

Health, growth, completion

Vision



New Apostolic Church USA

District News

www.nac-usa.org

Spring 2016

Dear brothers and sisters,

I have occupied my thoughts recently with the important topic of prayer. In one of our old hymns, we used to sing – “Did you think to pray?” If we understand prayer as breathing of the soul, would we ask – “Did you think to breathe?” It is essential for life! We learn this concept from Jesus when we see in the scriptures the regularity and the intensity of His prayer life. He was both true God and true man, yet His communication, through prayer with His Father, was paramount to Him. A number of times it is said of Jesus that “He went to pray”. Could this also be said of me...that I went to pray? Or have I relegated my prayer life to one in the morning when I awake, one before each meal, and a few final thoughts before I sleep? In today's world, how could I follow Jesus' ways and “go to pray”?

It seems with our increasing technology and media that we are inundated with and sometimes addicted to sounds, pictures, videos, and words, as well as a plethora of methods to communicate. Yet, none of these ways create a connection with Our Father. Am I also “addicted” to communicating with Him, the One who not only listens, but who offers solutions for all things in my life? Could “going to pray” mean that I try from time to time to isolate and insulate myself from all the other sounds and influences around me to focus my thoughts and feelings to God and express my praise and thanks to Him, to search for His advice, to find His strength, to know His comfort and peace? This could be done at anytime and any place, no electric outlet or charger is necessary, only the solitude of my thoughts directed toward the Lord.



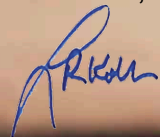
I further considered, is my prayer only like a blanket that I cover myself with? Do I instruct God what He should do to help me and others, telling Him what I need, somewhat like a child that wants simply to be sheltered from the cold world? Truly this is necessary at certain times. However, could my prayer also be a weapon, a sword and shield? When I affirm the power and love of God to Him, when I intone my deep thankfulness for His goodness, can I feel His strength in me? In 1 Samuel 17:45, we can read the battle cry of David. While not a prayer, it is a profession of reliance on God's help. I can imagine this profession may not have impressed Goliath, but by invoking the name of God, it inspired David himself to do what he was destined to do and God provided the other necessary aspects to his victory.

Could my prayer life also be a profession of my reliance on the power of God's love? In professing His praise, do I feel that He can convey to me the courage and confidence to be victorious? In such a way, my prayer becomes a two-way communication, not only to tell my Father what I need, (remembering Jesus' words – "your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him" in Matthew 6:8), but more so to express to Him what He is and what He means to me and thereby open myself to His inspiration and thoughts. In such a way, prayer can be a wonderful means to celebrate and give thanks for the many victories with Christ.

As I approach the celebration of Jesus Christ in Passion week, Eastertide, and the celebration of His Spirit in Pentecost, I want to deepen, expand, and increase my prayers.

Thanks for allowing me to share my thoughts with you...

With love,



Looking ahead to April, the monthly service theme and small group discussion materials will focus on The Lord's Prayer, giving us cause to ponder and study this topic further.




WE RISE BY LIFTING OTHERS.

- Robert Ingersoll

BELIZE / JUNE 2016 + JANUARY 2017

As a long-term partner of the King's Children Home (KCH) and the Hattieville Resource Center (HRC) in Belize, the Church's re Charitable Ministry is now accepting applications for June 2016. The dates for the trips are June 11-18 and June 18-25. If you are interested in participating for both weeks, please note that in your application. For each week we have a maximum of 10 participant slots available and we encourage you to apply early to secure your spot. For more information and the application forms, please email re.charitableministry@nac-usa.org or call us at 814.835.2833. The application fee is \$25 and will be credited towards the participation fee of \$550 a week for applications which are accepted.

We also are offering another one-week trip in January, which will take place from January 14-21 2017. Applications for this visit must be received no later than August 31, 2016. By September 5th, we will inform all applicants whether we have a sufficient number of participants for the trip to take place.



So why go? If you want to get out of your comfort zone, this trip is for you! If you are looking to make friends and build relationships, you can find that here. If you're looking for ways to combat self-centeredness or the mundane, you can journey with us in putting others before ourselves and looking at the world in a new way.

We rise by lifting others. Are you ready to rise?



re



STEWARDSHIP:

SUPPORTING A FRUITFUL LIFE

In previous articles comprising an ongoing series, we have examined different elements of Christian Stewardship. Fundamentally, it is the concept that God has gifted us with all we possess in life and that He requires us to be good stewards over His gifts. Moreover, He expects us to use His gifts to glorify Him and to further His purpose. Jesus advised us to live a life rich toward God.

In His teachings, Jesus often described our God-given calling or life's purpose in terms of fruitfulness and abundance. In John 15:16, He makes this statement to His disciples: *You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit.* What did He mean by this? First, He makes clear that He has intentions for us, that our lives are not random. Further, He wants us to live a fruitful life.

FURTHER, HE WANTS US TO LIVE A FRUITFUL LIFE.

