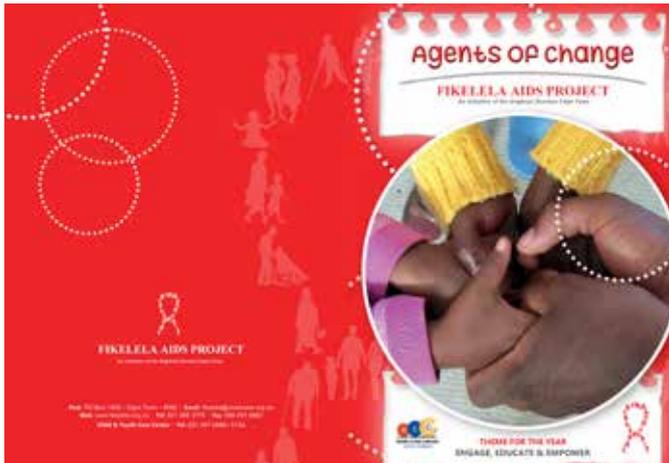


## Fikelela launches Agents of Change Book 2



Fikelela Aids Project hosted the launch of the Agents of Change Book 2 on 7th October 2017, at St Peter's Mowbray. The day started with Praise and Worship and the band in attendance was from the Church of the Holy Spirit Heideveld. Our Co-ordinator, Beverley Hendricks read a letter from Archbishop Thabo, who endorsed that the church as a community of teaching, compassion and care, should step in to fill the gap.

Not only to provide accurate information but also to assist young people to explore, consider, question, affirm and develop their own feelings, attitudes and values. The church's moral and spiritual teaching can be an effective resource in forming and changing social behaviour. Embracing the theme of "engage, educate and empower" we trust that the resources provided by this project may bring about the change that we want to see in our society and in the world. Our keynote speaker was Bishop Garth Counsell. Bishop Garth commented on a statistic that he shared at the AGM, "South Africa has a 1000 new cases identified daily and is the ONLY country where HIV infections are on the increase" – this is frightening. The Agents of Change program is a key and strategic part of our outreach and ministry as Fikelela. Why? The youth level is where we can have the biggest impact and where a positive difference can be made in terms of prevention.

The exciting fact about the content of Book 2 is that it reflects the expressed needs identified by the young people. The topics for the new book are: Addictive behaviours, Anti-social behaviour, Bullying, Child Molestation, Cliques, Coming out, Dealing with Divorce, Getting along with your parents, Healthy and Unhealthy relationships, Parents with addiction, Peer Pressure, Suicide, Talking to your child about Pornography, Teen Violence, Teenagers and Social Media. This is a resource for action and you can be an agent of change through your participation. Churches will get the opportunity to purchase book 2 which will be available early 2018 and work alongside Fikelela.

There were sixty-six people in attendance and the workshops conducted were Social Media facilitated by Whitney, Bullying facilitated by Claudia, and Behaviour Management facilitated by Tiaan. A special word of thanks to Bishop Garth and his wife Marion for attending the event, clergy, diocesan staff, the Noluthando support group for assisting with the registration and Heart FM Radio Station presenter Mr Aden Thomas for popping in and sharing his experience around social media with the young people. The event would not have been made possible without the assistance of our donor National Lotteries Commission.

- the Fikelela Team



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# EDITORIAL

Advent is upon us and as followers of Christ, we prepare each year for Christmas - whether its commercially or spiritually. Let's do something a little different this year: take time to think inwardly.

Why do you celebrate Christmas and prepare for it? What are your expectations and who are you expecting? It's easier to 'go with the flow' of what everyone else is doing and not know why you are doing it. Stop and do some soul searching. Maybe it's a good time to make amends and do right where its needed.

Love and Light, Rebecca

## THE GOOD HOPE

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# EVENTS AND NOTICES

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walks during Advent starting at 19h00 and finishing with sung Compline in the Cathedral at 20h00.They will take place on Thursday 7 December and Thursday 14 December.

