

10th CCN St Saviour's and Good Shepherd Anniversary, 15 August 2010

As many of you would know, we have been connected with Coventry Cathedral since 1991 when Canon Paul Oestreicher visited the Parish and brought us the Coventry Story of reconciliation and peace. This inspired us greatly to pursue this ministry.

However it was the Protea Story which attracted their attention. It was and continues to be, a story of hope coming out of the new South Africa. They invited Eileen Nomdo, Stella & Cecil McClean, Cedric van Dieman and me to attend the First International CCN Conference in 2000. This is when we were presented with our Cross of Nails admitting the Parish to the International Community of CCN thereby becoming one of over 160 Centres worldwide putting Good Shepherd on the international map. This Cross is in the Lady Chapel at St Saviour's.

Some of the highlights during the past ten years have been :

Our Prayers Group on the first Friday of the month has been our regular activity and blessing since 1991. Prayer has been our sustaining force. We have had many prayers answered.. G-d is soo good.

2002

- Volmoed and Hope Africa were given their Crosses by Canon Chris Burch from Coventry Cathedral admitting them to the CCN
- Anthony Davids and Brent Sasman from St Saviour's attended the first international CCN Youth Conference in Germany organised and sponsored by the German CCN
- Protea Claimants who chose financial compensation received their cheques.
- First meeting of three SA CCN Centres with Bishop Peter Lee preaching at Good Shepherd.

2004

- Robina Bryant, Herby & Jeanette Halls from St Saviour's, Joy Francis, Cedric van Dieman and Charly Wilson from the Protea community, Eileen & I from Good Shepherd attend the Second International Conference in Coventry.
- Jenny was honoured in being awarded the order of the Companion of the CCN in recognition of her commitment to reconciliation.
- Mrs Margaret Middleton & Rev Oliver Scheurgraf from Coventry Cathedral visit Western Cape often and present Good Shepherd with its own Cross as a constant reminder of our responsibility for reconciliation. Reconciliation is an on-going thing. Our Coventry visitors said "In South Africa, you are living reconciliation".
- Four new Centre in the WC are given their Crosses and admitted to CCN
- We facilitated the translation of the Coventry Litany of Reconciliation into Afrikaans and Xhosa with the help of Revd Cedric van Dieman, Mr Herby Halls, Revd David Russel and Mrs Di Oliver. Ds Koos Oosterhuizen of the Bible Society checked the Afrikaans & Xhosa against the English Litany taking into account the underlying theology.

2006

- We organised and hosted the Second CCN Youth Conf in Cape Town with the help of Ps Hartmut Ebmeier, the German CCN and other local CCN Centres sharing the South African story and experience. This was nearly a full time job for Deirdre Legg, Herby & Jeanette Halls and myself. Forty-two young people from Europe and Africa arrived as strangers and left as friends having had a life changing experience. Megan Counsell, Marcia Benjamin and Radden Stuart from our Parish attended
- Protea Lands Claim is approved with a special Thanksgiving Service in the Good Shepherd and handing-over ceremony in Erf 242

2007

- Jenny is invited and attended the Second President' Meeting in Coventry Cathedral.
- The Litany of Reconciliation in Afrikaans and Xhosa is included on the Coventry Cathedral website

2009

- Canon David Porter from Coventry Cathedral visits the Centres in the Western Cape and preaches at Good Shepherd.
- Six young people from SA including Megan Counsell and Marcia Benjamin from St Saviour's attend the Third international CCN Youth Conf in Poland sponsored and organised by the German CCN. Deirdre, Herby & Jeanette worked endlessly helping them all with all their arrangements

For some while now, we have prayed through a period of discernment for the way forward. We are very grateful for the help & support Fr Barry Wood has given us. As Derrick said at our opening service "this is a new beginning for Good Shepherd" We hope to be more pro-active in our ministry in the future. So "watch this space"