

The newsletter of the new apostolic church east africa

Edition 1, September 2015

African

Free issue

Joy



Divine service

Chief Apostle in Tanzania

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The Chief Apostle in Tanzania



Chief Apostle Schneider visited Tanzania from 16-19 April 2015. He held a divine service in Mbeya during which he placed Apostles E. Mwaisaka and W. Mtiga of Tanzania into retirement. Thereafter five apostles were ordained, three for Tanzania and two for Kenya. On Sunday, he conducted a divine service at Dodoma during which he retired District Apostle S. Lubasi and ordained his successor District Apostle J. Ekhuya. More than 50 000 members were connected via transmission.



Dear brothers and sisters, dear guests, it would be wonderful if all we had to do was to ask Jesus and He would fulfill our wishes. But He attached some conditions to this promise. First of all, we have to believe that He is the Son of God who came to bring salvation and to prepare us for eternal life.

The second condition is that we have to ask in His name if we want our prayers to be answered. They have to be prayers that Jesus Himself could be praying. When somebody came to Jesus to ask for something and He realized that they did

not have enough faith, or that He could not agree with, He refused to do what had been asked. Some Pharisees came and said, "Teacher, we want a sign from you." But He refused. We cannot come to God and say, "Can you not do a miracle to show how great your love is for me?" Jesus produced evidence long ago that He loves us: He died for us.

Many people today would like to ask Jesus, "Can't You change Your gospel? Why don't You adapt it to our time." Those who believe that He is the Son of God know that what He said is valid for all eternity. He

will not change the gospel; there is no point in asking Him to do so. It is also pointless to ask Him to punish sinners. The disciples tried once. Jesus rebuked them. Another time, the scribes and Pharisees brought a woman to Him "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery. . ." (John 8:4). They expected Him to punish her. Jesus refused because these were not His thoughts. He is the Saviour and wants to save the sinner and not punish him.

There is also no point in asking Jesus to bless a divided heart. In the Sermon on the Mount He explained "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord,



"If you ask for anything in my name, I will do it." — John 14:14



Mary to come and help her. And Jesus answered, "Mary has chosen that good part" (Luke 10:40, 42). We cannot expect Jesus to attach more importance to our earthly life than to eternal life. The soul will always be more important than the body. So it is useless to ask Him to shift priorities.

So what can we ask Him for? We can ask Him to give us a strong faith. If we ask for this, He will do it, because He prays for exactly the same thing (cf. Luke 22:32). We can pray, "Lord, Your will be

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Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name . . .?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you'" (Matthew 7:21–23). He knew that even though they had done great things in His name, their heart was divided. If we have a problem we can ask the Lord to help us. What we cannot do is solve the problem by lying. If we do that, we are actually asking Him to bless our disobedience. He cannot bless a divided heart.

One last example. When Jesus was with Mary and Martha, Mary was sitting at His feet. Martha came and asked Jesus to tell



done." That is not easy, because sometimes we have misconceptions about the will of God. We think God wants us to suffer and to die. God does not want us to suffer. God wants us to remain faithful even if we have to suffer. Praying in the name of Jesus also means asking Him for grace. For this we have to be humble and repentant and forgive our neighbour. Then He will grant it to us. He is in heaven and intercedes for us. So if we ask for grace with a humble, repentant, and forgiving heart He will grant it.

In another prayer, Jesus prayed for the unity of His Apostles and for all those who believe in Him through them. Therefore He also prayed for us, for our unity. I would like that each and every one in every congregation prays sincerely for the unity in our congregation. Jesus will grant it because He is praying for exactly the same thing. If we ask Him, "Please shorten the time and come quickly," He will fulfill our plea, because He is praying for exactly the same thing.

(Shortened)

Joy in Christ

Dear Brothers and Sisters around the world, some months of the year 2015 have already passed. They have brought happiness and tragedy, distress and grief, joy and confidence. When I published this motto—"Joy in Christ"—at the beginning of the year, I did not realize how multifaceted it was.

Some may even have been thinking about earthly happiness. And who would not be delighted about that! But there is so much more to this motto: for example, there is the joy we feel in divine services, the joy that results from the forgiveness of our sins, and the joy we experience in Holy Communion. Have we not all experienced such beautiful moments of fellowship, of togetherness, of encouragement, and support? I am confident that our motto will continue to live on. It is far more than just a slogan.

Following are some thoughts concerning our motto "Joy in Christ".

* We can rejoice that we are part of such a beautiful fellowship of God's children. We are members in a congregation and are not alone on our path of faith.

