



# **GOOD NEWS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, OYIBI**

**GOLDEN JUBILEE THANKSGIVING DURBAR**

**Campus of Good News Theological Seminary, Oyibi  
6 November 2021**





## Mission Statement

The mission of Good News Theological College and Seminary is to provide sound Christ-centred education to the Church and Society, fully equipping both men and women with character, knowledge and skills for servant leadership in the African context.

## Philosophy and Core Values

- Wisdom (the head),
- Spirituality (the heart),
- Diligence (the hand).
- The selfless lifestyle of Jesus Christ is our model.



## GOOD NEWS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, OYIBI. GOLDEN JUBILEE THANKSGIVING DURBAR

**VENUE:** Campus of Good News Theological Seminary, Oyibi

**DATE:** 6 November 2021

### PROPOSED (Tentative) Program Outline for the Jubilee Ceremony.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cultural troupe display</li> <li>2. Exhibition 9:00 a.m.</li> <li>3. Procession to ceremonial grounds and seating of Dignitaries</li> <li>4. Opening Prayer</li> <li>5. Song Ministration by Choir</li> <li>6. Introduction of Chairperson</li> <li>7. Chairperson's Acceptance Remarks</li> <li>8. Introduction of Dignitaries</li> <li>9. Cultural display</li> <li>10. Welcome Address by Rev. Prof. Thomas A. Oduro, President of the Seminary</li> <li>11. Songs of Praise</li> <li>12. Sharing of Memoirs by two eye-witnesses of the founding of the Seminary             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Rt. Rev. Dr. Paul K. Fynn</li> <li>(b) Rev. Prof. Gilbert Ansre.</li> </ol> </li> <li>13. Musical Interlude - Offertory</li> <li>14. Address by the Guest Speaker – The Rev. Prof. Emmanuel Martey, PhD., D.D.</li> <li>15. Cultural display</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16. Fraternal Greetings             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Mennonite Mission Network</li> <li>(b) Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)</li> <li>(c) Council of African Instituted Churches (CAIC)</li> <li>(d) Ziope Traditional Council</li> </ol> </li> <li>17. Appeal for Funds/Fund raising</li> <li>18. Song Ministration by Choir</li> <li>19. Presentation of Awards/Citations</li> <li>20. Announcements</li> <li>21. Chairperson's Closing Remarks</li> <li>22. Vote of thanks</li> <li>23. Closing prayer</li> <li>24. Benediction</li> <li>25. Recession of Choir and Dignitaries</li> <li>26. Refreshment/Interactions</li> </ol> <p><b>MC:</b> Bishop Daniel Owusu Boateng<br/>THANK YOU FOR COMING! CONTINUE SUPPORTING THE SEMINARY.</p> |
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GOLDEN JUBILEE THANKSGIVING DURBAR



The Most Rev (Dr.) Daniel Okoh,  
(Chairman, Governing Council)



Rev. Prof. Thomas Oduro,  
President



Rev. Ezekiel T. Nartey,  
Vice-President



## NINE CHURCHES CAME TOGETHER TO FOUND THE SEMINARY:

1. Faith Brotherhood Praying Circle
  - now, Faith Gospel Ministry
2. Sacred Miracles Clinic Fellowship
3. The Church of the Lord (Ghana)
  - now Risen Christ Church
4. Divine Healing Church of Christ
5. Lutheran Church
  - now Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana,
6. Eden Revival Church
7. Twer Nyame (Divine Fellowship)
  - now Twer Nyame Church
8. Church of the Messiah
  - now Kairos Chapel
9. Church of Bethel
  - now Bethel Faith Temple International

GOLDEN JUBILEE THANKSGIVING DURBAR



Rev. Prof. Thomas  
Oduro,  
President.

