

August

AUGUST IS KNOWN AS WOMEN'S MONTH WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA. THIS IS A WONDERFUL INITIATIVE AND ONE WE SHOULD BE PROUD OF WITHIN OUR CONTEXT. MY VERY FIRST CONNECTION WITH A WOMAN WAS MY MOTHER, AND I RECALL FONDLY OUR CONNECTIONS. SHE WAS PRETTY AND SMELT LIKE PUMPKIN FRITTERS, AND PERFUME. AS TIME EVOLVED, I DISCOVERED THAT I WAS SURROUNDED BY GOOD WOMEN. AT THE SAME TIME I BEGAN SENSING THE UNFAIR WORLD THAT THEY FOUND THEMSELVES IN. OUR SOCIETY IS STILL BY-AND-LARGE A MALE DOMINATED ONE. MATTERS SUCH AS THE CHALLENGE OF BREAKING THROUGH THE GLASS CEILING, STILL EXIST. MAY EACH OF US ADOPT PAUL'S VIEW IN GALATIANS 3:28: THERE IS NEITHER JEW NOR GREEK, THERE IS NEITHER SLAVE NOR FREE, THERE IS NEITHER MALE NOR FEMALE FOR YOU ARE ALL ONE IN CHRIST JESUS. MAY WE SEE EACH THROUGH THE EYES OF OUR LORD JESUS, KNOWING THAT HE VALUES US FAR BEYOND ANYTHING WE CAN IMAGINE. FROM OUR SU FAMILY, LADIES, WE APPRECIATE YOU, PRAY FOR YOU, STAND UPON YOUR SHOULDERS AND HONOUR YOU THIS MONTH ---AND EVERY MONTH TO COME!

Proverbs 31:30 Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Thursday, 1 | Amidst many highlights this past month, SU ran its very first Deaf Camp for the hearing-impaired. We are most grateful for Mpume, our camp director and first appointed SU deaf staff worker, who along with his team led very well. Run at our SU Stony Ridge Campsite, we experienced the joy and delight on each of the faces of young people as the good news was presented into their world. We give the Lord thanks for this initiative and how well it has been received.

Friday, 2 | Our prayers today are focussed upon the SU Algoa Teachers Appreciation Event happening today. We ask you Lord that our Christian educators will be well valued and inspired in the critical role they play within their school contexts.

Saturday, 3 | Lord, we commit the Youth Leaders Training Event taking place in SU Western Cape today. We pray especially for Jody Potts as he steers this group to maturity and empowers them to lead well.

Sunday, 4 | Father, we commit the exciting Lerato Queen Wood Bible Quiz taking place today in SU KZN. Our prayer is that the book of Acts (they are studying) will come alive within the hearts of those who have prepared and are competing.

Monday, 5 | We give the Lord thanks for the Stationery with Purpose project and its recent launch. We are trusting the Lord to use this in enabling us to not only to be sustainable but also to grow the ministry. You can follow the hyperlink to observe and to be a part of this exciting venture www.stationerywithpurpose.co.za

Tuesday, 6 | SU KZN is most grateful for a very successful holiday run at Merlewood. We give thanks for the 120 lives who were transformed over the 5 days as well as the impact that this has had upon Mount Zion Tabernacle partnering church.

Wednesday, 7 | SU KZN also gives thanks for the increase of numbers in the school Christian group at Rockford primary. How wonderful to see the Lord answer our prayers for God to work in this school!

Thursday, 8 | Our SU Western Cape team ran a very successful Educators Brunch recently. We pray for our Christian teachers working in their places of mission, to be role models and ambassadors for you, Lord.

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Friday, 9 | Today is Women's Day and we take a moment to celebrate all of our women today, especially those of the SU family. We also commit the SU women's event taking place in the Western Cape into your hands Lord. May they be valued and inspired as they gather around your word today.

Saturday, 10 | There are additional events taking place around Women's day. We commit each event and activity into your hands, Father.

Sunday, 11 | We wish to bring our Ikemeleng Youth Centre in SU Gauteng before you today, Lord. We are trusting for more volunteers to assist with the after-school activities taking place. Join us as we pray for greater partnerships to assist with the needs of the centre.