**Siyahamba Labyrinth at St George's Cathedral:** There will be 2 evening labyrinth

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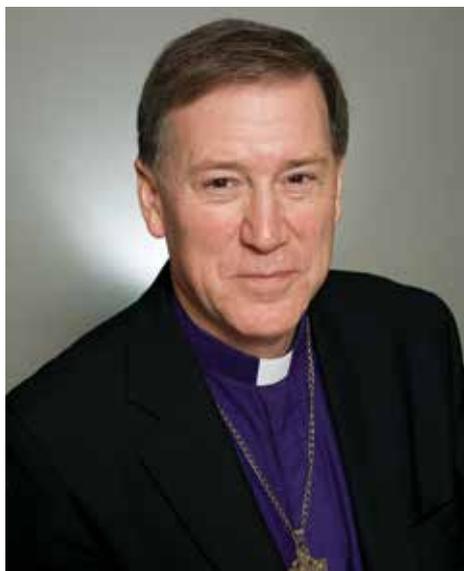
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As part of the continued discussion in the Province on same sex unions and the LGBTI community, Archbishop Thabo Makgoba has established a Human Sexuality Commission. "The Commission is set to table a motion at Synod 2019 to amend Canon 34 which will enable ministry to those in same sex unions and the LGBTI community in the context in which ACSA operates in Southern Africa."

Bishop Garth Counsell felt that the opinion piece written in the Anglican Journal, (the national newspaper of the Anglican Church of Canada by the Most Revd Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada) is a helpful and interesting reflection to the debate from both sides.

## Opinion piece: Good disagreement



**The Most Revd Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada**

(This article first appeared in the September 2017 issue of the Anglican Journal.)

Occasionally in my travels throughout our beloved church, people will ask where we are in our consideration of amending the marriage canon to allow for same-sex marriages. In all honesty, I have to say that for the time being, all is rather quiet. I do remind them, however, that next year all the provincial synods will meet, and this matter is likely to be on the agenda for each one. I am reasonably sure that the intensity and pace of conversation is likely to pick up then, as we head into General Synod in 2019.

My own read is that many in our church are coming to accept and declare that we will never agree on this matter. There will always be those who favour same-sex marriage and those who oppose it, each from the ground of their own wrestling with the Scriptures and the long-held teaching of the church on the nature of marriage. The challenge is, how do we live with such deep-seated differences of conviction?

At the heart of this challenge are two things—the acknowledging of our fears and the embracing of good disagreement.

Of the fear, Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby addressed his own church at a General Synod in 2014, saying, "There is great fear among some, here and round the world, that will lead to the betrayal of our traditions, to the denial of the authority of Scripture, to apostasy, not to use too strong a word. And there is also a great fear that our decisions will lead us to the rejection of LGBT [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender] people, to irrelevance in a changing society, to behaviour that may seem akin to racism. Both those fears are alive and well in this room today."

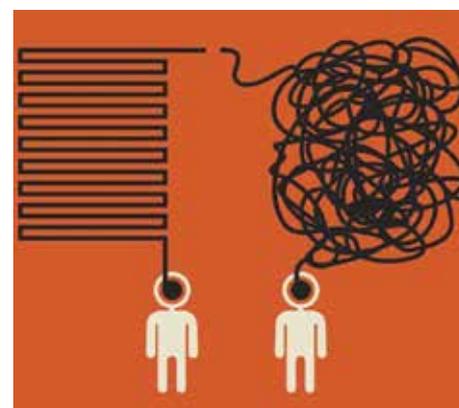
Of the nature of good disagreement, the dean of St. Paul's Cathedral in London, David Ison, wrote in 2015: "There is no expectation of achieving any consensus—in either direction—in the foreseeable future. But there is a task to be done of encouraging those within the church who are at odds on this issue to express their concerns in a safe environment,

listen carefully to those with whom they disagree profoundly, find something of Christ in each other and consider together what the practical consequence of disagreement might be. From New Testament times the church of Christ has had to face disagreement. Fashioning our life as a church includes finding ways to 'disagree Christianly'."