- * The Lord loves us and has died for us. Our sins are forgiven and He calls us to His table to have fellowship with Him. In every divine service He steps into our midst and we experience Him.
- * The Lord will return. He has promised this and will keep His promise. Is that not what we are looking forward to most of all? He will return to take home His bride. And we can expect His coming! You have to admit: this is wonderful!

This is something in which we can all rejoice together Remember the words in Psalm 103:2 "Forget not all His benefits."

Wishing you a joyful time ahead,

Yours

Jean-Luc Schneider



east africa

On Sunday, 19 April 2015, Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider celebrated a divine service in Dodoma, the capital city of Tanzania. On this occasion, he placed District Apostle Shadreck Lubasi into retirement and ordained Joseph Opemba Ekhuya as his successor. He commissioned him to lead the New Apostolic Church in East Africa as District Apostle. A few weeks before this change, the two Apostles gave nac.today an interview.



Nac.today: District Apostle Lubasi, you have been working with your designated successor, Joseph Ekhuya, for two years. How is the collaboration with him? How close are you?

District Apostle Lubasi: We are actually almost like one. We share the same views and opinions in many things. If there is something that he may not know I try by all means to inform him. He is very cooperative.

nac.today: Do you share an office?

District Apostle Lubasi: No, we each have our own office. But we discuss all the things that we need to. We talk to and consult with each other almost every day. We discuss upcoming ordinations, for example. And we talk about the potential for improvements within the Church here in East Africa.

nac.today: And you, Apostle Ekhuya, have managed to get a better idea of the work of the District Apostle over the last few months? What are your impressions? Are you looking forward to it?

District Apostle Helper Ekhuya: Well, it is not an easy job from what I have seen, but I trust in the Lord. He will provide the necessary wisdom and help.

nac.today: You are not afraid then?

District Apostle Helper Ekhuya: No, I am not afraid. I trust in God.

nac.today: Will there be things that you first have to get used to or things that surprised you because you thought they would be different?

District Apostle Helper Ekhuya: Yes, of course there are some challenges and things that surprised me, especially when it comes to the relationship with congregations and the ministers. My horizons have expanded greatly in this regard.

nac.today: Quite a number of languages are spoken in your district apostle area. Does this pose a challenge?

District Apostle Helper Ekhuya: The

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linguistic diversity is not a big challenge, because we all speak Kiswahili and English, and that is sufficient. There are always translations as well, if needed.

nac.today: And you, District Apostle, were there particular challenges during your time as District Apostle in coordinating the three countries of Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda? Where are the differences between these countries as far as the people are concerned?

District Apostle Lubasi: Well, in East Africa there is stiff competition in terms of the country's economies. Every country wants to be better than the other. The people are in a kind of competition with each other. That also applies to the Church to a certain extent in



you see this? Will you be accepted?

District Apostle Helper Ekhuya: Yes! The past two years as District Apostle Helper have really helped me. I travelled around in Uganda, Tanzania, and here in Kenya and met all the Apostles and spoke with them. So that has helped in reducing the difficulties with relationships. "His competence is important."



that there are prejudices. Many people would rather be independent. And when you unite them and choose one of them as a leader, it becomes a problem.

nac.today: Does everyone accept you as District Apostle?

District Apostle Lubasi: Yes, but because I am not from East Africa. I came from outside, so I am a foreigner.

nac.today: And you, Apostle Ekhuya, how do

nac.today: There are many ethnic groups and languages in East Africa. What does that mean for the work of the Church?

District Apostle Helper Ekhuya: In Kenya there are 42 ethnic groups, in Uganda 19, and in Tanzania even 120, and all have their own languages and cultures.

District Apostle Lubasi: When it comes to

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the work in our Church I don't look at who comes from where. The first thing I look at is competence. Is he able to deliver? If this is the case, then I am happy if he comes from the same area in which he is intended to work. It is an added benefit, but important first of all is his competence.

District Apostle Helper Ekhuya: Currently, things are working quite well. It so happens that at the moment with the distribution of the leaders, most ethnic groups are represented.

nac.today: What do you wish your successor for the future?

District Apostle Lubasi: I wish him success and strength, because I know that there will be people who will say that he is my "son", that he comes from here, and that that is why we favoured him. He is the District Apostle for the whole of East Africa, and his work must reflect that.

BACKGROUND - Joseph Ekhuya

Joseph Opemba Ekhuya has been responsible for the New Apostolic Church in East Africa since 19 April 2015.

On completion of his university studies, he went to Rwanda and afterwards to the Seychelles in his profession as a land surveyor. He also worked in Mozambique for four years. He came back to Kenya, and in 2010 was appointed as the managing director of KUMEA (Kujenga Maisha East Africa), the newly formed aid organization of the New Apostolic Church East Africa

He lives in Nairobi, Kenya. He is married and the father of three children. He speaks Luhya, Kiswahili, and English.

