

# NEWS&VIEWS

## HOW to SMELL good...

One of the most miraculous stories in scripture is that of the preservation of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the fiery furnace (see Daniel ch. 3). Importantly, the faith of the three young Hebrew men didn't shield them **from** the furnace, but sustained them **in** the furnace. Their trust in God didn't **prevent** the fiery ordeal, but **protected** them in the fiery ordeal.

Similarly, all of us will go through "fires" when our faith will be put to the test. But, it's in the fire where we shall experience the enveloping presence of Jesus that will bring us through.

The most astounding part of this story occurred when King Nebuchadnezzar summoned the three men out of the furnace. When they emerged, the dumbfounded gathering of the Empire's nobility, hierarchy and judiciary saw "... that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their head singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them." (Daniel 3:27 NIV)

What struck me was that, though Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego endured a horrific ordeal, they **did not smell of smoke**. There was no lingering aroma from their trial. The presence of Jesus had been like a disinfectant and decontaminate, enabling them to come through without carrying any lasting effects from their affliction.

When we pass through fires – maybe interpersonal conflict, persecution or spiritual attack – let's remember that the presence of Jesus is with us, as much as He was with the three Hebrew men in the fire. By His grace He can give us the capacity to come through any and every tribulation without the smell of smoke.

Let's not carry the smell of smoke from what we've been through. Instead, let us carry an aroma of grace, life and joy, which comes from knowing the One who brings us through the fire.

Bruce Hills  
International Director of World Outreach

## To my beautiful daughters

Maturity is when you stop complaining and making excuses, and start making changes. Be brave to stand for what you believe in even if you stand alone. Start each day with a positive thought and a grateful heart. Believe in yourself. You are braver than you think, more talented than you know, and capable of more than you imagine.

Let the improvement of yourself keep you so busy that you have no time to criticize. Letting go means to come to the realization that some people are a part of your history, but not a part of your destiny. Attitude is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Optimism is a choice. Kindness is a choice. Giving is a choice. Respect is a choice. Whatever choice you make, makes you. Choose wisely. Incredible change happens in your life when you decide to take control of what you do have power over instead of craving control over what you don't.

The only way of discovering the limits of the possible is to venture a little way past the impossible.

Happiness is not the absence of problems, it's the ability to deal with them. You never change your life until you step out of your comfort zone; change begins when you end your comfort zone. The person who moves a mountain begins with faith and believes they can do it. Without ambition one starts nothing. Without effort you finish nothing. Do not let the memories of your past limit the potential of your future.

There are no limits to what you can achieve on your journey through life, except in your mind. Do what is right, not what is easy nor what is popular. Do not fear failure but rather fear not trying. Pursue what catches your heart, not what catches your eyes.

Success is not how high you have climbed, but how you make a positive difference.

If you believe very strongly in something, stand up and fight for it. We all make mistakes, have struggles, and even regret things in our past. But you are not your mistakes, you are not your struggles, and you are here NOW with the power to shape your day and your future.

At the end of the day, let there be no excuses, no explanations, no regrets.

Tannie Almarie

## Bathabile Monyela

I've always been fascinated with successful people, curious about what makes them succeed where most others don't. I then took a closer look at successful people and found that despite their differences, certain things are common amongst them: some successful people are intelligent, while most are not; some are just born into money, while most aren't and some are distinctly religious while others don't even believe that there's a higher power in religions. These differences make it difficult for one to come up with a formula for success, but I won't let the varsity disappointments and setbacks discourage me because I wasn't born to be a failure.



Bathabile

## Lindubuhle Simphiwe Mngomezulu

I'm Lindubuhle Simphiwe Mngomezulu born and bred in a small town called Lindley in the Free State. I'm a mother, I am 21 years old. I am a student at Central University of Technology studying BED (Education) doing my first year. I specialise in Economics Management Sciences.

Without God I don't know where I would be....if it wasn't by His Grace I wouldn't be here. God has showed me nothing but mercy and love. My mom is my role model - if God hadn't given her strength I wouldn't be here...she is a woman who tried by all her means to make me happy so that I can be like other children.



