

NEWS & VIEWS

HANDBAGS, HANDBAGS EVERYWHERE!!!

Whenever you go to any shopping centre or mall you see the most incredible variety of handbags. They are displayed in countless shapes, designs, colours and sizes!

However, most of these bags are large. What is in these large handbags? What do women carry around with them everywhere? There are probably keys, a cell phone, ID, money, makeup, chewing gum, tissues, papers - to name a few. Some are essential things, others not, especially "the clutter" - the things that take space, make it heavy and a burden. The clutter accumulates as time goes by. After a while the handbag contains things from the past weeks and maybe months, but also the things you need in the present on a daily basis and will need into the future months to come.

Things such as your college or university registration card, your access card, a membership or credit card.

In some ways our lives can be likened to a handbag. Our lives are full of things. We have a past, live in the present and have a future. We have essentials which usually are love, health, dreams and ambitions. We also have the non-essentials or the clutter, which weigh us down. These can be bad habits, hang-ups, negative friends or people who pull you down, procrastination.

Like the handbag, our lives contain things. We have three basic human components: the intellectual, physical and spiritual parts of us.

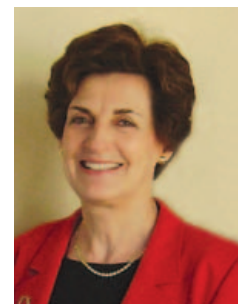


The intellectual part is probably why you are at The YW; attending college or varsity or your place of employment. The physical part of your life is always uppermost in your mind: "I must get fit." "I must lose weight." "I do not feel well." "I wish I was more good-looking..."

The spiritual area of a person's life is the easiest to overlook because it is not quantifiable, obvious or measurable. But, it is the most important and essential, because it is the only part which remains after we die and when we have to face the God who made us.

At The YW we want to introduce you to Jesus who is "The Way, The Truth and The Life" - to enable you to be right with God and have true spiritual life which is an essential for living a meaningful life.

When you next take up your handbag, think of your life. What are you filling your life with? The essentials or the non-essential clutter that prevents you finding what is really important for your life and living?



Margrit Temple,
National President

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA THE WINDY CITY

“Praise the LORD. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!” Psalm 147:1. As the new term begins we give special praise for the safe arrival of our students after a good rest period. We hope you can join us in praying for this next term ahead as we look forward to seeing what God has in store for us at The YW.

NEW CAPE TOWN MANAGERS

Wendy and Dave Coleman joined us in mid-April as the new Managers. They have relocated from Johannesburg and are enjoying getting to know the beautiful city of Cape Town. As outdoor and nature lovers, they are planning weekend outings for the girls which will include picnics, hikes and climbing Table Mountain. Ministry evenings were launched with a braai, and a brief outline of what we plan for the next few months was shared.

Ladies of The YW my whole Cape Town experience has evolved around The YW. My first year in Cape Town was my first time away from home as I had never even gone to a boarding school. In coming to Cape Town I was uncertain of what to expect, but was also excited about this new adventure. On our first day we found The YW. I was doing my final year of studies. My roommate, Barbz, taught me a thing or two but humility is one thing I hope will rub off from her onto me. I thought I was free from fighting over the TV as I am the only girl at home. Turns out girls also break out into huge debate over which TV show to watch! The “plus” is that there was often common ground: such as how we would gather around to watch America’s next top model. My second year the job hunt was on and I was blessed to obtain one. I had the opportunity to share the YW ‘extension’ with two other girls. That’s where I learnt the truth behind sisterhood and learning to listen when people are offering guidance. They often thought I was a shopaholic and should learn to save. This year I have moved out into the self-catering flats and as my 3rd year shifts into second gear, I look forward to more memories created and more lessons I have to learn about myself; budgeting and cooking for myself everyday no matter how tired I am (but I do cheat with the odd take-away); while the wise words of my old flatmates “learn to budget and save” still ring in my head. As much as girls come and go, one thing always remains the same - that you form the most amazing friendships that will last a lifetime. Sne (Flat 9 - 2011).



Tuesday & Thursday Night Ministry

The aim for our Tuesday night ministry is to teach life skills based on the Wisdom in Proverbs. The series is called ‘How To Make Your Life Work.’

