co.za](mailto:basti@doxadeo.co.za) if you want to be part of this wonderful venture.



# Heleen Kelber

Heleen is one of our Doxa Deo City Changer who makes a huge impact for the Kingdom in a school. We conducted the following interview with her and we trust you will also be inspired by the miracles she witnessed.

## ***Please tell us how your journey with the prayer group started***

Six years ago when the first of our three sons turned three, he started at a small school. I had a lot of questions regarding raising my kids and was overwhelmed by this responsibility. With a small group of moms I started a prayer group to pray specifically for needs in the school and to share with one another God's thoughts about raising children. It was the best thing I could do. Three years ago our son was enrolled at Constantia Park Primary and it was no question to start a prayer group there as well.

## ***How did you start and how did the prayer group develop?***

We started with a prayer group on Monday at 7h15. I had the chance to speak at a parents meeting to encourage other parents to pray. Some people could not pray on a Monday so we started with prayer groups on other days and we now have four different times during a week where parents come together for 30-45 minutes of prayer. The fellowship group that we have was one of the keys in our journey. We were 16 parents when we started and we prayed together and encouraged each other. Out of that, this group created the momentum in our school and is an example of the explosive power of prayer that leads to ministry in practical ways. If you pray God imparts vision and new dreams are also born out of prayer. Currently we have around 200 parents involved.

## ***What are some of the practical ministries that were born out of prayer?***

We started to organize special events for teachers, such as a breakfast for them in the morning. We also have events for parents where special speakers are invited to equip the parents in areas relevant to them. Some parents saw the need for a trust fund in the school. With this fund we help children who can't afford a school uniform, casual clothes or sport equipment. We have also a food ministry that supplies children with tickets for the Tuck shop.



Another initiative is the stationery project where we support needy children. We have seen many lives changed as a result of us being able to serve them in their areas of need.

## ***What dream do you have for prayer in schools?***

I dream that prayer will be part of every school in our country and that we bring God's knowledge and wisdom into schools. Prayer should create a Godly environment for children and children's ministry should happen in the school.

## ***What advice would you give to people who want to start a prayer group?***

Just start with people you know and communicate the prayer meeting to the principal and teachers. They supported us to make the parents aware of the prayer group in the school. Be there for the parents and teachers and build relationship with them. Our prayer group never complains or condemns people because we understand that we are part of the same team. God will give you many ideas, so be open that He can use you. For me it was important to connect with other parents who are praying in other schools and to have people who pray for me as well. Support from the church is also vital. And most important: Don't give up. There will be tough times. Sometimes you will be alone or a small group of people will join you.

## ***Is there anything that is still burning in your heart?***

Please get involved in the school your children attend. Children will be inspired when they know people are praying for them and care about their relationship with God. It is also critical that dads get involved in setting an example by joining a prayer movement at a school.

***Thank you very much Heleen.***

# Hanneri

## A learner who started home schooling to be able to serve her generation

It all started last year when I was in school, I really felt a need to do something for God and to get to know Him better, but I just didn't know how, and I had a lot of issues that held me back. Last year Ronel, one of our great youth workers and Fusion leaders, started talking to me at Fusion and on the school grounds. Eventually we had coffee and started a Bible study together. She started to disciple me and explained to me how to hear God's voice. My passion for God just grew and I just wanted to know what next. My dad wanted me to start home schooling because I lived on a farm far from school. Ronel suggested that I could do some youth work with them on certain days, and my dad said that this is fine. So I stopped going to school, started home schooling and was able to serve at schools on the days Ronel suggested. My brother indicated that he wanted to live in Hartbeespoort and after some discussions with my dad he gave me permission to move in with my brother. Now I'm so privileged to be able to go into schools with the youth workers, serve my generation, and learn something new every day. God just provided that everything fell in place.

## Serving teachers

by Ilse Friis

Since 2010 we as North Campus have started presenting devotions for teachers in their staff room. We share the content of our Grace for Life course in 15 minute units.

Grace for Life is a restoration process with lots of practical tools that help people to restore their relationship with God, themselves and others, and to discover the fullness God intended them to have in this life.

I look back and stand in awe at what God did since then! We started with one school, and only a few months down the line we are blessed with 11 schools that we visit once a month. The need is so great, the welcome is overwhelming, and it is as if they take everything in like a sponge.

A lot of times many teachers cry as we experience the work of the Holy Spirit. In one school teachers organized parents to look after the learners in the break time that no teacher has to miss out on the course.

Youth workers also testify that teachers are more open to them and show them respect and start conversations that never had happened before. Teachers also came to our church to do the whole Grace for Life course because it made them so thirsty for God.

We trust God for revival amongst teachers that they will also model Christ and impart faith and Kingdom principles to the young generation.

All honor to Him!

