

THE LORD IS FAITHFUL

to complete what He has begun
Calvary Chapel Kommetjie, South Africa



Children walk across the street to have Sunday school at the elementary school next to CC Kommetjie.



A memorial was placed in the Cape Point Reserve for Kirk Cottrell, who died in a surfing accident in 2001. He was the pastor of CC Kommetjie.

The church that tragically lost its pastor in a surfing accident four years ago has recovered and has since seen many new lives come to Christ.

story by Tom Price
photos by Geraldine Wilkins



Dougal Paterson embraces newly born daughter, Malia, with wife, Debbie, and Julian looking on after Sunday service.

Julian Duguid and his wife, Monica, surveyed the popular surfing spot in South Africa where Pastor Kirk Cottrell died nearly four years ago. Ostriches and

baboons moved lazily along the wide expanse of rolling hills that led to the sandy beaches. Julian knelt down beside the memorial to read notes recently left behind

by those touched by Kirk's life. Monica remembered how surfers had conducted a memorial service after the tragedy—forming a circle on their surfboards and spreading flowers into the waves.

The wooden cross was inscribed: "Kirk Cottrell, who tragically passed away on July 10, 2001. He shall be missed by family and friends but will never be forgotten."

"This memorial site has been here since Kirk's death," commented Julian, a native South African who eventually took over leadership of CC Kommetjie. "Kirk was a larger-than-life personality; many people came to faith before and through his death." The 45-year-old South Florida native had more than 14,000 recipients listed on his email account when he died, a probable victim of his own surfboard and the fury of the waves.

Kommetjie, a small coastal village, is on the Atlantic Ocean side of South Africa, just south of Cape Town. Kirk had left his



Monica, wife of Julian, holds Kiarah Leigh, daughter of Mike and Cindy Styles.

surfing ministry in Florida with his wife, Lucinda, and three children in 1996. He joined an existing Christian surfing ministry and shared the Gospel along the South African coast. A home Bible study grew into CC Kommetjie.

The pastor's death was understandably difficult on the stunned flock at CC Kommetjie, a church Kirk had planted. After he died, an assistant pastor took the lead but soon left. Later Julian Duguid took over the leadership. His gentle shepherding led the congregation to a place of restoration during the time of mourning and confusion. Julian

continued the verse-by-verse teaching that Kirk had brought to the small village.

Julian and his wife had been serving at the church and ministering in a local squatters' camp when Kirk passed away. The Duguids were the third family to attend the church, and the couple had finished four years at the nearby Bible Institute of South Africa. Julian was asked to lead the Sunday morning teaching in 2002, supported by a unanimous vote from the church's leadership. CC Fort Lauderdale, Kirk's sending church, later ratified the decision. The Duguids were invited to travel



Believers meet during the week to have a meal, worship, pray and hear God's Word.

"We are still small enough to enjoy true fellowship—where we meet, have a meal, worship, pray, share and teach the Word."

Pastor Julian Duguid



At CC Kommetjie, children worship together at Sunday School after worshipping with their parents in the main sanctuary.



Monica, left, leads the weekly Moms & Tots Bible study at the church.

to Florida for five weeks to acquaint themselves with the teaching ministry of Pastor Bob Coy. “The past three years have been a place of amazing grace and restoration for CC Kommetjie,” added Julian.

Now the church is experiencing great testimonies from its outreaches. CC Kommetjie was invited to teach the children at the primary school across the street from the church. The principal—a believer—allowed Monica to teach the Bible to every class once a week. Although attendance is optional, of the 500 pupils, only 15 decided not to attend. Many students are of Muslim, Jewish or New Age backgrounds.

“It was a challenging situation when we began,” said Monica. “We began teaching the Gospel of John, and the youngsters wanted to argue about everything.” She told them all who call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ will be saved. By the end of the Book of John, opposition began to subside.

As the school children’s questions were answered, many of them made a commitment to Christ. Almost all have responded to the Gospel message.

One 10-year-old boy from a Buddhist family began asking questions in class and then gave his life to Jesus. During one teaching, his father arrived at school, upset. He scolded his son for his decision. “We were brokenhearted,” confessed Monica. “The last thing we wanted to do was alienate him from his father. Eventually, the father saw the dramatic change in his son’s life and conceded to his decision. The youngster became an active member of Sunday school and joined a skateboarding ministry.”

Another 12-year-old girl, whose family struggled with alcoholism, gave her life to Jesus. Her decision had a huge impact on her family, and her mother began attending church with her. The preteen attended the holiday Bible study and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

As a result of the school outreach, more children are attending CC Kommetjie—requiring four new Sunday school classes. There are also two Friday night youth meetings. For adults, the Wednesday night study is modeled after Acts 2:42. “We are still small enough to enjoy true fellowship—where we meet, have a meal, worship, pray, share and teach the Word,” said Julian. “It is a believers’ meeting with a strong missions prayer focus.”