The topics covered will be:

- Vision and the need for it
- How to choose your friends
- Discipline/taking initiative
- Anger
- Truth/words we speak
- Doing good and its benefits

Thereafter a series on the brain and dealing with stress and negative thinking will be done. This is a DVD series by Dr Caroline Leaf.

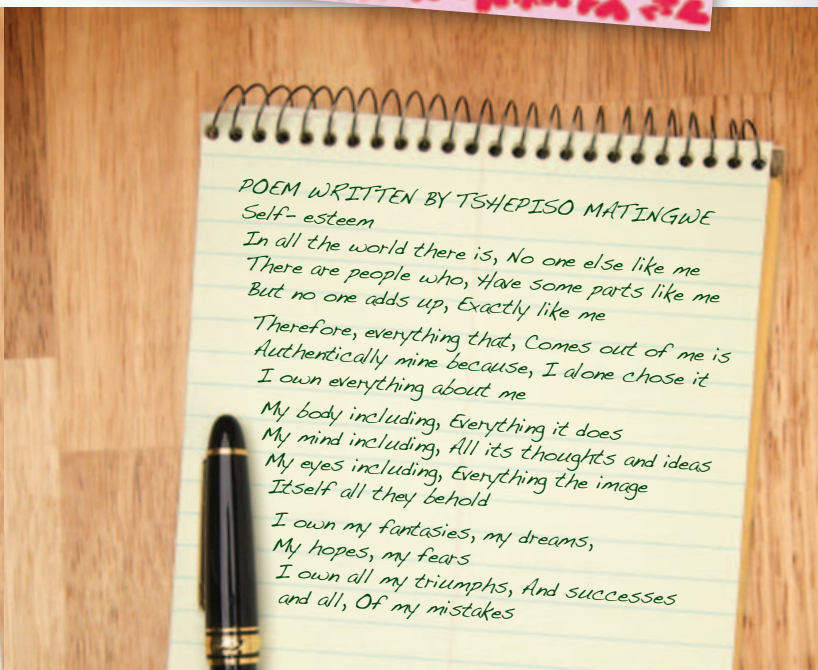
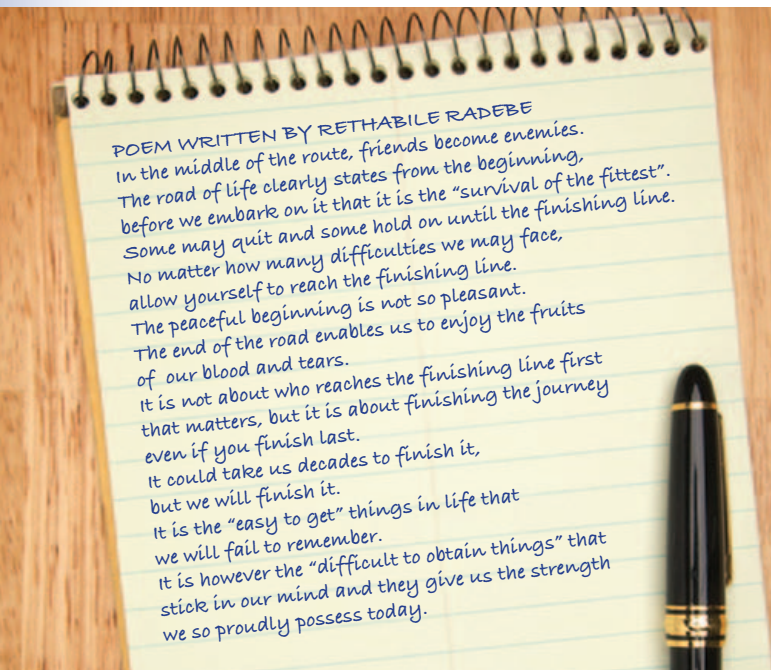
The aim for our Thursday night ministry is to bring the Gospel to the girls through our lives and scriptures. It will be a time for the girls to get to know each other through social activities and games, but also by growing with each other as we explore various people in the Bible. Our first evening will involve getting to know each other around m&m (who doesn’t like a good chocolate) and a game of broken down charades. We will then have a Music and Melody night, where we will have an awesome time of praise and worship as we are joined by Africa Jam. Another evening will focus around Muffins and Mugs and ministering through Mary and Martha.

We pray that through these ministry times and our daily walk, we would be able to bring glory to God in all we do.