## A youth worker who is an encourager

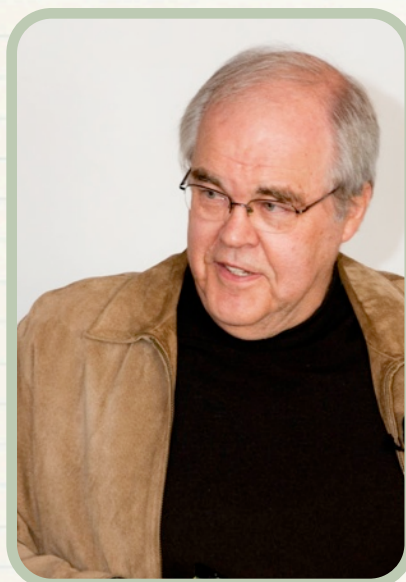
by Alida van Rensburg

A Primary School girl came to me in school to share with me an issue at home. Her mother is a very depressed person, on medication, and emotionally unstable. She keeps on screaming at her, telling her how she wishes she was never born, scolding her for any and everything. The previous night the mother just took her bag, after an intense fight with the dad, and left the house. The mother walked away. So this little girl felt responsible for her mother leaving, felt rejected, alone and hurt. We prayed together, and I just spoke to her about her worth because Jesus loves her, and made her perfect. And that none of this is her fault. Two weeks after that she came up to me smiling. She told me her mother came back, changed her life, did not hit or scream at her for two weeks. The mother asked her for forgiveness and showed her love. So every week since then we continue to pray for their whole family, for strength and guidance and love etc. It has been more than 4 months now!

# Pretoria Principal Forum

Sally Hurlin, the founder and Principal of the Cornerstone College, started the Pretoria Principals' Forum.

On the 26 May we had the fourth forum and reached the full capacity of the room by gathering approximately 80 Principals from various schools.



Speaker : Arnold Mol

Arnold Mol was the speaker and encouraged all the Principals to motivate their staff in the right way.

Everyone was motivated to apply those principles at their schools. What an awesome privilege to serve so many Principals

and as a result also many learners in our city.

The Pretoria Principals Forum has the vision to form a wide network of state and independent Tshwane school leaders to transform educational standards and values, to provide personal support, to create a prayer network, to relax with friends, and to enjoy a well-deserved positive input.

80 principals  
from various  
schools!



The room at full capacity at the 4th Principals Forum

## It takes courage!

In Partnership with Kerus Global Education and Acts2change we could host a teachers training event in the North Campus from 28 June until 1 July. To overcome the enormous poverty and education crises Kerus Global Education inspires and trains teachers to use the IT TAKES COURAGE (ITC!) curriculum, which equips children with a value system and a set of life skills that will enable them to make healthy choices in life. This curriculum specifically includes an AIDS PREVENTION program

We only had to two weeks to promote the event but despite this we were able to gather 60 teachers, pastors and youth workers. The impact in their lives was incredible. One lady from the Department of Education wanted to have a look at the training on the first day. She was so impressed that she

cancelled all the appointments that she could attend the other three days. She was so encouraged that she wants to take the training to the Department of Education in Tshwane South.

*Alida, TREE youth worker in Laerskool Louis Leipoldt, Centurion*

*"ITC is an amazing curriculum designed with every aspect of the child in mind. It teaches principles, moral values and character to children in a fun, interactive, practical manner. The conference itself was amazing, with good interaction and material, presented by awesome people with a love for God and children. It reconfirmed a lot of things I personally felt we already know and try to teach the kids, but it's put together in a manner that is understandable and logical. I really loved every second of it and look forward to implementing it in my school!"*

# Popup & Hoërskool Die Wilgers



Our journey with POPUP started when the Wilgers UCSA (VCSV) decided to go on an outreach to the POPUP crèche.

What struck me the moment we arrived was the teenagers passion, and willingness, to give of themselves to others. Many times during the outreach teenagers came up to me with distraught faces and asked if there was anything else they could possibly do to help lighten these children's burden.

This passion led to the birth of the POP-cancan project (because you CAN make a difference). It started out as a standard adaptation of the POPUP can, used to collect small change from businesses etc. However, this small little project soon morphed into a monster! Teens kept coming back for their second and third cans! Strange, I thought at some

point, that an empty can could ignite such passion. What made a can so much different from, say, a collection form? Then I realized the difference. The can symbolizes the "small things" we can do to make a difference in the community. Filling out a form with the aim of collecting R 500 is very intimidating – grown up stuff. But a can? Now that's something any kid can do!

With a simple can, we made the possibility of making a difference in someone's life a reality. I would urge every school to participate in the next POP-cancan drive, since it makes community outreach as easy as emptying your wallet of small change.

## Metamorpho

Metamorpho Moot Campus went to Voorpos Primary School during their project week in June. The students went to serve the school with any help that was needed like sanding the school furniture and painting the walls.



