



The Chronicle

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There shall be One Fold, and One Shepherd

Philip C. Bennett

From before man sinned in the Garden of Eden, God had provided a remedy. The Bible says that Christ was slain from the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8). *“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”* (Genesis 3:15)

After centuries of waiting, Jesus came into the world miraculously by way of the virgin birth. Who would have thought that the Son of God would be born of a poor Jewish girl, from a little known town called Bethlehem and be raised in an insignificant town named Nazareth?

God, more times than not chooses the least - for example the nation of Israel who were the least of all people to do His will (Deuteronomy 7:7)

Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost, but in saving the lost, He would not leave them unprotected. He would place them within His sheep fold which would be His Church, from the Greek word *Ecclesia* or called out ones.

Called out from what you may ask? Called out from the world and from sin!: *“When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”* (St. Matthew 16:13-18)

Here Jesus revealed His intention to build His Church. Only God could reveal that Jesus, a Man in the flesh was indeed God. As Jesus said in verse 17, this revelation was of divine origin.

Contrary to what many preach, we know that the Church was not built on Peter. Peter was a rash and temperamental person. Immediately after this revelation and declaration, Jesus had to rebuke this same Peter - calling him Satan.

The Church is not built on any man but on the divine revelation and mutual understanding that existed between Jesus and His Disciples.

In verse 18 Jesus made a promise to His Church which does not cover any other organisation. Sabine Baring-Gould penned these words in the song *"Onward Christian Soldiers:"*

*"Crowns and thrones may perish,
kingdoms rise and wane,
But the church of Jesus constant will remain.
Gates of hell can never 'gainst that church
prevail;
We have Christ's own promise,
and that cannot fail."*

"And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:" (St. Mark 3:13-15)

Here, Christ established the Church and gave them their commission, *"...to preach,... have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out devils."*

Jesus later refers to Himself as the Good Shepherd and His Church as the sheep fold and goes on to say: *"And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."* (St. John 10:16)

A true sheep will hear the voice of the Shepherd and follow where He leads.

Jesus said, a stranger they will not follow, *"for they know not the voice of strangers."*

He also said it is He who would bring them. So many times we try to bring the other sheep but nothing happens. That is because they only recognise the voice of the Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

In the world of Christendom today, it is erroneously taught that all Born Again believers are automatically in the Church of God. The Church of God is a visible entity and is entered into by covenant as in a marriage ceremony: *"For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee."* (Isaiah 62:5)

A man marries his wife by entering into a covenant. Anything else is a common law union and not recognised by the state. The one who is just co-habiting does not have the same rights as the covenanted spouse.

The kingdom of God on the other hand is invisible and cometh not with observation (St. Luke 17:20-21).

Before Jesus returned to heaven, He told His Church to tarry in Jerusalem until they be endued with power from on high. On the day of Pentecost, the Church was endued with power in Acts 2:1-4: *"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."*

The Church was not established on the day of Pentecost as many erroneously teach. Verse 41 of the same chapter states that: *"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls."* (Acts 2:41) You can only add to something that already exists.

The Church grew rapidly but Satan was not pleased and caused great persecution to come upon them. The more they were persecuted, the more the Church grew - especially after the conversion of the Apostle Paul. Paul warned the early Church: *"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them."* (Acts 20:28-30)

When Satan saw that persecution did not work he changed his tactics, "If you can't beat them, join them." After the conversion of the Emperor Constantine, the Church and the state became one. In A.D. 325 the Church departed from theocracy with the signing of the Nicene Creed, which ushered in the period known as the Dark Ages.

Many manmade creeds crept into the Church - such as the selling of indulgences for sins committed, the selling of relics and praying to the saints. Many who did not embrace this new way were tortured and killed but the prophet Isaiah had prophesied hundreds of years earlier: *"For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness*

will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer." (Isaiah 54:7-8)

Centuries passed and many forgot Jesus' words, *"...the gates of hell shall not prevail against the Church of God."* Yet saints were keeping their watch and little by little the covering started to be removed, notably in the 15th century.

Martin Luther caused a split in the Catholic Church when he outlined 95 faults (theses) which he nailed to the church door in Wittenberg. God used him to preach the doctrine of Justification by faith; that salvation came only by faith in God. It could not be bought or obtained by works. *"Therefore been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."* (Romans 5:1)

Later on God used John Wesley to preach the doctrine of Sanctification as a second definite work of grace.

