

# Christ Central Soweto

Dallwonga Miuma      Simthembile Garnede      Nkosiyezwe Malunga      Philani Mngonyama

Thamsanqa Malunga      Mlondi Ndlangisa      Menzi Nzimande      Njabulo Ndlangisa

Sithembiso Mjoli      Siphethuxolo Chilliza      Sifiso Sosiba      Luyanda Mjoli

Nhlonipho Mbarjwa

Sibonelo Ngubane

## They are not just a number

We bring you the stories and the faces of the people slaughtered for no apparent reason at a Soweto tavern on Sunday morning. They too, matter [page 3](#)

*Dear Friends*

As some of you may be aware through the news coverage, that in the early hours of Sunday morning there was a mass shooting in a tavern in Soweto where 16 people lost their lives. This took place in the Nomzamo Park community which is walking distance from our own church (Christ Central Soweto).

Since this has taken place the community of Nomzamo and the surrounding townships have been left shocked and traumatized at the senseless nature of it all. To make matters worse no suspects have been arrested and no clear motive has been established. While a killing of so many people in a single incident is unprecedented for us all, sadly murder and crime is commonplace here.

In response to this news, the local churches in the area organized a mass community prayer last night to pray for the families and the community reeling in this devastation. We shared the comfort of the gospel and prayed for the many social ills that plague our community. We were greatly encouraged to see the response of the community and how much they appreciated the prayers for them and words of comfort from the Word of God. For the community of Nomzamo this is the first step of what will be a long journey of healing and hopefully justice. We would appreciate your prayers as we walk with our community in the coming days and months.

### Prayer points

- Praise God for his kindness to our congregation, that none of our members were directly affected by the mass shooting. Many of those living in the community however are living in fear. Pray that they may know the comfort and assurance of the Lord during this time.
- Pray for the families who lost loved ones, that they may be comforted and their immediate needs cared for. Many of the deceased are from outside the province and so funerals will likely take place in their local villages. Pray that the government and other organizations may assist these families with their basic needs.
- Pray for justice and the many social ills that plague our community. Unemployment is high here as well as crime. Illegal guns are easily accessible here and the community has been living in fear. Pray that the police may have a meaningful impact on crime in this area.
- Lastly, pray for local churches in the area, as we seek ways of serving our community and sharing the love of Christ with them. The soil in this community (especially eNomzamo) has been tough and gospel work slow, pray that the Lord may use this tragic incident to draw many to the hope that can only be found in Christ.

### Community prayer by local churches