I believe that in our church there is both a commitment and a capacity to do just that—to disagree in a manner that does not demean one another, but honours our calling in Christ. In good disagreement, no one is made to feel their position is of no value. No one feels belittled, walked over or pushed out. In good disagreement, there is, in truth, a continuing place for everyone in our church.

The key to a good disagreement is when "no one is made to feel their position is of no value."

**Image: IGOR KISSELEV/SHUTTERSHOCK**



## St Philip's D6 hosts exciting craft exhibition



The Lydia Williams Centre for Memory in Chapel Street, D6 was once again a hive of activity on Saturday 4 November 2017 as the crafters of the centre hosted their second craft exhibition. The exhibition was opened by Ms Chrischene Julius of the D6 Museum. The crafters have classes on a Monday from 10 - 12 noon. This ministry was started as the Parish of St Philip The Deacon D6 saw the need for a craft class, where members of the parish and wider community could use their creative skills. This also gives the parish an opportunity to avail the Lydia Centre space for other ministries. - **Audrey Farao**

# Mothers Union Conference

## Faith in Action | Ukholo Ngezenzo



The Mothers Union held its biennial conference at the Cape Theological Seminary in Killarney on the 27th to 29th October. The conference was preceded by a 2day leadership workshop that was facilitated by our Provincial trainer (Revd Maqoma) on the 26th to the afternoon of the 27th October.

During the two day workshop we were empowered to lead the Mothers Union to achieve its vision plus we contracted what our Diocesan priorities and year plan will be for 2018. Our focuses for this year will be on gender based violence and the environment especially water and recycling.

On Friday evening of the 27th our members came out in numbers dressed in our theme denim/blue, white and doek. For entertainment we had comedy, music, drama and dance lessons that culminated into a competition between our members, clergy and Bishop Garth vs the clergy spouses and Mrs Marion Counsell. The atmosphere was electric, filled with lots of laughter and it was truly heart-warming to see the smiles on the faces of our Mothers.

One of our vision as the MU is to attract the next generation of MU members into the organisation by showcasing what MU is all about.

It is for this reason that on Friday 27th we launched our Facebook page so that we can share what we do with the world. Please like our page, aptly named Diocese of Cape Town Mothers Union.

On the morning of Saturday 28th we kickstarted our day by conducting Bible study groups to reflect on our theme. The members were split into teams with each team reflecting on the following scriptures Hebrews 11:1-7, Romans 10:12-1, James 2:14-24. Many testimonies were shared during these intimate sessions about faith in action and new relationships were formed as members were reflecting on the word with members from outside their parishes.

Saturday afternoon our leaders shared the vision for their respective branches in aligning to the Diocesan and Provincial priorities and they appealed for support from their members. We then had a guest speaker (Mrs Nomazangwa Cakathiso-Ngetu) who shared her life story that inspired us to stay unshaken in our faith and to never cease to pray. In true MU style, we acted on our vision by distributing toiletries and sanitary towels to Ilitha Labantu. Ilitha Labantu is an organisation that provides emotional support, practical advice and education around the problem of violence against women. We also joined them (Ilitha Labantu) in signing the pledge to end violence against women and girls by signing their one too many pledge so that we too can have our voice heard in the plight of women and children. For more info go to [www.ilithalabantu.org.za](http://www.ilithalabantu.org.za)

Saturday evening we were joined by the Revd Reeva Mulder and the Revd Abel Qinga for the Eucharist service where we also remembered our MU members that had passed on. After the Eucharist service we continued with praise and worship revival service till the early hours of the morning. Members testified about God's faithfulness and encouraged each other to live out their faith with their deeds.

