

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GHANA
DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH LIFE AND NURTURE
YOUNG ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP
MINUTES OF THE 16TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD AT MENSAH SARBAH
HALL, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA- LEGON IN THE GA PRESBYTERY FROM
THURSDAY, 24TH TO SUNDAY 27TH AUGUST, 2023

DAY 2: FRIDY, 25TH AUGUST, 2023

PLENARY SESSIONN II

MORNING DEVOTION

Rev. Daniel Lankai Lawson led the morning devotion. PH 20:1-3 was sung after t, after which he led us into prayers. Col. 1:17, 2 Cor. 3:8 and Acts 7:55 were all read.

He emphasized on the theme: “Christ In you, the Hope of glory”, and dwelled on a sub theme: “What is in you?” He mentioned that what is in us is what we transfer to others, citing Paul’s genuine faith as an example. He continued that in Acts 3:6, Peter gave what was in him. He challenged delegates to give more than they have through Christ. He stressed that we can do so by giving hope to the hopeless. He encouraged members to learn how to progress in the face of opposition.

He read Jonah 1:5 and Matt. 8:24. He linked the two stories that both were facing a difficulty but as Jonah was thrown out, Jesus calmed the storm. In the other case: who is in our boat? Christ or Jonah

He entreated delegates to pursue Christ and fruitfulness, and always serve first the kingdom of God. He then prayed and sung PH 4 stanzas 1&2. He then thanked the leadership of the fellowship for the opportunity to lead after which we shared the grace.

CONSTITUTION OF ASSEMBLY

The National President read the second stanza of PH4. He entreated delegates to always submit their will to God. He then re-constituted Assembly in the name of the Triune God.

PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT AND BUDGET

Brother Ebenezer Ernest Aveti, National Financial Secretary Presented the Audited Financial Statement to the house. Soft copy of the report was made available to delegates. He then moved for acceptance of the statement and was seconded by Sis. Mavis Agyeiwaa.

He continued with the presentation of the budget. He moved for its acceptance and was seconded by Brother Charles Kankam Biritwum

PRESENTATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Deputy General Secretary- Bro. Seth Dwamena Okyere presented the previous day's minutes to Assembly, moved for its acceptance and it was seconded by Hackman A. Awuku.

Corrections

Page 1: Rev. was repeated instead of Rev. Dr. William Korley Quaye

Page 2: Dangme-Tongu was 9 not 19

Page 2: Secunder for Ga West is Cyril not S.

Page 2: Sekyere was 16 not 9

Page 3: Mary Zaratu Alhassa should be Mary Zaratu Alhassan

Page 4: Ga Report was presented by Eva Marku Nartey

Page 5: Faithful departed, the Congregation's name is Christ family not God's family

Page 6: The name is Otoo not Out

Page 6: Northern secunder – Lovina Dakudzi

Page 6: Akyem Abuakwa Secunder – Andrews Kyere-Kwarteng

Page 6: West Brong – Secunder - Onesimus O. Jedidiah

Page 6: Akuapem – Secunder – Joseph Owiredu

After the corrections - Welma V. A. Aleley moved for the adoption of the previous minutes and was seconded by Wisdom Brown

WORKSHOP GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

The group conveners were introduced to the house. They included;

Group 1 Obed Anarfi Appiah

Group 2. Yirenkyi Opare-Akuffo

Group 3. Mark Henry Ossom Odjawu

Group 4. Isaiah Donkor

Group 5. Prosper Agbeli

Group 6. Hanson Appa-Gyeni

PRAYER SESSION II

The West Akyem Presbytery President, Bro. Charles Kankam Biritwum led the house in a period of intercessory prayer. The prayer session was ended by a prayer from Rev. Francis Nartey Adamasi, the Dangme-Tongu Chaplain

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

The Resolution Committee members were introduced to the house as follows:

1. Bro. Samuel Kodua-Boateng
2. Bro. Solomon Tetteh Agyemani
3. Bro. Abugri Joseph Talata
4. Sis. Priscilla Afriyie
5. Rev. Ernest Asiamah Crosby
6. Mr. Emmanuel Kumah
7. Mr. Frank Asirifi

COMMANDANTS

The commandants for the Assembly were Bro Samuel Oti Anani and Bro. Emmanuel Adu Asare with a female commandment -Augustina Naa Lamiley.

BREAKFAST

The National President adjourned proceedings to 11:15am – delegates were to meet after breakfast for workshop group discussions.

The Prayer for breakfast was said by Bro. Welman V. A. Aleley.

PLENARY SESSIONN III

WORKSHOP GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Members went into their groups for the workshop group discussions on the various reports.

PLENARY SESSIONN IV

RE-CONSTITUTION OF ASSEMBLY/ WORKSHOP PRESENTATION

The National President reconstituted the session and called on the workshop groups to present their reports.

GROUP 1

Godsman Tetteh presented and moved for acceptance and was seconded by Bro. Isaac Osei Boakye.

