

community

The New Apostolic Church around the world

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ZMW 20



The celebration of Holy Communion

100-Year Anniversary of the Combo-wafer

Divine service in N'Djamena:
We will remain true to our
promise

Editorial:
Praising and giving thanks

Doctrine:
Humbleness

New Apostolic Church
International



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Praising and giving thanks

Dear brethren in faith,

Our motto for the year, namely “Glory be to God, our Father”, contains three tasks which we have resolved to perform in the year 2017. Once we have become aware of the magnitude of God and His creation—which was the first of these tasks—we will want to praise God and give thanks to Him. Given the knowledge that we have gained in so doing, the wrong response would be to remain motionless, inactive, and mute.

Praising God and giving thanks—how do we succeed at this in concrete terms in our daily life?

We give thanks to God through our willingness to sacrifice. This is not just a matter of money. It is all about the gratitude we feel toward God. We are grateful to God and give Him back a portion of that which we have received from Him in the first place.

We also give thanks to God through our willingness to reconcile. Since we are thankful to God for His grace and forgiveness, we are also prepared to forgive our neighbour.

We can also give thanks to God by serving Him. We do not serve God because we wish to earn something or get something from Him. We serve Him because we have already



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received everything from Him, because He has promised to make us His heirs!

Now that we have recognised the magnitude of God and His creation, let us glorify God and give thanks to Him for His grace and loving care. We can thank Him through our willingness to sacrifice, our preparedness to reconcile, and by serving Him and our neighbour.

Warm regards,



Jean-Luc Schneider

| We will remain true to our promise

Some 1,000 believers gathered in N'Djamena, Chad on 22 January 2017 to enjoy a divine service with Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider.



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Daniel 3: 17-18

"If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

My very dear brothers and sisters in Christ, dear guests, I am happy to be able to share this divine service with you and to receive the blessing of our God together with you.

This morning we have heard a Bible passage which tells us the story of Daniel and his companions. Oh, I am sure that all of you here in N'Djamena know this story.

Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, had invaded Israel and Judah, and had taken prisoners, whom he led away to Babylon. And among them were Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. He made them a deal and said, "Listen, I would like to propose something to you. You can study in my court for three years." And in the world of that time, Babylon was truly the most advanced civilisation. And the king told them, "You can study here for three years, and afterward you can occupy important posts within my kingdom"

This was an unheard-of opportunity for these poor young men who had been led away into captivity, but the condition was, "Come, but you will eat the food of the king, and drink the drink of the king." The young men were very interested in this proposal, however, they said, "But we can-

not eat the food of the king. It is against our faith.” And they made a compromise and said, “Let us eat our own food and we will follow your teaching. And you will see: God will grant us success.” And that was what they did. They remained faithful to God. They continued to obey the law, and they studied (cf. Daniel 1). And not only were they able to occupy great positions in the kingdom, but they even became a source of blessing for the king and the whole country. That was how well they served the country.

Later on, king Nebuchadnezzar had a statue built and decided, “Now no one will worship any other god. Everyone will now worship this statue and those who do not do so will be killed!” And here our three young men realised, “Well, there can be no question of this! This time there is no possible compromise. Either we deny our God and live, or we remain faithful to God and die. But there is no compromise possible. It is one or the other.”

And they remained faithful to God and said to the king, “If our God so desires, He can deliver us. Our God can indeed save us from death, but whatever happens, we will not deny our God.” You know the story. The king had them thrown into the furnace, and when the king looked inside the furnace, he noticed that there were no longer three men, but now four. The angel of the Lord was with them in the furnace in order to protect them. In a flash he had them taken out of the furnace. They then became even more important in the kingdom and truly became a great source of blessing for everyone (cf. Daniel 3).

Dear brothers, dear sisters, this ancient story teaches us a great deal about our life of faith. These young men were part of the Chosen People, the people of God. We are the elect of God. We are those whom God has chosen in order to be His children. When we were baptised with water, when we became Christians, we promised to resist sin and follow Jesus. When we were sealed by an Apostle, when we received the gift of the Holy Spirit, we committed ourselves to prepare for the return of the Lord. These are the two promises, the two commitments, we have made. It is our resolve to resist sin and follow Jesus, and it is our desire to allow the Apostles to prepare us for the return of Jesus.

However, we still have our lives on this earth. We must go to work, we must earn our daily bread in order to have enough to eat, to clothe ourselves, to have accommodations. We must occupy ourselves with our children and their futures. And just because we are Christians, just because we are children of God, this does not mean we do not desire to

succeed in our lives here on earth. We are not condemned to remain poor because we were born New Apostolic! It is not forbidden for us to succeed in life because we are children of God. It is completely normal for us to have the desire to succeed in our lives. It is completely normal for us to desire happiness in this life. It is completely normal for us to hope for a certain degree of social success in life.

The example of these young people simply shows us how we must act. Our first priority is the kingdom of God. We have promised to keep the commandments. We have promised to prepare ourselves for the day of the Lord. If we try to succeed in life, if we try to earn more money, to have some success, to have happiness, we must always do so while at the same time keeping the commandments of

God and giving priority to our souls. That is our commitment. Yes, we want to succeed in our lives on earth, but in so doing we keep the commandments of God and give priority to our soul. And the example of these

young people shows us that it is perfectly possible to do so. But we must act like these young men.

We must obey the commandments and remain faithful, and on the other hand, we must also work. We cannot tell the dear God, “Alright, listen: I will do my part and keep the commandments, I will try not to commit sins. I will go to church and I will look after the needs of my soul. But now give me the money!”

We must do both! We must keep the promises we have made to the dear God, but we must also work just like everyone else, and if we do both—we work, we invest for ourselves and for our children, but all while keeping the commandments of God and giving priority to our souls—then God can grant us His blessing.

And how does this blessing manifest itself? At times, God tells us how to succeed in life, and so we succeed in life: we have money, we have our health, and we have a good profession. But in that case, the blessing is not only manifest in that we have this success, but also in that we still have Jesus Christ! We have kept Jesus! We have peace in our hearts, we have salvation. What a blessing!

And at other times, the blessing manifests itself differently. Perhaps we do not receive everything we wanted to receive. Perhaps we do not succeed in all that we have undertaken, despite the fact that we have obeyed God, we have kept the commandments, and so on. But then we realise: there is

*Our first priority is
the kingdom of God.*

blessing from God nevertheless! Even though none of these wishes came true, we still have peace in our hearts. We do not feel the need to accuse our neighbour. We are not bitter. We are not aggressive. Even though not all of our wishes may have come true, we have kept peace in our hearts and are happy in Jesus Christ!

That is the blessing which God grants those who obey Him and do His work. Depending on His will, He at times grants us success and, beyond that, we still have peace in our hearts. On the other hand, even when we have not sold our soul to the devil, God at times tells us, “No, I will not grant you success, but I will give you My blessing nevertheless.” And even though we may not have received everything we wanted, we have peace in our hearts and are happy in Jesus Christ. And we are a blessing for others.

Brothers, sisters, those who keep the commandments will never hurt their neighbour.

Unfortunately, many people today want to succeed at any cost. They want to become rich. They want to become famous. They want to become happy, and in order to achieve this goal, they are prepared to crush anyone who gets in their way. Those who wish to succeed while keeping the law of Christ and the law of God are a blessing for others because they will never achieve their own happiness at the expense of others. They will succeed and yet not harm anyone. They are a blessing because they are true witnesses of Christ. They demonstrate that it is indeed possible to do that which Jesus asks of us. It is possible. This is something we can learn from the first part of the story.

Now we come to the second part of the story with the statue and the furnace. We too at times find ourselves in situations where we cannot make compromises. We have to choose. Either we are with God or we are against God. We may be in a situation in which it is necessary to renounce God, to deny God, in order to obtain something, and in such a case, no compromise is possible. And at such times we must make the right choice.

In certain situations we are confronted with adversaries—something the New Testament calls “enemies of the cross of Christ” (cf. Philippians 3: 18)—and we are confronted by people, no matter who they are, who cause us to suffer and who treat us badly because we are Christians, because we are New Apostolic children of God.