However, the Church was not yet restored to her original glory. On the 13th June 1903, God removed the entire covering and revealed the last days Church of God to a humble man by the name of A.J. Tomlinson. He later became the first General Overseer of The Church of God - this side of the Dark Ages.

Again, the Church grew rapidly but suffered a major setback and falling away in 1922 with the introduction of the constitution. At the age of 55 Bishop Tomlinson had to virtually start again and the Church of God of Prophecy, the organisation which many of us got saved in was the remnant.

In the 1980's, the Spirit of God spoke to the Church in the General Assembly and said we had drifted from a vital relationship with God. Not many people paid heed.

Eventually, God spoke to a few people who were concerned and about what was happening in the Church and called the Church out of the church. The Church of God marches on!

Today as we look at Christendom, we see nothing but confusion and the scattering of God's sheep but this was not and is not God's will. God wants all His sheep in one Fold.

Some are afraid and embarrassed to preach about the one Fold and the exclusive body of Christ but we have nothing to be ashamed of. The Church does not belong to us. In a message and interpretation at the Solemn Assembly in July 1993, the Holy Ghost said: *"You are The Church of God. That is the name I have given thee."*

We are only preaching what has been revealed to us. If we have a divine revelation of The Church of God, we have to talk about it - like Joseph of old. *"Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours. And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him. And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more. And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed: For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf. And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words. And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.*

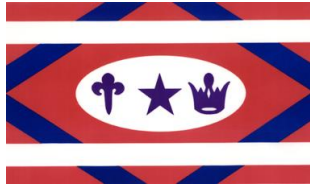
And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth? And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying." (Genesis 7:3-11)

Joseph did not relish been hated by his brothers but he had to declare what had been revealed to him. If God has given us a divine revelation in our hearts, it has to come out of our mouths: *"Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay."* (Jeremiah 20:9)

I may not know how God is going to do it and bring all His sheep into one Fold, but Jesus said: *"...there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."* And I believe it, amen. 📖

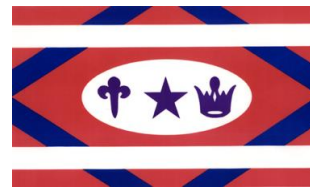


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Angela Clarke	Pastor, London/National Treasurer/National Choir Director
Wilhelmina Brown	National Assembly Band Movement Co-ordinator
Stuart Brown	National Church of Prophecy Marker Association/ Bible Training Institute Co-ordinator
James Mwila	National Evangelism Co-ordinator
Jennifer Thompson	National Sunday School Co-ordinator
Claudine Brown	National Victory Leaders Band Co-ordinator/National Choir Director
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Justin Clarke	National Men's Retreat Co-ordinator
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Beverley Wilson	National Reporter
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From the Overseer's Desk

We were so blessed to have our General Overseer, Bishop Oscar Pimentel with us for our 63rd Annual National Convention. I am sure everyone who attended was blessed by his presence and the messages he delivered.

In July and August of 2017, Sister Victoria and I were able to visit, fellowship and worship with the churches in Druids Heath and London. Both of these visits were a great blessing to us.

I thank God for a safe visit to and from the USA. During the visit, I attended classes for the Overseers at our General Headquarters in Cleveland, Tennessee and again at our International Youth Camp in North Carolina. The main purpose of the visit was of course to attend the 112th General Assembly, which was a glorious experience.

It was wonderful to meet up with Brother Jason Prince, Sister Brenda Prince, their children, as well as Overseers and members from all over the world - including Jamaica. The members from England were fully utilised as per usual in singing, playing the music and other activities throughout the Assembly - sometimes with little or no notice ☺. Following the Assembly, I was able to spend a few days with two of my siblings and their families in the USA and across the border in Canada.

As the Church enters into perilous times, let us make sure that we are rooted, grounded and have a divine revelation of who we are in God's programme. We do not want to be like the man who built his house upon the sand, but rather let us build upon the rock:

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock."