# OneHope and RAG outreach

The mission of OneHope is to affect destiny by providing God's eternal Word to all the children and youth of the world. Reaching a Generation (RAG) is OneHope's local partner in South Africa that helps to distribute books to children.

Basti was part of an outreach with a team from the USA to Primary Schools in Tshwane (Mamelodi Danville, Nellmapius, and Atteridgeville) where we shared in small dramas and through songs the Good Message of Christ. The kids were smiling and excited after they received a Book of Hope.



On 25 July we will train our TREE youth workers and all the other people that are interested in working with the books in schools or in other groups.

OneHope has distributed more than 750 million books to date and we will help to get it to 1 Billion.

750 million  
books already  
distributed!



## Developments in our Cities

### Pretoria

#### Silver Lakes Campus

- We started with a Christian program in Curro Hazeldean Primary School and High School and gather 80 pupils weekly.
- We had a worship service with the whole Tygerpoort Primary School and started with a small group process for different grades.
- We network with a parent prayer group at Silver Stars nursery where we prayed in every classroom.

#### Raslouw Campus

- We had an awesome youth fest of all the schools in our area that we facilitated in partnership with Lewende Woord.

- Some of our teenagers in Zwartkop were involved in an outreach.
- We have open doors in many more schools and we finally found a new youth worker.

#### North Campus

- We started to gather 40 moms from different churches once a term who pray in 7 schools for networking, encouragement and prayer?
- Our youth worker Chari Brooker is also involved in the Laerskool Voortrekker-Eeufees where she established a prayer group, a food and clothing project and with Life Orientation for grade 4 -7.
- A 14 year old girl in the Campus has such a passion for her school that she started a Christian program in her school and prepared the way for us to place a youth worker. Amazing!

# Developments in our Cities....cont.

## Brooklyn

- A Doxa Deo City Changer is a Rugby Coach in a school and started a mighty man gathering for the boys in the morning
- Lindie Zietsman, another City Changer, is leading the mothers prayer group in Menlo Park High School.
- Through the establishment of a Mentoring process in Affies girls the Grade 12 girls were taking the Grade 8 girls out for coffee.

## East

- We could add two wonderful new youth workers, Marelise and Kobus, to our team.
- A lot of doors opened in Primary Schools in our area and Marelise are involved in many areas at these schools.
- Woodhill College is excited about our support and we have more possibilities there.

## Inner City Campus

- We have started at Hamilton Primary School where we facilitate primarily conversations with the kids and are looking forward what God has prepared for us there.
- We had an opportunity to join forces with our prison ministry to reach out to the young people that are in prison and we minister to about 300 of which about 200 gave their lives to the Lord.
- For all the learners of primarily two High Schools that a very close to Inner City Campus we will start with a Fusion program after school.

## Midstream

- Some of our youth workers are so passionate about the TREE movement that they started to get involved in schools without receiving any money for that. That is a servant heart.
- The City Changer Nicky van Rensburg has established prayer group for FATHERS in Louis Leipolt Primary School.
- One of our partners started a caring group in Louis Leipolt Primary School and they had an awesome caring week where they collected specific things like Jeans, cane food, etc. with amazing result.

## Moot Campus

- We did the 21 day Love Revolution in Oos Moot and John Voster High Schools at the same time. Every day the learners read one chapter of the Gospel of John, memorized the main verse and committed to an act of love. The amazing thing was that it spread to the homes where families do it together.
- The learners who are part of the VCSV process in John Voster organized a breakfast for all the teachers in the school to honor them and say thank you.
- Elzanne, our youth worker in ...school, formed a prayer group for Grade 7s. They prayed for parents and grandparents who were diagnosed with cancer and 3 people reported that the cancer is gone!

## Hartbeespoort Campus

- We had a TiCs touring team with us and they ministered to all five schools where we are intentionally involved
- We took hands with the governing body of the Hartbeespoort High School and arranged our drug campaign evening where we ministered to the children and made them more aware of the problem in the school

## Johannesburg

### Meyersdal

- We blessed teachers in six schools with a breakfast and shared words of encouragement with them
- The prayer group in Laerskool Randhart grow in the last time from 5 to 60 learners
- One of our City Changers is so passionate about the TREE process that he committed for paying for the intentional engagement from the campus to a school which includes a youth worker. Wilton can therefore start as a youth worker and music teacher in the Opel Werk Primary school and opens the door for our first English school that we engage.

## Cape Town

### Langeberg

- Every Tuesday morning 800+ pupils get together in High School Monument Park for some meaningful praise and worship where we also have the opportunity to share the Word
- The teachers as well as the pupils have started a prayer group (the pupils call themselves "the prayer warriors").
- We are currently serving 10+ pupils with reading difficulty during the exams by assisting them in reading their papers. This is excellent opportunity to build relationship with them and their families.



## Stay connected



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**tree**

newsletter

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**TREE NEWSLETTER**

ISSUE No.2

**DOXA DEO**