

History of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Grace Congregation, West Legon.



**1994 - 2019
(25 Years)**

Dedication:

This history is dedicated to the gallant men and women who worked tirelessly to bring the good news to Westlands here in Accra. Just like the church fathers dedicated their whole life to the preaching of the gospel so that the whole world is blessed because of their work, Grace Congregation is strong today because of your work. This history will continually remind us of your toil and perseverance to see a Presbyterian church established here. Thank you.

Acknowledgement

This document was compiled by Mr. Ebenezer Neequaye the first Session Clerk of the Grace Congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana West Legon, in consultation with Mrs. Comfort Thompson, a Founding Member and the Reverend Herbert Anim Opong, the Minister-in-charge of the Church as of December 2019.

Inputs were made from earlier documents such as “Inauguration of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana and Dedication of Chapel at West Legon, May 16, 2004” and “Dedication of Chapel and Office Block. October 16, 2016”.

Mrs. Christy Badu the Senior Presbyter, Reverend Daniel Kwasi Ayim, Director of Mount Moriah Prayer and Retreat Center and Mr. Kwasi Bamfo Barfi former Session Clerk edited the document for authenticity and clarity of historical information.

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The Genesis

The idea of establishing a church at West Legon, a fast-developing community close to the University of Ghana, was conceived on the relocation of the Thompson Family from Nima to West Legon. Considering the distance and the inconvenience of having to travel to Nima for church services, the Thompson family decided to look for and fellowship with any nearby Presbyterian Church.



Mr. & Mrs. Thompson

Later, one Mr. Sony Quartey who also reside in the neighbourhood, suggested they start a small church instead in the locality. This suggestion dovetailed into a programme that the Nima Presby BSPG has conceived, that is, to establish a church at this fast-growing community. Initially, Mr. Sony Quartey offered a small room at his residence to begin with when the BSPG leadership made up of Mr. Daniel Kwasi Ayim, Mr. Isaac Torgbor and Mrs. Comfort Thompson went to meet with him. But later the mantle fell on the Thompson family to offer their garage as a meeting place when the Quartey's offer did not materialize.

Growth:

Through evangelism: In January 1994, the idea to officially establish a church at West Legon was discussed with the then Nima District Minister, Rev. Eric Doku, who consented to the suggestion and immediately sent a delegation to conduct feasibility studies. In May 1994, the Bible Study and Prayer Group (BSPG) led by Mr. Daniel Ayim, Mr. Abbam Tettey and Catechist Juliet Kpentey embarked on a mass evangelism exercise in the area. This evangelism work effectively marked the beginning of the Grace Presby Church at West Legon.

Inaugural Service:

The first official service was held on Sunday, the 5th of June, 1994 and was attended by six (6) members in the adult service and twelve (12) Children in the Children Service. Two years after this significant milestone (in 1996) the Junior Youth Service also began.

First Baptism Ceremony:

A Church Extension Service was held on Sunday, 18th December, 1994 and some members from the Nima Presby Church and other invitees from the West Legon environs came together to

celebrate the occasion. During the service three (3) infants namely, Daniel Koranteng, Racheal Koranteng and Yaw Ntow were baptized.

The Garage Church:



*The Thompson's Garage
where it all began*

Management Committee

The leadership of Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Hope Congregation, Nima immediately put up a management committee to oversee the growth and nurture of the Church at West Legon. The Management Committee was made up of the following members:

IMC Members	Designation
Catechist Juliet Kpentey	Chairperson
Mrs. Comfort Thompson	Member
Mr. Daniel Kwasi Ayim	Member
Mr. Isaac Abbam Tettey	Member
Mr. Samuel Nkansah	Member
Mr. Robertson Adjei	Member

As membership of the Church increased with most of them residing in and around West Legon, it became necessary to have a Management Committee from within West Legon. The following members were appointed to serve on the Interim Management Committee from 1997 until 2004 when Presbyters were elected to constitute the first Session.

INTERIM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (1997 - 2004)	
Agent:	
Catechist Daniel Kwasi Ayim	Catechist-in-charge
Officers:	
Ms. Lily Kplorla Attipoe	Secretary
Mrs. Joyce Dapaah	Treasurer
Mrs. Comfort Thompson	Care-taker
Other Members:	
Mrs. Leonora Ewurasi Glover	Member
Mrs. Esther Osei Sarfo	Member
Mr. James Boahene	Member
Mr. Ebenezer Neequaye	Member
Mr. George Dapaah	Member
Mr. Richard Aye Cantey	Member



Back, L - R: *Mr. Richard Aye Cantey, Mr. James Boahene, Cat. Daniel Kwasi Ayim, Mr. George Dapaah and Mr. Ebenezer Neequaye,*

Front, L - R: *Madam Lily Kplorla Attipoe, Mrs Esther Osei Sarfo, Mrs. Comfort Thompson, Mrs. Leonora Ewurasi Glover and Mrs. Joyce Dapaah*

Between 1994 and 1998, church services were held in the garage of the Thompson's residence but it soon became necessary to move to a bigger place. By this time also some prominent Presbyterians living in and around West Legon and their families had joined the Church. These included; Mr. George Dapaah, a Lecturer at the University of Ghana, Professor Emmanuel Ablade Glover, a renowned Artist, Mr. Maxwell Antwi-Bamfo, a Banker and Mr. Ebenezer Neequaye a Research Scientist at the CSIR Institute of Industrial Research. Many other members also joined the Church thus making it quite uncomfortable to continue to worship in the small garage. The need to look for a bigger place for worship therefore became increasingly urgent.

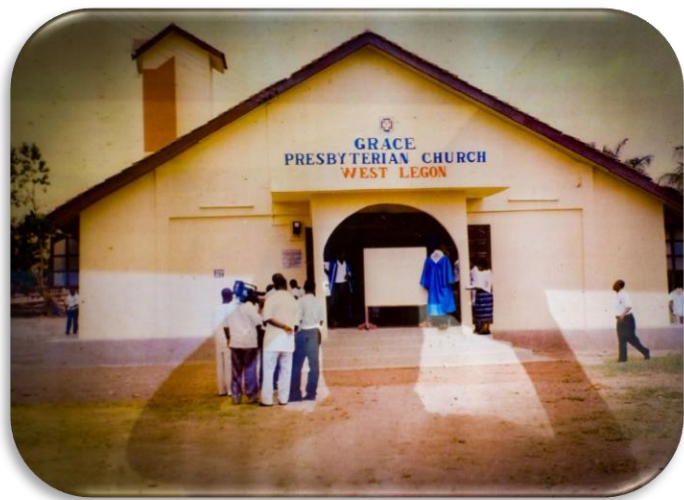
Acquisition of Land:

In 1995, considering the Church's need for expansion, the Thompsons found four (4) plots of land in the West Legon area, suitable for church activities. Unfortunately, due to lack of funds the Church was unable to acquire the land. Still convinced that a church must be established at West Legon, the Thompsons, in 1998 offered two (2) plots of their land at a subsidized cost to the Church for the construction of a church building. It is important to note here that the Thompson family, ten years later (in 2008) once again offered two (2) more plots of their remaining land, upon the persistent request from the Church. This was used for the construction of the current Church and Office Buildings.