Monday, 12 | Today marks the start of our Scripture Union International Project Management Course taking place at Stoney Ridge. A number of our regional staff will also be in attendance. We are trusting that this event will not only equip people gathered from around the world, but also that your presence will be very real during this time.

Tuesday, 13 | Our campsite ministry is most grateful to the Lord for full bookings up until the end of the year. Our prayer today is for the right person to purchase Kadesh Barnea and at the right price. We also trust for safety at all our camps. Lead us Lord to continue to make wise and good decisions in this space.

Wednesday, 14 | Today our prayers are focussed upon the preparations taking place for the Margate Beach Mission in SU KZN. Much of the start of the history of SU took place through beach missions and our prayer is that God will continue to use this vehicle of ministry for his name's sake. Their request is for the recruitment of the right team members.

Thursday, 15 | Father we bring our SU Gauteng Leaders Connect gathering today before you. We pray for Warren as he co-ordinates this. We trust not only that future leaders will be unearthed, but that we will disciple and produce a good crop of leaders for your Kingdom.

Friday, 16 | Our SU Western Cape team requests prayer today for the training of their leaders taking place for the September holiday club season. We also trust you that the International Project Management Course taking place at Stoney Ridge ends on a good note and that all delegates will travel home safely.

Saturday, 17 | Today we focus our prayers on Schools ministry. We bring the requests for KwaMagxaki High, KwaZakhele high and Stephen Primary in the Eastern Cape before you Lord. In this regard, we pray for Vuyokazi and her team of volunteers to have a great influence and impact within these schools.

Sunday, 18 | Our prayers are centred around the relationship between SU and the local church today. As churches meet for worship today, we pray that our relationship will be strengthened as we share our mutual purpose for your Kingdom.

Monday, 19 | SU KZN is very grateful for the recent training for their new Mission Partners. We pray that this group will catch the vision and run with it in their churches and the schools they have targeted.

Tuesday, 20 | Please pray for Wendy in our SU Gauteng region as she fulfils her daily tasks within the region. Bless her and the team as they seek to expand the work especially with the broader Soweto area.

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Wednesday, 21 | We thank the Lord for Lucinda Hendricks who will be enjoying a well-deserved break for a few months. May she find rest and renewal in this time.

Thursday, 22 | There is a great deal of planning and preparation taking place for 100-year celebrations this week. Please join us in prayer as we also pray for preparations taking place for the September schools holiday activities. In light of this, SU Algoa has requested prayer for their upcoming Parson's Hill Primary School Camp.

Friday, 23 | We bring before you the PACT programme currently being run within our SU KZN region. We pray for good working relationships as well as meeting the ambitious targets that have been set. Bless Garland, Neo, and the team in this regard.

Saturday, 24 | Today we give God thanks for the progress and role that our SU bookshop and resource team are having. Bless their new initiatives.

Sunday, 25 | We bring our SU finances before you today. Enable us Lord to finalise our audit prepared by Alice Chinya and her team. We also thank you for the ways that you have blessed us and continue to look to you for wisdom with our properties and how we steward that which you have given us.

Monday, 26 | There is much planning and preparation for SU 100-year celebrations taking place next month. In light of this, we bring all the planning and preparation taking place right now.

Tuesday, 27 | Today we bring Jaclyn de Kock before you, God, and we pray for strength and grace for the numerous roles she is fulfilling. May she know your presence and help, especially as the Stationery with Purpose project begins to find traction.

Wednesday, 28 | Thank you for favour we have experienced in the marketing space and especially with JOY magazine. Help us to communicate our stories and testimonies of what you are doing in and through this ministry.

Thursday, 29 | We bring the SU Algoa camp viz. Morewag before you, Lord. Our prayer is that God will move powerfully at this camp and that we will see much fruit long after the event in this region. Daryl Henning, our chaplain and coach also celebrates a birthday today. May you continue to strengthen him and use him for your Kingdom and name's sake.

Friday, 30 | As we begin drawing closer to the end of Women's Month, we want to lift up Mariska de Beer before you as our General Director. We pray for strength, guidance, wisdom and grace as you continue to sustain and direct her.

Saturday, 31 | We end off prayers this month with a request for our SU Algoa 100-year celebration taking place today. May the right people be present to catch the vision and run with it in this part of your vineyard, O God.