BLOEMFONTEIN, SOUTH AFRICA CITY OF WILLOWS

Valentines Day represents different things to different people, but the most wonderful and precious Gift of all was demonstrated by Father God when He gave His Son, Jesus, to die for us. We find the Greatest Love Story recorded in John 3:16. "For God so loved the world that He GAVE His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Photograph of residents on Valentine's Day – each lady received a heart-shaped chocolate and the Bible verse: John 3 : 16.



CRACKED POT

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots; each hung on the ends of a pole which she carried across her neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of the long walks from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be

bitter failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house". The old woman smiled, "Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side?" "That's because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them." "For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house".

Each of us has our own unique flaw. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take each person for what they are and look for the good in them.

SO, to all of my crackpot friends, remember to smell the flowers on your side of the path!



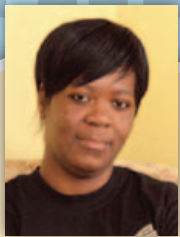
Welcome & Birthday night

A collection of photos from this event which was held earlier this year.



Linamanhla Mpapela on her Graduation Day. Her proud parents traveled from Mthatha to celebrate and share her graduation ceremony.

EAST LONDON, SOUTH AFRICA THE FRIENDLY CITY



My name is Zithobile Mqolosi and I first stayed at The YW in 2007. This year I am back, and upon my arrival, I was welcomed by Almarie with a big smile. The thing I most appreciate about The YW are the friends that I made. My fondest memory is that when I am in a need of something, there was always a sister that could help me out! What The YW means to me is family - a place of care and support. All of this makes me very appreciative of the Staff and Residents.



We were very surprised to read in our local GO! Magazine, that one of our past residents, Avela Ncayichayi was one of the South Africans who got out of Tripoli, Libya, as the conflict began in that country a month or so ago. Avela, who was born in Libode (Transkei) lived at the East London YW during 2006. She has been working for a 5-star hotel in Tripoli since December 2010 and said that she always felt welcome and happy in Libya. She came and shared her experiences with our girls one night.



My name is Chuma. Being at The YW these past years has been an awesome experience because the house is favourable for studying and having fun at the same time. I have met many people from different backgrounds that were so totally different from me but at the end we ended up being friends. I spend most of my time at school, but when I come back to my room I just feel at home. People here have been really wonderful and I've been really blessed. Even though us girls have conflicts sometimes, the end results are always peace (show me a place where there is never conflict!). I am enjoying my stay here, and I am happy to have made genuine friends at THE YW. Stay blessed and remember to smile because your smile is a cure to someone's sadness!!



My name is Avuya, and I am turning 19 this year (2011). I arrived at The YW in 2009 and it was my first time living away from home. In these past two years I've learnt to care and share for other people. I also learnt to put my pride aside and humble myself, when dealing with problems that life throws at me. I've made mistakes in my life, but living at The YW was one of the smartest moves, because living here has shaped me into becoming a strong young woman - spiritually and emotionally. And the friends I have made are wonderful. Hopefully it is friendships made for life!

Testimony of Virginia Morekhure – Receptionist Pretoria YW

I am a born again mother of two daughters and belong to the AFM Doxa DEO Church. I joined The YW on 14 February 2011 as a Receptionist. This was the most blessed time of my life. I had been serving at my church office, preparing for meetings, helping with small groups and some of the ministries. One morning my Pastor told me that The YW had a post for a mature woman to work with the young ladies. I've always wanted to work at a Christian based

organisation, so I applied for the post and was successful. I am happy to work in a house of prayer and know that I am growing spiritually. We are having daily devotions and interceding for The YW, our nation, friends and families. God is doing wonders in our lives. I love the Staff.

May the good Lord bless all The YWs throughout the country.

PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA JACARANDA CITY

WALK 4 JESUS – 9/4/2011

Pastor Ricky Pillay invited us to a "Walk 4 Jesus" march with all the churches in Thaba Tshwane (Voortrekkerhoogte). About six of The YW girls joined Virginia and her cell group early on Saturday morning. We had a blessed time in proclaiming the Name of Jesus openly in the streets of Thaba Tshwane. We walked for 4kms with banners, handing out tracts to the bystanders and also putting some in the postal boxes. We sang worship songs along the way and had a short devotion and prayer at strategic places. We claimed the city back from the hands of the enemy. There were people of all ages joining the march and everybody enjoyed it tremendously. It was an awesome experience.

