Libertas se musiek tot eer van die Here

As 'n mens nie geld het nie, moet jy 'n plan maak, en dis presies wat die mense van die plaaslike Arbeidsbedieningsaksie in Helderberg gedoen het.

Omdat die vorige jaar se musiekaand 'n bevredigende bedraggie opgelewer het, is daar besluit om weer 'n musiekaanbieding te oorweeg. Hierdie keer sou hulle die vlerke wyer span en die stadsaal as lokaal gebruik. Die trekpleister sou die Libertaskoor wees!

Hoe aangenaam verras was hulle nie toe Louwina, vrou van die koorleier, Johan de Villiers, sommer dadelik die voortou neem en met haar magdom kennis en ervaring met reëlings begin help nie. En dit nogal alles kosteloos. Met haar duidelike riglyne kon alles tot op die haarfynste detail uitgewerk word.

Dit sou plaasvind op Sondagmiddag, 16 Oktober om vieruur teen R80 per persoon. Die program sou bestaan uit geestelike liedere en sou nie langer as 'n uur duur nie.

Die reklame-wiele is aan die rol gesit – radiostasies, die pers, gemeentes en selfs instansies wat nog nooit van Arbeids-bediening gehoor het nie, het hartlik saamgewerk om hierdie gebeurtenis wyd en syd te adverteer.

Toe die gordyne presies om vieruur die Sondagmiddag oopswaai, was die saal stampvol en is die koor met 'n dawerende applous deur die gehoor en daarna deur Frans Cronje, die voorsitter, verwelkom.

'n Doodse stilte het in die saal neergedaal toe Johan de Villiers sy arms stadig omhoog lig, stip na sy koorlede kyk en die uitvoering begin. Strelende fluit-musiek spoel oor die gehoor, stemgroep na stemgroep val energiek in soos hulle koorleier hulle met sy ritmiese armbewegings invou by die uitvoering. Die gehoor sit ontroerd en word meegevoer deur die hemelse musiek. Almal word bekoor deur die wêreldklas-uitvoering.

Aan die einde word die koor weer en weer met encores teruggeroep. Wat 'n vreugde het hierdie hemelse musiek nie aan ons almal verskaf nie!

En die wonderlikste van alles is dat, omdat almal saamgewerk het tot die uitbouing van God se Koninkryk, kon dit so 'n groot sukses wees. Wat 'n geseënde middag was dit nie!

Kontak Jan van den Berg by 021-853 1631 / a.bediening@webmail.co.za

Mtutuzeli Collins Bomali

Rise and Shine!

In the morning, before Metro-rail, Shosholoza and other Transnet areas start becoming alive with masses of people hurrying in different directions on their way to work, someone is already praying for them.

Mtutuzeli Collins Bomali was called by God to serve Him in Industrial Ministry, specifically in the Transnet Section. This is his story:

"When I started serving God in this ministry, I had to deal with different kinds of people. Some didn't even want me to enter their offices, but now they invite me to come and pray for them.

"One morning a woman shared with me her life story and how miserable she was, but I could comfort and support her by telling her about God and that He cares for her and that she must trust Him with her life – He is her solution.

"I could also help a guy whose parents misused the money he gave them, and who are using alcohol. I told him about God and that he could bring these problems to God. When this guy came to thank me after a while because his family is a happy one now, I could tell him not to thank me, but to praise God.

"In Blackheath I serve a youth group on Friday mornings at half past seven every week. In December 2008 I brought a DVD about the life of Jesus for them to watch. The management also came in to join us. The factory workers were touched so deeply by the story of Jesus that they asked me to supply them with Bibles. Luckily Industrial Ministry could provide me with free Bibles!

"When Metrorail loses an employee through death, they invite me to attend the memorial services and to support the family through prayer.

"It is wonderful to witness how our ministry changes the lives of other people. May God bless us and may this ministry always rise and shine!"

Contact Collins Bomali at 078 696 8455

Dowe Teologie-studente besoek IMPAK, Houtbaai en Seelui

DCMA (*Deaf Christian Ministry Africa)* is 'n afdeling van die Nasionale Instituut vir Dowes op Worcester en spesialiseer in die opleiding van dowes as herders en leraars in Christelike gemeentes van verskillende denominasies.