Physical Development

Old Chapel:

Having acquired land in 1998, a decision was taken to put up a shed big enough for use temporarily as the Place of Worship. As the construction of the structure was in progress however, the Congregation became convinced that the shed idea ought to be discarded for the construction of a permanent structure instead. With the same enthusiasm therefore, members put their shoulders to the wheel and completed the Church Building within six years. Church Services thus moved from the Garage to the New Church Building in May 16, 2004. *(Captured above) Appendix 4* contains excerpts of Goodwill messages received on the occasion.



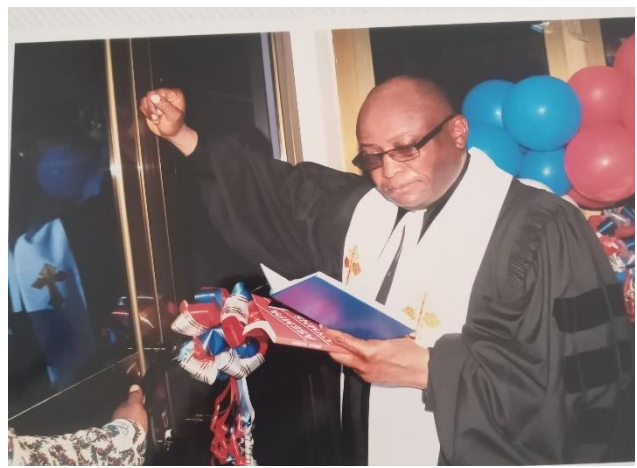
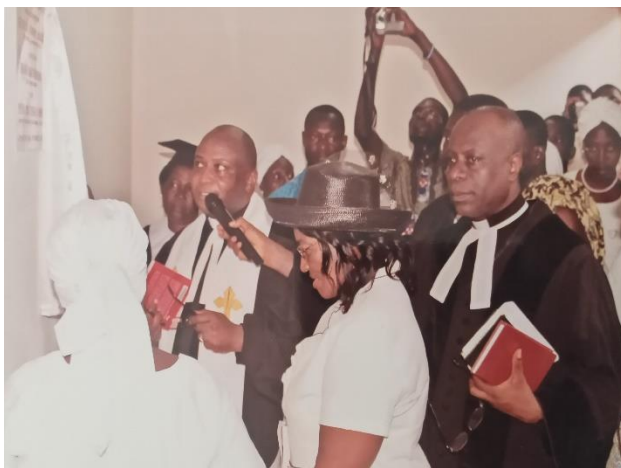
A few years later however, due to the increasing numbers of worshippers, it once again became necessary to expand the structure and this was done over time until there was eventually no more room for any further expansion. It became evident then that the Church needed to put up a bigger structure all together to accommodate its ever-increasing membership.

New Chapel Project:

With the vision of putting up a bigger auditorium for church services, in 2008, the Church once again approached the Thompsons and negotiated for more land for an expansion project. With the acquisition of two additional plots, the Church began its bold journey of faith, to build a new Chapel, befitting of the environs and vast enough to accommodate the rapidly expanding numbers

On May 1, 2011, Rev. Dr. Godwin Nii Noi Odonkor (the then Ga Presbytery Chairperson) performed the sod-cutting ceremony assisted by Rev. Ishmael Ako Ayeng (the then Minister-in-charge), to mark the beginning of the construction of the new chapel. On Sunday, March 31, 2013 a Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony and dedication of the completed Basement of the Building was once again performed by the Rev. Dr. Godwin Nii Noi Odonkor. He was assisted by Rev. Lorna Khemchand (then District Minister – Nima) and Rev. Professor Cephas Omenyo (who was then the Minister-in-charge). This Ceremony was historic as it also marked the migration of the services of the Church from the old Chapel to the Basement of the New Chapel Building for our usual worship.

Dedication of the Basement for Service



Church Organisation and Spiritual Growth

Elevation and first Session

At the dedication of the first chapel in May 2004, the Church was also elevated from a preaching post to a full congregational status and christened 'Grace'. Thus, the Grace Congregation of West Legon was born. The first Session of the elevated congregation comprised the following members:

CONFIGURATION OF SESSION (2004 – 2008)	
Agents:	
Reverend Erasmus Nii Bonne Odonkor	Minister-in-charge
Catechist Daniel Kwasi Ayim	Catechist

Officers:	
Mrs. Comfort Thompson	Senior Presbyter
Mr. Ebenezer Neequaye	Session Clerk
Mr. Maxwell Antwi Bamfo	Finance Director/Treasurer
Other Members:	
Mrs. Leonora Ewurasi Glover	Member
Mrs. Esther Osei Sarfo	Member
Mrs. Hilda Opong	Member
Mrs. Mary Ayebea Cantey	Member
Ms. Lily Kplorla Attipoe	Member
Mr. Daniel Adem Angmor	Member
Mr. Eric Adusei Mensah	Member
Mr. Martin Annor Adjei	Member
Mr. Enoch Obiri Odame	Member



Back, L - R: *Mr. Daniel Adem Angmor, Mr. Eric Adusei Mensah, Mr. Martin Annor Adjei, Mr. Enoch Obiri Odame, Mr. Ebenezer Neequaye, Madam Lily Kplorla Attipoe, Mrs Esther Osei Sarfo and Mr. Maxwell Antwi Bamfo.*

Front, L - R: *Mrs. Mary Ayebea Cantey, Mrs. Comfort Thompson, Cat. Daniel Kwasi Ayim Mrs. Leonora Ewurasi Glover and Mrs. Hilda Kwakyewaa Opong.*

Dedication of the current Church Building and Offices

Worship at the Basement continued from 2013 whilst serious construction work was going on until 2016 when the construction work was completed. All the groups in the Church suspended the group anniversaries and any other celebrations to embarked on a serious day-born fund raising for the whole period. This unique unity of purpose, dedication, selflessness, commitment, sacrifice and hard work paid off when on Sunday the 16th of October 2016, the new Grace Congregation Auditorium and Offices were dedicated and opened for service. *Appendix 5* contains excerpts of Goodwill messages received on the occasion.