Fruitfulness is a state of identity. One author labeled it as “the outward expression of the inward nature”. The identity, or inward nature of a tree, can be determined by its fruit or outward expression. Apple trees only produce apples, but what differs from apple tree to apple tree is the measure of the harvest. It may be abundant or it may be modest; sadly, it may also be nonexistent and therefore its identity remains invisible and its purpose unrealized.

What outward expression identifies the inward nature of a Christian life? Apostle Paul paints a clear picture of a life rooted in the Spirit of Jesus Christ in his letter to the Galatians.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Galatians 5:22-23

People often evaluate personal satisfaction or happiness in terms of their “quality of life.” Paul is describing quality of the highest order. A life growing out of the nature of Jesus is a beautiful life and deeply satisfying, as evidenced by its fruit. And here is a paradox. A powerful truth is often hidden within this life because on the surface we associate growing in the nature of Jesus with labor, self-sacrifice, and service to others. The more we strive selflessly to create a harvest within the vineyard, where the Lord has employed us and taught us by His example, the more we create a life to be savored personally and eternally. Being fruitful is both the labor and the reward. Coupled with the grace of Jesus, it leads to life eternal within the Kingdom of God.

BEING FRUITFUL IS BOTH THE LABOR AND THE REWARD.

What could keep us from being fruitful? Jesus spoke to this directly in the parable of the sower

or four-fold field. This parable is described in Matthew 13:3-23, Mark 4:3-25 and Luke 8:5-18, and each Gospel writer adds something unique to our understanding. Please read each account carefully in a quiet moment as there is so much we can learn. Jesus explains to His disciples also in a quiet moment that this parable is about the Kingdom of God. His Word is a seed that, when planted within our hearts, is intended to bring a harvest of the Kingdom into our lives.

In some lives, the harvest is abundant. The abundance may be different from soul to soul, but sometimes there is no harvest at all because of the condition of the field (the soul) it is planted in. Jesus describes one of the fields as thorny ground. Mark recounts Jesus' explanation this way:

Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

Mark 4: 18-19

We see that the thorny ground actually has three different elements. We have already addressed the “deceitfulness (the lie) of riches” and “the desires for other things” (materialism) and their dangers in a previous article. Let's focus on “the cares of this world.”

These cares should not be underestimated. We all have felt their stress and their ability to choke us with worry and concern for our daily bread. This anxiety has the power to destroy the fruit of the Spirit that Paul describes in his letter to the Galatians and to leave our lives empty of our identity in Christ and our spiritual purpose.

Therefore, the “thorny” condition of the soul becomes a matter of great spiritual concern for the church. Jesus said that this will keep many from the Kingdom of God. If the church can help our members solve this condition and learn to be freed from financial pressures, they can move forward toward more fruitful lives in Jesus Christ. This is an important element of stewardship that can

transform us. Good stewardship can be taught and this kind of teaching can help all live a life of greater peace and security.



GOOD STEWARDSHIP CAN HELP ALL LIVE A LIFE OF GREATER PEACE AND SECURITY.

The techniques for teaching Christian stewardship applications and the tools and resources for supporting personal financial health will be introduced and made available to our members in a unique and flexible format later this year. Each interested member will be able to choose the format and path that matches their unique circumstances and preferences. Financial health often involves making life changes that can be difficult and goes beyond just knowledge. Some congregations may decide to make this an ongoing outreach ministry which serves their broader community.

In conclusion, it is amazing to see how relevant the Gospel is today. Jesus' parable so accurately describes conditions that current experts in the field of behavioral finance recognize as an epidemic of poor financial health which can deteriorate physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual wellbeing; the very quality of life. Let's heed the advice of Jesus, the Lord of the harvest, and be wise stewards. We can support one another in creating good ground for the Word of God and live fruitful lives. Let's labor for His Kingdom. It's a beautiful life.

-WJ/LRK



WORDS
from the CROSS

We will shortly celebrate the season of Eastertide. It is customary and good for us to examine the historical events leading to the resurrection of Jesus Christ because within His victory lies the basis for our hope. In John 14:19 we read: "Because I live, you will live also." This verse can be used to explain the Chief Apostle's year-beginning message: "Let us make 2016 a year of victories with Christ."

With this incredibly hopeful message in our hearts, I would ask you to consider the events of Good Friday in great detail. Specifically, please focus your thoughts on the seven sayings or last words of Jesus during the horrific moments of His crucifixion. Perhaps this is a topic we have avoided because the suffering of our Lord is disturbing, but within each of these words, we find another element of the victory of Jesus Christ. Each of these smaller victories together made up His supreme sacrifice that brings us the means of our salvation. And so our victory in Christ will also be made up of daily smaller ones.

WITHIN EACH OF THESE WORDS, WE FIND ANOTHER ELEMENT OF THE VICTORY OF JESUS CHRIST

When reflecting on the last words of Jesus and when discussing them together, please search for the relevance and power of His legacy in your own life that will help you win your personal victories with Him. And please don't limit yourself to the applications listed in this article. These are just the tip of the iceberg to whet your appetite. The Holy Spirit can go much deeper if you ask Him. He knows Jesus Christ intimately, He knows you, and He knows your life.

