



WEDNESDAY, 17 DECEMBER 2025

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"We would see Jesus and be transformed into His Likeness"

Dear Friends,

We had a lovely combined Christmas Carols evening service last Sunday. We were fortunate the rain held off and we were able to set up outside under the canopy of the heavens. It was a wonderful way to end the evening services, which we started in June, for the year. We will start up the evening worship in the middle of January of 2026.

Gavin did wonderfully to lead and tie together the Christmas Hope which meets us where we are. With God's presence we are able to remain steadfast and hope filled, celebrating the Emmanuel, God with us.

Below are a few pictures of our time together.







With love,

Iain

P.S. On Sunday morning, the 7th of November, in response to the church's monthly financial shortfall, a congregation member, Teresa, shared a creative and heartfelt initiative called #Coffee - a small way each of us can make a meaningful difference. Here is her testimony as she shared it:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/fz6t6nITurM?si=5WggH6Oe0ZOg7yaP&t=3877> .

Here is her idea:

by giving up one small luxury each month — perhaps a cup of coffee, a snack outing, or another treat that costs around R200 — we can collectively help close the financial gap. For instance, skipping a weekly R50 coffee adds up to R200 a month, which can then be donated to the church.

You can participate by setting up an automatic monthly deposit or by bringing your contribution in an envelope marked #Coffee. This tag helps us track the initiative's progress.

It's about sharing joyfully to support our community. If 200 people give R200, we could raise R40,000 together! Let's invest in keeping our church strong, our ministries active, and our lights shining.

May God bless this effort and everyone who takes part in it.



(By Iain Kemp)

I first came across this song when we were preparing for a sermon series on the Kingdom of God. It cropped up on my Christmas playlist recently and took me to a place of worship where I sang with this song as my prayer, 'Let your Kingdom come'.

"Let Your Kingdom come" – by SovereignGraceMusic - <https://youtu.be/3Rh8l0r9glA?si=c-q1zLPu-pzC4C6v>

Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/track/4ly5f1PYyIKX0R9d8uiagb?si=c229daba7bfc4f0f>

Apple Music: <https://music.apple.com/za/song/let-your-kingdom-come-feat-chris-jackson/1060505706>



In the first weeks of the Training in Mission (TIM) Programme, I participated in the Laksamba, a sacred prayer walk on the Union Theological Seminary (UTS) campus in Dasmariñas, Cavite. The Laksamba was an embodied act of worship that invited reflection on land, memory, community, and mission. Moving through eight stations across the campus, I encountered stories and spaces that reshaped how my understanding of mission.



Our walk began at the Guansing Memorial, which honours Bishop Benjamin I. Guansing, the first Filipino president of the Seminary. His vision to acquire land for UTS was an act of faith directed toward future generations. Standing there, I was reminded that mission often requires foresight and patience. It is not always about visible results in the present, but about stewarding a vision that others may one day inherit. This challenged me to reflect on whether my own actions contribute to sustainable spaces for learning, leadership, and inclusion.

At Goshen Farm, named after a place associated with provision and promise, the connection between mission and creation became clear. The farm symbolised hope for a fuller future, yet it also highlighted the fragility of the earth. This station confronted me with the reality of climate change and the responsibility humans carry toward the land. Mission, I realised, must include ecological justice, because the misuse of land affects all of creation.



The Labyrinth offered a contrasting experience of slowness and attentiveness. As I walked its winding path, I became aware of my own impatience and desire for certainty. This space taught me that mission requires discernment before action. **Without listening—both inwardly and to the context around us—mission risks becoming driven by urgency rather than wisdom.** The Labyrinth reminded me that humility and attentiveness are foundational to faithful engagement.

Forest Lane and Dap-ay were among the most impactful spaces for me. Surrounded by nature, we reflected on environmental defenders who sacrificed their lives for the earth. Here, the concept of “the margins,” often discussed in lectures, became deeply personal and unsettling. I began to ask difficult questions: Who lives on the margins today? Is it those without access to clean water and sanitation? Those whose voices are silenced by political or economic power? Women and children subjected to violence? Or those who live without shelter or security? These spaces made it clear that mission calls for solidarity with those who bear the cost of injustice created by systems driven by power, profit, and exclusion.

