



St Nicholas United Church, Beacon Bay

ANGLICAN METHODIST PRESBYTERIAN

Email: stnicholas@absamail.co.za

22 PELL STREET

BEACON BAY 5241

EAST LONDON

PBO No: 930007125

New Minister for St Nicholas United Church

History and Background

St Nicholas United Church is situated in Beacon Bay, a suburb of East London in the Eastern Cape Province. It consists of Christians from several denominations of which Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterians are the predominant denominations. It has the official support of the Church of the Province of S.A. (Anglican), The Methodist Church of S.A and the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa, who initiated it as a concrete experiment in the unity which they seek through the Church Unity Commission (CUC). The congregation aims to be under the guidance of all three of these authorities.

The Church has a history that stretches back to the mid 1960 but with the formation of the St Nicholas Church Trust in 1980 and appointment of Trustees, it enabled the joint ownership of property. The Trustees are appointed by the Anglican Bishop of Grahamstown, the Methodist Bishop of the Queenstown District, and the Amatola Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church. The Trust also provides a platform for the negotiation of any issues arising out of the differing denominational backgrounds.

Each denomination provides ministers in turn and presently St Nicholas United Church is served by an Anglican (soon to retire). The minister is responsible for the overall leadership and ministry within the congregations. Other ministers from all three denominations may be invited to conduct services from time to time at St Nicholas United Church, and consultation on a denominational basis is available when it is requested.

All services, sacraments and ordinances are conducted on the basis of mutual recognition of ministry and in the name of Jesus Christ. St Nicholas United Church does not have Anglican Services, Methodist Services or Presbyterian Services, but uses mutually agreed patterns of worship based on the liturgical work of the CUC at the 07h30 Sunday services and midweek services. The 09h30 service does not follow a formal liturgy. The Sunday evening St Nics@6 service focuses on the young at heart. The services may be led by one or more ministers and lay persons sharing in the common liturgy.

Church Office: 22 Pell Street, Beacon Bay

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