(St. Matthew 7:24-25)

Let us take to heart the words below from a song by Ruth C. Jones:

*In times like these you need a Savior, in times like these you need an anchor;
Be very sure, be very sure, your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!*

*This Rock is Jesus, Yes He's the One, this Rock is Jesus, the only One;
Be very sure, be very sure, your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!*

Upcoming Event:

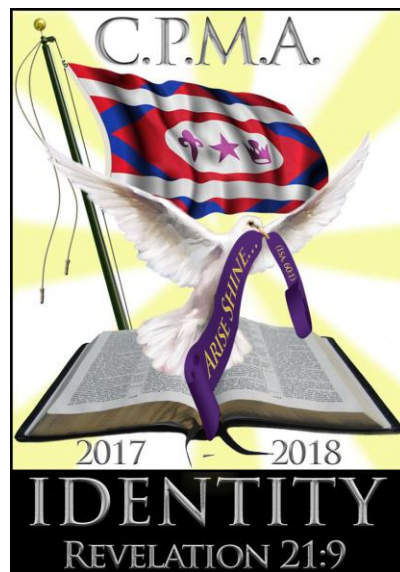
National Family Camp concert - 2nd December 2017



CPMA/BTI BOOST

Stuart Brown - National CPMA/BTI Co-ordinator

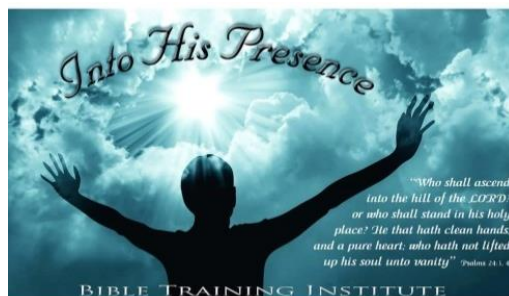
The new general Church of Prophecy Marker Association theme for the assembly year 2017-2018 is:
'Identity'



The general Bible Training Institute theme for the assembly year 2017-2018 is:

'Into His Presence'

(Psalm 24:3-4)



Greetings from the CPMA and BTI departments. I pray all is well and that when God looks down on us, He sees us living and shining bright as we are supposed to; preaching and teaching as He instructed and being living markers of Christ and His Church.

I would like to boost the inspired, powerful themes for this Assembly year of 2017-2018. CPMA – Our new general CPMA theme is **“Identity.”** This means more now than at any other time in history! If we do not possess the identity that Christ has set out for us as the Church, He will not recognise us when He comes. We do not want the Lord to say *“I do not recognise you as MY BRIDE!”* It was boosted by our General CPMA Co-ordinator - Bishop James Horne, the importance of knowing our heritage and who the Church is. This identify must NEVER be lost!

BTI – Our continuing general BTI theme is **“Into His Presence.”** Our General Co-ordinator - Bishop Ray D. Dupre encouraged us that wherever we are in life, our Saviour is there to respond to our commitment to Him. God's presence is not for just Sunday or mid-week services, or some specific revival event. He is with us as long as we are willing to acknowledge Him.

Let us be praying for the Lord's guidance through this Assembly year, that we may be inspired by His Spirit in all things. I would like to encourage you from my notes from my National Convention 2017 boost.

What do you see?

In St. Matthew 16:2-3, Jesus addressed those around Him who were lacking in spiritual vision. He questioned them on how they had the ability to discern natural things, but yet were unable to discern the times through spiritual eyes. These same words are ringing today. What do you see? Church, what do we see? Christian, what do you see today? We know when it is time to visit the barbers, to diet and adjust our wardrobes. We know when it is time to change job. We can discern a lot of natural things for varied reasons to benefit our own interests, but do we see what God wants us to see.

Are we awake to spiritual things? Are our eyes and ears alert to discern the good and bad of what we are surrounded by and the times in which we live? Romans 13-11 informs us Jesus Christ is soon to appear! Fact! Irrespective of personal beliefs, convictions, disputes or divisions which may distract, none of these are changing or preventing that appointed time of His return. Verse 14 of Romans 13 tells us not to let anything of the flesh blind us!

What do you see? We know there is a God. We know Satan also exists. Can we see the harlot? Can we see Babylon the great seducing this world into spiritual darkness? I speak of this in the context of the Church knowing who she is and what role she plays in these last days as the direct opposition to the harlot church!

Currently the LGBT agenda is huge, there is ecumenical wild fire, apostasy, false prophets, doctrines of devils, persecution of true sheep, worldliness, anarchy against God, all polarising into one entity!! What do you see?