Rita Rudolph, Assistant Manager, Pretoria YW

As young women residing at The YW, it was a great pleasure and experience to be part of the marathon. Looking at spirit-filled leaders of the Lord declaring to the community at Thaba Tshwane about how great God is showed that Jesus is alive and victory is to the children of God. A few people were saved and others received healing at the altar call. This was God's plan and it was a day that the Lord made. Really, this was a blessing and I hope that children of God will never stop in participating in such wonderful and great events. On behalf of all the young women at The YW, we thank everyone that was involved, for the support and love they share with us.

God bless all, Kholofelo Makgato

On Friday 11 March 2011 we had a "culture evening" with adifference. Justus Tshungu, from Radio Pulpit and SABC, came to minister to the girls. He is in his late eighties, but the girls enjoyed him very much. (He said he would have liked to minister in Afrikaans - imagine that!). He ministered about relationships and we've discussed relevant issues. The girls had lots of relational questions.



Some of the Pta Y girls with Justus Tshungu



Justus with Rita Rudolph, Assistant Manager

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA CITY OF GOLD

Autumn greetings from the Johannesburg YW President. There comes a time in one's life when the Lord brings you to a cross roads. Even though He is with you, you have to choose and use your free will to make a direction change, because He requires it from you. Sadly, more often than not, we take a plunge based on what we can see and what we think we know, very much guessing as we don't know what lies ahead. Often the pressure and the busyness of the things that make up our lives snare us in dead-end holes we are not able to get out of. Honestly, I don't know what's worse, recognising the truth or not even being able to begin to understand that your mind has been seared and your eyes blinded – by your own hand. The point is, without hearing from God which way to turn at

your cross roads, causes you to miss the point as to why God brought you to a reality check in the first place.

Beloved, where are you going and where is God going? To what lengths do you think God your Father will go to get you onto His track and cause you to turn in the direction where He is heading?

You might already know that He doesn't think like us, nor does He plan like us, or figure out cross roads like us. At the same time, He is very serious about being Lord of our lives. Explaining Lordship another way means, we become His bond-slaves, as He is our limitless Source. He provides for every area of our lives, even the crosses we have to bear. And my dear friend, recognise that the mess you get yourself

into sometimes because of sin is not the Kingdom cross Jesus had in mind when He carried His for you. Have you ever considered that the Lord provides for His Kingdom and by doing so you are taken care of? Or did you think your provision from Him is just for you to spend?

What I am trying to say is that in Him providing for His Kingdom's purposes, He even provided a fresh start as well as a new beginning for us at the Jhb Y. I thank the Lord for bringing us to His cross roads so that we could change and follow His way afresh. The picture here is of hands and African bowls. It symbolises provision, giving and receiving, a new day with new manna, grace for forgiveness, and restitution after repentance. I thought we could make that visible so I invited girls from the Y to share in making beautiful wall hangings for the houses' five staircase landings, signifying the symbolic New Day that He is providing us with.

May you also hear the whisper of the Holy Spirit clearly to take the right turn at your next cross road. May you get desperate to hear His voice for yourself today.

Paulien Enrieu



PIETERMARITZBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

IN THE BEGINNING

It was a bit of a topsy-turvy start to the year at the Pietermaritzburg YW but thanks to the pulling together of the local Staff and Committee, plus tremendous assistance from Breggie of the Pretoria YW and Noreen from National, all was running like a well-oiled machine when Fred and Penny Hammond arrived to take up the reins.

We have a family of 42 wonderful young ladies studying a number of interesting university degrees and it is fantastic to watch them settle into university life. For some it is the first time away from home but they soon find their feet and build relationships and hopefully have fun while studying and getting ready for their careers and futures.

ON THE WAY UP:

Five of our ladies graduated in April.



From left facing: Courtney Robinson BSc Dietetics, Bathu Msimango B Comm. Morag Sharratt BSc Honours Entomology, Kudzai Mandaza BComm. Back : Anelia Gouteva Fine Arts Honours.

They are still with us while furthering their studies. We are very proud of each of them.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU:

(some of our ladies spill the beans...)

