

T&T MESSENGER

*The Official News
Bulletin, Church of God
of Prophecy Trinidad &
Tobago*

New Year Edition 2015

From the Desk of the National Overseer

Dearest friends, brethren, and partners; I am happy for another opportunity to share aspects of the work in Trinidad & Tobago with you. I trust you have had a very good 2014, and your Christmas was particularly enjoyable. It is my sincere hope that, by God's grace, your 2015 will be a most fulfilling and enriching year. From my family to you and yours: *Have a Blessed New Year!*

Let me express thanks to our Lord for His tremendous blessings on our International Assembly last year. It was such a joy to bask in the presence of the Lord and to fellowship with brothers and sisters from virtually around the globe. Trinidad & Tobago was represented by its largest delegation to date. The awesome theme "Breakthrough" continues to resonate with me.

We, again, extend profound congratulations to our new General



**National Overseer Bishop
Maurice A. Jones**

Overseer – Bishop Sam Clements, and pledge our prayerful support.



**General Overseer Bishop Sam
Clements**

Congratulations are also in order for Bishop Tim Coalter – the new North American General Presbyter and certainly, for Bishop Clayton Martin (Caribbean GP) and his colleagues who were confirmed to serve for another term.

On October 12, 2014 we warmly welcomed our wonderful brethren of Christian Fellowship Ministries as part of the Church of God of Prophecy. Led by Bishop Dr. Richard & Pastor Vilma Jeremiah, this ministry of twenty-one years gave birth to Haggion Ethnos Institute – a progressive school of



Psalm 34:1-3 (NKJV)...*I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.*

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

leadership and theological training with strong international connections.

With our Diamond Jubilee theme: "Honouring the Past, Celebrating the Present, Shaping the Future" in mind, the 60th Anniversary of the Church of God of Prophecy in Trinidad & Tobago was highlighted with two (2) spectacular events: our Dinner & Awards Ceremony & Grand Thanksgiving Celebration.

It was an absolute delight to have a good number of overseas-based leaders in attendance at our anniversary events. The list included General Presbyter Martin, Bishop Leroy Greenaway & wife Chris, Bishop Dorsette & wife Ilma, Bishop Arthur Wilson & wife Paula, Bishop Winston Christian, and Minister Wilma Knights. We were also graced with the presence of several denominational, leaders, business executives, and civic leaders. Among these distinguished guests were: Bishop Dr. Rodger Samuel – MP of Arima and Minister of National Diversity & Social Integration, The Hon. Alicia Hospedales – MP of Arouca/Maloney, Rev. Desmond

Austin – President, Trinidad & Tobago Council of Evangelical Churches Inc. and Rev. Dr. Margaret Elcock, CEO of Isaac 98.1 fm. PAWI was represented by Bishop Hasrat Ali – National Chairman and his predecessor Dr Alister Alexander. Recently installed Administrative Bishop Alonzo Jones of the New Testament Church of God, Bishop David Chandler of Christian Union, Rev. Keith Ramdass - Chairman of Central Ministers Fellowship, and Rev. Selma Balloosingh of Central Mission Foundation represented their respective organizations.

Our projections for this diamond jubilee year included a membership increase of at least 600 and an increase of ministers to at least sixty, with a minimum of 40% age 40 years and younger. The acquisition of a parcel of land for the construction of a multipurpose facility is still very much on our agenda, and efforts continue to be made towards that end.

We passionately desire and fervently hope that the fruits of this historic year will serve as a catalyst for unprecedented growth and development. It is in this light, that we specially request your prayerful and financial support. We look forward to hearing from brethren and friends at home and abroad. We are most grateful to our precious Harvest Partners (Listed below) for their Ministry support.

