

# UPPER UMGANI PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## May 2024

<p>PO BOX 144, HOWICK, 3290</p> <p>PHONE: (033) 330 2869</p> <p>Banking Details: FNB Howick Branch 220725 A/c 52530975477</p>	<p>EMAIL: <a href="mailto:upperumgeni@gmail.com">upperumgeni@gmail.com</a></p> <p>WEBSITE: <a href="http://www.howickpresbyterian.weebly.com">www.howickpresbyterian.weebly.com</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/upperumgeni">www.facebook.com/upperumgeni</a></p> <p>OFFICE HOURS: 09h00 – 13h00 (Closed on Mondays)</p>
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**John 13:15** "I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you."

# ***From our Minister...***

**Rev Nigel Fuller**

**Cell: 083 354 9204**

**[nigelfuller1964@gmail.com](mailto:nigelfuller1964@gmail.com)**

Thursday the 9th of May is Ascension Day, and the sad thing is that this day will come and go, and many Christians will not even be aware of it.

The Ascension marks the culmination of Jesus' earthly ministry, the moment when He returned to the Father in heaven. This departure, though sorrowful for His disciples, heralded the fulfilment of God's divine plan for our redemption. Through His Ascension, Jesus asserted His authority over all creation, and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father.

Why is the Ascension crucial to our faith? There are a number of reasons.

Firstly, it validates Christ's identity as the Son of God. His resurrection demonstrated His victory over sin and death, and His ascension confirms His divinity and eternal reign. In ascending to heaven, Jesus showed that He was not merely a great teacher or prophet but the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Secondly, the Ascension assures us of our future hope. Just as Jesus ascended into heaven, He promised to prepare a place for us and will one day return to gather His people to Himself. Our faith in the Ascension reminds us that this world is not our final home. We are citizens of heaven, as we eagerly await our reunion with our Saviour.

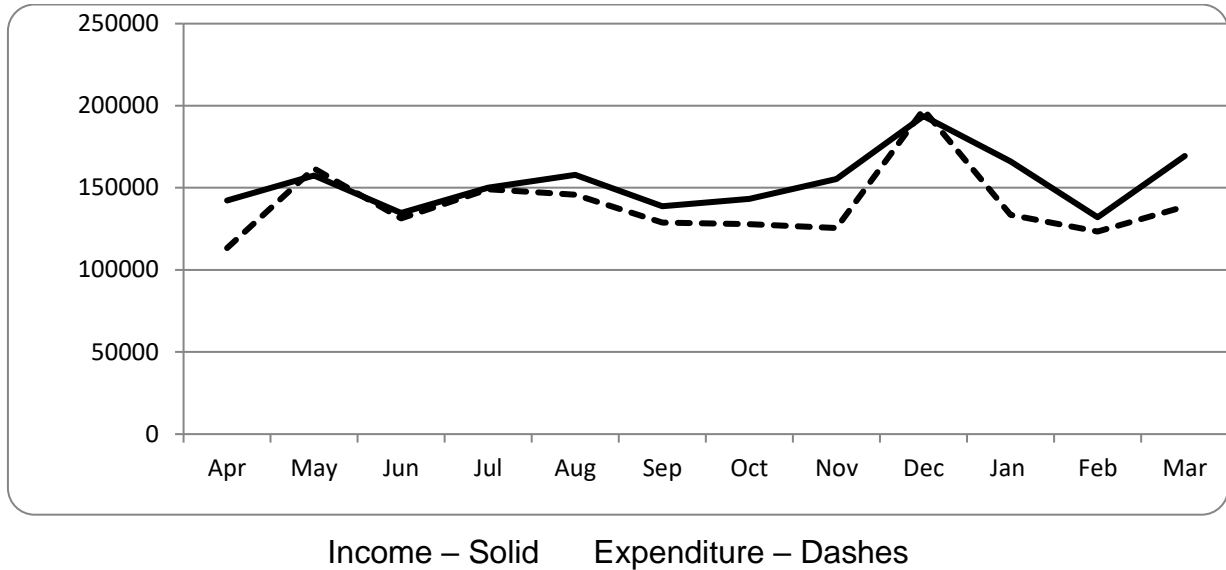
Furthermore, the Ascension empowers us for our mission on earth. Before ascending, Jesus commissioned His disciples to be witnesses to the ends of the earth, empowered by the Holy Spirit. As He ascended, He promised to send the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, to guide, empower, and equip us for ministry, so the Ascension marks the beginning of the church's mission, as we proclaim the Gospel to all nations.

So, the Ascension is not merely an historical event but a spiritual reality that shapes our faith and informs our lives. It confirms Jesus' identity, assures us of our future hope, and empowers us for mission. These are just a few reasons why the ascension of Jesus matters.

All that being said, please join us for our Ascension Day service on Thursday 9th of May at 9am.

God bless you!

## FINANCIALS: THE LAST 12 MONTHS



Please pray for our recently bereaved families:

Malcolm Wright died on 11<sup>th</sup> April

Rob Buchanan died on 19<sup>th</sup> April

**PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE IN CARE CENTRES, especially our members at:**

<b>Amberfield</b>	Anna Perks, Annette Wilkinson, Pam Archer
<b>Amber Glen</b>	Irene du Preez, Cay Brown
<b>Amber Valley</b>	Adrey Henderson, Cathy Samson, Ruth Walsh, Alastair Dunbar Gaye Bertram, Alan Wilcock, Marietha Seele, Pete King
<b>Greendale</b>	Stan Albertyn, Graeme Cameron, Denise Riddell, Neil Perritt
<b>Seventh Heaven</b>	James and Di Holderness