Therisha Maharaj

Therisha hails from Newcastle and is 20yrs old. She enjoys movies, music, baking and hanging with friends. She is second year B Comm Accounting. Therisha did accounting at school, loved it and decided to carry on with it.

As to why she is at the "Y" - she says she was introduced to it by another resident and wanted to come in last year as she was unhappy in res, but there was no space. She likes living here because it is a friendly, approachable, homely base where she can meet different people from all cultures in an environment that encourages study. She likes her Housemates. She did not like being without a veggie patch but that has now been rectified and she is delighted. Therisha's future includes honours at Wits whilst doing



articles at PWC. She would like to travel but is basically a home-girl who wants to make her parents proud as they did not have the opportunities they have given her.

Morag Sharratt

Morag is a 22yr old Durbanite. A real day-dreamer who loves rugby - Saturdays in the lounge are hectic as Lwando supports the Stormers (!) and Morag the Sharks (of course!). She is 5th year and busy with her Masters in Entomology (goggas). She loves biology and knowing how nature works. "Insects are really cool!"



Why the "Y"? Because Jessica Chang was here. She came to look and loved it so here she is. She loves the people, everyone is so nice and it is safe. The fact that it is "girls only" is a plus! Living with five other girls in a house can be challenging but it is good to learn to get along with others. In the future she would like to work as an Entomologist but as such positions are rare in South Africa she may do her Phd and become a lecturer - or - a PGCE and become a teacher. BUT, she would love to work in the forests of New Guinea as such areas are fast disappearing.

Nokwethemba Ntshingila

Nokwethemba is another Durban girl. She is 18. She likes netball, reading and "chilling with friends". She is 2nd year B Comm and loves working with figures.

Why the "Y"? It is convenient and safe and because it is all girls. "My Mom thought it was a good idea". She enjoys the inter-action with the other girls and that the premises are spacious and clean. She does, however, feel that there are too many rules. She will become a CA after having done articles and will work in South Africa - although she would like to travel in her spare time.



Mary de Stadler

Mary will be turning 21 at the end of May. She comes from beautiful Nottingham Road and is doing 1st year BSc Dietetics. She enjoys biology and food and remembers places the family has visited by what they ate there.

Why the "Y"? She found it on the internet and her Dad would not let her go anywhere else! She likes the atmosphere and feels the rules are fair and allow for the solving of problems. She does not enjoy the visiting monkeys (who wake her by jumping on her roof) and carrying "stuff" (probably washing) between the "Y" and home. She sees herself "hopefully" married in the future with her own business.



HARARE, ZIMBABWE BROMLEY HOUSE

“Hi everyone my name is Regina Matengo. I recently attained a degree in Sociology and am currently applying for Masters in Development Studies.

My stay at Bromley has been a journey filled with lots of experiences of ups and downs at the same time. I have grown spiritually and gained a lot of experience in the way of life.”

Firstly, I learnt a lesson of sisterhood when I almost failed to write one of my final exams because I had not been able to raise my tuition fees. Although I believed in the verse “lean not on your own understanding, but trust in the Lord with all your heart ...” I had lost hope as this was the first exam I was going to miss, meaning a deferred semester. My friends at Bromley, Priscilla, Dadi and Charity managed to raise money for me and I was able to finish my degree. I am so grateful to God for His grace is sufficient for us.

I have also grown to appreciate the family set-up here whereby everyone cooks in the same kitchen and we get to interact and share stories while off-loading frustrations of the day that we face as young women, and appreciate our time together. Last year we had Bible studies with one of our Aunts on Thursdays and at Monday evening services, which we still have. These have helped me stay in contact with the Lord on a regular basis. Psalms 133:1. The pastors we have



had sharing with us so far in this year have been amazing and the Evangelism Week left us all on another spiritual level. I thought the messages were just for me as I learnt to be in a deeper relationship with Christ and to depend on Him every step of the way.

One cannot finish without speaking of the appreciation for the helpers around here: a Mother who is there for us, even on those occasions when she is supposed to rest; our Aunts and Uncles who help us keep the place clean and presentable, and Sekuru Peter who keeps the garden well maintained - the most admirable part, or simply the “heart” of Bromley. May you all stay blessed for the rest of this year!

THE YW IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION, THEREFORE...

Donations are welcomed from individual, churches, businesses or organisations and receipts will be provided.

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