Sunday was our last day of conference and the Holy Spirit dwelled amongst us as we held our Eucharist service conducted by Revd Mototjane. During the service the MU President delivered the key note address and 2018 year plan. This was followed by an awards ceremony wherein we issued certificates of recognition to members that had faithfully served the MU for 30 years.

To sum up about our conference, we loved, we laughed, we danced, we learnt, we worshiped, we celebrated, we testified and most importantly we lived our theme... faith in action! Thanks to our Bishop, Chaplain, Clergy, Provincial MU, Exco, Council, sponsors and volunteers that gave of their time, talents and money to make this conference a success.

- Sibongile Antoni

# Blessing of the Animals

## St George's Cathedral, 8th October 2017



St George's Cathedral's four-week observance of the 2017 Season of Creation culminated in a celebration of the Feast of St Francis and a Blessing of Animals at the main Sunday Eucharist service on 8th October.

'All creatures great and small' were represented in the Cathedral that morning by dogs in their numbers, two horses, a kid goat, a parrot, a rabbit, cats and more. Certain species, including the endangered African Penguin, were represented by children in animal costumes. Interesting and perhaps not insignificant was how the presence of animals with us in church, inspired in many a heightened sense of community: community beyond the Cathedral's own congregation, community beyond just Anglicans, beyond Christians and even beyond human beings – a sense of the community of all life being represented in joyful togetherness.



Also notable was the sense of peace that prevailed – this in spite of the minor chaos created by gathering all those beloved creatures of God into the house of the Lord. The animals themselves seemed entirely content to be together with us there – almost as if they understood, and maybe ..... How little we really know about what our fellow creatures understand and how they experience their lives on Earth!

This year, in addition to the animals being blessed, organisations that work for the rights, welfare and protection of animals, were blessed also. Some thirty such organisations were represented at the service: the Animal Welfare Society, Beauty Without Cruelty, Conservation Action Trust, the Cart Horse Protection Association, Dassenberg Horse Rescue Centre, Eseltjiesrus Donkey Sanctuary, Lamberts & Elands Animal Protection Services (LEAPS), the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA) and many more.

This Feast of St Francis service held together emotions of thankfulness, awe and sadness – thankfulness for the infinite abundance of God's love as reflected in the beauty and richness of life on Earth in all its diversity; awe at the weight of responsibility which God placed on our shoulders when commissioning us to exercise dominion over our fellow creatures – that is, to love, care for and protect the animals with whom we share this planet; sadness at recognising how far short humankind is falling in fulfilling this commission of care and protection in the contemporary era of the systematic mass cruelty of factory farming, the massacre of elephants and rhinos for their tusks and horns, canned lion hunting, dog fighting and more.

We give thanks to God for the Blessing of Animals, not least for the people whom it brought into church. This year many more of those who brought their animals to be blessed, managed to stay for the full service. It is amazing indeed what God does for us – even through our fellow creatures!

- Frank Molteno  
- Photos: Desire' Martin



### Archbishop's Education Endowment Fund for Theological Education

Please support the Archbishop's Education Fund so that we can continue to train priests for the future of our church. Thank you for all donations received. If you would like to contribute please consider a donation.

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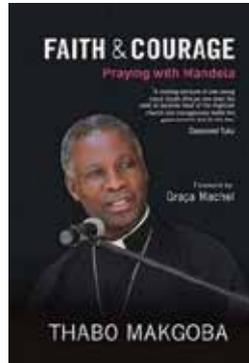
Looking back as we enter our new liturgical year at Advent, the past year has been fulfilling and, as always, very busy.

At Diocesan Synod, we took far-reaching resolutions, especially those aimed at developing our land and improving our stewardship of under-utilised resources to secure sustainable ministry into the future.