In a number of countries in this world, Christians are persecuted because of their faith, and some are even confronted with the choice: “Either you deny Jesus Christ or you



Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider ordains Ndangalngar Nao (right) and Jean Blague Koiyountan (centre) as Apostles

will be killed.” And many Christians have the courage to say, “I would rather die than deny Jesus.” This was not only the case in the time of the early Christian church. Unfortunately this still happens in the world today, and we pray for these Christians and ask God to come to their aid. Here in N’Djamena, we are not in this situation, but there are nevertheless people who cause us to suffer because we want to respect the rules of God. There are people who make fun of us because we are New Apostolic Christians. There are people who simply treat us badly on account of our faith.

Brothers and sisters, let us likewise resist. I know, it is often easier to say, “Fine, but if that is the case I will go to another church. I will change religions in order to be left in peace.” No! Let us remain faithful to Jesus Christ. Let us remain faithful to our baptismal vow, faithful to our vow of holy sealing. We would rather suffer a little than deny our faith.

Dear brothers and sisters, those who do this will make the same experience as Stephen. He too suffered because he remained faithful to Jesus Christ, but in his suffering he saw Jesus Christ in heaven watching him. The Lord was right there with him (cf. Acts 7: 54-55). Those who suffer for the sake of Jesus Christ will always experience that Jesus is with



them and that He will come to their aid and comfort them. These young men told the king, "You can do whatever you like, but our God is stronger. He can deliver us from death." And as for us, we tell the devil, "Oh, you can make us suffer today, but Jesus is stronger than you are. At the end of the story, He is the one who will win. He will deliver us from evil and give us eternal life, and because we have this promise, we refuse to deny Jesus Christ and we refuse to deny our faith. We would rather suffer a little today for the sake of Jesus Christ in order to remain with him for all eternity tomorrow."

Another situation: at times we must give up some of our wishes, some of our desires, because they are not compatible with our faith. Perhaps we aspire to a certain degree of wealth or a certain social position. We would dearly love to occupy one or the other position in life, fulfil this or that function, possess this or the other thing, but then we realise that in order to fulfil this wish we will have to disobey God. In order to obtain that which we want, we will have to lie. In order to get what we want, we will have to steal. In order to be part of one or the other circle, we will have to engage in some sort of corruption. And there we have to say to ourselves, "Ah, no!" We must make a choice.

"I prefer to remain faithful to God and obey Him rather than receive and obtain that which I would like to have."

Dear brothers, dear sisters, there are certain situations where there is no room for compromise. If we were required to deny God or go against the Ten Commandments in order to obtain something, to secure a certain position, or to become part of a particular circle, then we would simply have to say, "No! I do not want to deny my God! I would rather renounce my ambitions and give up my wishes than betray God! We prefer Jesus Christ to all the riches of this world and all the pleasures of this earth!" In such cases we must remain firm.

It is not only a question of keeping the commandments of God. We have also made a promise, we have also made a commitment, to prepare ourselves for the return of the Lord. And for this we need the divine services, we need the word of God, we need Holy Communion, and we need to follow the Apostles. And here too we are at times confronted with choices in life, but we know very well, "If I follow this path now, I will no longer be able to attend the divine services."



Allow me to give you a more concrete example: “If I marry this man, I will be obliged to adopt his religion. I will never again be able to go to my Church. I will be obliged to go to his church—and all of a sudden, I will no longer be able to prepare myself for the return of the Lord. I will no longer have the Apostles, I will no longer have Holy Communion.”

My dear fathers, what choice will you make for your daughters? This is just one example.

Do you remember when you brought your little girl to the altar to be sealed? You made a promise to the Lord: “I will make sure that she will be able to take part in the day of the Lord!” But you know very well that if she now marries this man, she will be obliged to follow him into his church. What choice will you make? This is just an example—after all, here we are in the Maison de la Femme [National Training Centre for Women in N’Djamena, Chad], so this is quite appropriate.

My dear brothers, my dear sisters, at times we need concrete examples in order to really understand what we mean to say. I take this very, very seriously. When we are con-

fronted with such a choice, let us make the right choice! We keep the commitment we made at our baptism and at our sealing, and we would rather renounce certain things than deny Jesus Christ.

One day the Lord told a man, “Come, follow Me.” And this man replied, “Yes, yes. I will come, but first I must go and bury my father.” And Jesus said, “Let the dead bury their

own dead. Follow Me right now” (cf. Matthew 8: 19-22).

For a Jew it was inconceivable not to bury one’s father after he had died, and anyone who failed to follow this rule would really make an outcast of him-

self from society in so doing. But with this example, Jesus simply wanted to show that following Him is more important than the rules of society.

Dear brothers and sisters, we are all part of a certain society, of a certain culture, of a certain tribe, of a certain tradition, and that is all very well. But if the traditions of our family, of our culture, of our society necessarily prevent us from following Jesus Christ, then we are obliged to say, “Stop! Here we can go no further!” And even if everyone around

*The Lord asks us to
forgive our neighbour.*

us puts pressure on us and says, “But that is how everyone does it! That’s what we do in our tradition!” we say, “We respect that, but you must also understand us: the call of Jesus is more important than these traditions.”

And I will mention a third matter where there can be no possible compromise in following Jesus. We must renounce the old Adam. We must renounce the old Adam, the old creation. Those who are baptised with water and the Spirit must cause the old Adam to die in order to become a new man in Christ. And this is something that Jesus showed us. Apostle Paul portrayed it well. In order for one creation to grow in Jesus, the other must diminish.

We renounce everything in our character and in our personality that does not please God. We all have our own character. We all have our own personality. We all have our own opinion, our own ideas, but there are certain ideas and opinions with which Jesus is not in agreement. I can have an opinion on the subject of my neighbour and I can say, “Yes, but I know he is mean. I know he is like that. I have experienced it myself!” And Jesus tells us, “Yes, but as for Me, I see him in a totally different way. As for Me, I love him and I want him to be saved just like you!” But when does the fight begin? Who is right? Is it Jesus who is right, or am I the one who is right? I can explain, “Yes, I know that this person is a bad fellow,” but then I will be in disagreement with Jesus Christ, and thus it will be necessary to make a choice. Either you keep your own opinion and are not in agreement with Jesus, or you must abandon your own opinion and be at peace with Jesus Christ. Which will you choose?

The Lord asks us to forgive our neighbour. So then some will say, “Yes, but if I forgive you now it is just a bit too easy for you. If I do that, I will no longer have my pride, I will lose face. If I forgive, I will look weak! I will humiliate myself!” Perhaps even others will say, “My brother, everyone will treat you like a weakling, but you have let it happen. You are letting him do as he pleases! Why are you forgiving him?” But we know that because we have need of grace for our own sins, we must ourselves forgive. For us, the peace and grace of Jesus Christ are more important than our pride and our desire for vengeance. And so it is that we renounce our pride and renounce that which we consider to be justice, and we follow the path of Christ by forgiving others.

We also renounce anything that could be harmful to our unity. Some say, “Yes, but I know what I am doing. It’s alright. I am the one who is right,” and that may very well be true: perhaps they are indeed right. The only problem

is that, by their behaviour, they are destroying the unity of God’s children. So what do you want? Do you want to be right or do you want to preserve unity? For those who wish to follow Jesus Christ and prepare themselves for His return, the unity of the people of God is more important than being right. And for the sake of Jesus Christ, they will accept the idea of being wrong—all to preserve the unity of Christ.

So, my dear brothers and dear sisters: that is what this story has to teach us. We have been elected by God. We have promised to be faithful to Him. We have promised to keep the commandments and to prepare ourselves for the return of the Lord. This does not prevent us from succeeding in our lives. We must work. Those who obey and work are blessed by God. God will give them success and also give them peace. And even when there is no success, they will have peace and joy in their hearts—peace in Jesus Christ. They will be a blessing to their surroundings because they will not harm anyone else in seeking their own success.

But there are certain cases where we are obliged to make a choice. There are no possible compromises. And in such cases we would prefer to suffer for and with Christ, rather than deny Him. We renounce all that which could prevent us from following Jesus and attaining our goal, and we allow the old Adam within us to die in order to become a new creation in Jesus. And the dear God guarantees us His blessing if we act in this manner. The young men in our Bible text were saved from death and even received more exalted positions in the end than they had before. Jesus will give us salvation. He will allow us to resurrect and reign with Him as kings and priests in His kingdom. For this reason, let us not hesitate: we are on the side of Jesus Christ! Amen.

CORE THOUGHTS

God blesses the work of those who obey Him by giving them His peace. He grants salvation to those who renounce sin and follow the Lord without compromise.

