



Kenosis Community Trust Newsletter

March- 2016

RELEVANT COMMUNITY - BASED ACTION

IN THIS ISSUE

Easter Devotion

Dear friends,

GOD'S LOVE FOR HUMANITY

Easter celebration is a very important event in the Christian faith and the life of the church. It is the time in which we remember the foundation of our faith. We remember that Jesus Christ died an agonizing death in our place for our sinfulness and He was resurrected by God so that we could be reconciled and be re-united with God. We read in the Gospel of John 15:9, "As my Father has loved me, so I have loved you, remain in my love." (NIV).

God took this initiative to bring about our salvation through the death of His beloved son Jesus Christ. God's love for humanity was so great that He gave his only son Jesus Christ, as a sacrifice, to bring about our salvation.

The assurance we have in this verse is that; we receive the equal love that the beloved Son of God receives. We ought to remain in God's love, which

He freely grants us. Dear friends, may I wish you God's richest blessings during this time of lent, as we celebrate our salvation through the death of His Son. May we all remember that God's love is bigger than the challenges of life we face every day. Peace be with you always.

Sr Happiness

Kenosis Overview

By Gertrud Tönsing

Dear Friends of Kenosis

It seems a bit strange to be writing for the Kenosis Newsletter, being so far away from the action now. However with skype, email and telephone I am grateful to still be reasonably well informed of the joys and worries in Bishopstowe. Trust meetings are happening a lot less often now, many decisions being made electronically. I have been part of the local management committee meetings whenever possible via skype, though connectivity problems have sometimes frustrated the flow of the

Cover Photograph - Graduation Class of 2015 - Kenosis ECD Crèche.

Kenosis Overview

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conversation. A primary concern remains to find people locally who can attend board meetings and be a support for Kenosis.

In general we are very grateful on the progress made at Kenosis and the financial turn-around we have seen. Use of resources is a lot more efficient now. In spite of employing a manager and doing a substantial amount of maintenance, the expenditure has not gone up very much from the previous year, and the income rose well beyond our expectations, meaning the deficit is a lot lower than budgeted for - making less of a dent in our reserves. Obviously, the goal is to become deficit free and to generate more of our own income, and plans towards that are ongoing. The renovation of the hall is complete and the painting of the church is in progress which will allow renting out of facilities. The memorial garden is attractive and well maintained.

We are extremely grateful that our manager, Andre Boshoff, is not only concerned with the finances and the estate, but very interested in the welfare of every single child. The discussions around how to help each child to fulfil its potential are a lot more focused now and the interventions targeted, so that we hope future problems may be minimised. Of course there are still many concerns with health and motivation of children, but that is part of the normal running of any organisation that deals with children. We are extremely grateful to our dedicated neighbours for all their extra-mural activities with the children. A very great joy is the fact that our volunteer programme has started again, as you will read about in this newsletter.

We hope all the good news will motivate our friends that Kenosis is a

good place to invest precious money and that the trust which has been built up again will strengthen and deepen in the coming years. Please continue to pray for us, especially for the children having difficulties, and that we may find new members for our board.

Greetings

Summary of Financial Information

rounded off R 000s	Actual 2014 without Mgr.	Budget 2015 include Mgr.	Actual 2015 include Mgr.
Income	655	592	873
Expend	1042	1164	1123
Deficit	387	572	250

A good turn of events at ECD Crèche

By Sister Lindeni

Dear friends,

I greet you with the words from Philippians 4: 13; "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"

I want to give thanks to the Almighty God for being with us from the beginning of this term up until now. We are very grateful that this year we did not experience the transport challenges we had for the last two years. Now being enabled to offer transport to the crèche kids under special conditions, Parents have responded and we have seen an increase in admissions. The primary reason being that they trust Kenosis' transport system above those of any other. We now have 30 enrolled children.

In spite of last year's challenges we also managed to have a very good graduation at the end of November

2015, for our school children. Secondly, we had an outing to the Beach, always one of the highlights of the year.

