**THE CHURCH OF PENTECOST IN BOTSWANA**

**GABORONE WORSHIP CENTRE**

**MINUTES OF LOCAL OFFICERS MEETING HELD ON THE 7TH OF NOVEMBER 2016 AT**

**GABORONE WORSHIP CENTRE**

# INTRODUCTION

The meeting was started at 6pm and was chaired by the National Head, Pastor Evans Adu

Akuffo, He welcomed all officers present at meeting. In his introductory remarks the Chairman shared with the officers a word of Exhortation taken from the book of 1st Corinthians 9 -19. In his remarks the talked about the fact that that leadership demands sacrifices. He mentioned that by serving, leaders became slaves to everyone. He made mention that Jesus himself demonstrated that by washing the feet of His disciples thereby showing that leadership is all about sacrifice and service. He encouraged leaders to be to bridge the gap by becoming like the flock in their care 1st Corinthians9-20 in order to win them for Christ. He also reminded Leaders that the core mandate of the Church was to win souls. He also mentioned that Leaders should make themselves as sacrificial tools and serve in order to souls for the church as much as possible.

AGENDA

The minutes of the previous meeting was accepted and seconded by Deaconess Janet Appiah.

## 1.1 HOME CELLS

The Chairman mentioned that home cells have been demarcated into 8 groups and that all home cells are functioning. He said that registers will be collected at the end of November and attendance will be reviewed. Elder Artivor mentioned that in his group attendance was not regular due to transport and work related problems. The chairman suggested that the group be divided into two. The Presiding Elder also suggested one home cell could be introduced on Sundays to curtail this problem.

# 2.0 BUSINESS AGENDA

## 2.1 LOCAL END OF YEAR RALLY

The chairman mention that rallies should be part of the church programmes and that the different ministries in the church could organise them. The Presiding Elder said permission had been granted for the church to use the Taung Park for the rally. He said tracks will be distributed before the rally. He also suggested that speakers at the rally should preach in Setswana. The chairman also mentioned the service should not go beyond 2hrs.Leaders were encouraged to pray at least for 30mins each day at midnight for the success of the rally.

## 2.2 CHRISTMAS CONVENTION

The Chairman mentioned that the Christmas convention will be held in Gaborone and Francistown. He suggested the convention should be held outside for the first few days and the last day come inside the church. There was a concern that going outside the church would be a problem and that it should be thought over. The Chairman suggested there should be another meeting about the convention and see the best way it could be held. Deacon Ghanney made a point that in previous years’ souls that had been won expected the church to transport them to church after the convention.

## 2.3 END OF YEAR THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Chairman mentioned that the end of year Thanksgiving offering is one of the three big offerings of the church. He encouraged Leaders to prepare themselves and give out their best. He also said every local assembly can also set their own dates for the Special Offering to help the church, and that they should be able to grow financially.

## 2.4 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The Chairman suggested that activities should be planned for the Christmas period. A Love feast was suggested to be held after the service on the 11th December.

# 3.0 BAPTISM

Local assemblies were encouraged to win souls and have water baptism and also work on the Holy Spirit baptism. The various Ministries were encouraged to win souls for the church because it will be demanded from them in their end of year reports.

# 4.0 BIBLE STUDIES

The Chairman mentioned that Bible studies will be done within the home cells. Leaders were encouraged to combine the bible studies and home cell topics.

# 5.0 ZONAL VISITATION GROUPS

Home cell leaders were encouraged to visit active and non-active members of the various groups.

# 6.0 KEYBOARD PLAYER

Deacon Sam has been engaged to play the keyboard. It was suggested he be made a music director and also be in charge of praise and worship and also be made to run errands for the church. The Presiding Elder was asked to write a job description for him as he was earning a salary.

# 7.0 TITHES AND OFFERING

All officers were encouraged to pay tithes as non -paying of tithe could lead to an officer or leader losing their office, The National Deacon briefed the officers on the new tithe envelopes and that every leader should to get one. The local finance committee was asked to meet and give a feed back to the church.

# 8.0 LOCAL LEADERSHIP

The Presiding Elder asked to be reviewed 7 were in favour.

Kwame Yeboah of the children’s department also asked to be reviewed. The Chairman requested him to train someone to take his place.

# 9.0 CALENDER OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES

The Presiding Elder was tasked by the Chairman to oversee the action plan of all the Ministries. All nights were also to be included in all the ministries action plan.

# 10.0 OFFICERS APPRECIATION WEEK

a. The Chairman suggested that there should be an appreciation day for Officers of GWC. Elder Bray suggested a token be given as gifts to the officers in show of appreciation. Deacon Ghanney also suggested that certificates could be awarded to deserving officers

b. Elder Ahulu and Mrs Akuffo also suggested the officers could be taken to a restaurant for dinner or lunch and given gifts after. After much deliberation it was agreed by all for deserving officers to be taken out for lunch or dinner. Elder Ahulu was tasked to look for a venue and date.

# 11.0 YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN CHURCH SERVICES

The Chairman made mention of the fact that parents were worried about the number of youth in the cage during church service. Elder Bray said only two people were supposed to be in the cage. He also said Deacon Allan Appiah could help by ensuring that only two people are in the cage and the rest participate in church service.

# 12.0 END OF YEAR REPORTS

The Chairman reminded leaders of the various ministries that the End of Year Reports should be ready by December.

# 13.0 OPEN FORUM

The Chairman mentioned that there was a need for an open forum in the church for members to express their views on issues in the church. Deacon Ghanney suggested that it should start with the officers and leaders see how it goes and then extend it to the congregation.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a. Deacon Ghanney wanted to know if the meeting was announced earlier. The chairman answered by saying that because he was not here consistently such meetings came up.

b. Mrs Akuffo raised a concern about the youth of the church whether they were comfortable at church. Deaconess Ghanney answered by saying that the problem was when they moved from Sunday school to join the main church.

c. Deacon Ghanney suggested that there could be a Youth Pastor who will handle them during the transition.

d. Deaconess Sarah Adarkwah suggested that there was a need for a teacher to be provided for the children in Sunday school to handle them during church service.

In the absence of any other business Deacon Ghanney moved for the meeting to be adjourned and was seconded by Deaconess Janet Appiah

Deaconess Sara Adarkwah said the closing prayer which led the meeting to a close 9.30pm

**CHAIRMAN**  **MINUTES RECORDER**

PASTOR EVANS AKUFFO JOSEPHINE BUDU