

# Wilderness Christian FELLOWSHIP



**NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2023**

*Are not two sparrows sold  
for a penny? Yet not one of them  
will fall to the ground outside your  
Father's care. And even the very  
hairs of your head are all numbered.  
So don't be afraid; you are worth  
more than many sparrows.*

Matthew 10 : 29-31 [NIV]

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 **WCF Wilderness**



## A TRUE DISCIPLE'S CONTENTMENT

In his book, *The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment*, Jeremiah Burroughs wrote:

- Christian contentment is that sweet, inward, quiet, gracious frame of spirit, which freely submits to and delights in God's wise and fatherly disposal in every condition.
- Here lies the bottom and root of all contentment: when there is an evenness and proportion between our hearts and our circumstances.
- The heavier the burden of your sin is to your heart, the lighter will the burden of your affliction be to your heart, and so you shall be content.
- The greatest good that God intends for His people, he many times works out of the greatest evil.
- The great design of God has in afflicting you is to break and humble your heart.
- There are many people who, when God's hand is against them, will say they are troubled for their sin; but the truth is, it is the affliction that troubles them rather than their sin.
- Name any affliction that is upon you: there is a sea of mercy to swallow it up.
- ... there is nothing outside us that can keep our hearts in a steady, constant way, but grace within the soul.

Steven Cole writes that contentment "*is an inner sense of rest or peace that comes from being right with God and knowing that He is in control of all that happens to us.* It means having our focus on the kingdom of God and serving Him, not on the love of money and things."

Only genuine believers can be truly, fully content, for in the final analysis, contentment is not a natural attainment but a supernatural gift from our heavenly Father to His children (James 1:17-note)! To say it another way, a believer's degree of contentment in this world

is a reflection of their degree of contentment regarding the world to come! The more the invisible, eternal realities grip our heart, the less the visible, temporal things of the world will have power to cause discontent.

Contentment is the product of a heart resting in God...It is the blessed assurance that the Lord does all things well and is, even now, making all things work together for my ultimate good.

TRUE CONTENTMENT consists not in the LARGENESS of our possessions, but in the FEWNESS of our wants. SOUL CONTENTMENT is vital to our spiritual health.

The more content we are with what God has given us, the less we crave what we don't possess. On the other hand, the more we get the more we want. When we focus on material things, our HAVING will never catch up with our WANTING!

Warren Wiersbe adds: The Apostle Paul was a thermostat. Instead of having spiritual ups and downs as the situation changed, he went right on, steadily doing his work and serving Christ. His personal references at the close of this letter indicate that he was not the victim of circumstances but the victor over circumstances: "I can accept all things" (Phil. 4:11); "I can do all things" (Phil. 4:13); "I have all things" (Phil. 4:18)

Contentment does not come naturally (even to Christians) but only supernaturally as one learns that this life is no longer me living but Christ living in and through me and enabling by His indwelling Spirit.

In other words, true supernaturally enabled CONTENTMENT is not self-sufficiency (as the Greeks thought) but CHRIST-SUFFICIENCY. Have you "learned the secret?" Notice that Paul does not say he is simply "letting go and letting God". His part, his responsibility is to "do", while God's provision is the supernatural enablement.

In His wonderful care  
Chris and Trudie

Extracts from Precept Austin: [https://www.preceptaustin.org/christian\\_contentment](https://www.preceptaustin.org/christian_contentment)

## ***BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER***

Su 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tiffany EDMONDS	060 555 2865
Su 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Nicolas KRIEK	072 139 7111
Su 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Desmond MESANE	072 765 2488
Mo 4 <sup>th</sup>	Carmen VISSER	(Julian : 079 768 2907)
Sa 9 <sup>th</sup>	Doug WILCOX	083 626 3475
We 13 <sup>th</sup>	Lurlyn NOBLE	066 253 4520
We 13 <sup>th</sup>	Steve GREWAR	083 650 0592
Fr 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Charles MOOLMAN	082 495 3828
Mo 25 <sup>th</sup>	Jane JONES	074 194 4836
Mo 25 <sup>th</sup>	Blanche SCHOLTZ	082 576 8555
Fr 29 <sup>th</sup>	Walter FLÜCKIGER	082 371 3110

## ***ANNIVERSARIES IN SEPTEMBER***

Sa 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Eunice & Hugh WILLIAMS	082 312 1246
Mo 18 <sup>th</sup>	Shirley & Arno DÖLZ	082 308 3760

# “WCF Retreat”

From Monday 18<sup>th</sup> until Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023, a number of us will be taking some time out of our normal daily routine to go to Louvain Guest Farm where we'll spend time in the Lord's presence and fellowship with one another in prayer, praise and worship, teaching and leisure.

