SPECIAL **POINTS OF** 

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"that there is so much more in the Lord's work aside from just coming to church as we expected to do God's work until he comes".

Matthew

25:14-30

**INTEREST:** 

# NAC Youth Link



SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2013

## **Editorial**







Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Youth,

In September our Apostles met the Chief Apostle in Brisbane, Australia. The Divine Service on 29<sup>th</sup> September was

transmitted to South East Asia, but we only had a few locations, which could be connected to the Internet. There was a special message from the Chief Apostle for the Youth, which I would like to share with you:

"...there are also many young Brothers and Sisters, they gathered for a Youth Convention and I just like to address them with a special welcome and a special message for those who are here but also for those who are in the connected congregations for all the Youth of this district.

My dear young Brothers and Sisters, it's common sense to say 'you are the future of the church' but I like to change that and to be a little bit more precise, you are not only the future of the church, today you are designing the church of the future and that's important to know today. You design the church of the future by the way you live your faith today, the way you treat each other, the way you help one another, the way you forgive one another, that's the way the church will be in the future.

Today you decide how the church will be in the future. It will be as it is today in your midst in the circle of the youth. Today you set the standards of the church of the future so I just like to say: "You, young Brothers and Sisters, please be ambitious for the church and want the best".

The way you love, the way you help, the way you forgive, the way you treat one another that's the way things will happen in the future in the church. So I repeat it: please young Brothers and Sisters, be ambitious. We want the church to be better and greater, more holy and full of love in the future and that depends on you. But don't worry you are not alone we pray for you and we want to help you."

That says it all. I leave this now in your hands and heart to further elaborate. "God bless".

**Cordially Yours** Urs Hebeisen

#### **Getting Ready for the Feast**

Each day we are blessed by our heavenly Father and we are so thankful for all the blessings that we received. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we are celebrating Thanksgiving Day once a year and it is a big event wherein members in a congregation bring their offerings. It is a feast that we are rejoicing every first Sunday of October and everyone is excited, as there will be a Thanksgiving Concert this year.

There are preparations here and there for this Thanksgiving Concert. As early as June, practices were held every Sunday. Choir members are excited to finalize their numbers to be presented to our brothers, sisters, and guests. Costume designs, songs of praise, songs of love, and songs of thankfulness were prepared. Sunday school children are also busy rehearsing their piece and the joyfulness can be seen in their eyes. Members of the orchestra are busy practicing their pieces for this upcoming event.

Each choir member is diligent in every practice. Hours and hours were spent so that everyone will be able to familiarize each song of praise and to be able to learn it and present it by heart. Choir leaders and even choir members put emphasis on time management to make use of the time wisely. Some brought their own food to save and have time to mingle with one another. During lunch time, they gathered at the multipurpose hall to eat and have some fellowship as everyone shared and enjoyed their meal.

Nervousness is evident on everyone's face, but on top of it, we felt the joyfulness and desire to serve our heavenly Father. Thanksgiving Day is one way of proclaiming and expressing our gratitude of God's grace and unconditional love.

#### Thanksgiving Concert



This year's Thanksgiving is one of a kind as a Thanksgiving Concert was held last Oct. 5 2013, in Makati Congregation. After the thorough practice and hard work of each choir members, after the left and right rehearsals of the orchestra and the Sunday school children, the anticipated event came. Everyone is nervous but gladness to perform and to serve God is the most out of it.

Orchestra performed first. They played several pieces and everyone was enchanted with their melodramatic songs of praise. Our brothers and sisters from Las Pinas congregation also prepared songs. Two of our brothers played the guitar while the other brothers and sisters sang with the cute kids from Las Pinas. The Sunday School Class sang and others played the "Angklung" (musical instrument from Indonesia). Religious Instruction Class also sang and some of them play the recorder. Makati Congregation's choir members were arranged to form 150 in front and top view as New Apostolic Church celebrates its 150 years spreading the word and works of God. The choir sang several songs and one of it is "We Will Keep our Faith Alive". As a final number, all performers were gathered in front and everyone sang "Give Thanks".







#### Thanksgiving Day



Thanksgiving Day is one of the most awaited day of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Every day we receive blessings from our heavenly Father and Thanksgiving is one way of acknowledging and showing how grateful we are for God's irrevocable love. Last October 6th of this year, we joyfully celebrated this much awaited and blissful event in Makati. We are all gathered to celebrate all the blessings that we received from our heavenly Father. We welcomed it with songs of happiness, gratefulness, adoration, and thankfulness.

New Apostolic globally celebrates Thanksgiving Day. In Makati congregation, as part of the tradition, members brought their offerings such as flowers, vegetables, fruits, rice, and foods.

The night before the event, members of the

congregation helped each other to decorate the altar using all the offerings. Each work was assigned and each idea was gathered for the altar decoration.