## GOOD NEWS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY: A BRIEF HISTORY (1969-1971)

The establishment of the Good News Training Institute (now, Good News Theological Seminary) in Accra, Ghana was a culmination of many incidental events in the 1960s in West Africa. The most important event was the phenomenal growth of African Independent Churches (AICs) in Africa, particularly West Africa. This heightened the curiosity of scholars, missiologists, and researchers to find the causes of the popularity, growth, and challenges of AICs. Dr. Harold W. Turner and Dr. Andrew Walls were some Western scholars who pivoted the study of the AICs in Nigeria and Sierra Leone. In the early '60s, some AICs in Southeastern Nigeria invited the Mennonite Board of Missions to work with them to enhance their theological education. The Biafran

civil war in eastern Nigeria (1966-1969), however, disrupted the AIC/MBM interaction. Edwin and Irene Weaver were among the MBM missionaries evacuated in Nigeria. On the advice of Turner, Primate Adeleke Adejobi, then the head of the Church of the Lord (Aladura), invited the MBM to establish a seminary for his church in Nigeria. It was in Freetown, Sierra Leone where Ed and Irene Weaver came into contact with the Church of the Lord (Aladura) but due to the unfavorable social conditions in Nigeria, Primate Adejobi recommended the Weavers to Apostle E. A. Ofose, head of the Church of the Lord (Aladura) in Ghana.

The Weavers began a Bible study at the choir loft of the Church of the Lord (Aladura) at Nima, a suburb of

Accra, where Archdeacon Solomon Krow was the head Pastor. The Good News Bible was the version that was used so the Bible Class was named Good News Bible Classes. Prophet Mills, an AIC leader and brother-in-law of Krow, introduced the Weavers to many AIC leaders, who were not necessarily of the Aladura stock. They grouped themselves into what became known as the Leaders' Fellowship. More Good News Classes were opened at many AIC worship centers in Accra. The classes were taught by Western missionary scholars, Ghanaian scholars and church leaders, and some students of the Trinity College, a seminary for Protestant churches in Ghana, now known as Trinity Theological Seminary. The Leaders' Fellowship was ecumenical. A dialogue between the AICs and the mainline churches known as Inter-church conversations was facilitated by the Weavers and other Ghanaian Church leaders. It was patronized by the Christian Council of Ghana and the AICs.

In early 1971 a decision to turn the various Good News Bible Classes into an evening part-time theological institute was taken and implemented. The school was called the Good News Training Institute. James Anquandah, B. K. Ellis, and Willard Roth were appointed to administer the school. The school was opened at the YMCA, Accra, on 4 October 1971 but was formally inaugurated on 6 Nov. 1971.



## **MEMOIR OF PROPHET FRANCIS A. MILLS ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF THE FOUNDING OF GOOD NEWS TRAINING INSTITUTE. (TELEPHONE INTERVIEW BY REV. PROF. THOMAS ODURO IN THE US ON 18 MAY 2020).**

Edwin Weaver arrived in Ghana in Nov/Dec 1969. He left Nigeria during the civil war. When he expressed his desire to begin a Bible study group for leaders of African Independent Churches at the Nima Temple of the Church of the Lord (Aladura) to Solomon Krow, the bishop of the Nima Temple, Krow led him to my manse at Korle Gonno, a suburb of Accra, and introduced him to me. We discussed the feasibility and planned on how to organize the AIC leaders. Later, I invited my brother-in-law Paul Fynn who was Pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ghana to catch the vision of Weaver and to participate. I advised Weaver to accompany me to visit AIC leaders one on one, which he did. I was a Secretary to Edwin Weaver.

In 1970 we went from one pastor to another to listen to their stories and challenges. I invited Joseph Coleman and S. P. Freeman to join the team to mobilize the AIC leaders to bring into fruition the vision of Weaver. During the visitations, we realized that most of their stories were about disagreements and suspicions of one another which resulted in divisions. To heal the divisions and eradicate the suspicions among the African

Independent pastors, Weaver decided to organize seminars. Gilbert Ansre, James Anquandah, and Paul Fynn were among the speakers at the seminars. The Theological Education Fund (TEF) of the World Council of Churches, under the Chairmanship of Desmond Tutu provided funds to hold the seminars for two years.