At the Provincial level, there is a changing of the guard in our leadership, with a number of senior bishops having retired and a new generation being consecrated. In addition, I have established an Archbishop's Commission on Human Sexuality to work out how best the Church should minister to those of varying sexual orientation. In the Communion, we have begun the detailed

## To the Laos - to the people of God

planning for Lambeth 2020, the world-wide meeting of Anglican bishops which last gathered in 2008.



At a personal level, I have been humbled at the reaction to the publication of my new book, Faith & Courage: Praying with Mandela. And at a national level, the intense contestation for political leadership we have seen

in recent months will culminate in new leaders being chosen during the party conference season, raising expectations of a better way forward for our country.

Against this background of noise and activity, we shall soon be joining in solemn prayer and song, awaiting with eager anticipation the retelling of the story of our Saviour's birth as we sing, "Silent night, holy night".

The image of the Christ Child will be woven into our thoughts and prayers, overcoming the efforts of those who would tell us through adverts and commercial hype that this is a season of rampant consumerism.

As Matthew reminds us, the angel's appearance to tell us of the coming of Jesus took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him 'Emmanuel,' which means, 'God is with us.'

Yes, this is a time of Emmanuel: a time to be reminded that God is indeed with us, meeting us where we are, calling us – just as he called the Virgin Mary – to radical obedience, to simplicity, to working for the common good and to summon up the courage to be the bringers of Good News.

Thank you for all of you, parishioners in this Diocese, for when you have experienced "Mary" moments this year. May we all rejoice at the coming of Jesus, Emmanuel, in our lives this Christmas.

A blessed and peaceful Christmas to you all.

**God Bless**  
**+Thabo Cape Town**

## Annual Jamie Miller Cancer Memorial: When 'I' is replaced with 'we' - illness becomes wellness



Church of the Resurrection, Bonteheuwel hosted the third Annual Jamie Miller Cancer Memorial with objective being Wellness. When 'I' is replaced with 'We', Illness becomes Wellness. The weekend 27th to 29th October started off with a comedy show presented by Project Comedy Live.

The comedians packed it out and it was a blast. As promised, lots of laughter. The road to wellness continued on Saturday with free screening and testing of Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar levels, Breast & PSA exams, services offered by CANSA & SWHP. With our energetic and vibrant MC



and cancer survivor herself, Anne Siroky, attention was brought to various cancers through the walks. CANSA-TLC oncology kids kick started the walks with Sunsmart Activation under the guidance of Anthea Lewis, a cancer survivor and International Global Hero of Hope.

# Tristan da Cunha - my 'journey to wholeness'



The term 'Journey to wholeness' may sound like a cliché but that was exactly what my trip to the remotest inhabited island in the world, Tristan Da Cunha was! This was a most unique and unforgettable experience. Having just suffered the loss of Grant, my son, this was the most welcome time for grieving and finding inner peace. Travelling on the SA Agulhas 2 was an experience in itself.

The arrival of the Agulhas was met with much excitement as some islanders returned home

and visitors like me came for the first time. Travelling with me was the Revd Lorna Laverello – Smith, curate at St Thomas' Rondebosch and a born islander. Lorna conducted the services on Sundays and Wednesdays at St Mary's Church as well as doing pastoral visits to the housebound and elderly.

The island is situated in the South Atlantic Ocean about 2,400 kilometers from Cape Town with approximately 280 islanders of which about 71 are pensioners and about 24 are

school going children. Islanders are friendly and hospitable and always ready to feed one with gigantic meals. I enjoyed every meal I was invited to – lots of meat, fish and potatoes. The islanders work very hard because they are self-sustaining.

My personal journey was extremely difficult. Having to come to terms with the death of my only child was so hard. While travelling and on the island I felt an emptiness only known to those who have lost a loved one. While on the ship I experienced the ocean not as a sea of nothingness but as the creation of God, which, while staring out while standing on the deck, brought much peace.

On the island I was well received by islanders and especially parishioners of St Mary's Church. I enjoyed long walks and just staring out from the rectory which has an ocean view. I enjoyed listening to the islanders stories and the rich history of the island. I was very blessed to have Lorna, her sister Valerie, family members Lars and Trina Repetto as my guides.

