



**Bryanston Methodist Church**  
115 - 117 Grosvenor Road, Bryanston  
PO Box 67218, Bryanston, 2021  
T: +27 011 463 2333  
F: +27 011 463 2450  
Website: [www.bmc.org.za](http://www.bmc.org.za)

**Children's Church & Junior Youth Combined Report**  
**Year of 2025**  
**Prepared by: Jennifer Blake (Children's Pastor)**

**Children's Church & Youth Online**

Our online ministry continues to be an important part of our outreach, mirroring the lessons we teach in person. This allows children who cannot attend in person to stay connected and engaged with our teachings.

Throughout the year, our interns have supported the online content beautifully—this past term they even appeared on-screen and did an exceptional job.

We were blessed to receive two new laptops for registration—an incredible gift from an anonymous donor. This made registration faster and more efficient, and we were deeply grateful for this generosity. Sadly, these laptops were stolen during the recent robbery.

**Teaching Series**

We continue to follow the broader church teaching calendar, adapting lessons for our different age groups. When needed, we use alternative series from either the Old or New Testament to ensure age-appropriate teaching.

- Term 1: *Epiphany to Transfiguration* — well received and effective.
- Term 2: Followed the main church series, again with positive engagement.
- Term 3: Focused on *Old Testament stories and characters*. Volunteers were encouraged to choose and lead sessions on their favourite stories, such as *Elijah and the Widow (1 Kings)*. This approach empowered our leaders and enriched our teaching variety.
- Term 4: Skipped ahead to *Advent*. We decided this would be beneficial as children are usually on holiday during Advent, allowing them to now learn about the season before it begins.

We were also privileged to welcome two visiting missionaries, whose time with the children was engaging, inspiring, and full of joy.

During Term 4, our ministers have begun visiting the children's groups, a wonderful initiative helping the children get to know their Ministers and allowing the ministers to experience the children in their normal Sunday setting.

**Worship**

Worship remains a vital part of our ministry. Every session—both online and in person—begins with prayer and thanksgiving.

We are eagerly awaiting the completion of vernacular worship videos recorded by our worship team. These will add wonderful diversity to our worship times once the final editing is complete.



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### **Mt. Tabor Transformation**

Earlier this year, Mt. Tabor was transformed into a vibrant, child-friendly space with beautiful new murals. The design competition held in 2024 inspired a water theme, featuring *Moses parting the Red Sea* as imagined by Miss Tamara Booi, whose artwork won the competition.

A heartfelt thank you to Imani Booi for her vision and to Ms. Robyn Strydom, the artist who brought the murals to life. The space now beautifully reflects the wonder and creativity of the Bible stories we teach.

### **Volunteers**

Our volunteer drive remains open throughout the year, and we are thrilled by the continued growth in interest.

- February: 20 volunteers completed training and police clearance.
- May: An additional 5 volunteers were cleared.
- Ongoing: Further sessions planned for October/November if needed.

We deeply appreciate each volunteer's commitment, time, and care. Your dedication makes this ministry possible, and we thank you for serving faithfully—even when it means giving up your Sunday services.

### **Junior Youth (Grades 4–7)**

Junior Youth continues to grow from strength to strength.

- Term 1: Restarted on 17 January, meeting every second week and averaging 10 children.
- Term 2: Continued from 9 May with similar attendance.
- Term 3: Expanded to weekly meetings from 25 August, averaging 12–15 children.
- Term 4: We now meet an hour earlier to accommodate Nativity play rehearsals. All the children involved are invited to join Junior Youth afterward, and attendance has grown to around 22 children.

Each session begins with a devotion led by a different leader, followed by games, crafts, or activities linked to the theme. Topics have included *The Fruit of the Spirit*, *Prayer*, *Kindness*, and *Time with God*.

### **Highlights so far:**

- Parent Movie Night (*Mufasa*): Attended by 91 people.
- RollEgoli Outing: 30 children enjoyed a fun day out.
- Ice-Skating Fundraiser (27 April): Over 100 participants – hugely successful!
- Monte Movies Outing: 15 children and several parents enjoyed a relaxed evening together.
- Neon Dance Party: Our joint youth event was a huge success, with nearly 80 children attending — a night of luminous fun and fellowship!



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### **Children and Youth Internship Programme**

Our internship programme continues to be a blessing to both Children's and Teen Church.

We currently have three interns who are dedicated, passionate, and invaluable to our team.

This year we said goodbye to Yanga (November 2024) and Ano (April 2025), and we welcomed Yeye (January) and Lolo (May). One of our interns renewed her contract, and we are thrilled she will continue with us.

As the year comes to a close, Yeye's contract will soon be completed. We are deeply thankful for her hard work and dedication throughout the year.

This ministry remains deeply needed, and we are so grateful the church continues to support it. The potential for growth and long-term impact is immense.

### **Joint Events**

We continue to collaborate with the Youth Ministry for events that build intergenerational connection and community spirit.

Highlights:

- Movie Night (January): Our first joint family event of the year—well attended and joy-filled.
- Ice-Skating Fundraiser (April): Over 100 skaters participated, making it a successful family and fundraising event.
- Holiday Club (30 June–4 July):  
What an incredible week! Around 70 children attended daily, supported by 30 teen and young adult leaders.
  - We were joined by children from the Johannesburg Children's Home.
  - Meals, finances, and prayers from members and small groups made the week possible.
  - Immense gratitude to our leaders, staff, and parents who made it all happen!

### **Drives & Outreach**

We are committed to cultivating generosity and compassion in our children and families.

- Easter Drive: Supported the Gerald Fitzpatrick Nursing Home, delivering 59 Care parcels through the help of the congregation and young adults.
- Christmas Drive (Upcoming): Begun earlier this year. We are supporting one home; Little Eden located in Edenvale. We are collecting for 100 residences.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." – *2 Corinthians 9:7*



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### Family Focus

In alignment with the church's strategic plan to become more family-focused, Children's and Youth Ministries continue to champion this vision.

- Mother's & Father's Day: Simple yet heartfelt handmade gifts were created—keyrings for moms and chocolate-filled ties for dads.
- Family Services: We encourage families to sit together and worship as one, reinforcing that children and teens are full members of BMC.
- Fundraisers & Events: All are designed to include families and strengthen community bonds.

### Upcoming Plans for Late 2025

- Junior Youth: Continue weekly gatherings.
- Volunteer Drive: Ongoing.
- December Toy Drive: Begun early this year in mid-October (Little Eden)
- Joint Youth Events: Ongoing collaboration.
- Parent Events: In process.
- Family Event: *Nativity Play – December 2025.*

### Values Alignment Summary

The Children's Church and Junior Youth Ministries continue to reflect the heart and values of our church. Every aspect of our work: teaching, worship, service, and outreach, is rooted in a Christ-centred vision that nurtures faith in children and families. Our focus on family connection, community engagement, and inclusivity ensures that every child feels seen, valued, and loved. Through the dedication of volunteers, the creativity of our leaders, and the generosity of our congregation, we are living out our call to be a welcoming, serving, and growing church that shares God's love with joy and purpose.

### Conclusion

This year has been one of growth, creativity, and blessing across every area of our ministry. We celebrate the children, youth, families, volunteers, and staff who make BMC's Children's and Junior Youth Ministries flourish.

We give thanks to God for His faithfulness and look forward to the months ahead with excitement and gratitude.

*"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." – Matthew 19:14*



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**Pictures:**



Ministers: Rev. Thabiso Mcinga, Rev. Zamani Sikupela