The Good News Training Institute (now Good News Theological Seminary) was commenced in November 1971. Prior to that, the AIC leaders met every Tuesday at the Accra Community Center to study the Bible. I refreshed students who attended the studies. Most of the lecturers were from the Trinity College, the mainline churches, the University of Ghana, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ghana. Rev. K. B. Ellis was one of the teachers at the Community Center. Paul Fynn used his money to finance some expenses for the establishment of the new training institute. He permitted Lutheran missionaries to teach at the school. Edwin & Irene Weaver, Willard & Alice Roth, Erma Grove, and many western missionaries benefited from his benevolence and influence.

Weaver did a good job; he mobilized lecturers and

musicians from the University of Ghana to teach at Good News Training Institute. He did not face many challenges due to the assistance many leaders of African Independent Churches gave him. He was a kind-hearted and nice man who preached at the worship services of African Independent Churches and gave everything that he had to help people. When I left him in Ghana to briefly visit the US, he arranged that I stay in his home in the US.

Weaver did not limit his ministry to only the AICs in Ghana. I traveled with him to Lomé in the Republic of Togo and Cotonou in the Republic of Benin in search of African Independent Church leaders. We traveled in my car, an Austin Minivan. I remember that while in Cotonou, the leader of the Protestant Methodist Church of Benin persuaded Weaver to open a Bible school for the church in Benin. Later on, we traveled with Emmanuel Tetteh to the Volta region of Ghana to meet some leaders of the African Independent Churches. We did not have time to follow up on the proposed ministry in Benin and Togo due to the intensity of the work in Accra.

Erma Grove, at one point, became the Director (Principal) of the Institute. She led the Institute for over a decade. She was a forthright, hardworking, and nice woman. She committed her skills and experience in life to developing the Institute to a higher level. She visited many AIC congregations to introduce the school and sought prospective

students. Other Directors of the Institute were Lutherans – Robert Kraay and Erwin Spruth. Spruth was a principled man with a lot of foresight. He improved the quality and size of the Library and sought scholarships to train some of the lecturers at Seminaries in Nigeria and the USA. He developed the school to a higher level. He fulfilled one of the dreams of successive Board members of the school by handing over leadership of the school to a Ghanaian, one of the lecturers he sponsored his education in the US. Other notable Ghanaians who collaborated with the Mennonites in establishing and managing the Good News Theological Seminary, formerly known as the Good News Training Institute, were E.L. Annang, James Amoah, Emmanuel Nsiah, Isaac Wontumi, and Herbert Amoah.

The Pentecostal Association of Ghana (PAG), an ecumenical association of African Independent Churches, supported the Mennonite missionaries and some leaders and scholars of the mainline churches to establish, support, and manage the seminary. Most of the students of the seminary were enrolled by the leaders of the PAG. The partnership between the Mennonites and Ghanaians was mutual and purposeful.



**Mennonite  
Mission  
Network**

October 29, 2021

To the faculty, staff, students and friends of Good News Theological Seminary,

Good News Theological Seminary has been on a long pilgrimage and even though it has been settled in one place for 20 years, pilgrimage continues. One could say that the scriptural motto of the school is "a wandering Aramean was my father," taken from Deuteronomy 26, where the children of Israel are instructed on the first fruits and tithes from the land God had given the children of Israel. When GNTS moved in 1996, Thomas Oduro, James Krabill and I (Steve) walked around this piece of land with Thomas carrying a machete, identifying the corner posts of this barren land. One quarter of a century later, we are celebrating God's grace, God's mercy and God's love in the formation of Good News.

This institution has been a blessing to the people of this land. The students who have graduated from this seminary are the first fruits of what God is doing in shaping the Church in Africa. Good News has pioneered in promoting Africans telling their own story. Good News has pioneered in chronicling the history written by Africans. Good News has pioneered

**Together, sharing**

all of Christ  
with all of creation

www.MennoniteMission.net  
Fax: 316-283-0454  
Toll free: 1-866-866-2872

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Elkhart, IN 46515-0370

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Newton, KS 67114-1703

in collaboration with independent and mainline denominations in Ghana and as this physical space that twenty-six years ago was just an open field, now is known as seminary road because there are so many seminaries along this road. Good News charted the way and indeed has embodied the Good News of a Church that is unified by Christ.