Following in the footsteps of the Son



Michael Voigt



How do you reach a goal? Certainly, the best way is to follow in the footsteps of a successful forerunner. Here is how the example set by the Son of God leads man to the heavenly Father—a service held by Chief Apostle Schneider in Hannover on 11 December 2016 in Hannover (Germany).

These verses are a reference to the incarnation of the Son of God: “Jesus Christ was true God and true Man,” the Chief Apostle explained.

True God ...

“He was the image of the invisible God. God came to earth in the Son of God, and through Him and in Him God became visible. One could recognise God and see how He really was and is.”

- God is the truth: “The Son of God was here. God had promised this and now it had been fulfilled.”
- God is love—not a theoretical kind of love, but a dynamic kind of love: “He went right to the end, right to the cross.”

- God is near: “He shared the fate of mankind—even suffering and death.”
- God is grace: “He is not the God who wants to avenge Himself and punish human beings.”
- God is the Almighty One: “Nobody could stop Him. He was stronger than death.”

... and true Man

“Jesus was a man like all others. He was like all other men, and yet He was the Son of God,” the Chief Apostle continued. “How are we supposed to understand that?”

- Jesus is the new Adam: “... the man who has a good relationship with his God.”
- Jesus is the firstborn among many brothers: “He has



Guests in Hannover: District Apostles Charles S. Ndandula (Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe; 2nd from Left) and Leonard R. Kolb (USA; 2nd from right)

given power to those who believe in Jesus to become children of God.”

And that means, the Chief Apostle said, that as children of God we are to become like God. “More specifically this means to be like Jesus Christ was, and to have the same relationship with God as Jesus Christ.”

The image as an ideal

“What was so peculiar about the fact that the Son of God was on earth?” was the question regarding the guiding principle. And: “What should distinguish us?”

- The clear awareness of His divine Sonship. “As children of God we know that we are on the path that leads to the Father. This awareness must live in us every day, in every situation in our lives. We know that things will not remain as they are. This is merely a stage, and we are on our way to the Father.”
- The close connection to our heavenly Father. “We must to listen to Him, we must speak with Him, because we want to get to know Him better.” For this we need the word from the Holy Spirit and an active prayer life.
- Our boundless trust in the Father. “I don’t understand anything at all any more. I am at my wits’ end. I am finished. This is all too much for me, but I trust in You, Father. I put everything into Your hands.”
- Our obedience towards the Father. “We have our own ideas, we have our own wishes—and that is fine. We are aware of all the offers in this world, and we also use them, but there is a limit: this is the will of God.”
- Our service to man: “We place ourselves at the service of our fellow human beings in order to serve God. Salva-

tion is the Lord’s business, but we are at His service so that our fellow human beings can recognise the offer of grace.”

“This is not something that I came up with. It comes from Paul,” the Chief Apostle said at the end of his sermon. “God sent His Son. He was a Man on this earth, but He was also the Son of God. We are to become like Him because we are children of God. I think that is a wonderful mission.”

CORE THOUGHTS

Galatians 4: 4–5:

“But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.”

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, reveals God to us as He is. Becoming children of God through the Son of God, we are called to conform to His image. We long for fellowship with our Father, we trust Him, we submit to His will and we serve Him.

A total of 334 believers, among them 74 guests, assembled in the conference centre of the Saskatoon Inn (Canada) for a divine service with Chief Apostle Schneider.



NAC Canada

! Nine ways God helps

Strength, comfort, and blessing—God helps in many different ways. Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider illustrates this with the biblical example of Jacob. And how do we access this divine help? Following are some answers from a divine service conducted by Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider on 12 March 2017 in Saskatoon, Canada.

Here the prophet is addressing the exiled Jews in Babylon. He reminds them that they were elected by God through their ancestors, such as Jacob, to be saved by Him and to testify of Him to all the other nations.

What does this biblical event have to do with us today? “We are the elected people who have the possibility to be part of the bride of Christ,” the Chief Apostle said. Some might think: “O well, our congregation is so small and weak ...” But poor Jacob had nothing, only a stone to lay his head on. And what happened? The promise was fulfilled and he became the father of a great nation.

“God wants to help us enter into the kingdom of God,” the Chief Apostle said. And what does this help consist of?

- Protection: “He will always make sure that nothing can

hinder our salvation. Sure, we have to deal with difficulties. But if God sees that it becomes too difficult, He will use His power to remove the obstacle.”

- Grace: “He forgives us so that we can work unencumbered. And He tells us, ‘Do not worry so much about earthly things. That is an unnecessary burden you are carrying. Just forgive your neighbour. It will make things much easier for you.’”
- Consolation: “If things become too difficult, the Holy Spirit will give us a glimpse of the glory of God. He will show us how great the love of Jesus Christ is. Sure, we cannot see it with our eyes, but we can see and feel it with our soul and with our heart.”

“God also helps us to obtain blessing,” the Chief Apostle continued. “How does He do that?”



The divine service was transmitted to many of the 100 congregations in Canada.

- Through the commandments: “Those who act according to His law, who put His gospel into practice, will have peace and joy in their hearts.”
- Through examples: “One can also be peaceful and joyful in sorrow. That is not a theory: we can see it in our congregations. Just open your eyes.”
- Through the gift of the Holy Spirit: “Give yourself enough time to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit in your heart.”

And finally, God helps us to be true servants and witnesses of Christ by opening up our understanding

- for His plan of salvation: “He will send His Son for the bride of Christ, but that is not the end of the story. This will be followed by the kingdom of peace in which all of mankind will be able to hear the gospel.”
- for the proper motivation: “God does not force people to follow Him. He wants them to feel His love and then decide themselves to follow Him.”
- for our own actions: “God wants us to be witnesses so that our neighbour can experience God’s love.”

And how do we avail ourselves of this help? Here Chief Apostle Schneider once again referred to the example set by Jacob: his unshakeable belief in the promise, his fight to the end, and his willingness to serve the Lord. “God will help those who struggle for their salvation, and He will bless them.”



CORE THOUGHTS

Isaiah 41: 13–4:

“For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, ‘Fear not, I will help you. Fear not, you worm Jacob, You men of Israel! I will help you,’ says the Lord and your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.”

The Lord’s help ensures that those who truly desire it, may be blessed, serve Him and enter into His kingdom.

In the end, love is all that counts

God looks upon the heart: motivation is more important than deeds. And more important than the number of people assembled is the measure of love in their hearts. Exactly 333 participants attended the divine service in Daejeon, South Korea on 29 May 2016.



NAC Korea

God can see more, Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider said at the beginning of the service, and used the example of David to illustrate this. Of all the sons of Jesse, the youngest and smallest was chosen. “God could see that his heart was humble and full of the fear of God.”

David proved this in his fight with Goliath as well as in his struggle with King Saul. David did not suppose that he would conquer the giant. His attitude was: “God will win the battle.” And when David came upon the sleeping king in a cave, he did not follow his companions’ suggestion to kill him. He could not see the will of God in this.

“Because David was humble and God-fearing, God could was able to give him the victory,” the Chief Apostle contin-

ued. “We want to have victory in Christ. We do not have to be strong for this. All we have to do is put ourselves in God’s hand and be humble and God-fearing.”

Bad deeds

“Man only looks at deeds. God looks into the heart.” The same applies to sinners. “Man looks at the sin and condemns the sinner, and God sees the sinner but looks at the heart. And according to the heart He grants grace or not.”

The Chief Apostle gave two examples to illustrate this. When Saul was disobedient toward God he blamed the people instead of admitting that it was his fault. “He did not find grace.” When David arranged it so that Uriah was



District Apostle Helper David Devaraj
(India)



District Apostle Helper John Sobottka
(Canada)



District Apostle Helper Andrew H.
Andersen (Australia)

killed in battle so that he could have Bathsheba for himself, he realised what he had done wrong and repented.

“That applies to us too: no one is perfect. Let us admit our sins and repent, for then God will grant us grace.”

The divine standard

God sees the heart. This not only applies to bad deeds. “We do not want to serve God and be obedient out of fear or calculation,” the Chief Apostle said and addressed our motivation. “When we offer we do so because we are thankful to God. When we serve Him we do so out of love. And if our service and our offerings are based on our love and our gratitude, then God will grant His blessing.”