People are distracted by politics, racial issues, terrorism, economics and other cares of this life that the Bible tells us we should not let over take us. People are so heavily caught up and invested in these things that they cannot see the real threat!! Racism, politics, terrorism, wealth or poverty are not the threat to us. Sin and spiritual deception is! Whilst these things do affect man and cause distress, they are not the big picture and should not dominate the Christian's heart and mind!

The devil is trying to blind us to the things of God, so that we will not attain to who we are supposed to be as the Church. The antichrist spirit is sweeping the whole earth and consuming the denominational world. This spirit gathers all uncleanness unto itself to eventually become that harlot that opposes all that is God. Do you see it?

I am not going to leave it there, as that is not all to be seen. Can we see her, the Bride of Christ making herself ready? Inflow. Sometimes it is easy to get an image in our minds of rushing, high pressure out pour, when we think of inflow. Flow also means 'smooth' and 'continuous'.

What do you see? I do not believe Noah witnessed a stampede to the ark! The Bible tells us in Genesis 7:9 the animals came in two by two. The last day's Church has experienced many things, yet has remained continuous in her identity. The Lord is doing a work and the inflow has already been activated and is in operation. How did we all get here, different people - previously unconnected, all here in a global Body - the Church..? It is the Lord's doing. What do you see? I see a perfecting process, a place of safety in doctrine and fellowship. If you agree, you can say amen.

I see a safe haven for the other sheep, and I see the sheep! What do you see? The Church, the Bride, the Fold is here and His sheep are, and will continue to flow into it. She will stand as the place that the harlot will identify as her opposition and enemy, but Jesus' sheep will see her as the place for them - both those in the fold, and those on their way!



EVANGELISM
DEPARTMENT

EVANGELISM BOOST

James Mwila - National Evangelism Co-ordinator

The new general Evangelism theme for the assembly year 2017-2018 is:

'Evangelism from the Inside Out'

Greetings in the WONDERFUL and MIGHTY name of JESUS.



"Create in me a clean heart, O God; And renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; And take not thy holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; And sinners shall be converted unto thee." (Psalm 51:10-13)

Evangelism should start from you and me, from within our hearts before we can go out to the world. How can we go out and draw others to Christ, when we ourselves are not drawn nigh to Him? How can we go out and teach about Christ and how we ought to live to please the Lord, when we are not living according to His teachings?

How can we spread the Gospel, when we ourselves do not know it? How can we encourage others to have faith in Jesus, when our own faith is not steadfast?

My encouragement to us is to live for Christ, before we effectively work for Christ. How can one work effectively for a master whom he/she does not respect and obey?

Let us ask the Lord to search our hearts and cleanse us. Let us ask the Holy Ghost to revive us. We need a clean heart and a right spirit within us. We need the Holy Ghost brethren, to give us wisdom, boldness and power to go out into the world. We need to be **STRONG** and **ESTABLISHED** in the Lord: *"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."* (Ephesians 6:12)

We do not want to be cast away from the presence of the Lord and lose the indwelling of the Holy Ghost. We need to be born again and live a wholly sanctified life: *"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother."* (1 John 3:9-10)

Let us ask the Lord to give us the strength to maintain our uprightness and ask Him to restore our hearts with the joy of His salvation. Living for Christ should not be a burden. Remember, the world is watching us. Let the presence of the Lord radiate from us and into the whole world.

We are to sincerely seek the Lord and ask Him to prepare us before we can be effective Evangelists. Please continue to pray for evangelism in The Church of God and that the Lord will reveal His plans for His Church. God bless you.

Sunday School Department



The Church of God

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOST

Jennifer Thompson - National Sunday School Co-ordinator

The general Sunday School theme for the assembly year 2017-2018 is:

'Embrace the Vision'

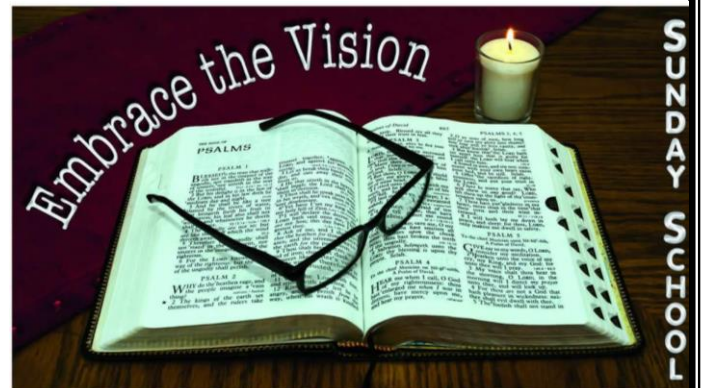
To God be the glory, great things He has done.