Numbers 6:24-26 (NKJV)... *The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:*

The Lord make his face shines upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:

The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

HARVEST PARTNERS

We gladly welcome Bishop Llyod Phipps and his congregation of Covington Drive COGOP Decatur, Georgia as our newest harvest partner. Thanks to our other harvest partners Bishop Andre R Thompson – Anaheim COGOP, Pastor Byron C Hughes – Homestead COGOP, Pastor Eddy Melvin Sterling, Baton Rouge – Tanglewood COGOP, Pastor Mary Bell Williams, Plaquemine COGOP, Bishop Winston G Christian – West Side COGOP, Pastor Larry D Daye Sr. – Love in Action COGOP, Pastor L Steve Singleton – Trinity COGOP, Pastor Steve Couch – Wichita Falls COGOP, Pastor Jack M Robertson – North Danville COGOP and Bishop Richard L Baker - Christ Tabernacle COGOP for your prayers and support.



Pastor Edward Francis & son Sean Francis



Sis Wilma Knights & Hon. Roger Samuel



Bishop Leroy Greenaway receiving from Bishop Winston Christian

DINNER & AWARDS CEREMONY

Report by Cherise Rodney-Osborne

In continuing its 60th anniversary celebration, the Church of God of Prophecy (COGOP) in Trinidad & Tobago held its Dinner and Awards Ceremony at the Radisson Hotel, Wrightson Road, Port-of-Spain on Friday 26th October, 2014. Over 300 guests came from far and wide to celebrate with COGOP (T & T). Specially invited guests included General Presbyter Clayton Martin, Bishop Leroy Greenaway, Government Minister Rodger Samuel and Member of Parliament Alicia Hospedales, just to name a few. Special recognition was given to visiting ministers and their wives. Some of the highlights of the night included live performances from world recognised Kelvin Corbett as he played our national instrument (the steel pan) and ministry in song by Christopher “Tambu” Herbert. Master of Ceremonies Brian Carter did an excellent job in hosting the programme. Other activities included a trip down “memory lane” on the history of COGOP in Trinidad and Tobago and National Overseer Bishop Maurice Jones reminiscing on his teenage days with Bishop Leroy Greenaway and Pastor Mervyn Clement. Bishop Leroy Greenaway is the son of the late William

Greenaway, a former national overseer of COGOP TT. Bishop Leroy at the time was the presiding bishop of the Mid Atlantic region USA. He now serves in the New York/North East region.

Dinner was served. The menu: pilaf rice, steamed vegetables, Caribbean potato salad, fresh salad, grilled chicken breast, almond fish, dinner rolls, cheesecake. The fun didn't stop there; it was on to the awards. With just about 41 awardees, the categories were as follows: Past National Overseers, Church Planters, Long Service and Honour Roll. Special mention must be made of Minister Albertha Millet now ninety-one (91) years old and Minister Wilma Knights both of whom played an integral role in COGOP – T & T from inception, 60 years ago. God has indeed been faithful and we thank Him for the opportunity to celebrate with our pioneers.

Thanksgiving Celebration

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. (Psalms 107:1) The Grand Thanksgiving Celebration took place at the newest member of the COGOP family, Christian Fellowship Ministries in Palmiste, Longdenville, Chaguanas. Another milestone event: well over 300 persons were in attendance. What an awesome time it was in the presence of the Most High God as Candace Jeremiah and her team led the congregation in a time of praise and worship. I could still hear the angels singing. With a very packed programme, there was worship in giving, ministry in dance, song and instrument. A presentation was made to National Overseer Bishop Maurice Jones and his wife Sister Maureena on behalf of the

North District. Finally, 'The Word' was effectively ministered by visiting Bishop Leroy Greenaway. There was a packed altar as the spirit of God moved through the place. With such a timely word, hearts were touched and lives were changed. The curtains closed to end our weekend of celebration. We thank God for the opportunity to celebrate our "diamond" 60th anniversary. God has been faithful and continues to be faithful, and we give Him all the praise, honour and thanks He richly deserves, for all the great and mighty things He has done. Greater is coming for the Church of God of Prophecy in Trinidad & Tobago.

GREETINGS

Tobago District Overseer Pastor Dexter Glasgow

Ever so often, the need arises for: revival, renewal, refreshing, regrouping, restoration, regeneration, insight, freshness and hope. The New Year offers this opportunity for us to sit down and assess our success and failure of the past year and to move forward with strength and vigour. Form the Tobago district and my family Happy New Year and God's continued blessings.