We would like to thank you all for your support through prayers and finances.

We believe that this year will be the best year ever and are looking forward to GODS blessings through 2016

May the good Lord bless you.

Volunteers return to Kenosis

By Andre Boshoff



Left to Right Elke Carrihill and Anneke Denkmann from ELM Hermansburg visited Kenosis in February to re-affirm arrangements for taking on volunteers.

It has been some years since Kenosis last had the privilege of taking on volunteers. Thankfully that is now a thing of the past and we look forward to three volunteers joining us during the course of 2016.

In February, representatives from ELM – Hermansburg visited us at Kenosis and both parties were happy to re-affirm our long-standing relationship. Dorothea our first volunteer started on the 27th March and will be relieved by 2 other volunteer in July/August. They will be assigned to a wide range of duties that includes time at our pre-school crèche as well as Supervised Homework and Extra Mural activities with Kenosis' Foster Children.

Their assistance is going to be invaluable and we trust that volunteers will like-wise come to regard their time with us as an important to milestone their own personal growth.



Dorothea introduces her parents to Babba Mkulu Gardens. Here she is flanked by her father Eckhart and mother Carmen.

My introduction to Kenosis

By Dorothea Sträßner

On Sunday, 28th of February during the last sunshine hours of the day, I arrived at Kenosis with bag and baggage. I had hardly stepped out of the car, when Sister Happiness received me with a hearty reception. Then, after the unloading my luggage, I was given a tour through my spacious house, right next to the sisters' house. Among other things, Sister Happiness provided new bedroom curtains which made me feel most welcome.

Later Kenosis kids Asanda and Sona took me then under their wing and showed me the premises while especially introducing me to Kenosis' inhabitants. So many names need to be learnt! In the evening, after having had dinner with the sisters, I was still not quite sure about which girls I had had hanging on my hands.

I've now been at the southern tip of the African continent for seven months as part of the volunteer programme, run by the Lutheran Mission of Lower Saxony, Germany.

Up until recently, I was placed in a project in Durban and so this new workplace is another welcome change.

Although I have not been here long, I feel well settled in Kenosis. The wonderful area – where the freshly planted aloe garden will probably become one of my favourite places – and very warm welcome by sisters, employees, foster mothers and above all the children, have given me the feeling of belonging, right from the start.

To give you a rough idea of my daily schedule: In the morning, after the devotion and early in the afternoon, when the kindergarten has ended, I accompany the Kenosis children and the kindergarten children from the wider community on their bus route home. This can sometimes last for more than one and a half hours, so after the morning tour it is high time for breakfast. Then in the late afternoon, I go to the Crèche to play with the children. On Wednesdays I will be allowed to think up an activity for them.

So far in my first two weeks, I made a set of teeth out of cardboard and christened them "Big Teeth", and taught the children how they should brush their teeth. Then the tooth brushing must be supervised after lunch. So my first new Zulu sentence at Kenosis was: "Faka amanzi amaningi!" (Put more water! (In the cup)). After all pupils have been fetched from the local schools, I assist with supervised homework and extra-mural activities, while mountain biking is very popular among the boys, All of the above is offered by a special couple from the neighbourhood. On some Friday evenings they also offer extra activities like cooking, DVD evenings etc. which I wish to expand on.

Afterwards I spend some time with the children and youngsters.

With the children it never becomes boring and with the youngsters I have already started making plans what we can do together in the weekends. Some duties and projects are still pending – for example, the garbage should be separated in future, which is not common in South Africa. I already have a good daily routine and also enjoy, amongst all the action, the green grassed area with its guava mangos and avocado trees. I also love the panoramic view of the farmlands and of Pietermaritzburg in the distance. I will surely be happy if things continue as they are.



First Impressions of High School

By Foster Mother Hlengiwe

In 2016, Five Kenosis Children graduated from Junior School to attend High School for the first time. This is their initial impressions about their new schooling environment.

Nkosi

"I was very happy but confused because those who are seniors at High School told me so many negative things about being new at High School."

