Hospital Chaplain's Report: Tygerberg Hospital

The Reverend Suzette Clare Strydom

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Report from 20 July- Nov 2026

Information for ministry and visits to patients:

1. Anglican admission list from enquiry desk at Tygerberg Hospital.
2. Requests received from Rectors via a phone call or what's up messages.
3. Referrals from the medical staff (Doctors and nurses).

Visitation Ministry:

Anglicans: 30 patients per week Communion: 55 Ministry to the dying: 30 (mostly babies)

Ecumenical: 70 mostly referrals from medical staff or while doing visits

Emergency: 20 from medical staff

Call outs to other hospitals: 8

Other: 15

Emergency Baptism: 6 (One Anglican: Bredardsdorp and 5 non-Anglican Babies and one Adult with permission from the Vicar general)

Confidential Pastoral Issues Discussed:

Health/Illness

Parent Care

Relationships

Faith issues

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Alcohol Issues

Discouragement/ Encouragement

Depression/ Stress

Bereavement Support

Debriefing Medical staff

Meetings:

Monthly meetings: 6

Workshops attended/ Seminar:

Palliative care seminar: October

Breast Cancer awareness campaign: October

Services:

Every Wednesday at 13h00 in the West Chapel

Outreach Activities:

In August: Women's day Lunch for 40 female medical staff: Donations.

October: Handing out of parcels t male medical staff.

Group discussions/ Debriefing:

Wednesdays 12h15 to 13h00

One on one sessions if needed can be arranged.

Challenges of the past had been addressed and the following changes were made:

Leaving a Card with my details on helps to keep in touch with the patients and staff.
2.Medical personal now includes us in their discussions with the patients, after our discussions with the Operational managers of Wards, to explain our role as Pastoral care workers.

Toiletries are still a challenge, but we received more donations from churches this year.

A big Thank you to St. Andrew's Northpine and The Church of the Transfiguration for their generous support.

Special Ministry:

Light Lunch for 40 Female Staff members during the month of August.

Breakfast for 40 Male Medical staff members during the month of November.

Training to FOV candidates and St. Albans Goodwood Layministers: Ministry to the sick and dying.

Christmas service: Carols will be on the 29th of November (West Chapel) and 3rd of December (X-Block)

Interfaith Service: 10th of December at 13h00: West Chapel (Prayers session for all the babies who died during 2026)

Conclusion

The ministry to the sick and dying can be very challenging, but there are always the moments of joy and hope when a patient recovers. Every day brings its own challenges, joy, encounters and interactions. I am very grateful to our volunteers who willingly and unselfishly give of their time to assist. Our mission is to bring hope in the mist of darkness, hopelessness, and as well during the unexpected turn of events. God being our helper. A big thank you to my Archdeacon Venerable Cedric who so generously did check ins on our program and progress during the year. To God be the glory.

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