The walk then moved to the McLennan Playground, a space where children play freely and visibly belong. This station reminded me that mission must also protect joy and vulnerability. Creating safe spaces where children can express themselves is essential to their growth and dignity. **In a world marked by violence and instability, safeguarding the well-being of the young is not secondary to mission—it is central to it.**



The Laksamba concluded at the UTS @118 Marker, a site that symbolises both the history and ongoing journey of Union Theological Seminary. Standing there felt like a moment of gathering—holding together all that we had encountered along the walk. It marked not only the end of the Laksamba, but also a sense of being sent. The stories of the land, the cries from the margins, and the hope embodied in

community all converged at this final point, reminding me that mission does not end with reflection; it begins with responsible action.

Overall, the Laksamba transformed my understanding of mission. It taught me that mission is embodied, contextual, and relational. It calls for attentiveness to history, care for creation, and solidarity with those on the margins. Most importantly, it reminded me that how—and where—we walk matters.

In reflecting on the Laksamba, I also became aware that **mission is not something detached from the body**. Walking, pausing, listening, and observing were themselves formative practices. My body learned alongside my mind. This challenged my tendency to think of mission only in terms of planning, speaking, or doing. The Laksamba showed me that **mission begins with being fully attentive to God, to people, and to place**. It is through this attentiveness that meaningful and respectful engagement becomes possible.

Furthermore, the collective nature of the Laksamba was significant. Walking alongside fellow participants reminded me that mission is never a solitary task. Each person brought their own stories, questions, and struggles, and yet we shared the same path. This reinforces the ecumenical spirit, where diversity is not erased but held together in mutual respect. Mission, in this sense, is a communal discernment of how to respond faithfully to the realities of the world.

Ultimately, the Laksamba left me with a deeper sense of responsibility and hope. Responsibility, because mission demands critical awareness of power, injustice, and ecological destruction. Hope, because even within these realities, there are spaces of life, joy, and renewal—farms that feed, playgrounds that echo with laughter, and communities that continue to imagine a more just world. **The Laksamba was an invitation into a way of walking missionally, with humility, courage, and care.**





“Our Purpose is to GROW DEEPER! Grow deeper with God, in Relationships with each other, by creating Opportunities for ministry and as Witnesses.”

Friday night Youth – Junior and Senior Youth on Fridays
Check out the WhatsApp group or contact Ross for more information
In recess for the holidays.

 2026

STARTING FEB

TRINITY
PRESBY

CONFIRMATION

IF YOU ARE 16 OR OLDER (OR YOUR CHILD IS) AND INTERESTED IN JOURNEYING WITH THE IDEA OF CONFIRMING YOUR FAITH

Please reach out to Ross or Iain
0114537729

SUNDAY

Worship

Trinity Presbyterian Church,
St David Road,
Elma Park, Edenvale

21 December
9am Onwards



"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only
Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but
have eternal life" John 3:16

Giving

Staff on leave

Please note the following:

**Felicity will be on leave from 9 – 17
December 2025**

**Mxolisi will be on leave from 19
December 2025 to 6 January 2026**

**Iain will be on leave from 27 December –
4 January 2026**

**Ross will be on leave from 2 – 6 January
2026**

Please take note:

EFT Payments

We would like to ensure that the payments made to Trinity towards tithing, retiring offerings, food bags etc are allocated correctly.

In order to do this, please would you ensure that the reference shown on your payment has the correct beneficiary.

For Tithing, please use the following methods:

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
STANDARD BANK
CURRENT ACCOUNT
NUMBER: 42 448 2088,
BRANCH: 016 342

Zapper QR Code



Scan the QR code with your phone camera to go to either our Facebook or Instagram pages.