Spiritual Development:

The growth of Grace Congregation has been twofold: physical and spiritual. These two complemented each other so well at Grace. Intensive Bible Study was the hallmark of the Church. To spice up the Bible Study Sessions, special topics were selected and special programmes were organized to expatiate the topics. The church also thrived on its special Friday morning prayers, house-to-house evangelism and church charity towards members through prayers, counselling, donations and visitations. All these activities were supported by faithful Prayer Warriors and established Committees.

As part of activities to ensure sustained spiritual growth, in January 2014, the Church went into agreement with a Team from the Grace Evangelistic Ministry at Akropong Akuapem under the leadership of Evangelist Rev. Abboah-Offei, to join the Church at West Legon, on every Public Holiday, for what we termed a 'Prayer Breakfast Meeting'. This to the glory of God has been faithfully observed by both parties to date.

Ministerial Training:

Grace Congregation has over the years, sponsored the training of four Ministers of the Gospel in its twenty-five years journey. The first Minister to be sponsored by the Church was Reverend Dr. Gertrude Owusu. She was commissioned in August 2009. In 2012, our then Catechist, now Reverend Daniel Kwasi Ayim was selected by the then Moderator of the General Assembly, Rt. Reverend Professor Emmanuel Martey, to undergo a "Special" Special Ministerial Training. In

August 2016 two more members of the Church, Reverend Dr. Richard Osei and Reverend Mrs. Comfort Leticia Adjei Yeboah were sponsored for training and were later commissioned.



Rev. Prof. Addobea Owusu



Rev. Daniel Kwasi Ayim



*Rev. Dr. Richard Osei
Amponsah*



*Rev. Comfort Leticia
Adjei Yeboah*

Spiritual Leadership

Caretakers:

The first Caretaker for the Church was the late Mrs. Juliet Kpentey. She served from 1994 to 1997 after which Mrs. Comfort Thompson took over and served from 1998 to 2008. From 2009, the Church decided to hire out the job of Caretaker.

Catechists

In 2001, the Church sponsored the training of Mr. Daniel Kwasi Ayim, who was a Founding Member, to become the first Catechist of the Church. He served the Church in this capacity faithfully until 2012 when by dint of hard work and dedication to the work of God; he was selected by the then Moderator of the General Assembly, to undergo a “Special” Special Ministerial Training and be ordained as a Reverend Minister. From 2012 to 2019 Mr. Ebenezer Neequaye has acted as the Catechist or the Pastoral Assistant of the Church. Currently Mr. Sampson Kwasi Owusu, a member of the Church has been trained under the sponsorship of the Church to become a Catechist.

Ministers:

Between the dates of the inauguration of the Church in 2004, to the celebration of its Silver Jubilee (2019), the Church has been spiritually overseen by six Reverend Ministers. The first ever Minister assigned to the Church was the Reverend Dr. Erasmus Nii Bonne Odonkor He served from 2006 to 2008. He was instrumental in introducing the two services at the Church specifically the First Service, in English to cater for the spiritual needs of students, foreigners residing around the church and other workers who had to go to work even on Sundays. The Second Service was in the local languages (Ga and Twi). Under his leadership, the church acquired a plot of land at Oyarifa with the intention of building a Manse there.



***Rev. Dr. Erasmus Nii
Bonne Odonkor***



Rev. Ishmael Ako Ayeng



***Very Rev. Prof. Cephass
Narh Omenyo***



***Rev. Prof. Abamfo Ofori
Atiemo***



***Rev. Mrs. Baaba Oduro
Boateng***



Rev. Herbert Anim Opong

Following his transfer in 2008, the Church welcomed the Reverend Ishmael Ako Ayeng who also served until 2011 and led the church to begin her expansion journey. In fact, the sod-cutting ceremony to mark the beginning of the construction of the new chapel was performed under his leadership as the Minister-in-charge.

Reverend Professor Cephass Narh Omenyo replaced Reverend Ishmael Ako Ayeng from September 2011 and led the Church with a different kind of spirit – selfless giving. It was during this time that the new church auditorium and office complex was completed and commissioned. Grace Presby Church was highly honoured when on the 24th of August, 2016; our then Minister, Reverend Professor Cephass Narh Omenyo was elected the 17th Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana at Abetifi. He held on as the Minister-in-charge until December 2016 when he was officially inducted into Office and had to assume duty as the Moderator.

After his departure, Grace Congregation was again blessed this time round with two Ministers. From December 2016 to August 2019 Reverend Dr. Abamfo Ofori Atiemo took over as the Minister-in-Charge. He was assisted by the Reverend Mrs. Baaba Oduro Boateng as an Associate Minister. Together they worked very hard to revive the prayer life of the church. Rev. Dr. Abamfo Ofori Atiemo's term at Grace Congregation was however interrupted by his appointment as the Chairperson of the Europe Presbytery.

In September, 2019, the Church welcomed the current Minister in charge, Reverend Herbert Anim Opong a former Clerk of General Assembly. In October of the same year, the Reverend Mrs. Baaba Oduro Boateng was also transferred.

The Reverend Herbert Anim Opong upon taking Office ensured that the Silver Jubilee Anniversary celebrations came off successfully.

Conclusion

This twenty-five (25) years journey has witnessed many ups and downs just like any human institution. It is only the love, commitment and dedication of members with godly guidance from the successive ministers that has kept the flame burning all these years. Indeed, the Lord Jesus Christ has built his Church and the gates of hell cannot prevail against it. The Grace Family can only thank the good LORD for His abundant blessings. Indeed, His Grace and Mercy has brought us this far.