If you're not able to stay for the full duration, you're also welcome to come on a morning and return home at the end of that day — please speak to **Alison Markgraaff** about **day-visitor costs and arrangements**.

Louvain Guest Farm is located about 70km from Wilderness over the Outeniqua pass on the Ng Uniondale road. Local activities include: Walking, Swimming (pool), Bass fishing, Horse rides & more.

**For more information, please speak to Linda or Ashley Morley.**

*You can view Louvain's website at [www.louvain.co.za](http://www.louvain.co.za)*

**Linda – 082 532 1318**

**Ashley – 082 675 6451**

## *A few quotable quotes ...*

God's work, done in God's way, will never lack God's supplies. *Hudson Taylor*

Outside of Christ, I am only a sinner, but in Christ, I am saved. Outside of Christ, I am empty; in Christ, I am full. Outside of Christ, I am weak; in Christ, I am strong. Outside of Christ, I cannot; in Christ, I am more than able. Outside of Christ, I have been defeated; in Christ, I am already victorious. How meaningful are the words, "in Christ." *Watchman Nee*

Our greatest fear should not be of failure, but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter. *Francis Chan*

# PREACHING ROSTER SEPTEMBER 2023

Date	Time	Preacher
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	09:00 AM	<b>Desmond Mesane</b> <i>with Breaking of Bread</i>
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	09:00 AM	<b>Steve Grewar</b>
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	09:00 AM	<b>Chris Smit</b>
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	09:00 AM	<b>Open Ministry</b>

Please understand that preachers may change at short notice.

**Kids' Church** runs during the morning service.

## DATES TO DIARISE

SAT. 16<sup>th</sup> Sep.      **Men's Breakfast**      **10:00**  
*at the Fairy Knowe Hotel*

MON. 18<sup>th</sup> -      **WCF Retreat at Louvain**  
THU. 21<sup>st</sup> Sep.      *Further info on page 5.*

SAT. 23<sup>rd</sup> Sep.      **'WOW' Ladies' Meeting**      **15:00**  
*at the Wilderness Resort Hotel*

FRI. 13<sup>th</sup> -      **Mission Trip to Willowmore** *(Please speak to*  
SUN. 15<sup>th</sup> Oct.      *Chris about how you can get involved.)*

## WCF HOME CELLS

Wilderness East	Marnix & Rita 083 306 6310	3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue	Wednesday evenings
Wilderness East	Stephen & Carol 082 296 9578	Frederik Avenue / Cedric Avenue	Wednesday evenings
Wilderness Heights	Chris & Trudie 084 240 5414	Watsonia Road	Wednesday evenings
Hoekwil	Ashley & Linda 082 532 1318	Jacobz Retire.Village	Wednesday afternoons
Kleinkrantz	James & Blanche 072 507 2441	Vloksie Str.	Wednesday evenings
George, Welgelegen	Mike & Lena 083 277 0036	Welgelegen Views	Wednesday afternoons

## LADIES' MEETINGS

Constantia Kloof	Alison Markgraaff 082 561 5416	2011 Constantia Kloof Road	Thursdays - 10.00 AM
Wilderness East	Trudie Smit 084 327 2424	Church Building Cedric Avenue	Thursdays - 10.00 AM

## LEADERSHIP

*Chris & Trudie Smit*

Pastor & Pastor's assistant  
084 240 5414 | 084 327 2424

*Steve Grewar*

Assistant Pastor  
083 650 0592

*Stephen (Elder) & Carol Bankart*

082 296 9578 | 072 347 4388

*George (Elder) & Alison Markgraaff*

082 448 9721

## POSTAL & BANKING

P.O. Box 411, Wilderness 6560

Account name: **Wilderness Christian Fellowship**

Bank: **ABSA**

Branch code: **632 005**

Account number: **1451 8908**