Lindubuhle

I have been through a lot in my life. Being a victim of bullying in primary school forced me to change schools in Grade 7. I was bullied by the people that I called my friends, they did a lot of damage to me emotionally causing me to have a low self-esteem leading to depression, but it all changed in High School. I found out I was pregnant in my matric year after my prom. I was really confused with lots of regrets. I have never felt so much pain in my life. It was hard for me to accept that I was pregnant and was not going to university. But I thank God for the year 2016 because it brought me closer to God and made me a more responsible person taking care of my son. My son, Luthando, is the greatest thing that has ever happened to me. I love him dearly.

Coming to The YW was the best decision ever! There is so much love I get from among these ladies. The love we get from our Tannie Almarie is unbelievable. You also learn a lot of things from these ladies since we come from different backgrounds 2017 hasn't been such a good year for me...I lost my brother in May; around June our house burned down and we lost everything; in August I lost my uncle. It is really a lot to take in but we put our trust in God as He is the One who heals broken hearts.

To all the other women out there: let's just study hard and trust in God, make our parents proud, and ourselves. May God bless you!

## Ntombifuthi Tshabalala



Ntombifuthi

My name is Ntombifuthi Zamaswazi Tshabalala. I was born and raised in Harrismith in the Free State. I was raised by my two wonderful parents who have been protective in my upbringing but all for a good cause. I am privileged to be studying at the Central University of Technology of Free State (CUT) and to live at The Christian Residences for Young Women Bloemfontein (The YW).

I am currently studying Graphic Design in the Department of Design and Studio Art. At The YW I live in a beautiful single room which I enjoy to the fullest.

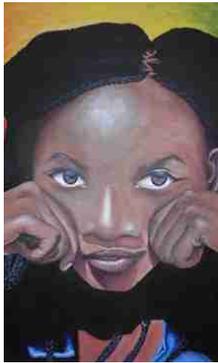
I was born in the year 1995 on April 14th. I am one of three children from my parents and I am the last born. My two siblings are much older than me and both have one wonderful child each. My sibling's children are almost like my siblings as well. We are a Christian family and we all attend the Seventh Day Adventist Church with our other extended family members. Our family is very close and our parents love their children and most of all the Lord Jesus Christ.

I chose to study Graphic Designing because I am a designer and artist. I believe my talent is in designing and drawing. I have been drawing ever since I can remember. In primary school I won a drawing competition and everyone I know also believes in my

# BLOEMFONTEIN

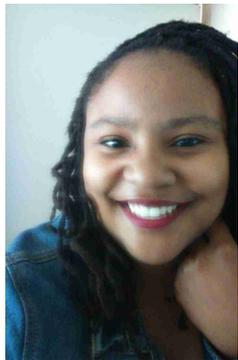
drawing abilities. In High School my best subject was Engineering Graphics and Design. I would like to study further after I complete my studies at CUT. The degree that I would like to obtain is Architecture at another institution.

I began my studies at CUT in 2015. I have been staying at The YW since I arrived. My cousin who was helping me look for accommodation managed to see the board and then we decided to check how the accommodation was. The YW is a wonderful place with everything a student needs in accommodation and more. There is no accommodation like The YW in Bloemfontein, it is one of a kind. It has the best security. All things are provided - from the stove to the bed and fridge. I really enjoy staying at The YW and as a Christian I am blessed because my spirituality is maintained.



In my life I thank the Lord for my parents. When you grow up as a child most of the time you think that your parents are unfair for not allowing you to do certain things. As you grow older you realise that it is the love that they have for you that makes them protect you from the evil of this world. It is really important to listen to parents or older people as a young person. To the young people who think that their parents are a stumbling block to their freedom: they should be thankful because it might not seem like a good thing at the moment but in the future they will see the overall plan. To God we are also like young children who can't see the future but in due time when we have passed trials and tribulations we will finally see the bigger picture.

Hi, my name is **Gomolemo Sekese** from Welkom currently in Bloemfontein to further my studies. I'm a 3rd year student at Central University of Technology, studying Human Resource Management.



Gomolemo

### Who is God to me?

My God is love  
He forgives  
He is my healer  
my saviour  
my strength  
my shadow and shelter

I wake up every day because of the Almighty God and I'm forever grateful. He makes me face challenges to test my faith in Him and to build me. Through hard times I depend and trust in Him, He comforts me and never disappoints. **I AM A CHILD OF GOD WHO IS NOT ASHAMED TO PRAY IN PUBLIC!!!**

### Testimony

The year 2014 was not easy at all. I applied for bursary; each and every day I went to go check if my application was successful or not but the feedback was always disappointing every time. It got to a point where I was told that my file with my entire document went missing, that day was the most devastating time of my life. I couldn't understand, out of all applications, why mine? I thought God has forgotten all about me and had forsaken me, but as I sat down and thought of everything I asked myself a question "why not me" what makes me better to not face any challenges in life, where else other people are facing the worst?