The New Apostolic Church East Africa is comprised of the countries Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. There are 38 Apostles who are assisted by an additional 17,500 ministers

Youth pastoral care

District Apostle Joseph Ekhuya committed all the weekends in the month of August to conduct youth services across east Africa. The youth were left full of Joy and celebration in all the areas that the district apostle visited.



The congregation of Rudi in the working area of Apostle Kennedy Kabome in Tanzania received a new home following the dedication of a 300 seating capacity Church building. District Apostle Ekhuya conducted the divine service and dedicated the church on Sunday 23rd Aug 2015, he used the text word, 1 Peter 2:5. In the divine service 1373 members were in attendance.



District Apostle Ekhuya with members of Kingiti congregation, Tanzania. He was accompanied by Apostle Zachariah Deuly.



District Apostle Ekhuya is welcomed by youth Choir in Kericho the working area of Apostle James Mutinda. In the divine service 385 young people were in attendance, he used the text word from the book of "Psalms 139:24".



The weekend of 16th August 2015, the District Apostle traveled to a small town, called Sondu in Nyanza the working area of Apostle Bernard Ochieng. He conducted a youth service attended by many young people. The District Apostle used a bible text word from 1 John 2:28.



District Apostle with the youth from Uganda the working area of Apostle Richard Kavuma and Yohanan Byoona. The youth had gathered in Hoima town for a youth annual convention. They enjoyed many musical and doctrine teachings!



Youth of Baringo (working area of Apostle Kinyanjui) gather for a photo after the divine service at Marigat with District Apostle Ekhuya.



The youth during the divine service conducted by the District Apostle in Thurdiubuoro Secondary School, Sondu. He was accompanied by Apostle Bernard Ochieng, Joseph Waingare and John Sire.

District Apostle Shadreck Lubasi's last visits and festivities prior to his retirement



(1). District Apostle Lubasi with the church office staff before his retirement. (2). The District Apostle being welcomed by the Children Choir and ministers in South C' congregation, where he conducted his last divine service on 12th April 2015, before retirement. He used Ephesians 3:14 & 16. (3). The District Apostle with Apostles and



Bishops from Mwingi and Kitui where he had travelled for his last visit in active ministry on 28th March 2015. During his visit he retired Bishop Fredrick Nguro and ordained a new Bishop Kyalo Musumbi. He used Colossians 2:8. (4). The Makima Congregation during the divine service on 29th March 2015. He used Mathew 21:10. (5). District Apostle in Makima congregation, working area of Apostle Peter Mutisya on 29th March 2015. (6). District Apostle Shadreck Lubasi during a festive concert prepared after the divine service in south C' Congregation, Nairobi on 12th April 2015. (7). District Apostle Lubasi receives a bouquet of flowers from District Apostle E. Barnes after his retirement; Chief Apostle joined them for the photograph.

New Ordination and Retirement of Apostles and Bishops

John Njun Sire (Kenya)



The Apostle was born on 12th June 1974 in Kilgoris a town in Narok County, Kenya. Apostle Sire is married to Lilian and they have been blessed with six children.

The Apostles' first ministry in the Church was Deacon and other ministries followed thereafter. He was ordained Apostle on 17th April 2015 during the Chief Apostle's service at Mbeya.

Nicholas Oso Lorua (Kenya)



The Apostle was born on 12th December 1974 in Tiya near Lodwar North of Turkana. Nicholas Sire is married to Everline Nakalale Oso and they have been blessed with nine children.

He served the Church in his first ministry as Priest. He was ordained Apostle on the 17th of April 2015 in the Chief Apostle's Service at Mbeya to serve Lodwar, Kitale the Turkana area.

Emmanuel Paul Macheho (Tanzania)



The Apostle was born in a family of three in Handali village, Dodoma on 10th March, 1967. Apostle Macheho is married to Miriam Mkola and they have one child.

He was ordained Deacon and later Apostle on 17th April 2015 during the Chief Apostle's service at Mbeya.

The Bishop was born on 6th July 1966 in Dodoma. He is married to Eunike Chaya and blessed with five children.



Andrea Kamwana Chaya (Tanzania)

His parents are also New Apostolic members. He was testified and invited to church by Priest Stanley Mhangala and ordained Priest. He was ordained Bishop on 5th April 2015 during District Apostle SM Lubasi visit in Dodoma.

Kahamile Malekela Lwaboshi (Tanzania)



The Bishop was born on 15th August 1956 in DRC Congo. He is married to Mbuyii Musasa Kazadi and blessed with five Children. His parents are also New Apostolic Members. He was testified and invited to Church by Mulaja Tamba Tamba and ordained Deacon. He was ordained Bishop on 5th April 2015 during District Apostle S. M. Lubasi's visit in Dodoma.