GROUP 4

Bro. Bright Worlanyo presented and moved for its acceptance and was seconded by Bro. Maxwell Adofo Bamfo.

PRAYER SESSION III

The Chaplain of Dangme-Tongu, Rev. Francis Adamasi led Assembly in a prayer session by singing PH 1. He continued with the following prayer topics

1. Thanksgiving for God's mercies so far
2. Prayer for connections / helpers

LUNCH/RECESS

Bro. Yirenkyi Opare Akuffo -the West Brong President, had to sit in the chair for proceedings to continue because the National President had to attend to an emergency and the vice President was also not available at the moment.

Later the National Vice President- Bro. Roger Akeeda Assibilla Awimbe came to take over proceedings.

The house went on a recess for their Lunch and to prepare for the official opening ceremony

OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 16TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The official opening commenced at 3:00pm with processional hymn 50

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Ernest Asiamah, the West Brong chaplain said the opening prayer having taken members through a song of worship. Afterwards, the Lord's Prayer was said.

PRAISES AND ADORATION.

YAF singers led the house to sing some choruses.

INTRODUCTION OF CHAIRPERSONS AND INVITED GUESTS

National Women's Commissioner, Sister Sally Owusu-Ansah introduced the Chairperson as

CHAIRPERSON- Mr. Gideon Nii Lamptey and **CO-CHAIR,** Hon. Henry Quartey, the Greater Accra Regional Minister (who was absent)

INVITED GUEST - COP Daniel K. Afriyie (the Tema Regional Commander)

CHAIRPERSON'S RESPONSE

The Chairman thanked the leaders of the Fellowship

He stated that YAF was formed to fulfill a reason and back home we must advise and encourage our members to take active role in church activities. He encouraged YAF members to spend their time doing the Lord's work.

He emphasized that the only people the church can rely on is YAF. On this note, he accepted to chair the program

YAF ANTHEM

YAF Anthem was sung with all members upstanding

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The National President presented his address (refer to Appendix c of the 16th National Assembly Brochure).

He then moved for workshop group discussion and was seconded by Bro. Mark Harry Ossom Odjawo- Central President.

BRIEF ADDRESS BY REV. BOSSMAN OHENE

The House sung PH 311 (1-4)

THE Director, Church Life and Nurture (CLAN), Rev. Bossman Ohene addressed the house. He acknowledged the National Officers and all other protocols present and expressed his palpable joy for the opportunity given him to address Assembly.

He commented on the Moderator's absence as it's due to an emergency and promised the moderator together with Moderator elect will be with the Assembly the next day with their own greetings.

He applauded the National President for his exegesis on the word of God during his address.

He reflected on the theme "Christ in you, the Hope of Glory: Abiding in Christ as a Young Adult.

He stated that the Colossians did not set Christ as their all and were having doubts in their minds, and that made Paul, even in all his settings do his best to preach to them that Christ is all of what they do.

HOW TO ABIDE IN CHRIST

1. To abide in Christ means to be connected to Christ. He asked whether we are connected with Christ.

2. Abiding in Christ means depending on Christ. Irrespective of the situation we find ourselves; we must depend solely on Christ
3. Abiding in Christ means to remain in Christ. Challenges make us forget Christ but as believers we must remain in Christ to see His Glory.

He encouraged the house never to throw God away in any moments of their lives as even at the last-minute God can still work out things for us.

He ended with Luke 7:11 and emphasized that just as the dead was resurrected by Christ; all our problems would be solved by this same Christ. He said words of blessings to the fellowship.

FRATERNAL MESSAGES

1. COP Daniel K. Afriyie (the Tema Regional Commander) on behalf of the Inspector General of Police (IGP) for Ghana greeted the house. He made it known that the I.G.P was busily working and has therefore directed him to attend to our invite. He entreated us to work hard as Young Adults of the Church because Christ our master was hardworking.

He also advised we give our lives to Christ and prayed that after the Assembly, he wished we come out fully charged as Ambassadors of Christ. A pledge of GHC 5,000.00 was made by him to Assembly.

2. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

They were represented by two members (Mad. Theresah Dei Adofo -National Rep. and Mad. Faustina Ohene Bemah- the Ga Presbytery Treasurer). They advised YAF members to comport and prepare themselves to carry out the mantle as Ambassadors of Christ. They pledged their support for the fellowship. They ended with presentation of two envelopes.

3. MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Mr. Emmanuel Ankrah-the Ga West Men's Rep. represented the National Men's Fellowship. He stated that men's fellowship is having its National Conference in Sunyani but still sees the need to visit YAF. He added that, YAF is the Pillar and the source of light for the church today. He encouraged YAF to come out with the purpose of the church. He ended with a presentation of an undisclosed amount.

4. FORMER NATIONAL OFFICERS

Some Former National Officers were present. They were made up of;

- i. Dr. Ayertey Nanor
- ii. Rev. Fred Justice Adjei
- iii. Mr. John Owusu Koranteng
- iv. Mr. Boadi Debrah

Speaking to Assembly on behalf of the former officers, Dr. Nanor applauded YAF and urged them to continue the good works. He presented an undisclosed amount on behalf of the team to Assembly.