I was angry with myself to think that I'm better than the next person but all was well. I lived almost the entire year with stress and worries asking myself what am I going to do. I went back in September to check hoping for good news but nothing changed. I went back to my room went on my knees cried and prayed with all my heart and soul, begging God to please listen to my prayers. After praying I

remember I was so weak, tired and had no more tears, I decided to rest. The next morning when I woke up, I received a call saying I should come to the bursary department. When I got there, they told me to go make copies of all documents that were needed and on my way I passed a guy who just told me out of the blue that I must know God loves me, he smiled and walked away. The very same day everything was processed and my application was successful.

### My experience at The YW

Staying at The YW has been a blessing in my life, a blessing that I will forever be grateful of. When I arrived here I met Tannie Almarie who was very friendly and kind toward me and my mother. I also met all the ladies who welcomed me with warmth and beautiful hearts, God fearing ladies. We share, support, encourage and help one another; ladies who are not scared to express their feelings.

God also blessed me with two wonderful souls, my friends Teboho Tshabalala and Nolitha Nonqayi who will forever remain so dear to my heart. I love them. Thank you!

Hey, my name is **Teboho Tshabalala**, born in the Kingdom of Lesotho and raised in Kroonstad. I am currently studying Bcom in Business at CTI doing my last year. God's presence in my life has been amazing. Looking back into my life, I wonder where I would be if it weren't for His grace and mercy. He has always been by my side, even when I thought He wasn't. He has been my protector, provider, defender and my pillar of strength.



Teboho

I have been through challenges in my life; and in most cases would doubt God's existence. But the support I received from my family and friends (and praying, constantly) reminded me that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose" – Romans 8:28. Being a resident at The YW has been a great journey this far. I met wonderful ladies whom I have made memories with. God then introduced me to two young ladies, Gomolemo Sekese and Nolitha Nonqayi. These ladies have impacted my life in a way I cannot comprehend. In such a short period of time, we have been through a lot in what many go through in years. They have become more than just friends. They have become family! I am truly blessed to have to have them in my life and will forever love and cherish them. Lots of love!!!!

### A poem by **Prudence Maleka**

You're the enemy of the heart

Often we think people fool us  
So blind and stubborn we are  
All comfortable and settled without knowing  
Is it because we are shallow?  
Or just signs of immaturity?  
Actually no  
Empty promises we get  
Planned destiny with no future

So dumb are we to believe it  
So self-centred are we to be proud  
With no worth we fall for it

Actually if we search deeper we are the enemies  
We are the fools  
The back stabbers of our heart  
So fooled by the mind that we don't even notice

Innocent is our little hearts  
Tortured by the greedy stubborn mind  
Thinking man is our worst enemy  
If only the heart knew it was an organ  
Maybe the world and our lives could be better



Prudence

# CAPE TOWN

*From the Slopes of Table Mountain*



One of our highlights in touching the community's life is to visit with our seniors at the **Ladies Christian Home**. A few girls joined Bianca in a morning of sharing. We had tremendous fun sharing our stories and then enjoyed a hot drink and cup cakes made by the Y staff. Each lady was given a bookmark made by our girls, a lovely reminder that we are praying for one another. Mrs Rae Hendricks, who is **99 years**, entertained us with her piano playing. She reminded Truineveve that she is her prayer partner, an amazing encouragement to each one of us.



A first for The Y ... Jayne Foxcroft **prepares for the mission field** in 2018. A privilege to have seen you grow through these four years during your studies at UCT and living at the Y. You have prayed faithfully for our house and served on various leadership portfolios. May you continue to live out your faith in the Lord Jesus, the anchor of our salvation. We are so blessed to have had you stay with us – your family at the YW Cape Town.



Girls will be girls – sharing a few photos of our **times together**. You can also find us on facebook and Instagram.



Planning our end of the year

**SPRING BALL ---- Talent in the house** as we tweeted all the finer details of the Theme. This certainly created enthusiasm, and we look forward to a wonderful time together. This year we are inviting our Committee and staff to join in a celebration evening. **ENCORE RESTAURANT** will be serving us. No .... Slogging behind the scenes for our staff, perfect evening.