When it comes to blessing, God looks at the heart too. “For some people blessing consists of being in good health, having money, and being successful.” But: “That is not the way God wants to bless us. God wants to bless our hearts.” A joyful heart, peace in Christ, coming closer to God, and becoming more like Him—that is the blessing God will grant us.

“God looks at the heart, at the invisible things. This also applies to the Church,” the Chief Apostle said. Judging by human terms, the completion of the Church would mean that it becomes more and more popular and that it would continue to grow. “But God looks at the heart. The perfection of the bride of Christ cannot be expressed in numbers.” The only thing that counts for God is the love of the bride for Christ and the neighbour, as well as unity. “And once He sees that there is enough love for Christ, enough love for the neighbour, and enough unity, then He will say, ‘Now I can come!’



CORE THOUGHTS

Jeremiah 17:10:

“I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.”

God considers our heart’s disposition. He gives victory to those who fear Him, gives grace to the repentant, blesses those who serve Him with a pure heart, and saves those who are filled with the love of Christ.



The relationship we have with God is reflected in the relationship we have with our neighbour. This not only applies to love, but also to humbleness. Following are some remarks from Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider concerning this fundamental Christian virtue.

Humility is of central importance in Christian doctrine. Jesus made humility before God an indispensable prerequisite for receiving salvation (Matthew 18: 3–4). The writings of the New Testament describe humility before others as an identifying characteristic of the elect (Colossians 3: 12; Philippians 2: 3–8). Thus it seems appropriate to me that we should take a closer look at this term and ask ourselves what it means for us today.

Humbleness before the Most High

The aspect of “humbleness before God” is certainly the easiest to grasp. Being humble before God entails

- recognising that we are completely dependent on the grace of God.
- showing the fear of God: God is perfect and infallible—we can neither understand Him completely nor force Him to do anything.
- surrendering ourselves completely to His love.

To be humble before God does not imply that we should disdain our own person. The commandment to “love our neighbour as ourselves” clearly shows that God does not forbid us from valuing—that is to say, loving—ourselves or taking care of ourselves. Let us beware of false humility, which would have us believe that we are incapable of doing that which God expects of us. Those who are truly humble will bear in mind that God knows them better than they know themselves, and that with the help of God they will certainly manage that which God expects of them.

Humility before our neighbour

Humility before our neighbour is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, who teaches us that

- God does not love human beings for what they are, but rather that He loves them because He is love. He loves our neighbour as He loves us, even though our neighbour may be completely different than we are. Therefore

my neighbour does not have to become like me in order to be loved as I am loved.

- we are all reliant on grace, irrespective of our accomplishments.

In his letter to the Philippians, Paul advises: "... but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself" (Philippians 2: 3). At first glance, this passage appears unrealistic. After all, it seems as though it would require us to think of ourselves as being fundamentally inferior to everyone else, no matter what they are like. This interpretation is not appropriate, however. Evidence of this is that Paul did not regard himself in this way and did not hesitate to explain that he was in no way inferior to others (2 Corinthians 11: 5).

We find an initial explanation of this Bible text in the next verse: "Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others" (Philippians 2: 4). The word "also" is important here. Nothing prevents us from making decisions in our own interests, provided that these also take the interests of others into account.

The example of Jesus Christ

However, Paul goes even further. For him, our humility must be in line with the example of Jesus Christ, "who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross" (Philippians 2: 6–8).

Jesus was aware of His divine position and power. Nevertheless, He subjected Himself completely to the will of His Father. He humbled Himself to the level of the sinners, served them, and suffered for them, in order to ultimately be elevated with them.

To have the same point of view as Christ means that we are aware of our election just as the Lord was aware of His. We acknowledge that we are just like our neighbour: like him, we are sinners who need grace in order to be delivered. And we know that we have been sent in order to serve them, inspire them to do good works, and to help them on the path to salvation.

Humility as a servant of God

In the awareness of the holiness of his ministry, a servant of God is humble. He knows that he will always be dependent

on grace. Even if we have exercised our ministry for decades, we must never become accustomed to it.

A humble servant fulfils the instructions of his Lord in all respects. No situation can justify his failure to implement the will of Jesus Christ! Beyond that, he has a proper appreciation of his commission. The Lord sent His Apostles out in order to teach what He had taught them—thus the ministerial mandate only extends to the preaching of the gospel. Although our knowledge and experience may prove helpful in certain cases, we cannot invoke our ministerial authority in order to teach personal experiences of faith as binding.

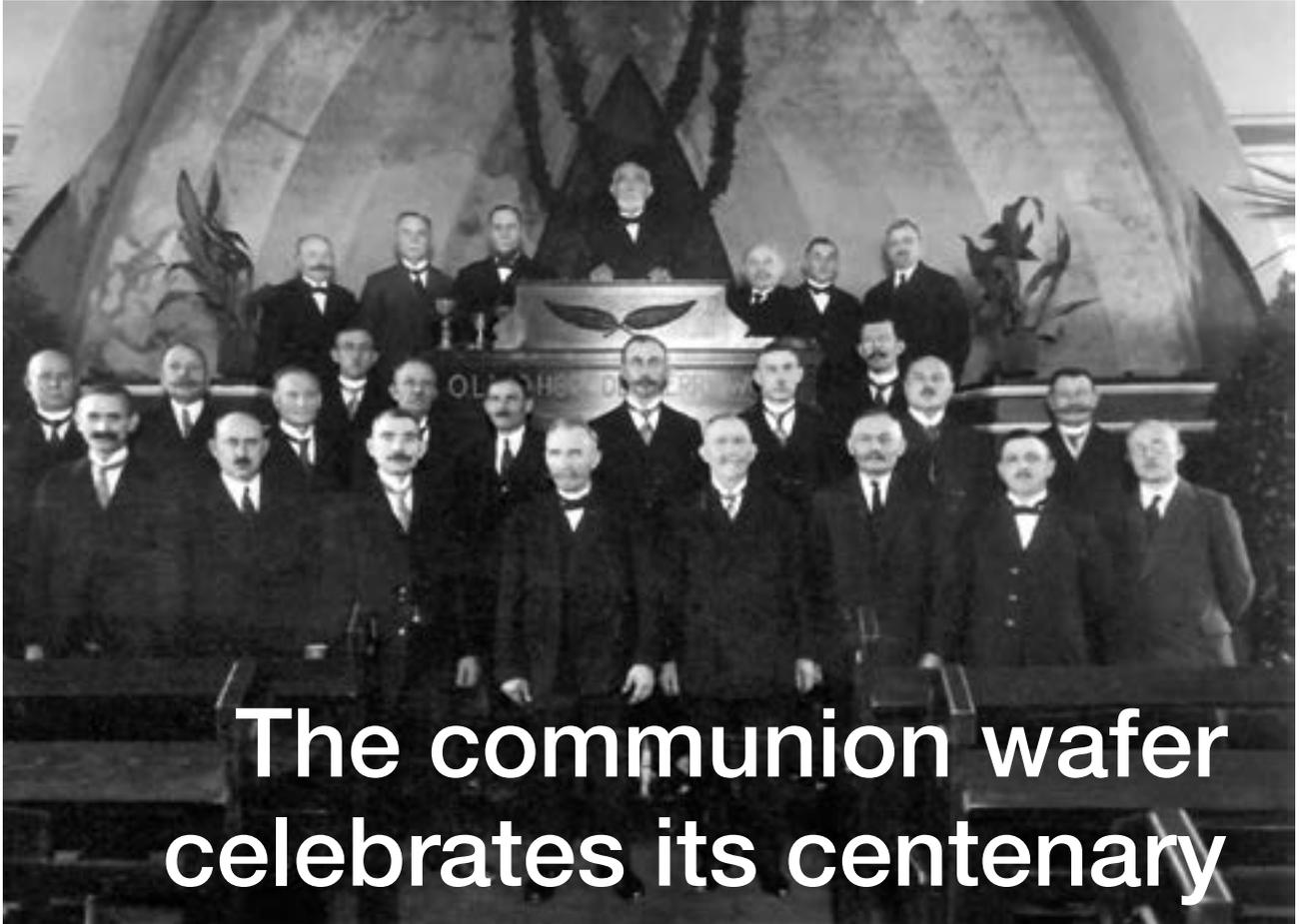
Certainly it is up to us to think about the future, to develop projects, and to put them into practice, but we cannot compel or force God to do anything. It is He who decides on the results of our endeavours. Apostle Paul was also fully aware of this when he wrote to the Ephesians: "But I will return again to you, God willing" (Acts 18: 21). God did not allow all of Paul's plans to succeed (Romans 1: 13). Why should He do so for us?