South District Overseer Pastor Kelvin Ramkissoon

Greetings and best wishes for the New Year 2015 to our National Overseer and family, fellow district overseers, pastors, ministers, national workers and members of the church of God of Prophecy. As we reflect on the year that just ended, we give God thanks for His rich blessings bestowed on the church on our 60th Anniversary. The activities planned to mark this milestone in

our church's history were well supported and were a blessing. As we look ahead and make plans to shape the future, I am convinced that God wants to do a new thing among his people. This new thing would require change on our part which we must be prepared to make if we must witness the manifestation of God. Yes this change may require us to shift our focus, alter our attitude, behaviour, mindset, priorities, and the list goes on. God wants to pour new wine but we must change (get rid of) the old wineskin. so that we can properly and fully receive that which he has in store for us. Let us be open and sensitive to the operation of the Holy Spirit as He leads the way in this 'new thing' God is about to do. Thanks to our south district pastors and their respective local churches for the support given to the work of God. We look forward to all of us making the effort to do more for God in 2015. God bless you all.

North District Overseer Pastor Elvis Williams

As we reflect on the words of the Angelic Messengers "A Saviour is born which is Christ The Lord" we are encouraged to share this message with the world. Not just for the season of Christmas but every day. On behalf of all the pastors of COGOP North District, theirs and also my family, I declare God's Peace, Joy and Favor for the New Year as we live in hope of His second coming. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

North District Children's Cordinator Cherise Rodney-Osborne

As we embrace a new year, I wish you and your family a bright and

prosperous year. The children are our future let us be examples to them. Blessings!

New Buildings

Presently two church buildings are under construction. Charis Assembly in Maloney, Bishop Keith Forde and Hillpiece, South, Pastor Kelvin Ramkisson. We covet you support and prayers.



Hillpiece, South



Charis Assembly, Maloney

South District Activities with tentative dates for 2015

- Men's Night Out – Friday
March 16th.
- Youth Rally – Saturday
February 28th.
- Fun and Family Day –
Saturday August 8th.
- Women's Rally – May 9th.
- District Crusade – August
19th – 21st.

Calendar of Events 2015

January

Season of Seeking Prayer & Fast –
January 1st -21st 2015

**Caribbean Leadership
Conference, Jamaica –January
28th -31st 2015**

National Youth Ministries
National Day of Prayer – **January
17th 2015**

March

National Women's Ministries,
Ladies Retreat –**March 20th -22nd**

April

National Family Day (Tentative) –
April 18th

May

Couples Retreat –**May 29th - 31st**

June

Visiting Mission Team from West
Side COGOP in Maryland

July

National Youth Camp –**July 4th to
10th July 2015**

National Convention –**July 23rd -
26th**

October

National Strategic Review –
October 16th -17th

November

Men's Retreat –**November 6th -8th**

National Youth Ministries
Strategic Review –**November 14th**

Christian Fellowship Ministries CALENDAR 2015

- CFM Leadership Retreat/
Seminar/ Conference –
February 19th -21st
- CFM Anniversary Weekend –
March 27th -29th
- HEI Graduation (Trinidad,
Tobago & Guyana) – CFM
Palmiste –April 25th
- HEI Mission Trip & Fund
Raiser to Curacao –May 24th -
31st
- CFM Family, Fun &
Fellowship Day – August 30th

CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences are extended to all Bahamians on the tragic passing of Dr Myles Munroe, his wife, and a team of leaders from Bahamas Faith Ministries. The plane crash, which claimed the lives of all on board, sent shock waves and ripples of sadness globally. Dr Munroe was the founder of the International Third World Leaders Association (ITWLA). He was in Trinidad earlier in 2014 to attend the funeral service of Rev. Bertril Baird, a close associate and ITWLA executive. May God comfort Sister Baird & family, the surviving Munroes, and the bereaved loved ones of other departed ministers, brothers, and sisters. Sincere condolences to Pastor Cecil Springer and Bro. Dane Nelson their family on the passing of their mothers, May God continue to be your comfort and strength.

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