**God Answers Prayer ...** we believe this with all our heart, mind and soul. We serve a prayer answering **GOD** and we would love for you to be part of this ministry. **PRAYING FOR THE MINISTRY AT THE YW - CHRISTIAN RESIDENCE FOR YOUNG WOMEN.**

“The world is full of so-called **prayer** warriors who are **prayer-ignorant**. They're full of formulas and programs and advice, peddling techniques for getting what you want from God. Don't fall for that nonsense. This is your Father you are dealing with, and he knows better than you what you need. With a God like this loving you, you can pray very simply. Like this: Our Father in heaven, Reveal who you are. Set the world right; Do what's best - as above, so below. Keep us alive with three square meals. Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others. Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil. You're in charge! You can do anything you want! You're ablaze in beauty!

**Yes. Yes. Yes.**  
Matthew 6:9-13

With love from all at the Cape Town YW,  
Brian & Loraine, Heathia, Anne, Nikki, Alice, Annie, Joshlyn,  
Pumeza and Distone.





# CAPE TOWN

*From the Slopes of Table Mountain*

A look at our evening program for the Spring Ball- enjoyed by all

**WHAT IS IN STORE FOR TONIGHT'S programme**

**YOUR HOSTS FOR TONIGHT**  
VANESSA COETZER | JAYNE FOXCROFT | HA EUN BAE

**WELCOME**  
WELCOME BY HOSTS  
SPECIAL WELCOME BY WAYNE LOFTHOUSE AND LORAIN WOOD

**GRACE**  
BRIAN WOOD

**STARTERS**

**"EGG AND CHICKEN"**  
ICEBREAKER WITH BIANCA MANNIE

**"ALL I ASK"**  
ADELE COVER BY TRUNEVIEVE GUNDA

**MAIN BUFFET**

**OUR THOUGHTS ALOUD**  
GETTING TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER

**RUBY JUNE**  
SONGS BY LUZELLE CABLE

**DESSERT**

**JUST A LITTLE FUN AND GAMES**  
GAMES WITH BIANCA MANNIE

**MOVE TO THE RHYTHM OF YOUR SOUL**  
MUSIC AND DANCE

**BLESSINGS FOR YOUR HEART**  
STUDENT CERTIFICATES

**FAREWELL TO LEAVERS**  
PRINCESS ZUNGU AND JAYNE FOXCROFT

**THANK YOU**  
THANKS BY HOSTS  
SPECIAL THANKS BY BRIAN AND LORAIN WOOD

## THANK YOU



*Megan and Wayne*

Megan and I had the privilege of attending your Year End function on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September at the Encore Restaurant in Panarama. We arrived to a warm welcome from Vanessa, Jayne and Ha Eun. The décor enhanced the elegant venue and the attention paid to the detail of the beautiful programme, the menu, the name place settings and the flowers on each table was incredible.

The music was provided by a past resident, Luzelle Cable. She also sang a beautiful song, her own composition, and her music certainly kept the YW residents on the dance floor.



*Princess and Jayne*

Sadly there were a few farewells during the evening. A sad farewell and beautiful tribute was paid to our Managers, Rev Brian and Mrs Loraine Wood, by the Year End Social Committee. Some of the residents are also leaving and so it was lovely to hear from Princess Zungu and Jayne Foxcroft their views of their time at the YW.

To the girls, as you enter the final quarter of the year, on behalf of the YW Committee, we pray that your work and dedication will pay dividends for those of you who are writing year end examinations and that you will feel the presence of the Lord as He carries you through this time. For those who will be returning to the YW in 2018, we wish you a happy holiday. For those of you who will be returning home for the holidays we trust you will enjoy your time with family and friends, for those who will be staying on at the YW over this period we pray for restoration as you have some time to rest. There are some who will be leaving us permanently and we pray for God's protection and guidance for your future.

As I mentioned at the Year End Function we also bid farewell to Uncle Brian and Aunty Loraine, as they have fondly become known to many of you. We, as a Committee, would like to say a huge THANK YOU to them for their faithful and loving service to the YW in their role as Managers over the past 4 years. We are going to miss them and pray that God will provide them with a new vision for their retirement and that they will enjoy their time together as they enter this new phase of their lives.