EBENEZER!!! Thus far has the Lord brought us

1. *Now praise we great
and famous men,
the fathers named in story;
And praise the Lord, who now as then
reveals in man his glory.*
2. *Praise we the wise
and brave and strong,
who graced their generation,
Who helped the right,
and fought the wrong,
and made our folk a nation*
3. *Praise we the great
of heart and mind,
the singers sweetly gifted,
Whose music like a mighty wind
the souls of men uplifted.*
4. *Praise we the peaceful men of skill,
who builded homes of beauty,
And, rich in art, made richer still
the brotherhood of duty.*
5. *Praise we the glorious
names we know,
And they whose names
have perished,
Lost, in the haze of long ago,
In silent love be cherished.*
6. *In peace their sacred ashes rest,
Fulfilled their day's endeavor;
They blessed the earth,
and they are blessed
Of God and man forever.*
7. *So praise we great and famous men,
The fathers, named in story;
And praise the Lord who now as then
Reveals in man His glory.*

MHB 896

Appendix 1 **Second Session Members (2009 – 2012)**

CONFIGURATION OF SESSION	
Agents:	
Reverend Ishmael Ako Ayeng	Minister-in-charge
Catechist Daniel Kwasi Ayim	Catechist
Officers:	
Mrs. Comfort Thompson	Senior Presbyter
Mr. Ebenezer Neequaye	Session Clerk
Maxwell Antwi Bamfo	Finance Director/Treasurer
Other Members:	
Mrs. Leonora Ewurasi Glover	Member
Mrs. Hannah Tuffour	Member
Mrs. Hilda Opong	Member
Mrs. Beatrice Sakyiama	Member
Mrs. Gladys Ofosua Ansong	Member
Mrs. Ama Oduro Koranteng	Member
Mrs. Josephine Okyere Frimpong	Member
Mr. Enoch Obiri Odame	Member
Mr. Eric Adusei Mensah	Member
Ing. Kwasi Bamfo Barfi	Member
Mr. Daniel Adem Angmor	Member

Appendix 2 **Third Session Members (2013 – 2016)**

CONFIGURATION OF SESSION	
Agents:	
Rev. Prof. Cephas Narh Omenyo	Minister-in-charge
Mr. Ebenezer Neequaye	Ag. Catechist (Pastoral Assistant)
Officers:	
Mrs. Josephine Okyere-Frimpong	Senior Presbyter
Ing. Kwasi Bamfo Barfi	Session Clerk
Nana Opape Kwafo	Finance Director/Treasurer
Other Members:	
Mr. Godfred Asare-Nomafo	Member
Mr. Emmanuel Fiati	Member
Mr. Oduro Kwadwo Gyarteng	Member
Mr. Amos Amoasah	Member
Mr. Nathaniel Aheleh	Member
Mrs. Beatrice Sakyiama	Member
Mrs. Hannah Tuffour	Member
Mrs. Leticia Adomah Amakye	Member
Mrs. Dora Asihene	Member
Mrs. Veronica Acquah	Member
Mrs. Agnes Odame	Member

Appendix 3 **Fourth Session Members (2017 – 2020)**

CONFIGURATION OF SESSION	
Agents:	
Reverend Dr. Abamfo Ofori Atiemo (2017-2019)	Minister-in-charge
Reverend Baaba Oduro Boateng (2017-2019)	Associate Minister
Reverend Herbert Anim Opong (2019-2020)	Minister-in-charge
Mr. Ebenezer Neequaye	Ag. Catechist (Pastoral Assistant)
Officers:	
Mrs. Comfort Thompson	Senior Presbyter
Mr. William Ntim Boadu	Session Clerk
Nana Opape Kwafo	Finance Director/Treasurer
Other Members:	
Mr. Godfred Asare-Nomafo	Member
Mr. Emmanuel Fiati	Member
Mr. Oduro Kwadwo Gyarteng	Member
Mr. Amos Amoasah	Member
Mr. Nathaniel Aheleh	Member
Mr. Robert Ayarkwah	Member
Mrs. Afua Ago Sarkodee	Member
Mrs. Leticia Adomah Amakye	Member
Dr. Naa Djama Glover	Member
Mrs. Irene Bamfo Barfi	Member
Mrs. Agnes Odame	Member
Mrs. Christy Badu	Member
Mrs. Leonora Ewurasi Glover	Member

Goodwill Messages: Inauguration and Dedication of First Chapel – May 16, 2004

***From Reverend Dr. David Kpobi
Ga Presbytery Chairman***

The inauguration of the Presbyterian Church at West Legon is indeed an occasion to be joyful and thankful because it is the result of years of hard work and dedication by all those involved. Our era is one in which any casual observer may applaud the many Presbyterian congregations springing up in Accra Metropolis and also in the suburbs, but many people are not aware of the struggles and frustrations that the founders go through. It is always by the grace of the Almighty God that success eventually crowns our efforts. I know that your congregation has had its share of these hardships, but all these are behind us now. Today we can look back with thankfulness and praise God for His great mercies.

On this joyous occasion therefore, I wish to congratulate you on your laudable achievement in nurturing this preaching point to a congregational status. As we inaugurate this congregation and dedicate your magnificent church building, it is my prayer that the spirit that has led us up to this point may continue to lead us further. It is important that we do not see this occasion as the end of our word, but rather as the beginning of a new phase in our mission to the world. There are many people around us and even far off whom we can reach with God's word. May God enable you to achieve more for this glory.

Congratulations and Best Wishes.

***From Reverend Eric A. Doku
Former District Minister, PCG Hope Congregation Nima.***

Praise be to God Almighty, the creator and sustainer of all things on earth.

I am full with great joy to write this message on the occasion of the inauguration of the church and dedication of the chapel of Grace Presbyterian Church, West Legon. I thank God for the vision he gave to the pioneers of this Church, especially the evangelism Committee and the Bible Study and Prayer Group of the Nima Church who toiled day and night to nurture this Church to its present state.

Today the little seed that was sown some few years ago has blossomed into a big tree.

My prayer is that God guides the present leaders of this Church to keep to their vision and to bring many people to walk in the light of the Lord.

***From Reverend Samuel Kwasi Somuah
Former District Minister, PCG Hope Congregation Nima***

“Not by might nor by strength but by my Spirit, says the Lord of Host” Zechariah 4:6

The dedication of this Chapel and inauguration of this Church this day expresses a Dedicated, Zealous and Committed people by who's untiring endeavours this Chapel and its environs have been what we are celebrating.

It was in 1995 when I took charge of the one station Nima District with West Legon as its preaching out-post and the Nima Northern Outreach Post (N.O.P) as its nursery Church.

The West Legon congregation, as I met it, was "THE GARAGE CHURCH" in the Thompson's House, with great zeal and enthusiasm, committed to the establishing of this Church.

Congratulations for your great strides that have brought you thus far, not to mention the encouraging spirit of the Thompsons, the Glovers and the Dapaahs.

The Lord has truly crowned your efforts. Enjoy and celebrate it.

I pray that this celebration may be a time of great happiness and a renewed dedication and trust in God who has led you through these years.

I encourage you to continue to keep your zeal; and togetherness and endeavour to spread out to others and bring them into your fold, such believers who will be more zealous to serve the Lord.

May the Good Lord continue to give you new spiritual upliftment and sense of direction in your particular community.

God bless you.

Reverend Abamfo Ofori Atiemo.