Because surfing is a way of life for many locals, it has continued to be a powerful outreach tool. A famous South African surfing champion, Tich Paul, was touched by Kirk’s life and death. He rededicated his life to Christ at Kirk’s memorial service. Now a church elder, Tich’s testimony has had a dramatic impact through surfing outreaches. The well-attended events are a coordinated effort by Tich and other prominent



Paige Strauss and Shingi Phairah, a Bible student from Zimbabwe, playfully fellowship.



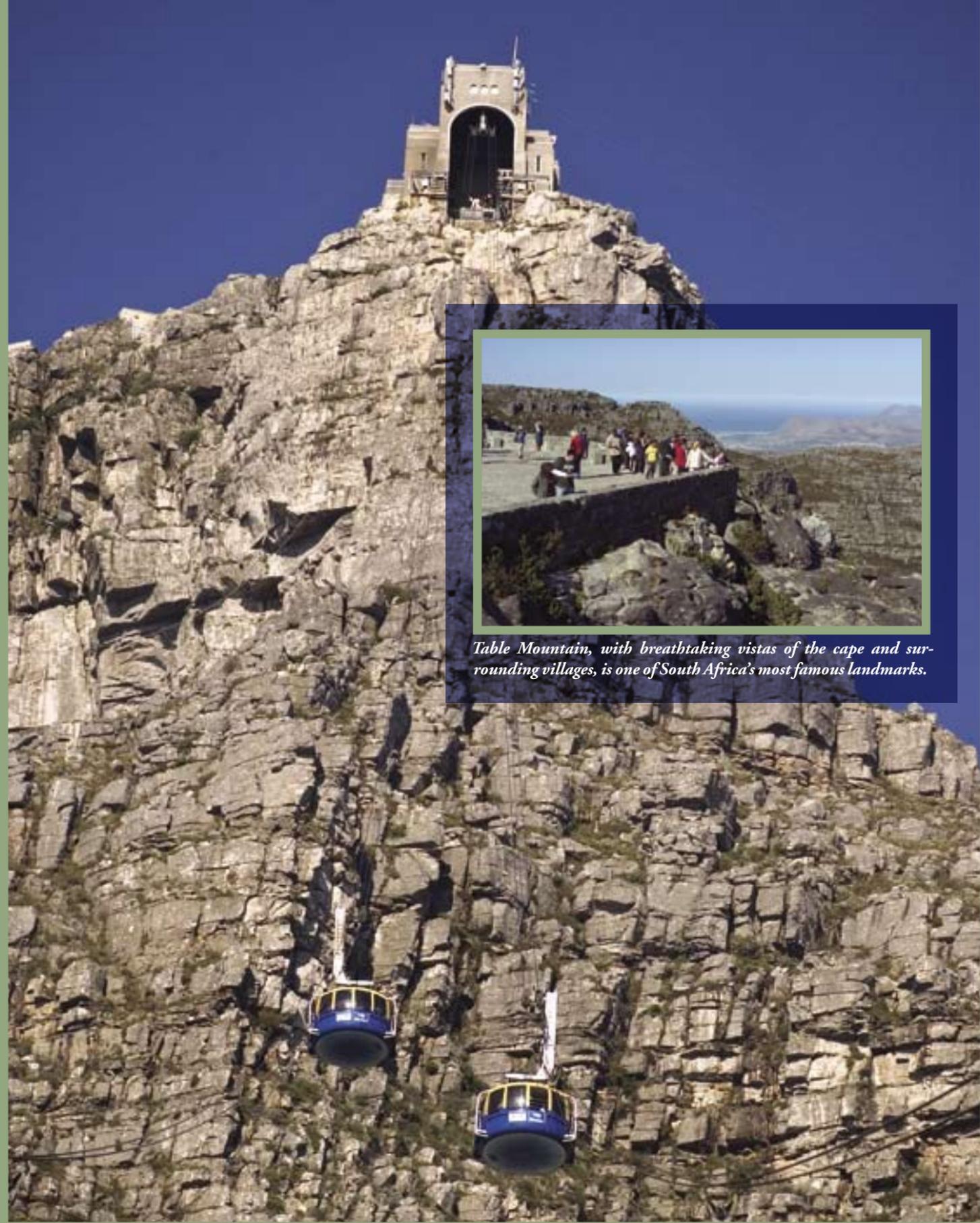


Table Mountain, with breathtaking vistas of the cape and surrounding villages, is one of South Africa's most famous landmarks.

The Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company celebrated its 75th anniversary in October 2004, and greeted its 16 millionth passenger in December of the same year.



The Cape Rock Hyrax is a small woolly animal with no visible tail and blunt "hoofed" digits. It is a familiar sight to see them sunning on the rocks of Table Mountain.

surfers from the church to reach the entire surfing community.

Julian added, "Our desire is to equip our small fellowship to be a 'fruitful vine' in our Lord's Kingdom and take Jesus Christ to Africa and the world." Several in the fellowship have been active in missionary endeavors. Because of the growing interest in spreading the Gospel, a school of ministry is planned.