*Loraine and Brian*

Wayne Lofthouse  
President: Cape Town Local Association

# PIETERMARITZBURG

**"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven". Ecclesiastes 3 : 1**

The UKZN (and DUT) first semester of 2017 sped by, leaving assignments, exams and tired students in its wake. The vac looked promising - from the girls perspective there would be rest and relaxation, pampering and prepared meals. From the mothers' perspective, help with the housework and cooking, assistance with the little ones and some rest and relaxation. Let's hope that turned out well for all concerned!

The second semester, notoriously short, is well on its way and year end exams are looming. The girls have their noses in their books BUT we do make time now and again for some fun and to ease tension. **YOU GO GIRLS!! YOU CAN DO THIS!!** You have worked hard and you will be rewarded with good marks.

## GRADUATIONS :

**"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength". Philippians 4 : 13**

Four of our girls, Hazvnei Gora, Adelaide Gunundu, Mmbatho Molefe and Sipheshile Mhoshu, completed their degrees at the end of the first semester. Adelaide has commenced her Masters degree and Hazvnei will commence her Masters in 2018.



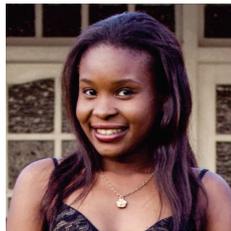
Hazvnei



Siphe



Mmbatho



Adelaide

Mmbatho has relocated to Cape

Town where she is attending culinary school in order to fulfil her dream of becoming a chef. Sipheshile hopes to start her Honours degree in 2018. Congratulations to all of you!

## IRIS MINISTRIES – ZIMPETO CHILDREN'S CENTRE

**"Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying : 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?' ". Isaiah 6 : 8**



Penny, Elijah, Baroe & Siphindile

The opportunity arose for young ladies to visit the Iris Base in Mozambique in June 2017. The base accommodates up to three hundred children and ministers to many more. It attracts helpers and full-time missionaries from around the world and there is always plenty to be done. Jenna, the daughter of the Managers of the YW Pietermaritzburg, and her son,

Elijah, live on the base.

Three YW girls, Baroe, Siphindile and Thando, took up the challenge. It was no holiday, the team worked hard, but they had a wonderful time. They were a blessing, and they were blessed. These are their stories:

## BAROETSANA MASAKALA (UKZN Psychology student)

The experience at Zimpeto with the children was incredibly wonderful and thought-provoking. As we prepared our hearts to connect with the missionaries, children, and other staff, we knew that we are called to serve and love all people. We have gained a wider perspective on our outlook on life and we have grown as individuals in our spiritual walk with the Lord. Two of our YW girls and myself had the privilege to go on this trip under the motherly supervision of Aunty Penny and her lovely daughter Jenna. We left Durban at 6:00 am and a long 12 hours later arrived at Matola, where we were warmly greeted by all.

The Zimpeto Children's Centre is a base located near Maputo, a home to nearly 300 children, 30 missionaries and 150 staff. The centre is an active role-player in the community, supporting the needs of the poor and destitute. It has a baby nursery, a baby house for toddlers, care for children and youth, a special needs programme for children with disabilities, a library, a computing centre as well as a community clinic which all lovingly aid the children to reach their full potential and optimal development.

We had immense fun and a busy schedule. Every day we engaged in different outreaches. We would travel to and pray for the ill at the city hospital, run outreaches to street kids, the rubbish dumps and landfill sites, at the prison, and at the Machava Children's Centre. This was hard work but we also had time to play and enjoy other activities such as church services and praise and worship hosted by the children at Zimpeto. We went shopping in the city, had walks on the beach and toured nearby parts of Mozambique, experiencing Mozambican lifestyle and culture. (Most enjoyable included the scrumptious cuisine). We are tremendously thankful for this enriching experience. We were able to meet visitors from different parts of the world and create friendships with them. We were blessed to be able to reach out to the people of Mozambique.



Baroe at a hospital visit

## SIPHINDILE GAMBUSHE (BA Degree - Government Ethics and Economics)

God always puts you in places you need to be, not just want to be in. Mozambique was a beautiful experience, not only physically but spiritually. With it being my first mission, I believe it was an amazing place to start.