5. FORMER GA PRESBYTERY PRESIDENT

Bro. Peter Akai Anum welcomed all delegates to Ga and wished Assembly a fruitful deliberation. He presented an undisclosed amount to Assembly.

6. GA PRESBYTERY

The Ga Chaplain- Rev. Daniel Lankai Lawson on behalf of the Haatso District Minister presented 10packs of water to Assembly.

The Ga President-Bro. K. B. Mensah also on behalf of the Ga PEC, presented 110bags of water and GHC 3,000.00 to Assembly.

7. CHILDREN'S SERVICE

The National Children Service President- Mr. Ernest Kissi Sarfo acknowledged Assembly. He poured out his heartfelt gratitude to YAF for worshipping and donating handsomely to the Children Service. He hoped that the YAF continues to support and nurture the Children. He presented what he called 'a token' (undisclosed cash amount) to Assembly.

8. JUNIOR YOUTH

The National JY Vice President – Sis. Irene Djabakour Djobuah and the National JY Treasurer- Bro. Robert Budu thanked YAF for their continual support, especially through the 'YAF Day with JY'. They wished Assembly a fruitful discussion. They donated an undisclosed amount to Assembly.

FUNDRAISING

Bro. Yirenskyi Opare Akuffo- West Brong President led the house in a fundraising session amidst singing and dancing.

INTRODUCTION OF CHAPLAINS

The following Chaplains from the various Presbyteries were introduced to Assembly and acknowledged with a round of applause.

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|-------|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| i. | Rev. Eric Owusu Ansah | - | Brong Ahafo |
| ii. | Rev. Daniel Lankai Lawson | - | Ga |
| iii. | Rev. Sampson Kofi Teka | - | Asante Akyem |
| iv. | Rev. Paul Korkorba | - | Sefwi |
| v. | Rev. Ernest Asiamah | - | West Brong |
| vi. | Rev. Jacob Ewusie Awuku | - | Western |
| vii. | Rev. Offei Eric Owusu | - | Akuapem |
| viii. | Rev. James Charles Antwi | - | Akyem Abuakwa (incoming) |
| ix. | Rev. Richard Obeng Yeboah | - | Akyem Abuakwa (outgoing) |

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------------|---|--------------|
| x. | Rev. Daniel Adwedaa | - | Central |
| xi. | Rev. Elija Foh Amoaning | - | Volta |
| xii. | Rev. Francis Adamasi | - | Dangme-Tongu |

CHAIRPERSONS CLOSING REMARKS

The chairperson for the day- Mr. Gideon Nii Lamptey excellently ranked the whole Opening Ceremony programme. He advised YAF to prove their ability in handling the church as that will be pleasing and satisfying to the older generation knowing that the church is in safe hands.

He pleaded with the Women’s Commissioner and National President to be up to the task, as failing at General Assembly Council will prove the older generation right.

He advised members not to compete or be forced to engage in any wrong doings because of the success or failure of others. He donated GHC 5,500.00 to Assembly.

The Chaplain General-Rev. Bernard K. Adinkrah thanked the choir for gracing the occasion.

Closing hymn 477 was sung.Rev. Bossman Ohene gave the benediction to bring the ceremony to an end.

The Choir led the clergy, NEC members and other Invited Guests in a recession with PH 410.

Assembly was adjourned at 6:00pm for supper.

PLENARY SESSION V

RE-CONSTITUTION OF ASSEMBLY

The National President reconstituted the Assembly by reflecting on PH 1:3, the first two lines thus; ‘O may this bounteous God, through all our lives be near us’. He then called on Workshop group 3 to present their report.

GROUP 3

The report was presented by Bro. Abdella Adam, he moved for its acceptance and Sis. Mavis Agyeiwaa.

A motion was moved that; ‘the decision for statistics to have a column for active and or inactive members’ be remitted to the Presbyteries for deliberations and report on it at the next Assembly for a decision to be taken.

The National President suspended the presentation of group reports to pave way for the Evening Reflection.

EVENING REFLECTIONS

Rev. Ernest Asiamah- West Brong Presbytery Chaplain, reflected on Luke 11:1-4 on the theme; 'The Lord's Prayer'. He dwelled on prayer as a means of communicating with God. He explained that, the phrase – 'Our Father who art in heaven' means God is our Father and we are His children and as such we must be committed to doing His will.

He concluded by entreating members to continually rely on God for His glory. He then ended with prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made;

- i. Assembly will start at 8:15am the next day.
- ii. Dress code will be anything YAF.
- iii. The keep fit or exercise should be done at the forecourts of the various halls of abode.

Adjournment

Bro. Victor Kusi Mensah moved for the adjournment of Assembly to 8:15am on Saturday 26th August, 2023 and Sis. Patience Ansah seconded. Proceedings ended at 9:45pm.