Our humility before the congregation

In accordance with the example of Jesus, the Apostles are servants of all (John 13: 15). They do not have dominion over the faith of the congregation, but are rather fellow helpers to the joy of its members (2 Corinthians 1: 24; Catechism 7.6.3). All ministers understand themselves as servants, but are they really? To my great regret, I notice here and there that some ministers

- are still confusing "ministerial authority" with "ministerial hierarchy". They abuse their positions in order to impose their advice upon members, even going so far as to imply that their salvation depends on obedience to the instructions they have been given.
- are very easily offended and annoyed. Do they perhaps assign too much importance to their own person?

For my part, I make every effort to be open to suggestions and new things, but I do not understand why some act without having first sought counsel or consent from their leaders. I am convinced that God will always arrange things in such a manner that the thoughts born of the Holy Spirit will indeed be implemented. I am just as convinced that any sort of renewal that aims to divide cannot possibly be a step in the right direction.



Zentralarchiv NAC Northrhine-Westfalia and bundesarchiv.de (Soldiers in the First War)

The communion wafer celebrates its centenary

Three drops are celebrating their centenary. On Good Friday 1917, the Chief Apostle officially celebrated his first divine service without sharing the cup. Instead he dispensed communion wafers. What is normal today had become an absolute necessity at the time. Why?

“There will be a change in the celebration of Holy Communion.” These were the words Chief Apostle Hermann Niehaus used to introduce a new era on 6 April 1917 in Bielefeld (Germany). Until then it had been common practice to dispense the bread in the form of a wafer and to offer the wine in a cup. From now on, the wine would be found on the wafer in the form of three drops.

Two problems ...

With World War One raging in Europe, it was almost impossible to find wine. “We have already tried to solve the problem by mixing the wine with water, but even so there will not be enough,” the Chief Apostle said in this historic divine service.

Cholera, typhoid fever, and tuberculosis. The fear of epidemics had forced the focus on hygiene. The cup was wiped with a cloth after each participant had taken a sip from it, and then it was rotated slightly. “However, even the partakers of communion rotated the cup, and some only sipped from it, barely touching the cup with their lips.”

... and three solutions

A leading article in a German Church magazine of the time (Neuapostolische Rundschau), published on 25 March 1917, offered three solutions.

One option was to introduce small individual cups, as the Protestant Church in Germany had already done. But more

or less ornate vessels would introduce class differences into the celebration of Holy Communion, “which is to be avoided from a strictly religious point of view”.

The second option was to spear the wafer with an ivory fork, dip it into the wine, and then dispense it to the brothers and sisters—something the congregations in Holland did. But in no time the wafers would be soggy and stick to people’s hands. From a hygienic point of view, this approach was not much better.

The last option: “The war has taught us a number of things.”

Necessity, the mother of invention

October 1915, at the front lines in France. A soldier with the initials W. G. receives a letter from the Chief Apostle, containing Holy Communion wafers: “We not only pray and intercede for you, but also allow you to participate in the sacrifice of Jesus through this.” In reply, W. G. writes: “I am as a happy as a little child, here on my straw bed.” This response is printed in the January 1916 edition of the *Neuapostolische Rundschau*.

Initially, the wafers were accompanied by small bottles of wine. But they somehow always disappeared from the par-

cels—as did cigarettes. Soon after the outbreak of World War One in 1914, the Chief Apostle therefore provided soldiers fighting at the front with a combination wafer. “We consecrate the cup [with the wine] and the wafers and then drizzle some of the wine on the wafer.”

It is not the amount that counts

Does this still correspond to Holy Communion as instituted by Jesus Christ? The Chief Apostle responded with a comparison to baptism: “There are certain denominations that immerse themselves fully in water. For us the sprinkling is enough.” With this he expressly referred to the Catechism by Martin Luther in this Good Friday service: “Not the water is important, but the word of God that accompanies the water.”

“If thousands of people are happy with the sprinkled wafers, so are we,” Chief Apostle Niehaus said in the Good Friday service: “The bread [wafer] will be sprinkled with three drops of red wine, so that it can be seen.” To begin with he instituted this in his own working area as an Apostle. It became compulsory for all following a joint decision, which was communicated by way of a circular in the latter part of the year 1919. “Following a resolution by the Apostles’ Council, this now applies throughout the Church.”

Below left: A letter to the frontlines containing a consecrated wafer, and a little bottle of wine
Below right: Soldiers in the First World War lie in trenches during a break in the fighting



Thousands attend Chief Apostle Schneider's services in Zambezi and Mansa

The World President of the New Apostolic Church, Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider visited District Apostle Area 28 (DAA 28) from June 22 – 28, 2017.



The Chief Apostle, who arrived at Kenneth Kaunda International Airport in Lusaka on June 22, 2017 aboard the 15:15hrs South African Airways flight 64 from Johannesburg, was welcomed by host District Apostle Charles Ndandula, District Apostle Helper Robert Nsamba, Lusaka based Apostles and some members.

A children's choir was on hand to welcome the Chief Apostle at Lusaka's Intercontinental Hotel, much to the delight of the Chief Apostle. On Friday June 23, 2017, the Chief Apostle had a meeting for all active Apostles and Bishops of DAA 28 which comprises of Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

On Saturday June 24, 2017, the Chief Apostle graced a musical choral concert with orchestra at National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA) conference hall in Lusaka.

Sunday, June 25, 2017 was the peak of the Chief Apostle's visit when he conducted a festive preparatory divine service for the upcoming service for departed in Zambezi Central Church in Zambezi. The Service was transmitted live on ZNBC TV1 and Radio 2. Close to 9000 congregations in Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe followed this service on radio and television.

10,344 members were counted at Zambezi Central congregation.

Ruth 1:16 was used as the text word

“And Ruth said: for wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people and your God my God”

In reference to the text word, the Chief Apostle told the members that God will never forget them. “This story teaches us that God never forgets the poor. Naomi was poor and had no money. She was widowed with no chance of having another child. She had nothing. She remained faithful and accepted God's will. She was not angry with God. Ruth became married and became a mother, after she followed Naomi to Bethlehem. “Brothers and sisters some of us are in distress

situations. We feel as though God doesn't love us! Let us remain faithful. Let us stay in his land. Let us stay with God in his land and law. The day will come when He will show you He doesn't forget you. He will give you help in a better manner. He never forgets the poor”, he said.

On Tuesday, June 27, 2017, Chief Apostle Schneider conducted a divine service at Mansa Central Church in Mansa.

Acts 4:13 was used as the text word,

“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marvelled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.”

5, 173 members attended this divine service. The service was also transmitted live on a provincial community Radio station, radio Yangeni. For these two services, the Chief Apostle was accompanied by host District Apostle Charles Ndandula, visiting District Apostle Helper Patrick Mkhwanazi from Johannesburg and host District Apostle Helpers Robert Nsamba from Zambia, Arnold Mhango from Malawi, Apostles and Bishops serving in Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe.



1. Part of the members that attended the divine service at Zambezi Central Church.
2. Children's choir welcoming Chief Apostle Schneider at Mansa Central Church.

2017 National Council Meeting for Apostles



2017 National Council Meeting, Chisamba

Apostles of the New Apostolic Church in Zambia met at Chisamba's Protea Hotel for the 16th National Council Meeting on May 19, 2017.

A meeting of Board of Directors preceded the National Council Meeting held on 18 May, 2017 at the same venue.

While the Board Meeting was underway, Bishop Oscar S Kalumiana led the wives of the Apostles, who are on the Board, to Liteta Hospital where on behalf of the Luyanda sisters of Lusaka Central - Kabwe East Apostle Area, a donation of assorted food items and groceries was made, as a part of the Church's humanitarian outreach programme.

Before the presentation of the donation, Bishop Kalumiana said the New Apostolic Church will always endeavour to

contribute to the wellbeing of the society in which the church operates.

“As a church we are honoured to help in a little way to support the efforts of Government and the medical staff; the New Apostolic Church in Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe is involved in humanitarian activities, through its humanitarian wing – the New Apostolic Church Relief Organisation (NACRO). The New Apostolic Church will always endeavour to contribute to the wellbeing of the society in which the church operates”, he said.