The first thing that brought me joy, was the children. Each time I closed the door to the visitors compound a child would come to me and ask my name and immediately hold my hand. Sometimes we didn't even have to make conversation, a simple exchange of a smile and our fingers would intertwine and that would be that. Their happiness was so contagious, especially during church when they would dance and sing praises to the Lord.



Story time ...

Being with the people of Mozambique was amazing too. Everyone I met was so hungry for Christ, every prayer filled them up spiritually. Although most people didn't have an awful lot, every person knew that in Christ, everything is possible thus the amount of faith one person alone carried was amazing. It made me question the trivial things I worry or complain about and it really gave rise to a few introspective moments. They showed me their fighter spirits in that a lot of them are in undesirable situations but don't let the situations dictate their level of faith. This trip reinforced my faith and connection with God because it reminded me that no matter what curve ball I'm thrown, I must keep moving forward in my faith. I'll definitely be involved in more missions.

## THANDO MASEKO (BSC Honours Bio-chemistry)

The long-awaited day had finally arrived, it was time to explore and serve at Iris Mozambique. As the bus left, the hostess delivered her greeting, trip details and instructions in Portuguese only - I didn't understand a single word. At that moment, all my thoughts and expectations of what my trip would look like went out of the window and I decided I would rest on God and let Him drive the train. After a long 12 hours of bus travel we'd finally arrived - Matola in Mozambique... I had entered a whole new world.

Iris Zimpeto is an orphanage that looks after 250 children, the majority being boys. The base comprises dormitories, a clinic, a school, church, prayer house, prayer hut, the works. All the children were at the base when we arrived. Before being fully orientated, I was spending the day playing with the kids. I could speak only a little Shangaan and they hardly spoke English but we somehow understood each other, even without the use of words. We played just about every game I remembered from my youth.

# PIETERMARITZBURG

## SPRING BRAAI

".....and a time to laugh". Ecclesiastes 3 : 4

On a very cold 1st of September we celebrated the arrival of Spring with a braai (and hot chocolate!). Two young ladies provided pap and chakalaka sauce and Penny provided dessert. Dinner, eaten indoors, was followed by team games and mass hysteria. Competition was fierce and girls were ruthless towards their own team-mates and the other teams (all in good spirit (I hope)). It was an evening of great food and great fun and went some way towards easing tension in a short and pressurised semester.

## SPARKLE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2017

"That is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine". Romans 1 : 12

The theme for this year's Sparkle Women's Conference was "Anchored". In total we were able to send 45 young ladies to the Conference, 30 from The YW and the balance from the surrounding digs. A number of the girls were sponsored by anonymous donations. The Conference ran from the Friday evening through to the Saturday evening.



Here are comments from a few of the girls who went, some of them for the 4th year running.

## NONTHANDO MABATHA

I went to the conference where my expectations were exceeded way above and beyond. I really enjoyed the praise and worship and I love that they introduced a new song in a different language. The messages and testimonies that were shared really spoke into my life. Although not everyone received a gift this year I think we received a greater gift, something more meaningful than materialistic gifts and that was the presence and move of God! I was going through a rough and dry season in my faith and I had been constantly longing for a fresh move of God in my spirit and that is exactly what happened this year. Through the messages of Cindy Booth and Shannon Botha, God revealed areas in my heart that He wanted to deal with right then and there. I learnt the importance of having my thoughts and emotions anchored in Christ and my feelings anchored in Truth. God is really so much more than what we confine Him to be. He is our present help in times of need - Psalm 46. We have this hope as an Anchor for the soul, firm and secure Hebrews 6:19. We could never fully comprehend the magnitude and greatness of our God. I LOVED IT!

## FLAME LILY CHIVENGE

Every year Sparkle makes me appreciate the brains that God gave us. The decorations, creations and the photo booth were very well done. The water dance was a testimony of how gifted we are. If only we could use our gifts for spiritual purposes, then obviously we would have a better world. Don't quote me, but it's a pity that they sold salad for lunch. SALAD!! God gave us cows and wheat. I wish they would have sold something else like they did in previous years. We were told that the money was going to a charitable cause so yeah, I did eat my salad after all!! And lost a few milligrams too. We went, we sparkled, we shone, we twinkled and we got anchored.

## PATRICIA MIKA

Throughout the services I heard testimonies of how God has been faithful and full of grace, even to those whose prayers have not been answered in the manner in which they expected (A lady who has had ectopic pregnancies for example). I learnt that praising God in my sorrow and pain is a blessing on its own. So I have learnt to appreciate life and all the miracles I experience, because I know for sure that God works for the good of those who love Him.