Congratulations on this fiftieth anniversary milestone. May you know the blessing of Abraham, who was blessed to be a blessing. May this blessing flow from God to you, to Ghana and to the nations beyond Ghana as you live your calling and purpose faithfully. May the ministries of the pastors and leaders you train be fruitful and multiply this blessing wherever they go. May your witness to the love and salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ be strong and courageous and be a healing balm to all who hear and receive it.

Your partners in ministry,

Stephen Wiebe-Johnson  
& Sharon Norton,  
Co-Directors for Africa and Europe

Mike Sherrill  
Executive Director and  
CEO



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

The Most Rev. Dr. Daniel Okoh  
Board Chairperson  
Good News Theological Seminary  
Oyibi, Accra-Ghana  
October, 20,2021

**Dear Dr. Okoh,**

It is with great joy that I write this letter to congratulate Good News Theological Seminary (GNTS) on its 50th anniversary of providing theological and pastoral education for African Independent Churches in West Africa. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and its predecessor bodies have enjoyed a long, fruitful relationship with the Seminary from its inception. We are grateful for early Lutheran missionaries like Dr. Robert Kraay and Rev. Dr. Erwin Spruth, who helped lay the Seminary foundation. I am also thankful for many other missionaries and teachers who have helped to build and sustain the relationship between the ELCA and the Seminary over the 50 years. Good News Theological Seminary is an outcome of a collaborative effort between African Independent Churches, the Mennonite, and Lutheran Churches.

The 50th anniversary allows us to recall with gratitude the work of visionary leaders like Bishop

Krow, Prophet Francis A. Mills, and Rev. Dr. Paul Fynn, and others who actively participated in the formation of the Seminary. The vision of the ELCA from the conception of the Seminary was aimed at providing capacity for Africa leaders to play a meaningful role in the teaching and administrative ministry of the Seminary. The ELCA is proud to have contributed towards the leadership development of several outstanding leaders of the Seminary, including the Rev. Dr. Thomas Oduro, Rev. Helena Mananu-Hooper, Rev. Dr. Humphrey Akogyeram, and many other Good News graduates of ELCA Seminaries in the United States.

Theological and pastoral education is at the heart of the work of the Seminary; the graduates of the GNTS continue to make a meaningful contribution in their communities by proclaiming the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with integrity and care. We give thanks to God for the countless numbers of Christians in Ghana, Nigeria and abroad who have

access to accurate biblical teachings through the graduates of the Seminary. God has given us the ability through regular grant contributions to help support this vital work of the Seminary together with other friends of the Seminary.

In recent years, the ELCA and the Seminary partnership has grown to include our collaborative work concerning the Skills Development Project to alleviate poverty and empower marginalized communities in Ghana. Farming communities in the Volta Region have gained soil conservation expertise and modern agricultural techniques to increase crop production. Men and women are learning practical skills which they can use to generate income for their families.

Good News has been an incredible advocate for African Independent Churches through the publications of its faculty and faculty visits to the USA and other countries. The Seminary faculty has also endeavored to participate in critical events and gatherings in Ghana and internationally that are relevant to the life and ministry of African Indigenous Churches. The Seminary is helping mainline churches, including the ELCA and other interested parties, understand and appreciate the powerful witness on Indigenous Churches in Africa and globally. Understanding can help build stronger, respectful, and mutually beneficial relationships among God's people.

The ELCA looks forward to another 50 years of our collaborative work with anticipation and enthusiasm. Imagine how much more we can do together through the power and inspiration of the Holy Spirit! Good News is a manifestation of Joel's prophetic message as proclaimed by Peter in the book of Acts:

God declares," In the last days, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy...then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved".