CC Kommetjie has witnessed the Lord working in mighty ways through the body of believers. A house and its adjoining land were miraculously provided. It had previously served as the community petrol station. It was converted into a meeting place for the fellowship—renovated and fully paid for by anonymous gifts from the congregation. The ladies' ministry meets for weekly prayer and Bible studies. They also reach out to the community with women's

There are four things which are little on the earth, but they are exceedingly wise: The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks. Proverbs 30:24, 26



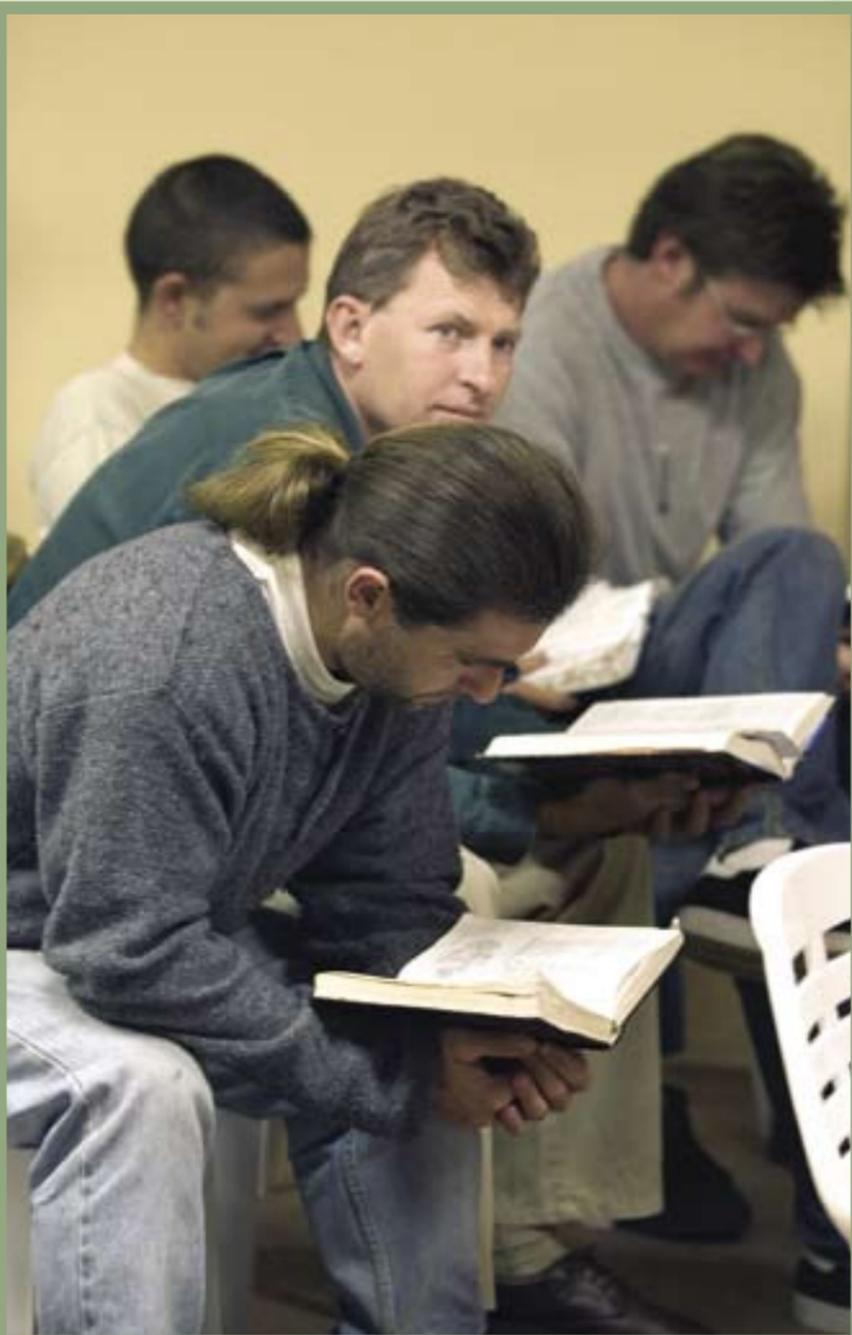
The Chacma Baboon troops on the Cape Peninsula are the only protected population of this species in Africa.

“We hope to keep our hands on the plough and ‘eagerly expect and hope that we will in no way be ashamed on the day that our Lord returns.’”

Julian Duguid



Roger Critien and the fellowship follow along as children lead them in hand and arm moments to a worship song.



Ian, Ashley, Kenny and Jason studying the Word at midweek fellowship.

breakfasts. The school outreaches have led to a significant growth in the youth ministry.

Despite many painful circumstances in the past, the CC Kommetjie fellowship is looking forward to the future with hope and anticipation of Christ’s return. Quoting Philippians 1:20, Julian said, “We hope to keep our hands on the plough and ‘eagerly expect and hope that we will in no way be ashamed on the day that our Lord returns.’”



Calvary Chapel African Conference

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Hosted by CC Kommetjie



Julian teaches at the midweek evening fellowship, which consists of a meal, worship, prayer, fellowship and the Word of God.

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