Asanda

"I was nervous and there were some people who were bossy but I decided to ignore them and now enjoy being there."

Deli

"I was happy because I met many of my friends there. I was not afraid of

being a new student at Copesville Secondary School."

Ayanda

"I was excited and wonder what will happen in High School."

Lihle

"I was both happy and shy to be in this High School environment. I don't feel so young anymore."



Khelo (front facing) is surrounded by her brother, foster mother Thandikile and friend just before boarding for Germany.

Khelo Spreads her Wings

By Khelo - with an introduction by Sr.Happiness

Dear Friends,

Many experiences, much love and laughter and many challenges comes and go in life. So, it is at Kenosis in the lives and individual experiences of our children. While they grow up before us, their future is unknown but we trust God with every part of their lives, including the unknown.

One of the children who took every opportunity offered her, is Khelo. She passed matric well and in post-matric embraced the occasion to enrol and complete a SLOT (School Leaver Opportunity Programme) locally, before further opportunity to explore the wider world, beckoned.

Her attitude in taking on the future is amazing and the choices she has made thus far, makes us all the more confident that a bright future awaits

her. I attach below an article she left us before her departure to Germany on the 21st of February. My wish for her is that she stays blessed. Below is her own account of her exciting leap of faith.

My name is Thabisile, "Khelo" is my nickname; in January I turned 19. Being part of Kenosis has exposed and given me so many opportunities. One of them, being given a chance to be part of a reverse voluntary program in one of the most powerful first world countries in Europe, all through the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

I will be doing voluntary work and staying in Germany for one year, starting in February 2016 until February 2017. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity and all the people, who made it possible for me, to have this experience. I will be joining a group of other young people going to this program, but we will not be in the same organization as the group from South Africa.

I will be staying with a family in Kassel, while working in a youth organization. When we arrive in Germany, we will have a 10 day' retreat in Hermannsburg, and later be introduced to our hosts at the different locations.

I am not sure what to expect, but on a personal level, my self-expectation is one of self-development, growth and maturity. While I must mention though that the thought of being so far away from home is scary, I am looking forward to the experience - it will help me understand myself better.

I hope to meet beautiful people and learn from them. I believe that part

of this opportunity, is God's divine plan, my unknown future is in His hands and it is through this conviction, that I will manage my time in Germany.

OUR ACCOUNT DETAILS:

Kenosis Community Trust no

Current Account

First National Bank – Hayfields

(22-14-25) 5677 111 4919

Bankverbindung in Deutschland

Mission-EineWelt

Konto Nr. 1011 111 BLZ 52060410

(Evangelische Kreditgenossenschaft Kassel)

Stichwort: KENOSIS

Special Projects Needing Support

- 1) Kids' Week July: Kids' Week is round the corner. This is our primary outreach drive where upwards of 300 children attend. In addition to feeding the above we also strive to accommodate our young leaders throughout this outreach program. It is imperative to give the children a decent meal if one wants the event to be a success.
- 2) Restoring water to our recently upgraded Youth Centre, requires the services of a professional plumber. Anyone who can render assistance will be greatly appreciated.
- 3) The Church is being repainted and we need someone to give us advice on sanding and sealing its wooden floor.



CONTACT US:
 Kenosis Community Trust
 Gate 15a Ekukhanyeni Road
 P.O.Box 46215
 Bishopstowe
 3252
 André Boshoff cell 074 9303403
 kenosismgt@pmbnet.com
 Sister Happiness 033 940 0465
 kenosis@pmbnet.com



Round About

(Top Right) Reinhard Hansen and Dr. Andreas Nehring visited us from Bavaria in February, (Centre right) Nicole Ludwig is no stranger to Kenosis and is our new Administrator. Here she meets with Kenosis Manager Andre Boshoff. (Bottom) Preparing accommodation for Visitors to Training House. (Centre Left) Aloes taking root along the Ekukhanyeni Road (Top Left) Community Dog Tyronne "Putting his legs up" while taking a break from guard duty.