Thank God for another wonderful four days of Vacation Bible School. The theme for this year was **"The Good Shepherd"** St. John 10:1. It was very uplifting and encouraging.

Three classes were held and the theme provided each class with the knowledge for the scholars to explore and identify the differences between the Good Shepherd and the hireling. They were able to work on their projects and produce an amazing event on the final day, for parents and other guests to enjoy.

The scholars (our children) had a clearer understanding of "the Good Shepherd" (Jesus) and the hireling (hired hand) or someone who is paid to do a job, St. John 10:11-13. The hireling has no regard for the sheep and would not risk their life when the enemy approaches. A pay cheque for a hireling is not worth the risk. They are more concerned with 'saving their own skin' and would readily abandon the sheep in the face of danger. This enables the wolf to capture and scatter the sheep.

Jesus, our Good Shepherd cares for His sheep and gave His life for us to inherit eternal life.



SUNDAY
SCHOOL



VICTORY LEADERS BAND BOOST

Claudine Brown - National Victory Leaders Band Co-ordinator

The new general Victory Leaders Band theme for the assembly year 2017-2018 is:
'Anointed to Serve'



Greetings Chronicle readers in the mighty name of our Lord and Saviour, the true and living God, the GREAT God – and maker of Heaven and Earth!

It is hard to believe that the Assembly year has ended and another has begun. Time is indeed waiting for no man! I am feeling in a reflective mood and I feel impressed to count some blessings!

In Convention this year, I shared that the year has been bitter-sweet. I cannot recall a year where the enemy has fought our young people harder. Discouragement has been rife and the youth have been under attack. As much as every generation has had its challenges, never before have we lived in a time like this – with so much access to information; this much advancement in technology and what it places right in the centre of your hand; this much temptation without even leaving your room. This external pressure, coupled with a loss of desire to serve the Lord, results in disaster for the young Christian. Readers, let us beseech the Lord on behalf of our youth. We cannot physically force anyone to serve God – not even He does that. But let's reach Heaven with our prayers, and most of all, let us LIVE so that when they see us, we are not putting them off from returning to the bosom of God. As for the 'sweet'... God has blessed us this year beyond measure, both temporarily and spiritually.

- A VLB witnessed to another VLB who subsequently got saved, baptised and is now a member of the Church
- VLBs have emigrated to the United States of America, are now pastoring and working hard on the field
- A VLB organised, lead and taught at BTI
- 5 VLBs attended and completed First Term of BTI this year
- VLBs organised an awesome National Family Camp
- God arranged a miracle to enable a VLB to attend Family Camp during term time
- A VLB organised an awesome National Men's Retreat
- A VLB organised a joint Arise Shine service
- VLBs have evangelised in a residential home and are winning souls for the Lord. PRAISE THE LORD!!!!

I wonder just what more the Lord will do with us and through us as we become more and more "As One" to reference our general theme for 2016-2017. VLBs – continue on with the Lord. Peter encouraged us in 1 Peter 4:12-13: ***"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."***

I believe that great things are ahead for 2017-18. Please don't be on the outside looking in. Finally – if you have any ideas for VLB events, please share them with me either directly or through your local leaders. I also crave your prayers as we embark on another year. God bless you now and always.

England's 63rd Annual National Convention

The Church of God in England assembled for its 63rd National Convention on the 7th to 9th July 2017. Our theme was **"...and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd"** St. John 10:16. It was an honour to have our General Overseer, Bishop Oscar Pimentel in our midst.

On Friday evening, the Convention opened with a warm welcome from our National Overseer - Bishop Philip Bennett. Brother Stuart Brown delivered the CPMA and BTI programme. Brother Stuart announced that the Church in England has completed the first term of BTI. Also, all churches are 100% in CPMA membership. He then proceeded to preach a thought provoking message entitled **"What do you see?"** The evening concluded with a message by Pastor Ray Prince **"...a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing;"** from Ephesians 5:27.