Op 16 November 2011 het ds Jan Oberholzer, hoof van DCMA, en ds Mia Lintvelt, DCMA se kursuskoördineerder en dosent, saam met agt van hulle teologie-studente die kantore van IMPAK besoek. Hulle wou meer te wete kom van die werksaamhede van Arbeidsbediening in die Skiereiland.

Vir die studente was dit 'n blootstelling aan evangeliebediening in die praktyk en vir ons 'n nuwe ervaring in kommunikasie. Alles wat gesê is, moes deur óf ds Jan óf ds Mia getolk word en ons moes leer om so te praat dat alles vir die studente duidelik was en sin sou maak.

Na 'n Powerpoint-aanbieding en vertoning van die Arbeidsbediening-DVD is ons met die DCMA-bussie na Gerhard Pietersen van Vissersbediening in Houtbaai. Hy het hulle in die Biblia-kiosk ontvang en ingelig oor wat daar vir die vissersgemeenskap en ander verwante besighede in Houtbaai gedoen word.

Daarna het hy ons geneem na die skooltjie vir voorskoolse kinders waarby hulle bediening ook betrokke is. Dit was 'n belewenis vir die jong aspirant-predikante en die vrae het behoorlik gereën.

Na middagete langs Kampsbaai met sy pragtige see-uitsig, is ons verder al langs die see om, tot by die Kaapse hawe waar ons by die Biblia-sentrum gaan besoek aflê het. Daar het Robert Wileman van Seelui-bediening ons groepie vertel van hulle werksaamhede en die waarde en effektiwiteit van hulle bedieningsmodel verduidelik.

Dit was werklik 'n onvergeetlike dag vir ons almal en 'n geleentheid wat 'n instelling behoort te word. Op 17 November, tydens 'n besoek aan hulle op Worcester, het ek weer besef watter waarde hulle besoek aan ons vir hulle gehad het.

Kontak Sakkie Botha by impak@kaapkerk.co.za. Lees ook hulle webwerf www.arbeidsbediening.co.za

It's tough!

For two and a half years now Rev Gerhard Pietersen has served both the DRC (as minister) and the Harbour Community of Hout Bay (as part-time spiritual worker). This is definitely a big challenge.

Rev Pietersen:

"Peace is fragile here at Karbonkelberg, a stone's throw from the Biblia kiosk. The community and the SAP were in a conflict situation recently and the Hout Bay Peace and Mediation Committee played an important role in helping preserve the peace.

"The Harbour Community is also deeply affected by poverty. Addiction to tik, the drug dealing industry, inter-cultural tensions and the shortage of job opportunities contribute to the hopelessness and the struggle to lead a normal life.

"There is hope, however, for the children of Hangberg (one of these communities), thanks to a group of remarkable and dynamic Christian women. They decided that enough is enough and that something should be done - and they established four daycare centres with the necessary infrastructure to take care of the preschool children of parents who are addicted to tik.

"And that's not all – here you will meet people who are working as volunteer teachers, without salary, from eight in the morning until five o'clock in the afternoon. There are even cases of women who resigned from their corporate jobs to come and serve in this ministry full-time.

"Churches and the government have been asked to make their buildings and plots available to ensure the survival of these daycare centres. Because of my involvement in this process, it also gives me the opportunity to promote Biblia and to understand the issues of the fishing community better.

"The URC Hout Bay is one of the churches that could be used as a daycare centre. Until now they have been regarded as a place of political abuse and a base for drug dealing, a perception they are trying very hard to change. They therefore urgently need a fence surrounding their church in order to safeguard those who use their building.

"Please pray for all the role players who work so tirelessly to make Hout Bay's various communities a safer place to live in, especially for our children's sake."

A DVD, telling the story of the four daycare centres, will be available soon.

Please contact Rev Gerhard Pietersen at gmpietersen@gmail.com / 084 317 8993.

Die KWV as vennoot in die Paarl

Arbeidsbediening en die KWV is sinoniem in die Paarl. Vanaf die eerste treetjies wat die Paarl Plaaslike Aksie gegee het om mense in die werkplek met die Woord van God te bedien, was die KWV 'n getroue en gewaardeerde vennoot. Eintlik kan mens jou nie voorstel hoe Arbeidsbediening in die Paarl sou ontwikkel het sonder die ondersteuning van die KWV nie. Op talle maniere het die KWV die hande van die Paarl Plaaslike Aksie versterk en dit moontlik gemaak om 'n sterk bediening in hierdie deel van ons streek te ontwikkel.