Former Acting District Minister, PCG Hope Congregation Nima

"My heart goes out to the princes of Israel, to the willing volunteers among the people. Praise the Lord" (Judges 5:9)

It is indeed gratifying to hear that your congregation is being inaugurated. It is not surprising that after a few years of the existence of 'West Legon' as a preaching post, it has been judged matured to be made a full congregation.

The infectious enthusiasm, the deep sense of commitment and the intimate fellowship, which even casual visitors to your Church cannot fail to notice, have been indicators of your steady growth towards maturity in the grace of God.

When I first encountered your congregation in May 2000 in my official capacity as the Acting District Minister of the Nima Church District, one of the things that impressed me immediately was the healthy spirit of voluntarism and sharing that had become part of your culture.

It is these rare spiritual qualities, patiently cultivated through God's grace, that are yielding fruits today. My heart is with the "willing volunteers among you"

I pray that 'West Legon' shall continue to grow in all the graces of God and from its corner, spread faithfully the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, which alone holds genuine hope for the world.

Congratulations.

*From Reverend T. S. Akunor
Former District Minister, PCG Hope Congregation Nima*

"The Lord's unfailing love and mercy still continue, fresh as the morning, as sure as the sunrise"
(Lamentation 3:22-23)

It is indeed a privilege and humbling to be asked to write a goodwill message on the occasion of the inauguration of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, West Legon congregation, a congregation that I have been associated with since its early beginnings.

I recollect that in 1994 when I took my annual leave, I decided to move away from the congregation I was by then ministering just to spend some time with the Thompson family. I arrived only to realize that I was not coming to rest but to be involved in my own small way to nurture this small group of people that constituted the nursery congregation. Ever since that time, my family and I have been closely associated with the West Legon congregation as friends of the congregation.

Since my association with the West Legon congregation. I have discovered that the leadership have placed an emphasis on Group Bible Study and Prayer as two important pillars needed for Church growth and nurture in addition to the need for a regular time of Fellowship together. No wonder, this young congregation has seen significant growth both in terms of numerical strength and the quality of spiritual life.

It is noteworthy that with no financial help coming from the mother Church or elsewhere, this congregation through its stewardship drive has managed to purchase a parcel of land and it has also built this Chapel with an office attached to it. This indeed is a unique achievement.

Thank God for the founding fathers and mothers of this congregation particularly for the trail that they have blazed creating a deep thirst and hunger for the Word of God in the life of each congregant.

As you celebrate this occasion, my family and I are particularly thrilled to have been associated with you and we pray that the bond of fellowship between us may be strengthened day by day. Our prayer is that the spirit of evangelism will continue to grow within this congregation.

May the good Lord who made this West Legon congregation, a dream come true, cause His wonderful plans for this congregation to unfold before you in the coming years.

We wish you a joyous and happy spirit filled celebration.

Congratulations! May you continue to be channels of blessings to bring more people into the Kingdom of God/Christ's family.

Dedication of the current Chapel and Office Complex – October 16, 2016

By Rt. Rev. Professor Emmanuel Martey.

16th Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana

On the occasion of the Dedication of Chapel of the Grace Congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, West Legon I wish on behalf of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana and on my own behalf, bring you fraternal greetings and warmly congratulate you for the completion of the Chapel building. The Presbyterian Church of Ghana is very proud to be associated with your achievements as part of the Church's mission.

The Psalmist says: "This is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eye" (Psalm 11:23) is an evidence that the Lord has been the cornerstone of your Congregation. This may refer to David's preferment; but principally it is to Jesus the Christ. He is the Stone which the builders refused: they would go on in their building without him and this proved the ruin of those who reject him. He is the Chief Cornerstone in the foundation. He is the Chief Top-stone, in whom the building is completed, who must, in all things, have the pre-eminence. Christ's name is Wonderful; and the redemption he wrought out is the most amazing of all God's wondrous works. We will rejoice and be glad in the Lord's day; not only that such a day is appointed, but in the occasion of it, Christ's becoming the Head.

Dedication of Church Buildings gives an ideal opportunity for us to realize the Biblical insight of our standing in Grace and acknowledge our need for personal and institutional repentance. Since the Church is not just a building but rather the "People of God" the occasion is essentially the dedication of the people who worship in the Church Building. As such in the Bible, occasions such as dedication of Temples are filled with the fervor of spiritual renewal of the people.

In Biblical tradition, the Temple has been part of the order of God's revelation and grace. The Temple united the Tribes of Yahweh – Israel – into one nation. There have been three (3) temples in Biblical history which were built and stood successively on Mount Moriah. If we will recall, Mount Moriah was the place where, in response to God's injunction, Abraham was to go and sacrifice his son Isaac (Genesis 22:2)

The first Temple to be built on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem was that of King Solomon (2 Chron. 3:1). It took seven years to complete and was dedicated in the eleventh year of Solomon's reign in around 950 B.C. (1 Kings 6:38; 8:62-63). However, this first Temple was destroyed when the Babylonians under King Nebuchadnezzar burnt Jerusalem in 586 B.C.

The Second Temple was built by Zerubbabel, the Governor of Judah at the time assisted by the High Priest Jeshua (also called Joshua) and the two prophets Haggai and Zechariah (Ezra 5:1-2). The rebuilding was made possible by the decree of Emperor Cyrus of Persia. Compared to the first Temple built by Solomon this second one was less magnificent and smaller. Therefore, when the foundation was laid, while the old men who had seen the first temple wept with sorrow, the young people who were born later in exile shouted for joy (Ezra 3:12; Haggai 2:1-5). This temple was completed in 515 B.C. In the successive centuries this temple was repaired several times.

The third and last Temple built on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem was started by Herod the Great around 20 B.C. This was the Temple Jesus came to meet and which existed at His time. After forty-six years, this Temple was still under construction (John 2:20). It was finally completed in A.D. 64 more than thirty years after Jesus. This Temple was bigger and more magnificent than the two previous ones. Jesus predicted the destruction of this Temple to His disciples (Mark 13:1-2; Matthew 24:1-2; Luke 21:5-6). This actually happened in A.D 70 when the Romans marched on Jerusalem and destroyed the Temple, and as Jesus predicted not a single stone was left in its place – all were thrown down.

Now in the New Testament, the whole Christian community is described as God's "new temple" (1 Cor. 3:16-17; 2 Cor. 6:16-17; Eph. 2:19-22; 1 Pet. 2:5; cf 1 Cor. 6:19-20). Therefore, for us Christians today, while the temple image is used to convey the unity of the Church, we are also challenged to live holy lives that will benefit followers of Christ who have tasted the heavenly gift, and become partakers of the Holy Spirit (Hebrews 6:4).

