

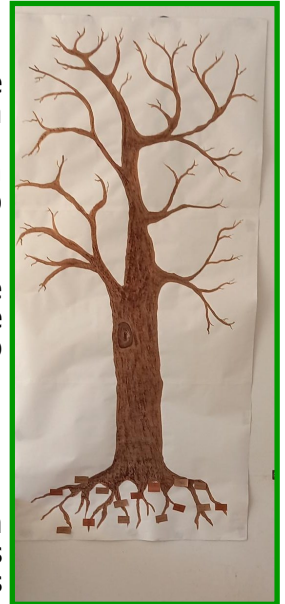


JULY 2022

Dear Prayer Partners

June has been a busy month. It started with the arrival of a group from Jubilee who by all accounts had a blessed weekend. For some of the participants it was a first visit and they expressed a keen interest to come and stay again. They pinned this tree to the wall at the chapel which reminded me of all the trees we have on Volmoed and those we are planting to replace the ones that we have needed to take down.

Pictures of different subjects were on display in the Meeting Room during the Fine Arts exhibition. Alyson and Audrey did a great job in organizing and displaying the art. Despite inclement weather and road works we had a number of people come to the exhibition. Alyson and Audrey sold art works.



Alyson also hosted a workshop on Painting your Pet as part of Fine Arts.

The participants enjoyed themselves, with one participant telling the person who was coming to fetch her not to, as she was enjoying herself too much.

Continuing the 'art' theme, see the attached document for a workshop that will be hosted at Volmoed by Karen Nebe and her team. (For guests please enquire at the office for details.)

It is always good see long standing friends coming to stay. It was a pleasure to have Denise and Peter Holden staying in Faith for 10 days.

After almost three years we have had a resident VYLTP (Volmoed Youth Leadership Training Program) running for a week. It was good to have the lively vibe coming from the meeting room.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Wilma has had a busy time coordinating and participating in the Taizé day, as well as the VYLTP program. Beloved Community was run by Seth Naicker. She did this even though she had lost her voice. Please keep her in your prayers, for health and strength.



VYLTP

Taizé day



PRIORY NEWS



From the end of May through the beginning of June, Br Roger conducted a retreat here at Volmoed for clergy from the Anglican Archdiocese of the West Coast. The clergy joined the brothers in their daily rhythm of chapel prayer. They also made themselves available for individual conversations, an opportunity which all members of the group made use of.

The brothers then travelled to the Order's Holy Cross Monastery in upstate New York, USA, to attend the annual Chapter meeting, in person for the first time in three years. It was good to be all together again, and the meeting was conducted in a gentle and generous spirit. After another week of simply being together with the larger community, Br Roger and Br Scott returned to the Priory with Br Luc, who will be here for several months. Br Daniel remained in the US to start his six-month sabbatical. He will return to South Africa at the beginning of July, before travelling further afield.

Alex has been living alongside our monastic community for over six months. He moved out to take up residence nearby at the end of June. We are grateful to have been able to offer him a space in which to experience our community life of prayer. He enriched our lives while living with us, and we are glad that he will still be around, working as the Volmoed librarian for at least several months.

Br Luc is now the Vocations Director for South Africa, which means he guides and accompanies men who are discerning a vocation to monastic life with our community. We currently have several men in various stages of discernment. One of these men will be living with the monastic community for the first three weeks of July, while another will be making his first visit during the second full week of July. We ask your prayers for these men especially during these periods.

Br Scott and Br Luc participated in the recent Taizé youth day at Volmoed. They were engaged in workshops on prayer and on the situation in Africa, and found the interaction with the young people stimulating. We were glad to have the Volmoed Youth Leadership Training Program group on Volmoed during the week after the youth day, to meet them and to have them join us in prayer.

The brothers will be on their eight-day winter retreat from 19 July. We ask your prayers for us during that period.

Esther

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVING

We give thanks for:

- Molly's safe return after her holiday
- The return of the Brother's
- A good report on, Peterus' daughter, Zoe's health after her check-up
- Esther's clean bill of health after her check up.



Pray for:

- Mathilda and her family as they travel during the school holidays
- Good health for all our staff
- Safety for the staff
- Tony as he takes on the job of full time director

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I have just started as the full-time Director at Volmoed. This has been a long journey for me personally and I think for Volmoed as well. This is at the same time a huge honour and a huge challenge, as Volmoed invests in a new chapter of its vision in a broken and struggling country and world. This is a Kairos time for us as we move towards embodying the calling of healing and reconciliation. This is happening within a particularly difficult economic climate. As we move towards a covenant of love, we are trusting God for much and thanking God for so many mercies already received. Please stand with me in prayer before the throne of Grace as I make the transition from my previous position to this new journey.

TONY

JULY VISITORS

- 1- 3 SACC—WP Youth, with David Daniels
21-23 Karen Wagner's group
(awaiting confirmation}

Individuals and families coming for a winter break.

Just when the
caterpillar
thought the
world
was over,
it became
a butterfly.

