

NAC YOUTHLINK







EDITORIAL

My dear Brethren in the Youth,

"Youth needs room and space to develop" this was a statement in a Youth Service in our Kaliurang Church in Jogjakarta on the Island of Java in Indonesia. 332 were gathered and I served them with the Chief Apostle's words at the European Youth Day. "We stretch out to that which is ahead of us" (see editorial YL, July 2009)

Everyone has his space, at work place, in family at home, but there is room also in the congregation and in God's work.

Space is available:

- In the choir
- In the orchestra
- Helping with cleaning and decorating God's house
- Reaching out to guests and friends
- Give courage to the ones with

difficulties in life

- Visit the sick
- Assist in Sunday School
- Be an assistant to Ministers in organising youth events

In the world we often hear the need for "self actualization" This has certainly its place in our life but shall we not give priority to do "God's will" first, to realize the plan of our Heavenly Father? That is what Christ did, and he for sure had his own personal ambitions and needs as well. Only God's plan brings eternal benefits, let us ask and seek to do His will. He, who does the will of the Father in Heaven, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven. (See Matthew 7:21)

Take your place, fill the room, and develop the space of your life to a comfortable, peace- and fruitful area.

"...and all these things (what you will eat, drink, your clothes) shall be

see on page 2

Special Interest Articles:

- Youth Schedule of Activities
- Experience of Faith
- District Apostle's Letterbox

"What is meant by soul mates, and how do we find our soul mates? Will it be worthy to find instead of waiting for it come?"

"If I am not an Apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord"

1st Corinthians 9:2



Chief Apostle Leber with Shahani and Rosabelle on EJT 2009



added unto you" (read Matthew 6: 25-34) The ministers received a circular for a Youth Service with the theme TESTIMONY OF THE APOSTLE MINISTRY. I am sure you are interested. In this edition of the "Youth Link" we publish a synopsis.

Wishing you God's blessing, assuring you of my prayers, love and concern, I remain

Yours truly,

Urs Hebeisen

DISTRICT NEWS UPDATE

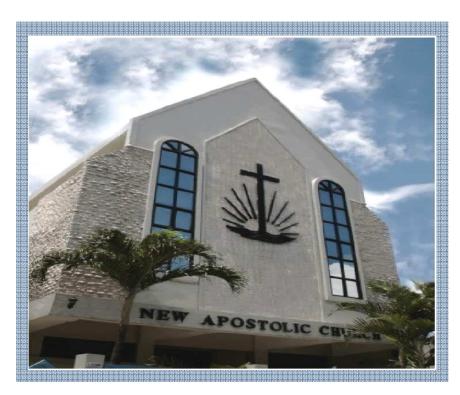
Why Go To Church

If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this! If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it. If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this... They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. *If my wife*



had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing....God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

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TESTIMONY OF THE APOSTLE MINISTRY

"If I am not an Apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord" 1st Corinthians 9:2

In the early Christian congregation there were people who did not regard Paul as a true Apostle. He understood himself as having been called to this ministry by the Lord. He explains to the congregation how important this ministry is for them. Paul regarded his flourishing missionary work, which was clearly visible in the congregations, as confirmation of his Apostleship.

According to the New Testament twelve disciples were chosen by Jesus Christ to become Apostles (Matthew 10:1-4) These Apostles received authority to baptize in His name and to proclaim the gospel. Many believers were gathered but there were some others, the Pharisees and scribes who did not accept them.

"If I am not an Apostle to others...."

Apostle Paul could not produce any evidence of his call to the Apostle's ministry at the time of his encounter with the Lord on the way to Damascus. (Acts 26:16) IT WAS A QUESTION OF FAITH

"...yes doubtless I am to you"

Paul was filled with conviction and sought no justification, but rather referred to the congregation as evidence of his apostleship. The blessed development within the congregation demonstrated that he had been called to be a servant of God.

Apostles are still active in the present. They base their mandate upon the Great Commission of the Lord (Matthew 28:19-20) Jesus Christ acknowledges this. The Apostles prepare the bridal congregation in accordance with the Lord's will. It is a "miracle" of our time to be able to recognize the Apostles in faith. They demonstrate their calling by following Jesus Christ in credible fashion.

"For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord"

Apostle Paul described the congregation as a seal, as a mark of the authenticity of his Apostles ministry. **After all, despite all the quarrels and tensions, the congregation owed its** existence to the Apostle. He had called upon them to follow Christ and accept the gospel. They accepted the instructions of the Apostle.