Once again, I congratulate you for your achievement.

***From Reverend Victor Okoe Abbey,
Ga Presbytery Chairperson.***

Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to prayer made in this place. For now, I have chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there forever; and my eyes and my heart will be there perpetually. (2 Chron. 7:15-16)

I am very delighted to be associated with the dedication of this magnificent chapel of the Grace Congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, West Legon to the glory of God. On behalf of the Ga Presbytery I congratulate the leadership and the entire members of the Grace Congregation for the dedication and commitment with which you successfully prosecuted this project. You have done it beautifully and in a record time. You should be proud of yourselves and this great accomplishment. Celebrate the Lord – the great provider who made the provision of all the needed resources that had been channeled into the building of this beautiful chapel, Congratulations!

However, as you celebrate this achievement remember that it is a rare opportunity God gave you and therefore in humility and self-effacing posture, you need to give thanks to the Almighty God for choosing you to build this chapel to glorify Him. David, the man after God's own heart had wanted to build a temple for the Lord but God did not allow him. If God has allowed you to do so, then it is a privilege and an honour for which you need to be grateful.

As I congratulate you and thank God Almighty for the work done, may I remind you to constantly remember to use this Chapel for the purpose for which it has been built. Jesus was not happy with the people and he had to whip them out of the Temple because they were not using it for the intended purpose. May you never worship this Chapel nor take pride in its sheer beauty. But rather worship God in this Chapel. May you turn this Chapel into a House of Prayer and nothing more.

My prayer is that whenever you come into this Chapel you may feel the overwhelming presence of our loving Father who gave you the ability to build it. May His eyes be opened and ears attentive to the prayers and supplications will offer in this place forever.

May the Lord richly bless you all.

*From Reverend Solomon Nii-Mensah Adjei,
The Haatso District Minister*

Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. (Psalm 127:1)

I deem it a great honour to be associated with this great achievement of your congregation and therefore on behalf of the entire Haatso district and on my own behalf extend a warm felicitation to you – the entire membership of the Grace congregation on this memorable occasion of the dedication of your new chapel.

Since the creation of the Haatso district, you have always indicated your determination to push the boundaries of growth higher even in the face of difficult challenges and trying moments. It is therefore not surprising that you have been able to achieve this feat of building such as beautiful edifice in a record time of six years – a feat which is rarely achieve by many churches.

Let me on this auspicious occasion salute the founding fathers and mothers who caught the vision of planting the church and all those who through their efforts, toil, dedication and perseverance have continued to nurture the congregation up to this present stage. I say Ayekoo to you all! My special congratulation goes to the current crop of leaders led by the Rev. Professor Cephas Narh Omenyo, who has always proved to be a visionary and accomplishing great things wherever he serves. To you I say congratulations!

My interactions with you has always assured me that you are prepared to go to great length and make the necessary sacrifices to grow the congregation and make it relevant not only to the members but also to the whole community. I am in no doubt this gorgeous piece of a chapel will lead to church growth as people may automatically be attracted to it and come to worship with you.

My dear Christian friends as you may be aware a chapel is a symbol of God's presence among His people, however, the Bible makes it very clear that God does not dwell in temples made by human hands (Acts 17:24), so as we celebrate this manifestation of God's presence, let us look beyond this physical structure and focus more on building our bodies to become the temples of the living God (2 Cor. 6:16). Let us make this chapel a real place of worship – a place where the people of God will come and worship God, a place where members will be exhorted for spiritual growth, a place where people will come to know and serve the Lord Jesus.

We should more importantly pursue our sole mandate of embarking on the mission to seek the lost and bring them to the saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is also worthy to note how through the architecture of the chapel you have portrayed some of the tenets of the Reform Tradition especially the placement of the Communion Table. Many

physical displays bring to the fore the Teachings of the Reform Spirituality – teaching your members that their Christianity and Spirituality should not be restricted to the chapel on Sundays but permeate the whole of society and be exhibited wherever they find themselves and affect whoever they come into contact with.

While we think about these things let us in the meantime enjoy and make fun as we celebrate the goodness of the Lord. We, the members of the Haatso district join to thank the Almighty God for His love and faithfulness. Once again, I say congratulations on this great achievement. God bless you.

***From Reverend Abraham Samuel Brenya-Abbey
Former District Minister, PCG Hope Congregation Nima.***

The Brenya-Abbey family feels privileged to be associated with the West Legon Presbyterian Church of Ghana on the dedication of your chapel.

We pay tributes to the founding Fathers and Mothers of this Church. We cannot make a list, but to those men and women of our beloved church, we say God richly bless you all (founding members from Nima to West Legon).

The history of West Legon Presbyterian Church is a history of courage, sacrifice and selflessness in the face of many odds and challenges. It is the Lord who did his work through men and women like you, so thanks be to the Lord our God.

While congratulating you however, I wish to draw your attention to these hundreds, if not thousands of souls within your area of operation who have not accepted Christ as their Lord and savior.

Let this day of dedication of your chapel challenge all of us to work hard to bring these people into the fold of God's people.

May the Good Lord bless you, once again we say congratulation.

***From Reverend Dr. Erasmus Nii Bonne Odonkor
Former Minister-in-Charge, PCG Grace Congregation, West Legon***

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden (Matthew 5:14)

On the occasion of the dedication of your New Chapel, I give thanks to God and congratulate the leadership and membership of the Church for a great work done.

We rejoice with you knowing that this has not been an easy journey but we thank the good Lord for seeing you through to its completion.

Getting to this point has not come easy but you have persevered through it and come out strong and solid with a new place of worship to move your worship of God to greater heights.

Just as the word of God says in Matthew 5:14 “you are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden” In the same way, we pray that with this new place of worship, many more will come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and know and experience His mighty works. In this era of hardship and difficulties, we pray that Grace Congregation will be a place of refuge for many.

Even as you highlight God’s faithfulness by putting up this beautiful place of worship to bring glory to Him, may He continue to show you His faithfulness and love.

We join you in prayer asking our gracious Heavenly Father and God to extend his favour to you, making “all grace abound to you so that in all things at all times, having all that you need you will abound in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8).

Congratulations!!

***From Reverend Ishmael Ako Ayeng,
Former Minister-in-Charge PCG Grace Congregation West Legon***

Spirit of God that moved the first Saints, Spirit in Zion’s Cities, come again. Come quickly, move by day and evening. Destroy and put to shame all enemies. Fill us to spread the Gospel news abroad, Souls harvest for the Lord from every band. (PHB 282 vs. 1)

On the occasion of the dedication of your new chapel, I bring you warm greetings and felicitations in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I am very happy to be associated with the occasion. I also thank the Lord Almighty for granting you His grace to be able to come this far. Glory be to His Holy NAME.