While we give thanks for God's work amongst us, we look forward with anticipation to what God is about to do in our midst through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benyam A. Kassahun." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Rev. Benyam Kassahun**

Director, Africa Continental Desk  
cc. Dr. Thomas Oduro, Ms. Anne Langdji



**Organization of African Instituted Churches  
Organisation des Eglises d'Institution Africaine**

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Tel (+254-020) 3870356/2416446) Mobile 0728606613 Emailadmin@oaic.org*

Professor Thomas Asante Oduro,  
President  
Good News Theological Seminary  
P O Box AN8484  
Accra-North, Ghana

Dear Prof. Oduro,

**Congratulatory message from the Organisation African Instituted Churches**

On behalf of the OAIC fraternity I would like to convey our congratulations to Good News Theological Seminary. For 50 years, the place of GNTS has been strategic in the life of AICs by enabling the ministers to acquire quality theological education. And this is theological education values the important role of AICs in the mission of God. This is the Lord's working.

We convey our congratulations to various stakeholders: the past and present leaders i.e., the Governing Council-which is currently led by the Most Rev. Dr. Daniel Okoh-; the President, Vice President, the academic staff, and administrative staff; the AICs in Ghana; and the students and alumni. We cannot forget to convey our congratulations and gratitude to the founding leaders i.e., AIC leaders and missionaries who envisioned quality theological education for AICs, shaped what needed to be done, mobilised the resources required and set up the institution, supported the training of scholars, and provided on-going support.

We are certain of the future because of institutions such as GNTS that are in place to accompany the AICs to value their resourcefulness in the mission of God, enabling them to deal with the barriers to their calling and ministry, and equipping them to share the Good News of the risen Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit in their localities and beyond.

May all stakeholder of GNTS use this period to celebrate what the Lord had done, together with the AICs reflect on what mission will be in the next 50 years, and consequently allow the Holy Spirit to speak afresh into the mission of the seminary.

We are confident that the service of this great institution will be felt in Africa and beyond in the next 50 years because of the commitment of the governance, the president, devoted faculty, the AICs, and the partners.

Congratulations

Rev. Nicta Lubaale  
General Secretary

Faith Lutheran Church  
315 Security Blvd.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80911

October 20, 2021

Good News Theological Seminary  
PO Box AN 6484  
Accra-North, Ghana

Dear Rev. Prof. Thomas A. Oduro, Ph.D.:

Greetings in the grace, peace and mercy that come only from our wonderful Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Congratulations as you celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Good News Theological Seminary!

The Lord has granted blessing upon blessing to you and through you! It is an honor and a joy to be able to share in the wonderful ministry which the Lord God has set before you! Training ministers to serve our Lord in the harvest field is an auspicious endeavor undertaken only by God's hand of guidance and direction. Good News Theological Seminary has been a wonderful training ground to prepare individuals to fulfill Jesus' call to "Go and make disciples, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to remember everything I have commanded you. And lo, I and with you always to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

This work of training people to share Jesus and His grace is vital. As ministers go out in Jesus Name, they face many challenges and opportunities. Also, "the adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion seeking who he may devour." (1 Peter 5:8) The education and training provided through Good News Theological Seminary prepares these who go out in Jesus Name for the blessings and the challenges. The training provides that foundation upon which ministries can be built and thrive!

Thank you for your continuing dedication to this important work! Many people are part of the eternal kingdom of God through you! This is indeed a blessing to celebrate and give praise to almighty God!

We thank God for you continually and pray that He will continue His ministry in you and through you to the glory of His Name and the building of His Kingdom!

In Christ's peace,  
Rev. Rick Mensing

## GOOD NEWS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, OYIBI



Rev. Prof. Thomas A. Oduro, Ph.D.  
President  
Good News Theological Seminary

Congratulations to the entire Good News Theological Seminary family as you celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of your school in 1971. We also want to recognize and congratulate those who were instrumental in encouraging the establishment of the school and believe they must be rejoicing with you for having reached this milestone.