In giving the vote of thanks, acting medical officer Oliver Mwenso said Liteta hospital valued the support from cooperating partners and community participation towards the provision of healthcare.

“On behalf of the Chisamba District Medical Offer, and the staff here at Liteta hospital, I wish to express our gratitude for your kind gesture which has come at the right time, and I want to assure you that the items you have donated will be used to the benefit of our patients”, he said.

The items donated are valued at K15,000.

Meanwhile, the National Council Meeting that started at 09:00hrs was opened with a prayer by District Apostle Charles Ndandula, who is also the Chairperson of the Meeting.

Top on the agenda was greetings and Spiritual part of the Meeting, followed by the changes in the circle of Apostles world over.

Mark 6:30-31 was used as the text for the Meeting.

“Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught. And He said to them, “Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat”

This year’s meeting welcomed a new member - Apostle Jacob Mwansa, who was ordained in November last year, and is responsible for Ndola – Mufulira Apostle Area.

During a group photo session, there came an unusual guest, however, a kudu, to the delight of the Apostles.



After the National Council Meeting, Apostles and their wives attended a musical presentation arranged by the local choir at Mupamapamo congregation. District Apostle Ndandula, his entourage and members that attended the concert could not hide their delight at the well presented musical concert.

The Apostles and their spouses had an early day on Saturday, May 20, 2017 when they visited the Chisanga Graceland Mission in Mkushi, about 300 kilometres north of Lusaka.



At the mission, the District Apostle and his entourage toured the facility before dedicating and commissioning of the activities of the project.

The Graceland mission is a centre of excellence focusing on three areas;

1. Sister Rose Ndandula handing over part of the donated items to Liteta acting medical officer Oliver Mwenso.
2. Apostles of Zambia pose for a group photo during the 2017 National Council for Apostles at Protea Hotel in Chisamba with their unexpected guest.

evangelism, humanitarian and income generation activities as highlighted in the District Apostle Area (DAA 28) strategic plan, and is also in line with the mission of the church.

Sunday, May 21, 2017 was the climax of the programme when District Apostle Ndandula conducted a festive divine service at Chisamba Main congregation, in the company of all the Apostles of Zambia.

Acts 1:13-14 was used as the text word.

“And when they entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying; Peter, James, John and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers”.

In reference to the after text hymn, District Apostle Ndandula urged the members to desire to be in the house of God so that their strength can be renewed.

“My beloved brothers and sisters, the Lord gives strength to the weak. Sin makes us weak, so we want to come into the house of the Lord to renew our strength and become strong to overcome sin”, he said.

And in reference to the text word, the District Apostle said, among other things “As the first Apostles gave their reports to the Lord, Jesus Christ about “what they had done and what they had taught – we too shall account to the Lord about what we are doing and teaching when the Lord shall return. Even today, before He returns, the Lord examines what we do and what we teach.”

In the Divine Service, the District Apostle said that we also need to be in one accord by overcoming our differences and devote to the task of praying together in the upper room of our time, the Church. While in the upper room the Apostles prayed for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, in our “upper room” we pray for the return of the Lord. The contents of our prayers should be inspired by biblical examples like Daniel, the widow of Zenepath where payers were made in the upper rooms. We should also pray for those who are dead spiritually.



3

The District Apostle also encouraged them to pray in unity.

“Praying together is an essential component in the life of a congregation. When the faithful pray in one accord, they set aside their differences. Let us also put away our differences and concentrate on things that will help us overcome sin and enter the kingdom of God. Let us also pray for courage to profess the gospel of Jesus,” he said.

During the service, Bishop Oscar Kalumiana and his dear wife Ing'utu were bestowed with Silver wedding anniversary blessing.



4

1175 members attended the service.

3. District Apostle Ndandula unveils a plaque during the dedication and commission of Graceland Mission in Mkushi.

4. District Apostle Charles Ndandula bestows a Silver wedding anniversary blessing on Bishop Oscar Kalumiana and his dear wife, sister Ing'utu.

District Apostle Ndandula visits Sesheke - Mulobezi and Livingstone Apostle Areas



Part of the congregation that participated in a divine service conducted by District Apostle Charles Ndandula at Sesheke Central Congregation on May 6, 2017

1840 members participated in a divine service conducted by District Apostle Charles S. Ndandula at Sesheke Central Congregation in Sesheke.

In a divine service conducted on Saturday, May 6, 2017, District Apostle Ndandula read from Revelations 3:18

“I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.”

In this divine service, the choir sang a variation of “Behold what manner of love” as after text hymn.

In reference to the after text hymn, District Apostle Ndandula told the members that God loves them as His own children.

“Dear brothers and sisters, God loves us all, that is why He sent His only begotten Son – Jesus, to die for us so that salvation is

made possible. Let us also love God and His work, let us love one another – unconditionally, when we love God, we will then accept and allow His will to prevail in our lives. When we do this, as the choir has sung, when the Lord Jesus comes, we shall see Him as He is and be like Him,” he said.

In reference to the text word, District Apostle Ndandula told the members that gold represents the truth and that God’s children must live a truthful and faithful life.

“The gospel of our Lord Jesus will always be true. Let us always be the true Christ-like children of God and show the true virtues of our Lord Jesus. People must see the truth in whatever we do,” he said.

District Apostle Ndandula also urged the members to resist and fight evil.

“Dear brothers and sisters, just like our Lord Jesus overcame death and evil, let us also, out of love, renounce evil and invest our time in doing the work of God. When we avoid sin, then we shall have peace with one another and with our God,” he said.

During the service, three (3) District Elders and seven (7) District Evangelists were ordained for Sesheke – Mulobezi Apostle Area.

On Sunday, May 7, 2017, District Apostle Ndandula conducted a divine service in Mwandu at New Apostolic Church Mwandu Central Congregation. This divine service was attended by Chief Inyambo Yeta, his wife, traditionally referred to as “Boo Lunga” and senior Indunas.

John 15:1 and 2 was used as the text word.

“I am the true vine and My Father is the vine dresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and

every branch that bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit”

A medley of Awake/Arise was sung as the after text hymn.

Alluding to the after text hymn, District Apostle Ndandula urged the members to be awake and alert, so that they could fulfil their purpose as assigned by God.

“Beloved brothers and sisters, the choir has reminded us of one thing; our Lord is coming! Let us put the gospel of our Lord into practice, let us aspire to be closer to our heavenly Father, our deeds, our words, must reflect the Spirit of God in us, this could be achieved if we continue to be in fellowship with our God, then we will remain awake and nothing will distract us from our goal of faith,” he said.

District Apostle Ndandula further said fellowship with Jesus allows the children of God to bear fruits of the Spirit.

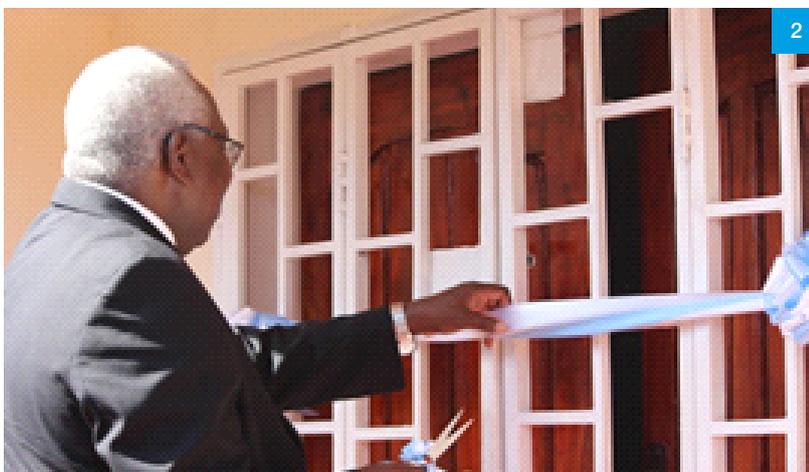
2826 members attended the service.



1

On Monday, May 8, 2017, New Apostolic Church members in Livingstone witnessed the dedication of Zambezi Sawmills Church, constructed by the members in the Apostle Area as a self-help project.

Zambezi Sawmills Congregation was established in 1940 in Zambezi Sawmills, a residential area designated for workers from a Timber processing company in Livingstone. The first church building was erected near the present Railways Museum.