I do believe that Grace Congregation as a family under God’s guidance can do greater works. I therefore pray the Lord of the Harvest who led you to put up this magnificent Chapel, will strengthen you in harvesting souls for His Church and Kingdom. It is for Him, to Him and to His service and honour we all do this.

Finally, I salute the entire congregation under the able leadership of our newly elected Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Reverend Professor Cephas Omenyo, the Session (both old and new) and the various committees for a good work done.

May the Lord Almighty bless you abundantly for bringing honour to His holy NAME.

Congratulation!!!!

***From Reverend Daniel Kwasi Ayim
Director, Mt. Moriah Prayer and Retreat Centre and former Catechist of PCG Grace
Congregation West Legon.***

“After all, who is Apollos? And who is Paul? We are simply God's servants, by whom you were led to believe. Each one of us does the work which the Lord gave him to do: I planted the seed,

Apollos watered the plant, but it was God who made the plant grow. The one who plants and the one who waters really do not matter. It is God who matters, because he makes the plant grow. There is no difference between the one who plants and the one who waters; God will reward each one according to the work each has done. For we are partners working together for God, and you are God's field". (1 Cor. 3:5-9)

On this occasion of the Grace Chapel dedication, it is with much pleasure that I and my family bring to you warm greetings and congratulations to the entire congregation for the good work done in building a chapel of this kind considering the numerous challenges, trials and difficulties that the congregation had to overcome, reaching this point of building your own chapel is a significant milestone. Thanks be to the Almighty God for his immeasurable goodness and quality providential care over the years.

I believe that this success story cannot be adequately told without the immense contributions of gallant men and women who in diverse ways have helped, contributed and served in various capacities both in past and the present. I therefore salute the founders of this great congregation whose vision of spreading the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ even out of their comfort zones has not been in vain. It is by their commitment and faith in God that this congregation has survived in spite of several hardships.

Let me also congratulate many other people who have worked in this congregation in the past as Rev. Ministers, Catechists, Caretakers, Presbyters, Chairperson of various Departments and Committees, Group Representatives, Prayer Team and so on, may the Lord richly bless you.

Beloved as we share in the joy and excitement of this celebration, let us be reminded not to be complacent with our achievement, instead whatever success we have attained should be a stepping stone that will propel us into doing more for our Lord Jesus Christ, the ever-living God and King of the universe. Let us also make every effort to renew our commitment in the service of the Lord by setting fresh goals and win more souls for the Lord and plant new churches in the years to come.

May the Holy Spirit move us to do exploit. May all who worship in this beautiful edifice also acknowledge God's presence and Holiness. He alone deserves all adoration, praises and honour.

Congratulation, Ayekoo to you all. Long live PCG, Long live Grace Congregation.

Appendix 6 *Picture Gallery December 18, 1994*

December 18 1994, Nima Hope Presby Church Extension and Evangelism at the Thompson's Residence



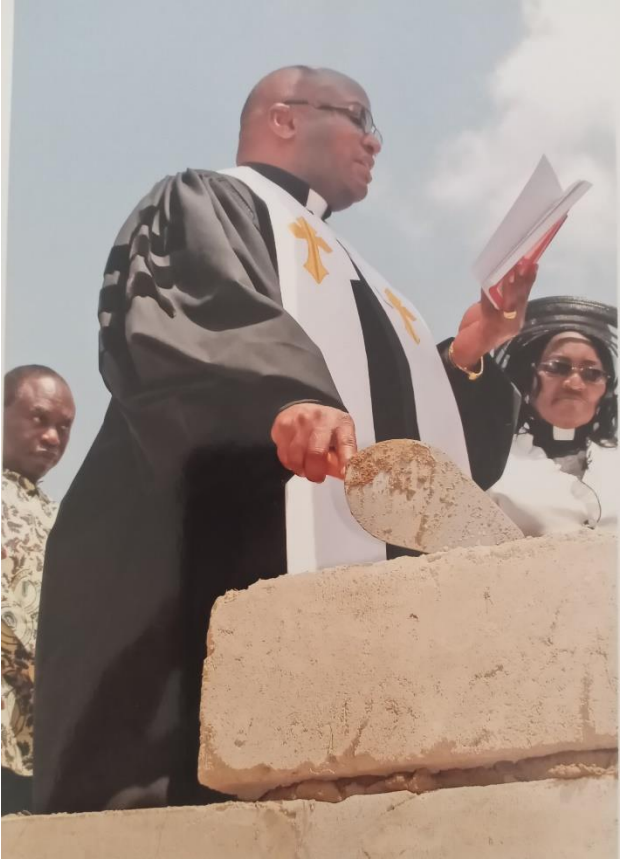
Picture Gallery: December 18 1994 Church Extension and Evangelism at the Thompson's Residence



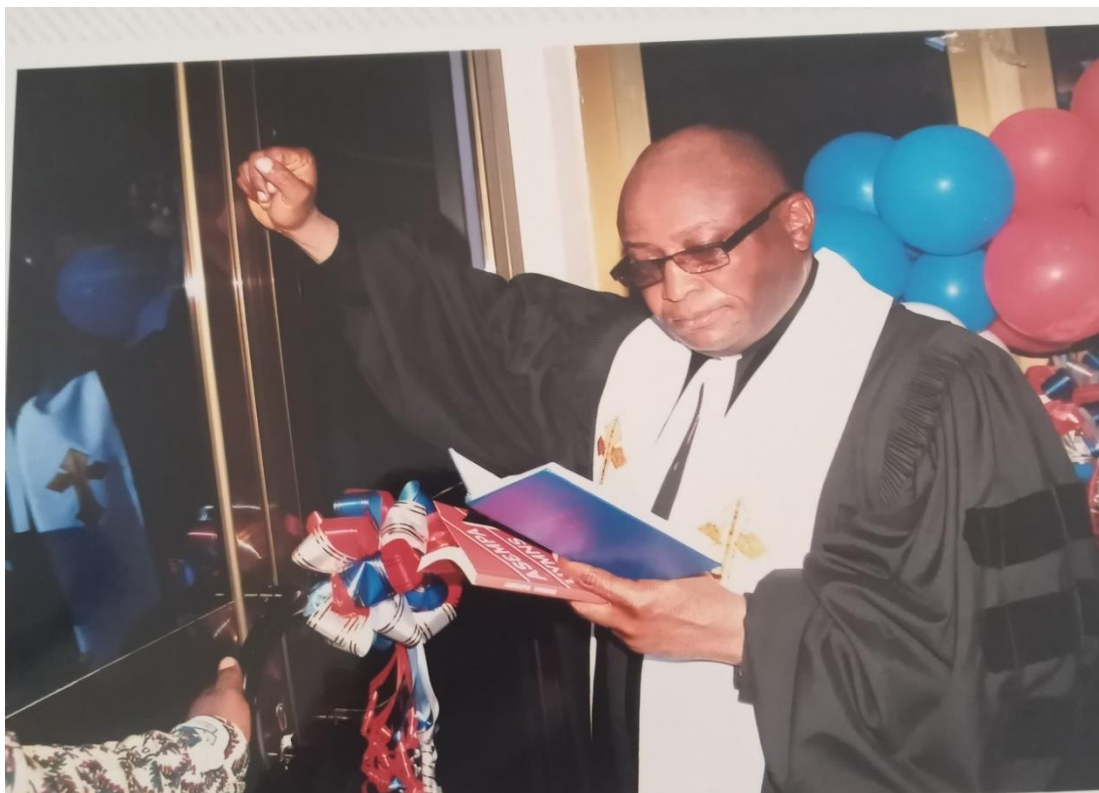
Picture Gallery: December 18, 1994 Church Extension and Evangelism at the Thompson's Residence