A gathering after the Thanksgiving service was held at the multipurpose hall. It was led by DA Hebeisen. Everyone was invited for this fellowship. The whole congregation enjoyed the food while chatting with brothers, sisters and guests. Giving out of fruits and vegetables was done after the fellowship.







On a bright and sunny Sunday morning of August 25th, the halls of the Makati Church were made even brighter by the smiles of our brothers and sisters in Christ as we celebrated our District Apostle Urs Hebeisen's 61st birthday. The event was also graced by the presence of Apostles from the Philippines and from our neighboring countries.

DA Hebeisen quoted that he was not only celebrating but was also doing the Lord's work as he baptized and officiated the Holy Sealing of several brothers and sisters from different churches. On the message he delivered during the Divine Service, he expounded on how we are God's "workmanship" and how we are designed to do good deeds.

Apostle Isnugroho of Indonesia, highlighted DA Hebeisen's message and delivered that we were designed not only to do good works but to be an example to others as well. In addition to this, Apostle Desoloc of Mindanao correlated it to the text from *Matthew 25:14-30: "that there is so much more in the Lord's work aside from just coming to church as we expected to do God's work until he comes".* 

The morning was filled with songs and praises as the orchestra performed several songs dedicated to the District Apostle. The Youth Choir also rendered a song that speaks about how DA inspires them. Not to be outdone, the children of the church also sang a few melodies as they handed DA a birthday card signed by our brothers and sisters.

The joyful occasion, also gave our brothers and sisters the opportunity to chat with our guest apostles from the SEA region as they shook hands, took pictures and shared a story or two. The fellowship continued as everyone shared the food brought by the members.

We pray that DA Hebeisen will continue to be blessed by our heavenly Father as he continues to be a channel of blessing to us which leads us in God's work.

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#### **Experience of Faith: My answered Prayer**

When I arrived here in Luzon, I am blessed and guided by God because I travelled alone from Mindanao. It was my very first time to travel, but before I travelled, my father, my mother, and my sister prayed together to ask for guidance and help for me to find a job. Before then, my father gave me an advice that I will seek God's house wherever I go and always pray for God's guidance. I arrived and stayed in my Aunt's house. On that Sunday, my cousin invited me to attend the divine service in Makati. I attended, that was my first service in Makati, and I was so happy and thankful for her kindness. The new week started and I began to look for a job. I went to an agency and I was recommended to a company near Ortigas. Questions were asked but unfortunately I was not accepted. They only accept applicants above 23 years old. I felt sorry for what happened but I kept my faith strong and prayed to God. I know that things happen for a reason and He has a plan for me.

I started looking for another job. My cousin helped me out and referred me to a restaurant as they needed a service crew. I submitted my resume at the manager's office and he conducted an interview. I got the job and was instructed that my training will start the following day. I was amazed and was very happy that day as I wasn't expecting it. I just told myself that God heard my prayer.

I finished my training in two weeks time. I didn't continue to work at the restaurant because there's no Sunday off. If I continue working there I won't be able to attend the divine service every Sunday. I prayed to God to give me another job that will give me the chance to attend the service every Sunday. I told one of our brothers in the church that I was looking for a job and he told me that if there is a vacant position in the company that he manages, he would contact me. Months passed, I haven't received any word from him. I almost lost hope and felt discouraged. Then I found a Bible and looked for a text on *Thessalonians 5:17* it says: "*Pray without ceasing*". I told myself that's right and I gained strength from that.

I revisited the hiring agency. They referred me to a fastfood company. Weeks passed and the fastfood company called me and invited me for an interview. Within the day, the brother from the church who is a manager, who promised to call, told me they have a vacant position and I could start training the following day. I was so confused and prayed to God. I don't know what to do but I have to decide. I chose the company where my brother in Christ is working. I thank God for His guidance and for giving me what I needed. I remember His words and it says: "Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you for every one that asked, receives and he that seeks, find and to him shall be opened" (Matthew 7:7-8).



### **Question and Answer**



#### 1.) What would really happen to all of us at the end of the world?

There is no end of the world. God created it in perfection and will have it back in perfection. God's plan of salvation is designed in eternal dimensions and He wants all men to be saved. The Lord Jesus could say all power in heaven and earth is given to me. He also promised a new heaven and a new earth. There will never be an end but a continued transformation. Therefore we follow Christ and seek to make His victory also our victory. Next goal, His return for His bride.

Part 10, pages 361-369 in our CATECHISM deals with the doctrine of future things. In our office you can get a free copy of this book on our faith.

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#### 2.) When and where was the first and the second Apostolic Church established? Please specify the date, the place and the references.

The first Apostolic Church was established on Pentecost, approx. 33 years after the birth of Christ in Jerusalem. You probably mean in your question the Catholic Apostolic Church as first and the New Apostolic church as second. Both have been developments within the Church of Christ. Especially the NAC was the making of a progressive evolution rather than a creation in a single act at certain place and time. In our office you can get a free copy of our brochure 150 years "one faith-one goal" It is a very interesting publication and gives you many historical data.

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