2

1. District Apostle Charles Ndandula and his entourage pose for a photo with Chief Yeta and his wife, after the divine service at Mwandu Central Church on May 7, 2017.

2. District Apostle Charles Ndandula cuts the ribbon during the dedication of Sawmills Church on May 8, 2017.



The congregation moved several times from one location to another before acquiring the current plot.

In this festive dedication service, District Apostle Ndandula used Isaiah 41v13 and 14 as the text word.

“For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you “fear not, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel! I will help you,” says the Lord and your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.”

District Apostle Ndandula assured the members not to fear, because God will help them.

“Dear brothers and sisters, Apostle Paul didn't have fear because he had the knowledge of Christ (Romans 14v8). The help offered by God enables us to attain eternal life with Jesus, let us believe in Him! Let us seek our salvation, and the Lord will help us, let us commit ourselves to the Lord, we shall experience His promise.

District Apostle Ndandula also encouraged the members to always believe and trust in God.

“Dear festive congregation, from our text this afternoon, we are assured of God's help. Whatever the circumstance we are going through, the Lord will help us, let us not fear! The Lord knows our future – He will help us overcome!” he said.

During the service, District Elder Alfred Kabuku Mulele was placed into retirement, while one (1) District Elder and two (2) District Evangelists were ordained for Livingstone Apostle Area.

2032 members attended the service.

District Apostle Ndandula wrapped up his visit with a divine service at Morelight Congregation and a midweek service at Linda Congregation.

In the divine service at Linda Congregation, two (2) District Ministers were ordained for Choma – Kalomo Apostle area. District Apostle Ndandula also used this visit to look at logistics ahead of the visit of the Chief Apostle Jean Luc Schneider to Livingstone in April 2018.

The pioneer of the New Apostolic Church in Zambia, George Henwood Mkandawire lived in Livingstone before moving to Choma. Livingstone is also home to the first congregations (Maramba) in Zambia.

The District Apostle was accompanied by Apostles Baker Chakwana of Choma, Godwin Nyuwa of Sesheke, Ignatius Luneta of Senanga and Remmy Muyenga of Livingstone.

30 years in the Apostle ministry

The year 2017 marks a great milestone for District Apostle Charles Ndandula, as he commemorates 30 years as a living and active Apostle.



District Apostle Charles S Ndandula



Anniversary banners that welcomed District Apostle Ndandula at Simon Mwansa Kapwepwe airport in Ndola on May 24, 2017

Ordained as an Apostle at the age of 33 years by Chief Apostle Hans Urwyler at Lusaka Central Church on 28 June 1987, District Apostle Ndandula was treated to a wonderful surprise as he was welcomed with the message of the feast of the anniversary: "Thirty Years Anniversary as a living and active Apostle of Jesus." This was when he visited the Copperbelt Province from 22 – 25 May 2017.

In his email to all the Apostles in Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe, District Apostle Ndandula thanked his fellow Apostles for the support they have given him in his ministry as an Apostle of Jesus.

Below is District Apostle Ndandula's email to the Apostles:

My dear Apostles and friends,

I have just arrived from the Copperbelt and hereby bring to you hearty greetings from our brethren there. We had a blessed time and joyful fellowships in Mufulira, Luanshya and Ndola.

I had a wonderful surprise on the Copperbelt! I was welcomed with the message of the feast of an anniversary; Thirty Years Anniversary as a living and active Apostle of Jesus. I did not expect any ceremony at all. The singing of the choir, the children, Luyando sisters and soloists after the service marked the height of the celebrations. I am very thankful to everyone that participated. The choir leader who conducted the closing hymn and some other hymns was not born when I was ordained! He had a very good command of the choir and the orchestra when they sang the hymn "Hallelujah Chorus by Handel." Lightwell Msiska is one of the lead choir leaders in Ndola and was born in 1997, 10 years after my ordination.

I would like to thank God for the grace and opportunity to allow me serve in this high ministry as an Ambassador of Jesus for thirty years so far, and for the life and protection He has granted me every day. I also thank all of you for the support you have given me in my ministry as an Apostle of Jesus. I finally thank all God's children in our DAA for their love and their faith.

I would nonetheless like to say that it is not the length of time we serve the Lord, but the endurance to remain faithful and to be found worthy when the Lord shall come to take His own. Whatever contribution I have made to this great work of redemption has not been from my efforts alone but the collective efforts of the teamwork in our DAA. I thank God also for allowing me to provide leadership to the wonderful team that our heavenly Father gave me.

*Hearty greetings and Warm regards,
Charles S. Ndandula*

Kitwe-Chingola Day of the Youth 2017



Apostle Steven Lindunda and Bishop Samalela during a match past in Chingola on May 5, 2017.

On Saturday 6th May, 2017, Apostle Steven Lishebo Lindunda graced the day of the youth in his working area (Kitwe - Chingola).

Over 1,500 youths converged at Chikola Secondary school from across the Apostle area to celebrate the day of the youth.

The day began with a march past followed by many presentations on doctrinal knowledge as well as sporting activities.

The Apostle was accompanied by Bishop Shem Samalela and all the district leaders in the Kitwe-Chingola Apostle area.

In the afternoon the Apostle donated two bales of blankets to Chawama Clinic in Chingola, worth K10,000.

And on Sunday 7th May, 2017 a festive divine service for the youths was conducted in open air at Chikola Secondary school in Chingola.



1. Apostle Steven Lindunda handing over the donated items to Chawama clinic sister in charge on May 05, 2017.

2. Apostle Steven Lindunda during an open air youth service at Chikola grounds in Chingola on May 6, 2017.

For the service, the Apostle read a text word from Psalms 22:25

“My praise shall be of You in the great assembly; I will pay my vows before those who fear Him”

The Apostle encouraged the youths to be full of praise to God and always remain thankful regardless of the circumstances they find themselves in.

The service was attended by 1,703 souls.

| My Apostle - Jacob Mwansa



Apostle Jacob Mwansa

The Ndola/Mufulira Apostle area (incorporating Luanshya, Masaiti & Mpongwe Districts) covers about half the area of the Copperbelt Province. The area shares borders with DR Congo to the North, and Central Province to the South East. The area also shares borders with Kitwe/Chingola to the North South, Kabwe/Serenje Apostle Area to the South East, Lusaka West/Mumbwa Apostle Area to the South.

The geo political districts are in two parts; urban (Ndola, Mufulira & Luanshya) and the rural Masaiti & Mpongwe. Ndola is the Provincial Capital, at one time was the commercial capital of the country, which had an assembly plant for motor vehicles, tyre manufacturing plant (where Jacaranda Mall stands today), food & beverage processing plants, pharmaceutical plants, textiles, paper manufacturing among others.

Luanshya was well known for its clothing industry which made male clothing for both local & export markets. The area is led by Apostle Jacob Mwansa who was ordained Apostle by Chief Apostle Schneider in Blantyre, Malawi on 6th November 2016. He was born on 6th July 1957 in Mufulira, Zambia, Apostle Mwansa is the 6th born in a family of 5 males 3 females.

Apostle Mwansa went to Winter Muleya Primary School & Kantanshi Secondary School both in Mufulira for his primary and secondary school education. He later studied at Zambia Institute of Technology (now Copperbelt University) and qualified as a mining technician.

Married to Florence Chilonga, the Apostle has six children, five girls and one boy. He also has one granddaughter.

He received his first ministry of Sub Deacon on 01/01/1986, ordained by Apostle D.B. Mfunu. Other ministries followed thereafter. He served as District Elder from 24/06/2007 up to the time of his ordination as Apostle. The Apostle area has a membership of 28,844, 14 Elder districts, 295 congregations and 1,161 ministers.

He is assisted by Bishop Oliver Mwangala Mwiya, a resident of Ndola, who was ordained Bishop by District Apostle Ndandula on 13 November 2016 at Ndola Central Church. Bishop Oliver Mwiya started his Primary education at Katondo Primary School in Kabwe, in 1966. The family moved to Kafue where he completed his primary education. He completed his secondary school education at Sesheke Secondary School. He studied Business Administration at Copperbelt University and has worked for various companies. He married Sister Josephine Siachibala in 1990 and their marriage is blessed with two children, a son & daughter.



Apostle Jacob Mwansa with Chief Apostle Schneider at Zambezi Central Church on June 25, 2017.