**CONFIDENTIAL WHATSAPP GROUP**  
**IF YOU HAVE ANY PRAYER REQUESTS, PLEASE CONTACT**  
**NIGEL FULLER ON 083 354 9204, OR SPEAK TO ANY OF OUR ELDERS.**

### Elders at Upper Umgeni:

Rob Ainslie (083 407 5396)  
 Hazel Archer (082 488 2006)  
 Joan Brummer (084 580 7496)  
 Francois Davel (082 414 3762)  
 Val Delpont (072 276 2683)  
 Cheryl Duckham (073 802 2259)

Nigel Fuller (083 354 9204)  
 Roland Kennard (083 454 0197)  
 Fiona Kennard (072 424 3286)  
 Des Muller (082 819 9057)  
 Noreen Muller (072 423 9185)  
 Jill Powell (082 415 0290)

# MISSION MATTERS

*“What God the Father considers to be pure and genuine religion is this: to take care of the orphans and widows in their suffering and to keep oneself from being corrupted by the world.” (James 1:27)*

## MAHOBAC

Many thanks to our amazing congregation who continue to support feeding the children. Your gifts help to feed a child each weekday and after school. A special thank you this month to the residents of a local community who gave the proceeds of their St Patrick’s Day evening celebrations to outreach funds. We have a photo here of some to the many children who benefitted from the socks and sweet donations from the Grade R children at a Pietermaritzburg girls’ school last month.



Please bring your donations of food to church for the children’s meals.



Suggestions: Salt, onions, cooking oil, curry powder mix, rice, soup powder, maize meal, sugar beans, samp, any fresh vegetables, onion & tomato mix and baked beans. Soap and sanitary products are also welcome, or cash donations, marked for MAHOBAC can be placed in the offering bags on Sundays.

## THE PRINS FAMILY

Thanks to the perseverance of a member of our Outreach team, one of the Prins family sons has recently been accepted to be trained by the Khulisani Academy in Merrivale, which was established to provide assistance and opportunity for individuals with a disability. We look forward to hearing more about this academy from its founder at one of our future ladies’ meetings.



## WINTER SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024

The date is fast approaching....

There is a large box outside the church each week for blankets so that someone can keep warm this winter.

Winter Sunday has become a highlight of the year at UUPC, when we are encouraged to sort through cupboards and give items as unto the Lord.

Contributions will be prayed over in church on Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> May, and then distributed to various places in and around Howick.

Should you know of a need, please speak to Noreen Muller



pixtastock.com - 89155554

## LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

At last month's meeting, after a time of fellowship and refreshments, Neville Geddes brought his CD collection and books, and shared with us some of our favourite hymns and their origins.



***NEXT LADIES' MEETING: 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 9:30am***

## **WHO ENJOYS EATING NOUGAT?**

**Gilly Walters, a member of our church family, will be sharing with us how she grew and perfected her successful and popular family business.**

**All are welcome to come along for refreshments at 9:30am and Gilly will share her story of how Wedgewood Nougat began.**

**(Who knows? There may even be a few tasty samples to try out...)**



# Daily Bible Reading Plan May 2024

1	2 Samuel 5:1-10, 1 Chronicles 11-12
2	Psalms 133
3	Psalms 106-107
4	2 Samuel 5:11-6:23, 1 Chronicles 13-16
5	Psalms 1-2, 15, 22-24, 47, 68
6	Psalms 89, 96, 100, 105, 132
7	2 Samuel 7, 1 Chronicles 17
8	Psalms 25, 29, 33, 36, 39
9	Psalms 8-9
10	Psalms 50, 53, 60, 75
11	2 Samuel 10, 1 Chronicles 19, Psalm 20
12	Psalms 65-67, 69-70
13	2 Samuel 11-12, 1 Chronicles 20
14	Psalms 32, 51, 86, 122
15	2 Samuel 13-15
16	Psalms 3-4, 12-13, 28, 55
17	2 Samuel 16-18
18	Psalms 26, 40, 58, 61-62, 64
19	2 Samuel 19-23
20	Psalms 5, 38, 41-42
21	2 Samuel 22-23, Psalm 57
22	Psalms 95, 97-99
23	2 Samuel 24, 1 Chronicles 21-22, Ps 30
24	Psalms 108-110
25	1 Chronicles 23-25
26	Psalms 131, 138-139, 143-145
27	1 Chronicles 26-29, Psalm 127
28	Psalms 111-118
29	1 Kings 1-2, Psalms 37, 71, 94
30	Psalm 119:1-88
31	1 Kings 3-4, 2 Chronicles 1, Psalm 72



## Sundays

5 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion Service	8:30am
12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup>	Worship Service	8:30am
12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup>	Kiddies Corner	8:30am
12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup>	Young Disciples	8:30am

## Weekly

Tuesdays	7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion Service	9:00am
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>	Bible Study	9:30am
Fridays	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> , 31 <sup>st</sup>	Pastoral Care Meeting	9:00am

## Monthly

Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ladies' Fellowship	9:30am
Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup>	Men's Fellowship	7:00am

## Other Services/Events

Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Ascension Day Service	9:00am
Tuesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	Outreach Meeting	10:30am
Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup>	Presbytery Meeting	9:00am
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Session Meeting	5:00pm
Friday	17 <sup>th</sup>	Howick Seniors' Club	9:30am

## Sunday Serving Teams for May

Date	ELDER	TEAM	FLOWERS
5 <sup>th</sup>	Roland Kennard	Yellow	Norma Meikle
12 <sup>th</sup>	Jill Powell	Blue	Ros Tessendorf
19 <sup>th</sup>	Fiona Kennard	Green	Lenor Johnson
26 <sup>th</sup>	Hazel Archer	Red	Sheila Longmore