The Bishop was born on 6th July 1969 in Mkoka, Kongwa. He is married to Ana Tadayo Nhangala and blessed with five children. He was testified and invited to church by Priest John Njamasi and ordained Deacon, other ministries followed thereafter. He was ordained Bishop on 5th April 2015 during District Apostle S. M. Lubasi's visit in Dodoma.



Andrea Paulo Nhangala (Tanzania)

Hamisi Elisha Meleino (Tanzania)



The Apostle was born on 3rd April 1974 in Charu Bewa Mtwapa in Dodoma.

He is married to Rosemary Francis and they have five children.

He served the Church in his first ministry as Priest. He was ordained Apostle on the 17th of April 2015 in the Chief Apostle's Service at Mbeya to serve Dodoma and Itiso areas of Tanzania.

Watson Mwakape Kalyembe (Tanzania)



The Apostle was born on 1st January 1956 in a village known as Mpunguti, Tanzania. He is married to Nuri Clemence and they have been blessed with seven children.

He joined the church in 1982 and was later ordained Deacon. On 17th April 2015, he was ordained Apostle in the Chief Apostles service at Mbeya. He will serve Kyera, Songea, Tukuyu, Njombe, Luswiswi, and Mba Mba Bay areas.



Apostle Vincent Wofile (Tanzania)
Ordained: 14/5/06
Retired: 26/01/14



Apostle Francis Kamunyu (Kenya)
Ordained: 28/8/91
Retired: 29/6/14



Apostle Wilson Mtiga (Tanzania)
Ordained: 31/10/98
Retired: 17/04/15



Apostle Elias Mwaisaka (Tanzania)
Ordained: 14/05/06
Retired: 17/04/15



Julius Ndamamele Mwashilindi (Tanzania)

The Bishop was born on 22nd sept 1965 in Mbeya, Tanzania. He is married to Saphina Kabule and blessed with six Children. His parents are also New Apostolic members. He was testified by Priest Hezron Meshack and ordained Deacon. Other ministries followed thereafter. He was ordained Bishop on 5th April 2015.



Asagwile Thomas Simon (Tanzania)

The Bishop was born on 4th Dec 1970 in Makandana, Tukuyu, he is married to Sophia Mwaikugire and blessed with six children. He was testified and invited to church by Priest John Malakasuka and ordained Priest, other ministries followed thereafter. He was ordained Bishop on 5th April 2015 during District Apostle S. M. Lubasi's visit in Dodoma.



Johnson Kyalo Musumbi (Kenya)

The Bishop was born on 5th Nov 1977 in Mwingi. He is married to Loice Kisio and blessed with 6 children. His parents and siblings are strong new apostolic members. He was testified and invited to church by Priest Paul Muthui today Shepherd and ordained Priest on 22nd August 1998. Other ministries followed thereafter. He was ordained Bishop on 28th March 2015 during District Apostle S. M. Lubasi's visit in Mwingi.



Bishop Henry Kinyua Kabururu (Kenya)
Ordained: 28/01/01
Retired: 05/09/15



Bishop Fredrick Nguro (Kenya)
Ordained: 28/01/01
Retired: 04/04/15



Julius Mathayo Msambula (Tanzania)

The Bishop was born on 22nd February 1977 in Chamwino, Dodoma. He is married to Agnes Chicanha and blessed with five children. His parents are also New Apostolic members. He was testified by Brother Lucas Mwiho and ordained Deacon. Other ministries followed thereafter. He was ordained Bishop on 5th April 2015.



Bishop Joseph Akhulia (Kenya)
Ordained: 28/03/15
Retired: 27/09/15

photo gallery



Bishop Henry Kabururu and his wife from Maua, Meru in Kenya after his retirement on 5th September 2015 with District Apostle Joseph Ekhuya.



Bishop Joseph Akhulia and his wife from Eshunya, Western Kenya after his retirement on 27th September 2015 with District Apostle Joseph Ekhuya.



The joyful members greeting the Chief Apostle Schneider after the divine service in Mbeya, Tanzania on 18th April 2015.



The Choir singing during a festive choral concert prepared during the Chief Apostle visit in Dar es Salaam, on 16th April 2015.



Ordination of Bishop Peter Kubai for Maua, Meru in Kenya, the working area of Apostle Chrispin Kinyua.



District Apostle Ekhuya and the youth choir at Lyamboko congregation in Uganda.



Published by : New Apostolic Church East Africa,
Editorial : District Apostle Joseph O. Ekhuya,
Editor : Publication Committee East Africa,
Layout and design: New Apostolic Work Group Africa.

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