We first learned of the school and its mission to provide quality biblical education, especially for those not being served by other institutions, when we met Dr. Oduro in about 1992 or 93. East West Interknit's late founder, Dr. Sam Jones and three other gentleman first visited Good News Training Institute, as it was known then, in 1994 and returned with glowing reports of the dedicated faculty, staff, and board serving sacrificially to educate their students.

Following the passing of Dr. Jones in late 1998, the EWI board asked me to continue the ministry. The first trip that I made as head of EWI was with a team that came to help in the Good News library in 1999. The school had just recently moved to the Oyibi campus. There was only one building on campus and it housed classrooms, library, chapel services and even sleeping quarters for students.

It has been exciting to see the development of the campus over the years. The addition of men's and women's dorms, faculty housing, guest housing, administrative offices and the temporary library have all contributed to the wellbeing of students and faculty alike.

It has been our privilege to participate with you in the life of the seminary and to introduce others to its mission. My visits included coming to celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary, participating in the work of the library, getting to know some of your students, staff and faculty, appreciating Ghanaian culture and landmarks, and worshipping in some of the churches you are serving.

We will continue for as many years as God gives us to pray for the work of GNTS and for the hundreds of alumni that are now effectively serving in ministries because of their training at Good News Theological seminary.

Congratulations and may God continue to bless the work of GNTS and through it to have a positive impact on the church and society throughout Africa and beyond.

Annette Jones  
Executive Director  
East West Interknit

PO Box 270333, St. Paul, MN 55127, USA

**GOLDEN JUBILEE THANKSGIVING DURBAR**



## Good News Theological Seminary

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## PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF ZIOPE TRADITIONAL AREA

Mr. Chairman, Rev. Ministers, Invited Guests, Torgbuiwo, Mamawo, all protocol dully observed.

I bring you warm greetings from the Chiefs, Queen Mothers, and people of Ziope Traditional Area in the Agotime-Ziope District of Volta Region in the Republic of Ghana.

Seven years ago (in 2014), the Chiefs, Queen Mothers, and people of Ziope Traditional Area welcome the arrival of the Good News Theological Seminary's Skills Development Program which was organized as a durbar and the first project was Commissioned by my good self, Torgbui Binah Lawlivi VI. In my speech, I prayed to the Almighty God to bless all of us so that the projects that Good News Theological Seminary would execute will bring hope and prosperity to the people of Ziope Traditional Area.

History was made. The presence of the Good News Theological Seminary's Skills Development Programme in the Ziope Traditional Area has touched so many lives in the areas of Education, Agriculture, Health, Socio-economic, and even Religion. We can boast of over 20 projects executed by Good News Theological Seminary's Skills Development Program in the Traditional Area. This is unprecedented in our history. It is in this recognition that the Chiefs, Queen Mothers, and People of

Ziope Traditional Area conferred the honorary traditional titles on Rev. Prof. Thomas Oduro and Rev. Helena Hooper as Torgbui DUNENYO I (Chief of Development) and Mama DUNENYO I, (Queen mother of Development) respectively on the 3rd September 2021 at a ceremony organised by the Traditional Council in Ziope.

Today, history continues to be made. At the 50th anniversary of the Seminary, Ziope Traditional Council is not only invited but also featured in the program of activities. Again, this is another landmark in our history.

We have joined you to celebrate our 50th anniversary. Not only to jubilate and dance with you but with our hearts full of gratitude and prayers that God Almighty will guide and protect the Seminary so that all the projected good things set by the Seminary will come through.

Ziope Traditional Area will forever be grateful to the Seminary and we hope that our relationship will be closer than ever.

On this memorable day of your history, the Chiefs, Queen Mothers, and the people of Ziope Traditional Area say Ayekooooo to the seminary. May God richly bless us all.

**TORGBUI Binah Lawlivi VI.**



## FROM THE DESK OF DR ERWIN L SPRUTH

Nwo to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. (1Timothy 1:17)

The GNTCS Board, Faculty, Students, Supporters and Honored Guests, I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. How I regret not being able to be present with you at the Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of Good News Theological College and Seminary, a momentous occasion in the history of the school.