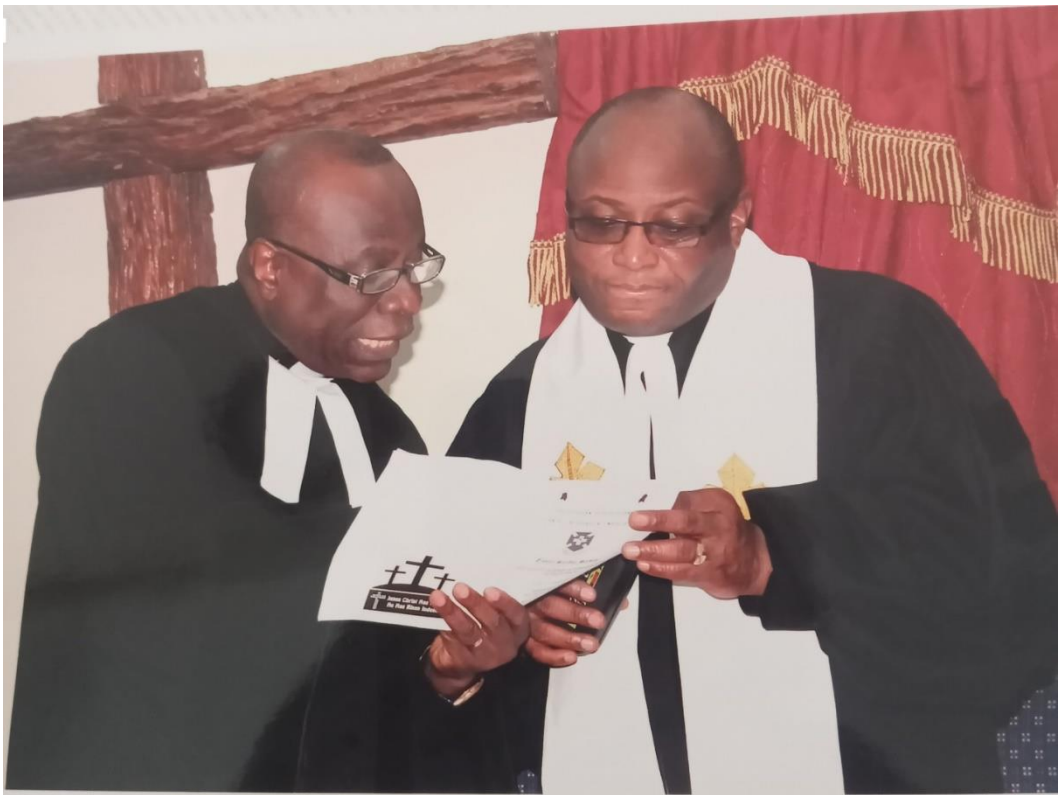


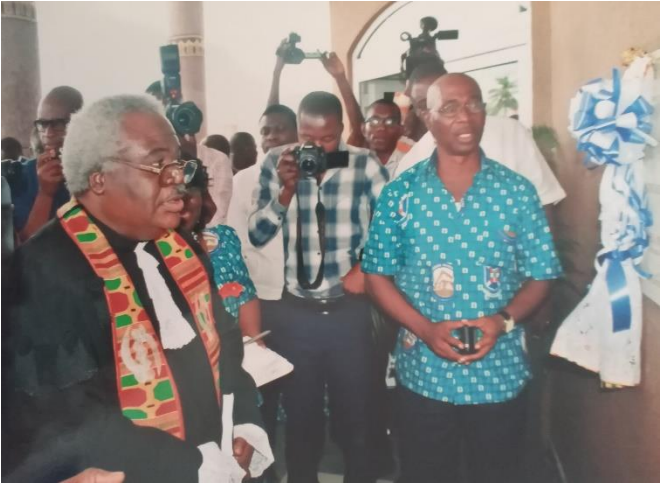
Appendix 7 *March 31st 2013 Dedication of Basement*
Dedication of Basement and Laying of Foundation Stone



Picture Gallery: Dedication of Basement for Service







Picture Gallery October 16, 2016 Dedication of Main Chapel and Office Complex



Picture Gallery October 16, 2016 Dedication of Main Chapel and Office Complex



Appendix 9 *New Chapel Building and the Building Committee Members.*



Appendix 10 *New Chapel Building Fundraising Committee Members.*

When you hear the word “fundraising,” do you get excited or do you begin trembling in terror? For many, the mere thought of raising funds for their churches makes them uncomfortable. It’s often the last item on the Session meeting agenda, unless the church is beginning a building campaign. Even then, it remains an uncomfortable topic for many ministers of the church. Fundraising means asking people to partner financially so that a vision and mission can be fulfilled.

The Church Building project materialized because the under-listed committee members could a). *Identify* the top givers of the church, b). Show *interest* in the fundraising themselves c). Get members *involved*, d). Encourage the members to *invest* in the fundraising, e). *Influence* members to give and invite others to join.



Front L-R: Mrs. Christy Badu, Mrs. Beatrice Tsotsoo Adom, Mrs. Leonora Ewurasi Glover.
Back: L-R: Mr. Martin Annor Adjei, Mr. Maxwell Antwi-Bamfo, Mrs. Irene Bamfo Barfi, Mr. Edward Nii Ayi Thompson and Mr. Amos Amoasah