Ascension with dedication

District Apostle Charles Ndandula celebrated Ascension with the brothers and sisters of Kawama East congregation in Zambia's border town, Mufulira, on the Copperbelt.

Ascension service is a special divine service, held to commemorate the ascension of Jesus Christ.

In a joyful divine service, which was also a dedication service, District Apostle Ndandula read from Hebrews 10:12-13.

“But this man, after He had offered one of the sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.”

A combined children's choir with the main choir and orchestra beautifully rendered a variation of “Again He'll come” as the after text hymn.

Referring to the after text hymn, District Apostle Ndandula assured the members that Jesus will come to take His bride home.

“Beloveds, the choir has reminded us of the promise of our Lord Jesus. As we commemorate the Ascension of Jesus that took place here on earth many many years ago, and so He shall come, as we have heard from our bible reading, let us relate with these events so that we could understand what happened, and prepare for the coming of the Lord.” he said.

District Apostle Ndandula further urged the members to use the occasion to reflect on their lives and their commitment to God, and allow the will of God to prevail in their lives.

“Beloveds, lets us use this moment to check ourselves and our commitment to our heavenly Father and allow the will of God to prevail in our lives – this will help us to align our lives to the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. When we do this, the Lord will help us to overcome evil. Jesus is seated at the right hand of God; He overcame evil, and He will come. We too will overcome, and see Him as He is, only if we align our lives to the gospel of Jesus,” he said.

District Apostle Ndandula also assured the members of God's help.

“The Lord wants us to overcome evil. The Lord wants to help those who are burdened. The Lord knows our burdens, and it is His will to help us – let us allow Him to work on our souls for the sake of our salvation. Today, Jesus is assuring us of His help, offered to you and I because He wants us to overcome evil and attain salvation,” he said.

3,196 members participated in this service.

In 1938, Community Elder Titus Mbano, sent by District Elder George Henwood Mkandawire began God's work in Mufulira, with the first



Kawama East congregation, dedicated on May 25, 2017.



1



2



3

1. Buseko congregation, dedicated on May 26, 2017
2. During the service in Luanshya, Dan Mwiya and Karen Chilufya received engagement blessing.
3. During the Divine service in Ndola, District Apostle Ndandula bestowed Ruby Wedding anniversary blessing to District Elder Webby Kanyanga and his dear wife, sister Victoria.

congregation at Kansuswa, which then had a total membership of twenty – one (21).

In the early 70's, seven New Apostolic members who settled in Kawama east, a newly established shanty compound started having their Divine Church Services in the house of Brother Lusiano Musolo. They later shifted to a make-shift church at Kawama East Market.

Section leader Justin Mwape Chubili later joined the congregation and was instrumental in erecting a new church building away from the market area, made of mud bricks and roofed with cut metal drums.

Membership gradually grew and there was clear need to construct a bigger and more modern temple.

In 1986 with the help of District Evangelist Presley Kawana, the current plot was acquired from Mufulira District Council. However, vigorous construction only began in July, 2007 when a new Elder District – Mufulira Kamuchanga was formed.

The total estimated cost of the project was K350.000.00, of which K112,000.00 came from Church Office. The congregation has a membership of 469.

On May 27, 2017, District Apostle Ndandula dedicated Buseko church in the mining town of Luanshya, to the joy of the members.

In July 1979 Richson Matakala, who was Shepherd, then saw the need to expand the work of God and directed that members who lived around the town centre should be meeting in a more central place on Wednesdays because of distances.

In 1995 the congregation moved to Mosasa Hall a building for the Ex-Servicemen. The building was occupied until late 2012 when they could not continue because of the unpredictable rentals which were being increased randomly. Earlier in 2001 the District Apostle D B Mfune visited the congregation.

Construction of the current church began in 2001. Priest Steven Lindunda (now Apostle) was the first priest for Buseko congregation.

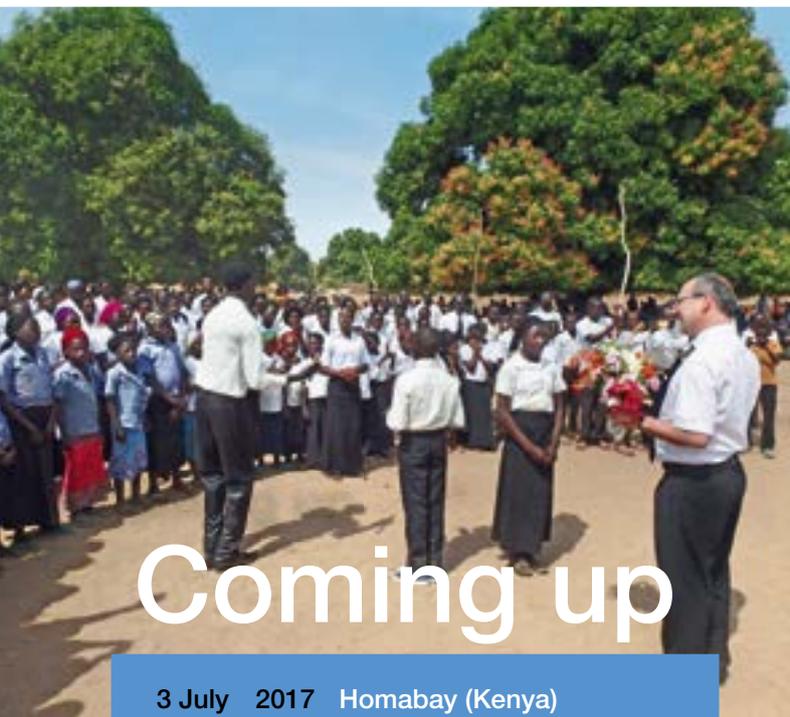
During the dedication service, Dan Mwiya and Karen Chilufya received engagement blessing.

District Apostle Ndandula concluded his visit to Ndola – Mufulira Apostle Area with a divine service at Ndola central, which was also a preparation for the Pentecost festive divine service.

John 16:7 was as the text word.
“Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I go not away, the Helper will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you.”

In this service, One (1) District Elder, Two (2) District Evangelists and two (2) Shepherds were ordained.

District Apostle Ndandula also bestowed a Ruby Wedding anniversary blessing on District Elder Webby Kanyanga and his dear wife Victoria.



Coming up

- 3 July 2017 Homabay (Kenya)
- 14 July 2017 Lubumbashi (DR Congo)
- 16 July 2017 Lubumbashi (DR Congo)
- 23 July 2017 Barcelona (Spain)
- 30 July 2017 Zepernick (Germany)
- 5 Aug. 2017 Natal (Brazil)
- 6 Aug. 2017 Natal (Brazil)
- 19 Aug. 2017 Luena (Angola)
- 20 Aug. 2017 Saurimo (Angola)
- 17 Sept. 2017 Dénia (Spain)
- 24 Sept. 2017 Melbourne (Australia)
- 25 Sept. 2017 Melbourne (Australia)
- 28 Sept. 2017 Wewak (Australia)



Coming up

- Sun, July 2, 2017 Chawama Service for Departed
- Sat, July 8, 2017 Nakonde Divine Service
- Sun, July 9, 2017 Chinsali Divine Service
- Fri, July 14, 2017 Mzuzu Trustees Meeting
- Sun, July 15, 2017 Mzuzu National Council
- Sun, July 16, 2017 Mzuzu Divine Service
- Sun, July 23, 2017 Kanyonyo Divine Service
- Sun, July 30, 2017 With Chief Apostle in Zepernick, Germany
- Sun, Aug 6, 2017 Kitwe Divine Service
- Sat, Aug 12, 2017 Zimba Divine Service
- Sun, Aug 13, 2017 Kalomo Divine Service
- Sat, Aug 19, 2017 Chaminuka Divine Service
- Sun, Aug 20, 2017 Fairview Divine Service
- Sat, Aug 26, 2017 Chioma, Serenje Divine Service
- Sun, Aug 27, 2017 Kasensa, Serenje Divine Service
- Sat, Sept 2, 2017 Chongwe Divine Service
- Sun, Sept 3, 2017 Chilanga Divine Service
- Sat, Sept 9, 2017 Nangweshi Divine Service
- Sun, Sept 10, 2017 Senanga Central Divine Service
- Tue, Sept 12, 2017 Itufa
- Sun, Sept 24, 2017 Nampundwe Divine Service