Oor die jare het verskillende geestelike werkers die gange, lokale, pakstore, kelders en wynplase van die KWV in die Paarl betree om met werknemers van hierdie reus in die wynbedryf te gesels oor Christus en ons werk. Die gesindheid van die KWV-bestuur was altyd positief en ons wat die geleentheid gehad het om daar met die werknemers oor die liefde van Christus te praat, het beleef hoe sy liefde ook in die harte van die werknemers leef. Ons dank die Here hiervoor.

Ons kan met groot dankbaarheid teenoor die Here steeds getuig van oop deure en heerlike geleenthede om die evangelie aan die mense van die KWV te bring. Dit is egter baie opvallend dat die uitdagings op internasionale markte, asook die veranderende binnelandse produsente-profiel, die samestelling en struktuur van die KWV oor die afgelope aantal jare beïnvloed het. Die mede-dinging en tegnologiese ontwikkeling het mettertyd meegebring dat die getal werknemers afgeneem het en dat die aantal besoekpunte verminder het.

Ons kom steeds by hierdie werknemers van ons ou vennoot in die werksplek uit, maar dit is baie duidelik 'n nuwe omgewing. Deur die Here se genade en trou is daar egter steeds 'n groepie werknemers wat op die verskillende punte die byeenkomste bywoon en mekaar bemoedig om geloofsgetrou te werk.

Die veranderinge by die KWV is 'n sigbare voorbeeld van hoe die veranderende ekonomie en markte die plaaslike werksplekke raak. Die veranderinge het veroorsaak dat die groepe kleiner geword het. Die ding wat egter nie verander het nie, is mense se behoefte aan die evangelie en aan ondersteuning van medegelowiges in die werkplek.

Daarom kan ons steeds voortgaan en bid dat die Here die deure vir ons sal oop hou. Laat ons getrou bly in hierdie roeping en diens.

Eddie Orsmond:
simon1@paarlmail.co.za

You are important to Biblia

At the Fishermen Ministry's kiosk (Biblia) in Hout Bay, they try to create an environment where people's views are taken seriously and paid attention to. On Wednesday mornings Rev. Gerhard Pietersen of Hout Bay and a group of non-believers enjoy a nice cup of coffee at a large table, discussing relevant religious issues which are debated in the social media like Facebook.

He hopes that people will believe in the care and love of God again, and recover from their personal pain within their faith communities. He shares with us the testimonies of three people in this special group:

"Sarel was a born reformer who was diagnosed with polio at the age of five. Consequently, he lost the use of his legs and had to get along in a wheelchair.

"After suffering a lot of pain in his marriage, he started examining his faith in God. After a serious assault by a family member in his second marriage, he finally lost his faith in God.

"He still remains an avid student of the Bible and regularly watches the latest DStv programs on archaeological discoveries. Fundamentalism and prejudice among Christians, however, caused him to shun the church. Unfortunately Sarel is also regularly confronted by Christians which is usually like oil on fire. This gives me the opportunity to testify, knowing that it is God who works miracles in his own time, teaching me to see others through God's eyes.

"Peter is a young man in his early twenties. We met at Thursday's Biblia group for men. One night he tragically lost a close friend in Mitchell's Plain during a senseless shooting, of which he himself still has a bullet in his right lung. Peter is blessed with a beautiful singing voice and we have invited him to take part in Hout Bay's worship group. His family doesn't live here, but now he has found a home in our community. Peter was recently, during a washing of the feet Sunday, baptized as a member of our congregation.

"Lucky is an Ovambo-fisherman in his thirties, who recently came to Biblia. He speaks fluent Afrikaans. After great sadness in his personal relationships and racial barriers at work, he came to seek assistance for counselling at Biblia. Since then he is struggling to go back to the fishing trade. We are still waiting for his Ovambo Bible. "

Lucky's feet is being washed, welcoming him into the congregation of Hout Bay.

Peter, baptized as a new Christian of Hout Bay's congregation.