On Saturday, Sister Wilhelmina Brown, National ABM Co-ordinator delivered the ABM programme and preached a message entitled **"Stay in the fold!"** Philippians 2:16. Praises went up as we were blessed by a special rendition of **"I know my Redeemer lives"** by Sister Kathleen Hamilton. National Family Camp and National Men's Retreat boosts followed and we heard a testimony of how God worked a miracle for the Wilson family to attend Camp. Brother Jerome Solomon expressed the wonderful brotherly fellowship and God's blessing throughout National Men's Retreat.

Our National Overseer's Annual address was based on the National Convention theme. Bishop Bennett said the divine revelation of the Church was first revealed to Peter, but God could not establish His Church on him. When we have a divine revelation of the Church, there will be no other place for us to go.

In the afternoon session, we were blessed by the WMB programme, delivered by Pastor Beverley Anderson - National Co-ordinator. We were encouraged and blessed to hear from our General Overseer, Bishop Oscar Pimentel. His message was **"There shall be..."** Bishop Pimentel said "time and circumstances cannot change God's promise. Be not discouraged! We may be small and despised, but keep the precepts. God is with us." Psalm 119:141.

Pastor Angela Clarke preached the Divine Healing message: **"...and with his stripes we are healed"** Isaiah 53:5. A healing line proceeded and we could see and feel the presence of God working on many. Praise the Lord!

The evening closed with an inspired VLB programme delivered by Sister Claudine Brown, National VLB Co-ordinator. Her message was **"Lessons from the Ark"** Genesis 6:19-21. Sister Claudine stated that the Ark was a type and shadow of the Church. Like the Ark, the Church only has one door. Noah was the shepherd, tasked to look after the chosen ones who were saved from the flood. The Ark analogy shows how God brought us into one place. We all had our differences (likened to the animals in the Ark) but God moved in us and brought us all together into His Church. There is no need to feel claustrophobic in the Ark, as there is room for all!

Sunday - our final day sadly came too quickly. We came expecting a blessing from the Sunday School programme, led by Sister Jennifer Thompson. We were encouraged by the local churches Sunday School departments. The children marched, sang and testified about how they love Sunday School. It was truly wonderful to see the work of the department in our midst.

The General Overseer delivered our final message of the Convention. **"And the Spirit and the bride say, come"** Revelation 22:17. Bishop Pimentel declared this is a general invitation which has been given to all. No one can come to God unless the Spirit calls them. He gave an analogy of being extremely thirsty, but being unable to quench his thirst - due to being unable to find a drink. Bishop Pimentel said it would be sad if a soul came to Church searching for their spiritual thirst to be quenched, and found the doors closed. The invitation for salvation will not always be here. Bishop Pimentel then spoke about a famine for the Word of God from Amos 8:11. In closing Brother Pimentel declared this is the greatest invitation... whosoever will!

We thank God for His presence throughout our 63rd National Convention and ask the Holy Ghost to guide us each day, until we meet again.

Sister Beverley Wilson - National Reporter

What's happening in Long Lane Church?

This quarter at Long Lane Church, we have seen our Cradle Roll blossom. During one of our services we had a total of nine Cradle Roll aged children in attendance. In this service, one mother gave her life to God. What a blessing this was!

We have also had two Junior Defenders come along to Sunday school with their guardian. God is truly answering prayers in this department of the Church and we thank Him.

Our children do not just attend services, but join in too. We have a budding musician in our young Master Tobias Mwila. He has started to not only bring his Ukulele (his guitar) to Church, but also sit with the musicians and strum along. We also have a promising singer in Miss Renae Brown, who sings along with the choruses.

Continue to pray for us and our children, that we may be good examples for them and that they will continue to come and grow in the Lord.

Sister Antonette Mwila
Reporter



What's happening in London Church?

We have had a very busy few months in London Church.

From the 1st to the 4th of August 2017, Sisters Hannah, Lydia, Rebekah Wilson and Brother Corey Clarke attended Vacation Bible School. The theme was *'The Good Shepherd'* and we all enjoyed our time there. We played games, practiced for a play, and had lessons that reminded us of the good shepherds in our lives who care for us. We were also made aware of people who can be a bad influence to us.