## CAROL MASENDE

It was a tremendous two day experience where the Holy Spirit moved and filled so many lives. It was either the stories that were shared or the awesome worship that left so many in awe and hungry for Abba Father. Friday started with awesome worship and an amazing sermon by Cindy Booth from America, where many people gave their lives to Christ. The fact that Jesus was afflicted for our transgressions was indeed revealed. Those who went with an open heart indeed left with the Son of God and the Holy Spirit in their lives. Saturday was phenomenal. Ladies from different cultures and walks of life shared the most touching and heartfelt testimonies which were relatable to anyone. This revealed to me that despite going through the turmoils of life, God is faithful. We should always worship God when things are going right and when they are going wrong. The devil cannot steal our joy because he has no authority at all or know God's plan for our lives. For me, Sparkle was a life changing encounter.

## THANDO MASEKA - My ama-zing Sparkle experience

Grant Crawford on the church news had said that Sparkle wasn't meant to be a time of pampering but about bringing lost ladies to Christ, so I took five friends to Sparkle. This year we received gifts from the God Who is a giver of good gifts. There was such a tangible presence every time we all worshipped, we were truly anchored in His presence as the theme suggested. We received an amazing word from guest speakers which I have been sharing with others because Christ is our anchor. A friend I invited wasn't much of a church person but she enjoyed herself so much, I am grateful a seed was planted. In addition new friendships were formed among the four of them. Each year the ladies give towards certain projects and this year it was 'love on a hanger'. We were invited to bring clothing which was hung on a rail and later distributed to the poor. I was excited to have an opportunity to touch the lives of so many women - it really is a blessing to be able to bless others.

## KWEZI SIBISI

The theme and title of this year, "Anchored" spoke volumes to me as it was also accompanied by Hebrews 6:19. This gives me hope, in that even though we may face storms, Jesus is and will always be, our anchor in the storm, and I feel that quite a few storms have been coming my way. I was expectant to hear what God had in store for me, and boy did He have a lot to say! It was as though He specifically put together these messages and used Cindy Booth, Shannon Botha, Sofee Flanagan, worship and many other ways to speak directly to me. Afterwards, I no longer felt alone. I know the presence of God was with me and that I can trust in His promises. (Jeremiah 29:11, Psalm 27:13-14, Isaiah 40:31). A song that became "tattooed" on my heart was 'King of My Heart', which speaks about the Lord's undying goodness and how He will never ever let me down because He is so faithful. The visuals and all the dance routines were so on point and what I enjoyed the most was how friendly and kind everyone was to each other. That really put a smile on my face.

## DIETETICS LUNCH :

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God". 1 Corinthians 10 : 31.

The 3rd year Dietetics students are put into teams and are required to cater a lunch for forty people. They have to draw up a menu, on a budget, calculate calories, proteins etc., and then cook the meal which is served to the guests by other 3rd year students who have had or are awaiting their turn to cook. They also have to choose a theme which their decorations and menu tie in with.

Our very own Tikhala Padambo, from Malawi, had her turn to suffer the ordeal this year and a number of us were privileged to attend. The menu was : Portabello Mushrooms stuffed with spinach and cheese. Main Course was Chicken Pot-Pie with spring salad and for dessert... Churros with Chocolate dipping Sauce! Fantastic. Well done Team Tikhala, we gave you top marks and are sure the examiners will do the same.



# HARARE

## BROMLEY HOUSE YWCA ...in pictures



Mr Dave Drury is the YWCA Legal Advisor and Trustee



Pastor Wyson Dutch works closely with Mr Drury helping with the day-to-day concerns of YWCA Bromley House



People with a passion and fostering the vision of YWCA Bromley House. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Pastor Wyson Dutch, Mrs Annette McCullough, Faith Mangwende and Marjorie Squire work in consultation ensuring YWCA Bromley House is managed smoothly each month as we wait for proper constitutional management to be put in place. (Marjorie Squire and Annette McCullough help monitor our Accounts.)



Our beautiful gardens...



YWCA Harare Dining room



Ruth Bonga and Dorothy Tinapi  
Dorothy is the acting administrator at the house  
Ruth is the room supervisor

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### INTERNATIONAL

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*Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus ....*