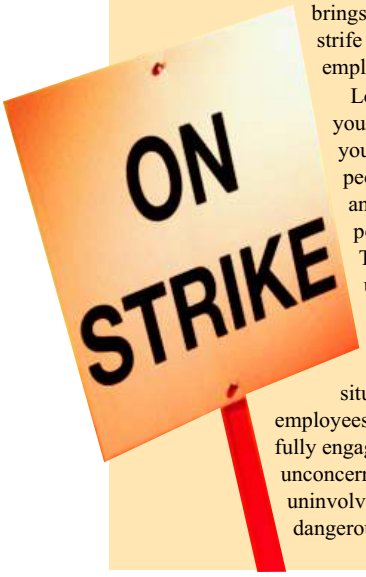
Contact Rev. Gerhard Pietersen at gmpietersen@gmail.com / 084 317 8993

The new wave of strike action or a new type of disloyalty?

Disloyal employees breed strife, hatred and murmuring within an organisation.

A new wave of disloyalty does not happen overnight. It is a process and often organisations are unaware of it. Many business leaders do not even notice disloyalty amongst their staff. Organisations simply don't do enough to identify and fix the issues surrounding disloyalty.

The process of disloyalty often starts with employees wanting to do their own thing, in their own way. This attitude of independence is a great quality in leadership, but this type of attitude can become so strong that it brings confusion and strife among employees.



Looking around you in the workplace, you will see that people are grieved and even hurt by poor decisions. This stage often ushers employees down the road of disloyalty. Not attending to this situation can lead to employees who are not fully engaged, are unconcerned and uninvolved. This is dangerous and very counter-productive and often leads to employees who are very critical. It is now even possible that faults are magnified and a hyper-critical atmosphere can prevail in the workplace.

Disloyalty can have a devastating impact on an organisation, and as we have seen by the recent strike action, on a country. It is even possible at such a critical stage that employees don't hear the truth anymore. Disloyal staff members also have an insidious way of discussing the shortcomings of their leaders and thinking that they are better than their seniors. If organisations don't start with a series of purposeful discussions with all staff to get to the core of the disloyalty, open rebellion can occur.

Disloyalty has common root causes; programmes and rules and regulations will not solve these problems. I believe that Stephen Covey was absolutely right when he said the following: "I'm convinced that 90% of failures in life are character failures, not ability failures". We need to develop character-based organisations.

The true test of character in the economic meltdown that we are in right now is our response to the pressure of difficult situations. A character of disloyalty may take years or even a lifetime to repair.

Contact Mario Denton at 082 8829903 / mario@crown.org.za

Wil u graag 'n donasie gee?

Besoek ons webwerf by www.arbeidsbediening.co.za en klik op 'Raak Betrokke'.

Would you like to make a donation?

Visit our website at www.arbeidsbediening.co.za and click on 'Get Involved'.

In Memoriam

Christo Bester:
Hiermee betuig ons ons innige simpatie aan die naasbestaandes van een van Arbeidsbediening se groot steunpilare. Christo het vir 21 jaar binne die Handel en Nywerheid asook die Transnet-sektor diens gedoen en kosbare werk in diens van die Here verrig. Ons harte gaan uit na sy vrou, Landa, hulle seun en dogter en die familie.

Só verander God mense in die werkplek

Johan Crous van Wellington kom dikwels in sy Arbeidsbedieningstaak aangrypende stories teë oor hoe God mense verander. Hy deel dit graag met ons:

"'n Werknemer wat 'n tydjie gelede 'n pad met die Here begin stap het, het tydens 'n onlangse staking al sy kollegas in 'n kring laat saambid vir die staking by hulle besigheid. Hierdie gesamentlike gebed het groot rustigheid en vrede in die moeilike situasie gebring.

"'n Soortgelyke verhaal is waar 'n jongman (wat die *Mighty Men*-konferensie plaaslik bygewoon en hom tot God verbind het) die leiding neem om elke oggend eers hulle groep werknemers te laat saambid.

"So is daar ook getuienisse van besighede wat saam met hulle werknemers ly in hulle swaarkry. 'n Besigheidsbestuurder het tydens een van sy werknemers (wie se man aan longkanker ly) baie begrip getoon vir die talle hospitaalbesoeke en emosionele verwerking van die situsie. Hy het die ekstra myl saam met hierdie gesin gestap.

"Ek het ook 'n werknemer se seun gehelp om plek in die skool te kry en hom ook bygestaan toe hy van die tragiese nuus van sy ma se selfmoord in kennis gestel moes word.

"Werknemers kom bedank ons dikwels omdat hulle deur Arbeidsbediening geleer word om die Here te vertrou."

Johan Crous, Wellington, 021 873 7024 / crousjm@telkomsa.net

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