In the picture below is the oldest islander, aunt Helen Rogers. At 99 she still knits daily and made me a beautiful scarf. This is an unforgettable experience. Thank you to the people of Tristan da Cunha.

- Marlene Cozett



Further entertainment was provided by our local Zumba team, "to move fast and have fun". 4Real vocal harmony group entertained the crowd not just their music but their impressive dance moves. As part of cancer awareness and especially childhood

cancer, we had CHOC and CANSA-TLC with information tables as well as posters displayed throughout the venue. A local car club called VW Evolution, all about giving back, joined our cause and handed over a box of gifts to CANSA-TLC which included

nappies, essential toiletries and party packets. The "noise" was welcomed by some very excited children (and the not so young children)!

A big thank you to all the donors, family groups and individuals, who supported the event. Your contribution will help to beat cancer through early diagnosis and detection as well as awareness activities that aim to reduce people's anxiety about cancer and encourage them to visit their doctor if they notice anything unusual.



# Eco camp 2017– “it is this generation that can change the world”



The Diocese of Cape Town YPM held an Eco-Camp in partnership with Green Anglicans. The venue was the beautiful beach at Soetwater Environmental Camp.

Young people from 10 churches came together for a fun-packed weekend. After a devotion and praise and worship, the first night was quite challenging with a night hike through steep sandy mountainside. The next day started on a the beach with a quiet meditational devotion. Then we had a snake show which was fascinating to some and terrifying to others! A packed programme followed, a visit to the Lighthouse at Kommetjie, a hike up Slangkop, an Obstacle course and then a potjie kos competition.

After our evening devotion we all relaxed with a fun concert and we saw some real acting and singing talent coming through, judged by Father Shaun Cozett and his team.

The next morning we started with a devotion led by the Revd Rachel Mash to reflect on the damage we have done to creation, we are called to be healers of the planet. Then we divided

into our church groups to work out what actions we should take to care for creation. There were wonderful suggestions such as a beach clean up, putting in water harvesting, a recycling competition etc.

Here are some quotes by the young people who attended: Eco camp meant a lot to me as I learnt so many things that I never knew. This was my first eco camp that I attended and it was amazing as I got to meet new people and surround myself with nature and adventuring specially the night hike we had. This camp also opened my eyes to saw what God created for us and how we ourselves destroyed what he has given us.

- Lana Louw – St Mark's

As it was my first time on the green-Anglicans Eco-camp I did not know what to expect but it all went well. Personally camp has not only draw me closer to God it also drew me closer to new people and also developed stronger relationships with the youth from my parish. Being on this camp had me thinking on what heaven really is and for the first time in almost forever I realized that the earth that God created was like

heaven and us as humans had polluted the earth and used its materials. All of us Christians can restore God's creation. It is this generation than can change the world and before we know it we'll be in heaven once again. Camp taught me how to overcome my phobia of snakes by having one on my shoulders, and for this I thank Green-Anglicans for inviting me to this camp.

- Lolo Ngele Olwethu:  
St Thomas Rondebosch

My experience at the eco camp

was very Holy and lovely. It was a time of fellowship with other youth members and the games was very good and everyone just had to believe in each other to complete each task. It was so amazing and everything felt so appealing. The devotion on the beach was very awesome, getting to appreciate what God has created and all of the beauty. The people was so happy and that made me feel very good knowing that they are very welcoming and that's my experience.

- Gabriel Trout

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**YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY (YPM)**  
**DIARY FOR 2018**

10th February	Fitness Fun Day
9th-10th March	Retreat
7th April	Outreach
5th May	Career Exhibition
2nd-7th June	Holiday Camp
31st August-2nd September	YPM Consultation
	Family Day (tbc)

\*NOTE: retreats will happen quarterly

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