Evidence of the Apostle ministry:

The present-day activity of the Apostle ministry is the preparation of the bridal congregation, which is to be caught up into heaven as the bride of Christ at His return, which includes:

- The word inspired by the Spirit
- The rebirth out of water and the Spirit
- The forgiveness of sins
- The presence of Christ's body and blood in Holy Communion

The congregation is also to testify of all of this. The Apostle ministry leads the congregation to follow the Lord faithfully and keeps the promised returned of Christ alive

in every heart (John 14:3) To summarize:

Today's Apostle's ministry:

- Is still the mandate from the Great Commission given by the sender, Jesus Christ
- Prepares the bridal congregation for the return of the Lord
- Is manifested in word and sacrament
- Is attested by the believing congregation

(Synopsis from Divine Service Guide 6, page 18-19)



SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

AUGUST 2009

SUNDAY, August 2, 2009 Divine Service, 10 AM Makati Central Church Ev. Noel Tuazon SUNDAY, August 16, 2009 Divine Service, 10 AM Makati Central Church Sh. Silvano

SUNDAY August 9, 2009 Divine Service, 10 AM Makati Central Church DE Depaz DISTRICT SERVICE August 23, 2009 Divine Service, 10 AM Makati Central Church DA Urs Hebeisen

SUNDAY August 31, 2009 Divine Service, 10 AM Makati Central Church Pr. Connolly

Midweek Services every Wednesday at 8 pm

REGIONAL YOUTH DAY Daet Bicol

Friday, August 14, 2009 9:00 PM - Departure from Makati

Saturday, August 15, 2009
6:30 AM - Estimated Arrival to Daet
1:00 PM - Start of the Program

Sunday, August 16, 2009 10:00 AM - Youth Service - by DA Urs Hebeisen

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2:00 PM - Departure from Daet

12:00 MN - Estimated Arrival in Makati

Experience of Faith

The Word from the Altar

My sister an I recently had the opportunity for a rather lengthy conversation. For some years she has not attended the divine services. While we talked she expressed the view that not everything that was preached from the altar had its source in the Spirit of God—as she said we New Apostolic Christians maintained. I asked her to consider that the ministers sanctify themselves before stepping behind the altar in the commission of their Apostle, and that they always seek the connection with their bearers of blessing before the sermon, and prayed intensively to God in preparation for the service. Of course, I was not entirely satisfied with my explanations either. In any case I had not been able to convince my sister.

I prayed a great deal for an answer from above after that. I asked the dear God to tell me what I wanted to know—especially for the benefit of my sister. A few weeks later the Chief Apostle conducted a divine service which was also transmitted to our congregation. I had sincerely asked our heavenly Father for an answer in this particular service. Despite this I could hardly believe my ears when—in the

middle of his sermon—the Chief Apostle suddenly said he had recently heard criticism that, although New Apostolic Christians claimed the word proclaimed from the altar is the pure word of god, it must nevertheless contain some elements of human thought. The Chief Apostle went on to explain more or less as follows: When a mother prepares a meal for the family, she washes the vegetables and the lettuce, and prepares everything in an appetizing manner. But if one were to look for impurities in the food, one would still manage to find one or the other impurity despite all the care she had taken. But a healthy body takes the nutrients it requires, and excretes what is not needed. I understood and was content. The Lord had heard and answered my prayers.

H.-J.B./I.B.



District Apostle Letterbox



What is meant by soul mates, and how do we find our soul mates? Will it be worthy to find instead of waiting for it come?

The Monthly Newsletter of the Youth of the New Apostolic Church Philippines

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This expression "soul mate" I heard the first time from the late Ap. Erwin Wagner. It was his advice to all who were looking for a husband or a wife. He always said: "Do not pray for a husband or a wife, pray for the soul mate"

The soul is the most intimate part of a human being. We can agree on many levels. Spiritually, intellectually and even physically. While all of these are important areas in a relationship nothing comes close to having a soul mate. Somebody with whom you share that what is in your soul. Your faith, your hopes and your most intimate feelings, those things only the soul can perceive. To share what otherwise you would only share with the Heavenly Father. A soul mate is somebody with whom you can pray together. A soul mate feels what is in you without necessarily telling.

Naturally they do not come ready made. Such a relationship needs to be developed and therefore usually only the Heavenly Father knows in advance who can become a real soul mate.

Of course one has to seek in order to find. However the question is here where do you look for and what are you looking for. Usually the qualities we see in our future partners are not really conclusive yet however the Heavenly Father knows where the right one is. If you pray that you want to serve Him and do His will with him/her then the Lord can make everything possible. Just do not stand in his way by nurturing an illusion of a perfect partner which just does not exist, or following a dream which is plain phantasm. The devil paints many such pictures which mislead.

Everybody has odd sides in his characters or shortcomings and weaknesses. Look for virtues like honesty, humbleness and God fear. If then diligence and willingness to sacrifice is evident not much can go wrong. Also here stands: "seek first.....what is righteous.....and everything will be added"

Love is blind. That is why trust in God, ask and you will be given. Reach to that what is ahead.

Praying for you

Yours truly

Urs Hebeisen