



Our Work for the Lord in Southern Africa -- September 2017

Les Maydell P O Box 39076 Queensburgh 4070 S. Africa Tel. (SA) +27 31 464 7227 cell:+27 83 287 3982
Email: LMAYDELL@gmail.com

Dear brethren,

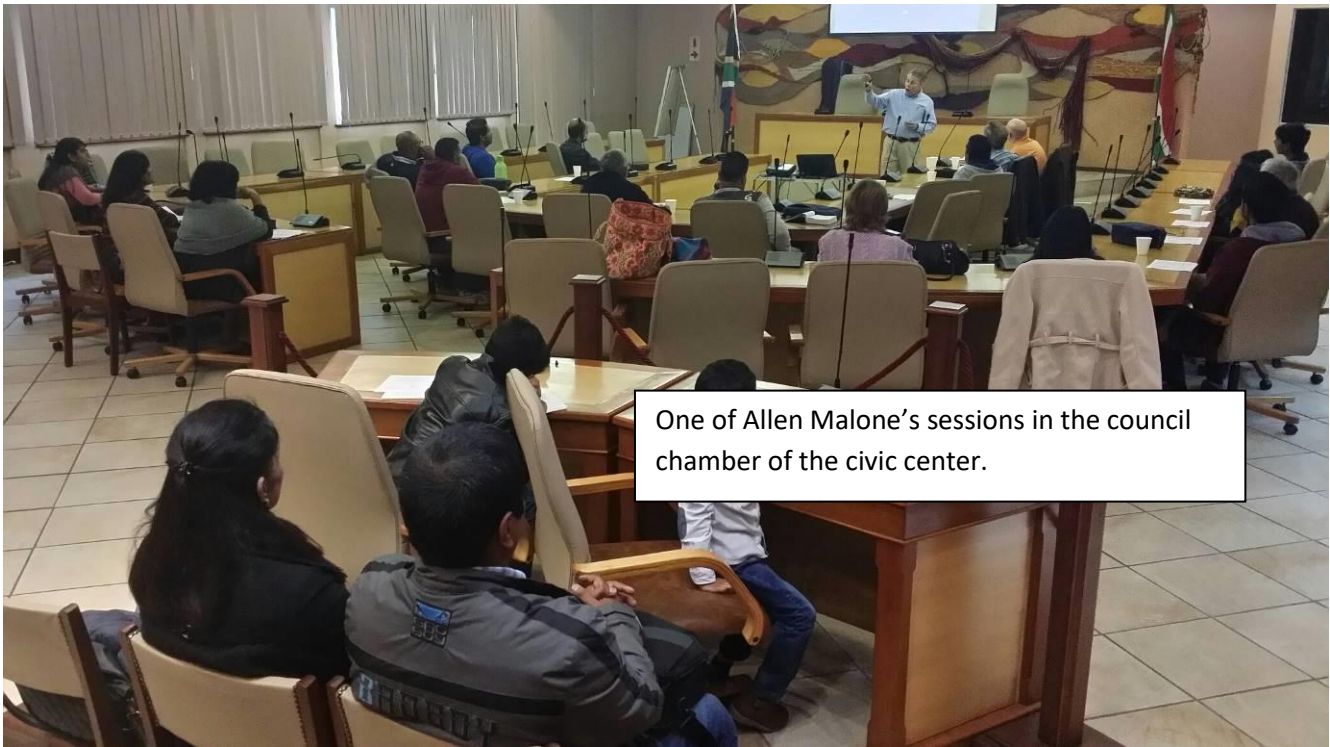
The highlight of the past month was a 20-day visit by Allen Malone. The Pinetown group had been studying about improving our worship, and realized that we seriously needed to work on our singing. Several months ago the Kendall-Balls spoke to Allen, and he graciously altered his schedule to fit us in on his way back from Viet Nam. We specifically requested a time when the young people would be on spring break so that they could also attend. We had classes each weekday morning for 3 hours and each evening for 1 ½ hours, mostly in Pinetown but also with some of the other congregations in the area. The Pinetown congregation also rented a hall and invited Christians from surrounding congregations to a 4-hour session each Saturday afternoon.

Allen's instruction in singing and his teaching exceeded our expectations on every level. Every man in the Pinetown congregation worked extremely hard because Allen's teaching was so clear, enjoyable and motivational. Old dogs can learn new tricks – but it takes a lot more effort! I even dreamed about it: I was a fighter pilot who decided I would die flying into the enemy's guns in order to save my comrades. When I woke up, I interpreted my dream as, "I will learn to lead songs in a way that promotes worship (instead of distracting from it), even if it kills me!" The young men also worked hard and made huge strides. A big bonus, the most important thing of all, was Allen's thought-provoking teaching from God's word about things we can do to impact our hearts so that our worship is truly a sweet-smelling aroma. Each one of us was very sad to see Allen depart. We appreciate his family's sacrifice, and pray for God's richest blessings on him, his family, and their work. The men at Pinetown have already discussed ways that we can move forward and implement what we have learned, and hope that Allen will come again and take us to an even higher plane. On a personal level, Linda and I were especially encouraged by the Biblical discussions we had with Allen and his sharing of his evangelistic experiences.



Morning sessions in Pinetown.

A new meeting place for us brethren in Pinetown has been difficult to find. However, it seems that, due to our orderly behaviour in renting the council chamber of the civic center, we will be allowed to begin renting it on Sundays. It is in the most ideal location in town – central, safe, and near public transport. Additionally, after Alan’s parting lesson on the powerful grace of God, we cannot be anything other than motivated and enabled to reach out to the lost.



Most of my normal scheduled classes were taught by Allen while Allen was with us, but this week we are back in full swing with all the classes mentioned last month. Additionally, due to the advertisement on our car, Linda and I were able to have an informal Bible study last week in the home of a lady who also invited two of her friends to be present. Linda was invited back to teach, and we pray that God will be glorified in this effort.



PRAYERS:

Sithengeni Mangena was very relieved to learn that his biopsy did not reveal any cancer. It will still take a couple of weeks for the results of the TB test to come back. In the meantime he continues with very strong pain medication.

Kumarin, the husband of a sister at Unit 9, is seriously ill with what seems like complications of TB. He is undergoing tests at the moment. He has been attending services lately when his health permits. He is not a Christian, so please pray for his spiritual as well as his physical well-being.

Sienna Reddy, whom I mentioned in July’s report, was able to travel to India and undergo treatment for severe autism. She has had a significant improvement in her condition and her parents, faithful Christians in Johannesburg, are again asking for help (\$15,000) so they can afford the second of three treatments. You can read all the details here: <https://gogetfunding.com/help-sienna-achieve-even-more/>

Jessika Ragadu is the 5-year-old granddaughter of one of the elders at Phoenix. She was born with severe brittle bone disease and has had numerous operations and treatments. With this last operation there is a possibility that she may be able to stand or even walk, so please pray for her.

Paddy Kendall-Ball went to the doctor yesterday and was told that the cancer in his prostate will have to be treated, but is curable. Please pray for him and Sandi as they weigh up different treatment options.

We have been richly blessed by God during the past month – and that includes your help and prayers. We sincerely thank you all.

Your fellow-servant in Christ, Les Maydell