In our recent Evangelism service, our church gave tracts out to the local community. Some of us were quite nervous at first and had fears of being rejected, but once we had given out the first tract, we were fine.

A couple of weeks later after service, we went out into the local community again. This time we gave out leaflets inviting people to our Community Family Fun day.



On Sunday 20th August 2017, we had our Community Family Fun day. We were supported by Brother James Mwila, Brother Rikki Prince and their families. Brother Patrick Clarke and Brother George Wilson were on the BBQ, grilling delicious burgers, sausages and chicken. The younger children coloured in pictures and played board games.

We also played basketball and rounders and this is where you could really see everyone's competitive sides!

We had visitors who also enjoyed their time and we hope to see them again soon.

**Sister Rebekah Wilson
Reporter**



What's happening in Druids Heath Church?



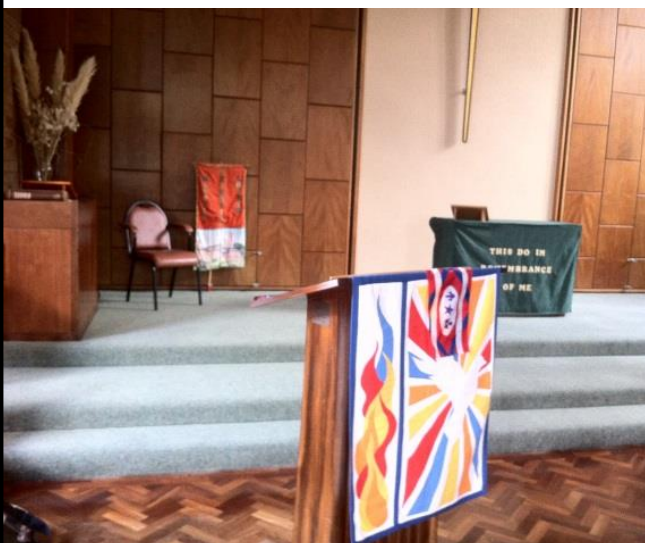
On Sunday 13th August, after 32 years of worshipping at the Maypole Centre in Druids Heath, we changed our place of worship to the Maypole Methodist Church, Sladepool Farm Road, Birmingham. This building as a place of worship is incredibly comfortable and more conducive - being a Church facility.



Our worship at the Maypole Centre began in 1985 as Church of God of Prophecy (then The Church of God in 1995). Previously, we were under the leadership of the late Pastor F E Prince and later pastored by Deacon Ray Prince, since 2015.

In the old place of worship, we have experienced many wonderful and powerful spiritual moves of God. Souls have been saved, sanctified, filled with the Holy Ghost, delivered, and revived. There have been Holy Ghost messages and interpretations, hundreds of messages have been preached, announcements of births, deaths, engagements, birthdays, anniversaries and many more activities. Outreach has been conducted in the local community, hundreds if not thousands of tracts have been handed out to souls, telling of our risen Saviour and salvation.

Please continue to pray for us that the new local community we are in will be evangelised, and hear about Jesus and His Church.



First Sunday in our new place of worship

Testimony Time

My testimony is of God's provision and how He looks after His own.


My first job was working in a newly opened retail store a few years ago and things seemed to go well. However, during the first stock audit, it came to light that some of the stock had gone missing. It could not be proven who had taken it, so the decision was made to sack all staff.

The area manager was very familiar with me and of my beliefs. As a result of this, I was able to keep my job when many others were let go. Psalm 55:16-18 encourages us to call upon God and He will save us. He will provide peace in the many battles around us as we let out light shine through our actions.

This is my prayer daily that He will go before me in all that I do, and He continues to do so every day.
God bless you.

Brother Jerome Solomon
Long Lane Church

Submitted by Sister Brenda Prince



THE CHURCH OF GOD
PRESENTS THE
Christmas
FAMILY CAMP
FUNDRAISER CONCERT
2ND DECEMBER
ASTON MANOR ACADEMY,
PHILLIPS STREET, BIRMINGHAM, B6 4PZ
DOORS OPEN: 6:15PM
ADULTS £5
UNDER 16S £3
3 AND UNDER FREE
FAMILY TICKET £13
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS ON SALE.

Special Note:

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