



National Department of Christian Education

Bishop Theodore Nelson Brown, President General

Bishop Ivy Anne Hopkins, Vice President General

Bishop Cleveland L. Harvey, Executive Administrator

Bishop James Sherman, Executive Administrator

Bishop Dr. L. Delores S. Ward, Liaison Bishop

George W. Ward, Director of Christian Education

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EDUCATE – ENGAGE – CONNECT

Christian Education Department Monthly Newsletter

CLC Installs New President General – Bishop Theodore Nelson Brown

The Church of the Living God, Inc., under the leadership of the late Bishop A.H. White, the late Bishop J.H. Smith, Bishop Jesse J. White and Bishop David Drone along with the General Board of Bishops, has been in existence since 1903, with Mother M.L. Tate as founder. This faction of the Church of the Living God under Bishop A.H. White began its General Assemblies in 1929. From our 81st General Assembly, which convened October 18-24, 2010 in Orlando, Florida, the General Board of Bishops are pleased to announce the election of the next President General as Bishop Theodore Brown of Brooksville, Florida. Please join me in welcoming Bishop Theodore Nelson Brown in his new Executive role as President General of our great Church.

Bishop Brown has served as the Presiding Prelate of the Florida Gulf Diocese and the Georgia Diocese for many years. He also served as General Treasurer of the general church for many years.

Congratulations to the newly elected Vice President General - Bishop Ivy A. Hopkins of Harrisburg, PA who is the Presiding Prelate of the Pennsylvania United Diocese and has served as Executive Administrator for numerous years.

One Executive Administrator is Bishop C.L. Harvey of Camden, DE and Neptune, NJ. who is the Presiding Prelate of Mid-Atlantic Diocese and has served previously as Executive Administrator.

Bishop James Sherman of Toledo, Ohio is the Presiding Prelate of Trinity Central West Diocese and is the second newly elected Executive Administrator. We extend our congratulations and prayers to both Bishop Harvey and Sherman.

Church of the Living God, Inc. is a historical Pentecostal assembly with more than 10,000 members across the United States with missions in Jamaica, Trinidad, Haiti, Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria. Outreach is one item on our mission statement. Our focus is to reach and teach others about God's goodness and the salvation message through Jesus Christ. This great salvation is a gift that everyone can have.

As our newly installed servant leaders shift and move our great Church forward, let us all unite in our mission, purpose and vision and become a Vision Validator with our love, prayers, spiritual and financial support.

Thank You General Assembly Workshop Facilitators

Thank you to each of the facilitators that imparted a wealth of information to the delegates of the 81st General Assembly. The evaluations that were completed by the delegates attending each workshop session were excellent and you were rated very highly of an "A" grade. Please allow me to list each workshop facilitator: Bishop Ivy Anne Hopkins, Bishop James Sherman, Bishop Nelson Lewis, Bishop Barbara Ward-Farmer, Bishop Naomi Barber, Bishop Dr. L. Delores Ward, and Bishop Theodore N. Brown, Trustee John Barber, Trustee Richard Pelzer, Trustee Virgil Greer, Elder Shirley Williams, Missionary Ann Story-Jewett, Elder Ralph Vanlow, Rev. Dr. Brunilda B. Hopkins, and Rev. Dr. Geraldine Crystal. We are certainly looking forward to even greater participation next year. I am open for your recommendations on topics of interest that you would desire training.

WHY A GROWING CHURCH

A survey of hundreds of pastors came up with a list of measurable quality factors in the life of a congregation in ranking order: The twelve factors are:

1. **Bible knowledge.** Church members are increasing in their grasp of the teachings of the Bible. They can integrate this with a theological system that enables them to apply the Bible's teachings to their personal life situation.
2. **Personal devotions.** Members spend time daily in prayer, Bible reading, meditation, and other personal spiritual exercises.
3. **Worship.** Members regularly participate in the worship services scheduled by the church.
4. **Witnessing.** Members regularly attempt to share their faith in Jesus Christ with unbelievers.
5. **Lay Ministry.** The lay people of the church are engaged in such ministries as teaching and discipling. In such cases this happens through consciously discovering, developing, and using their spiritual gifts.
6. **Missions.** The church actively supports missions (Jamaica, Trinidad, Haiti, Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria) organizing and sustaining a strong program for recruiting, sending, and financing home and foreign missionaries.
7. **Giving.** Members give an appropriate portion of their income to the local church (10% tithing). Goal: 100% tithers.
8. **Fellowship.** Members are growing in their personal relationships with each other through regular participation in church fellowship groups of one kind or another. (HYPBC, Sunday School, Praise Team, Choir, Benevolence, Outreach, Evangelism, Missions, Youth, Training, Diocesan Fellowship, National (Youth Congress, Music Conference, Foreign Mission, General Assembly, Pearl Grant, MLK New year Fellowship, etc.).
9. **Distinctive Life-style.** Members generally manifest their faith in Christ by living a committed life-style clearly and noticeably distinct from that of non-believers/Christians in the same community.
10. **Attitude toward religion.** Church members regard their involvement in the church primarily as a service to God rather than a means to fulfill personal needs.
11. **Social Service.** Members are serving others outside the congregation. This includes direct personal involvement with the poor and needy, or in programs designed to help the needy. (Juvenile Detention, hospital care, bereavement, etc.).
12. **Social injustice.** Either through the congregation as a whole or through specialized Christian agencies, members are striving to make changes in sociopolitical structures that will contribute to a more moral and just society.