I very much doubt that when in 1971 the pioneers of GNTCS began teaching a few pastors and leaders of the African Instituted Churches in Ghana, they had any idea of how the school would slowly grow until today in has its own 10-acre campus with dormitories, class rooms and housing for staff, and that it continues to grow. Nor did they envision the influence that GNTCS would have not only in Ghana, but also in other parts of Africa as the teaching of this school is fully Scriptural and follows closely the emphasis of the Apostle Paul that we are made right with God, declared righteous, not by anything we have done but only by the sacrifice of our Lord who took all of our sins upon himself so that in him we might be declared holy and righteous before God.

I feel especially blessed that God called me to Ghana in “the fullness of time” when by the grace He poured out on us, the great potential of GNTCS began to be realized. Coming here with my sainted wife, Loraine, “Mama Rain”, we were able to start that march which took the school from meeting in the Faith Gospel Church, down by the seashore, where Prophet Francis Mills was the head pastor, who was also the Chairman of the Board of the school, to its present campus. For too many years, GNTCS had to meet in borrowed facilities, which limited its development. But God was good, He led us to first rent adequate quarters in Madina, just outside of Accra and finally to the present campus.

Along the way God helped us to develop the library for a closet with a few books to what is now probably the best Seminary Library in Ghana. We were also blessed with being able to get advanced education for a number of our faculty. To God be the praise and the glory!

As GNTCS celebrates this 50th Anniversary, works on publishing some of the many histories of their own Church that many of our students have written, develops additional programs to help churches on the local level, begins to share with other seminaries though out the world, further builds up the campus and expands the library, its next 50 years will produce those highly qualified leaders and teachers for the church in Africa and other places. I know that the Lord will continue to lead GNTCS to this even fuller service.

As for myself, I hope to come back to Ghana and GNTCS for at least one academic term, to visit churches and former students and to just enjoy being among people whom I love and who have been so welcoming of me. Those detail still have to be worked out and are all in the Lord’s hands and will. No matter at what age, but even more so at 93, what He expects of you and what he allows your body to do is completely in our Lord’s hands. All I can do is wait and pray and see how much more he does for GNTCS and whether or not I can still play some small part in what God wants for this school which He has so richly blessed.

So congratulations to all who are working to keep GNTCS on its upper road of service to the church and our God who is to be praised and glorified in all we do.

I would like to end with a few verses of a Psalm which means a lot to me, 126...

[When we saw all that God has done]

Our mouths were filled with laughter,

our tongues with songs of joy.

Then it was said among the nations,

“The LORD has done great things for them.”

The LORD has done great things for us,

and we are filled with joy.

(Psalm 126: 2-3)

Kwadjo

Reformation Sunday

October 31, 2021

**FACULTY****FULL-TIME:**

Rev. Prof. Thomas A. Oduro, *Ph.D., Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN, USA.*

Rev. Ezekiel A. T. Nartey, *M.A., Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN., USA.*

Rev. Humphrey A. Akogyeram, *Ph.D., Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, USA.*

Rev. Frank Akuwayo, *M.Th., Tyndale Theological Seminary, Amsterdam, The Netherlands*

Rev. Helena Mananu-Hooper, *M.A., Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, IA, USA.*

Rev. Rachel Pauline Aikins, *Study leave, Ph.D. Studies at Akrofi-Christaller Institute, Akropong-Akuapem. Ghana*

Irene Amon, *Study Leave, Ph.D. Studies Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA, USA.*

Rev. Simon Yao Bludo, *M.Th. Luther Seminary, St. Paul Minnesota, USA.*

Pastor Telvis Kankam, *M.A., Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN, USA.*

Mary Gomashie, MA. Lecturer, Hanshin University, Seoul, South Korea,

Jonathan V. P. Adjabeng, 2004 PhD, in Theology, Landmark Baptist College, Hains City, FL, USA.

**PART-TIME:**

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