

The Church is not a group of people who believe all the same things; the Church is a group of people caught up in the same story, with Jesus at the center.

RACHEL HELD EVANS

# We are Church

A progressive, inclusive Christian faith community for <u>all</u> of God's people to be safe, seen and celebrated.

#### October 2022

Hi everyone,

## Dates for the rest of the year

Here are the dates for the rest of 2022. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Our meetings take place at 9am Bellavista School, 35 Wingfield Ave, Birdhaven:

- 13 November
- · 27 November (Carol Service)
- · 11 December
- · 25 December (Christmas Service)

### Membership

Some of you may be wondering why there are around 60 people on our WhatsApp group and only about 35 adults at our in-person meetings? Well, simply put, there are many differing needs and locations in our community.

Some folk in the group have been deeply hurt by the church at large and have found WAC a safe space to heal. Some of these folk may attend other churches but have requested that they remain connected with us on WhatsApp. Others do not have a faith community and live outside of Joburg - these folk have expressed a desire to keep up with us digitally even though they cannot attend in-person meetings. Whatever the reason for remaining in the WhatsApp group is fine by me.

Let me also just say friends, that if you would like to leave the group and haven't done so for fear of offending me - please DO NOT WORRY. I am relaxed that the group serves you in whatever way it can, for however long it can and if it no longer does, then go ahead and remove yourself.

#### Admin stuff

After Sunday's meeting (minutes to follow) where we agreed on a 'Governing Body', I have been able to submit the necessary documentation to the lawyers so that they can continue with the process of getting us (WAC) registered as a PBO (public benefit organisation). Once this is done, we will open a bank account at FNB in the name of 'We Are Church'.

#### General Notices

If you would like to get involved by serving in the children's or teen's ministries, or to contribute to any of our services (reading, prayers, worship, preaching, teaching, etc) or by bringing snacks and drinks, please get in touch. Volunteers are more than welcome - we actually expect you to get involved.

If you would like to make a financial contribution to "We are Church", please email me at jane@codrington.biz

From now until Christmas we will be partnering with St Francis Anglican Church and collecting toys and toiletries for the 64 children at the Johannesburg Children's Home. Please participate in this drive by bringing small toys or toiletries to any of our meetings.

## Some helpful resources

Here is the link to the "We are Church" YouTube Channel. This is where the recordings of our talks are kept. Please go there and subscribe. Once we have 100 subscribers we will be able to name it "We are Church".

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzK3t1Ig1v-ADNAd3 rQ-zA

Some of you may want to follow the readings that I often refer to. Here is the Lectionary link:

https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/downloads/Year%20C%202021-2022.pdf