Likewise, please search for a deeper understanding of the true nature of Jesus' sacrifice, His selfless love for all mankind (and for you personally), His humility, His willingness to forgive, and His powerful drive to do the will of God. This understanding will help us all to experience Holy Communion in a continually more vibrant and renewed manner that truly transforms our inner being.

To find the seven sayings of Jesus on the cross, we must search all four Gospels. In the first three sayings, all happening within the first 3 hours on the cross, Jesus

speaks to or for other people. Despite His suffering, Jesus is still selfless and cares for the needs of others over His own.

LUKE 23:34 – FATHER, FORGIVE THEM, FOR THEY DO NOT KNOW WHAT THEY DO.

A victory of forgiveness over injustice.

- Despite the incredible injustice, His first words are of forgiveness.
- They fulfill Isaiah's prophecy: *He made intercession for the transgressor* (Isaiah 53:12).
- They satisfy His own teachings: *But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you* (Matthew 5:44).
- He wishes forgiveness even for those who show no remorse or repentance. Jesus wants them to be free of their guilt when they realize what they have done. That is the result of forgiveness, freedom from guilt.

LUKE 23:43 – TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE.

A victory of grace over judgement.

Jesus gives a gift to one of the two criminals also being crucified based upon the man's humility and recognition of Jesus as the Son of God, even if at the last minute of his life. The phrase seems to indicate a pardon from judgement and an invitation into paradise and the presence of Christ.

- *We deserve to die but this man has done nothing wrong* (ref. Luke 23:41).
- *The wages of sin is death (what we earned) but the gift (what we were given but didn't deserve) of God is eternal life* (Romans 6:23).
- *Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom* (Luke 23:42). The man's request is critical. He didn't ask for relief from pain or death.

JOHN 19:26–27 – WOMAN, BEHOLD YOUR SON. SON, BEHOLD YOUR MOTHER.

A victory of love over the needs of self.

In the midst of His suffering, He cares for the needs of others. Also, we see a victory of love over fear on the part of the few who follow Him to the cross.

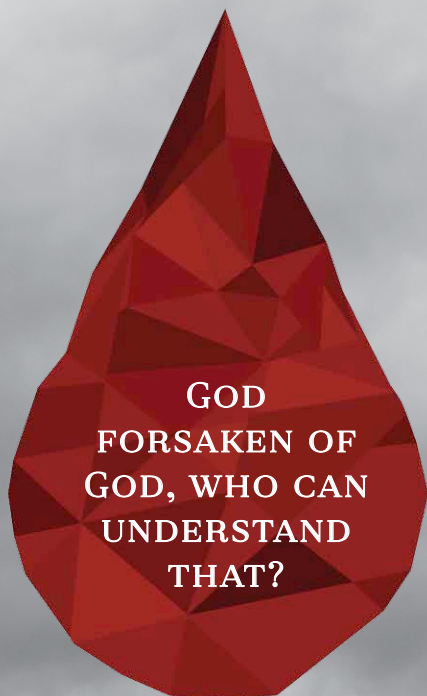
- It is revealing to see who is with Him at this moment: John, "the disciple whom Jesus loved," and a group of very brave woman, all who loved Him enough to follow Him to the end and witness His suffering despite their fears for their own safety.
- Mary, His mother, is a widow and now faces an anxious future all alone. Jesus acknowledges her need and the need of the church (in the person of Apostle John) to care for her and love her as a devoted son. He entrusts her to the church, thus pointing out an important future pastoral role of the church.
- In this way He teaches us the responsibility to care for one another even when we ourselves are suffering.

After these sayings, the sky turns dark and the sun is obscured for the remaining three hours of Jesus life, despite being in the middle of the day, and intensifies the feeling that something incredibly earth-changing and historic is taking place. The remaining four sayings of Jesus are directed inwardly or to God. They chart His final steps of suffering under the weight of all mankind's sin and His willingness to be abandoned by God in His final moments as the sacrificial lamb of all the world, to the declaration of His victory, and the completion of His mission to bring us back to God.

MATTHEW 27:46 & MARK 15:34 – MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?

It has been reported that Martin Luther secluded himself to prepare a sermon on this verse and sat in a trance-like state for many hours. Finally, he got up, and walking away remarked: “God forsaken of God, who can understand that?”

- It is the mystery of substitution. In this moment, Jesus substitutes Himself for mankind, takes on our every sin and punishes Himself so that mankind can escape God’s judgement. 1 Peter 2:24: says, *Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.*
- His words document that God does not acknowledge Himself to His Son at this moment. Jesus experiences His sacrificial death alone just as mankind does. God does not intervene or comfort Him as described in Psalm 22: 1-2, *My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me?*
- In other moments of prayer, Jesus refers to God as Father, but not at this moment.
- This is the moment of payment for mankind’s sins and the victory of Jesus Christ that satisfies the righteousness of God.



The next 2 sayings are described in a sequence just before Jesus dies:

After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst!” Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop [branch], and put it to His mouth. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit (John 19:28-30).

JOHN 19:28 – I THIRST.

Jesus is confirming that He has experienced this moment of victory of love over self as a human being and is confirming His humanity. He suffered for us in human form with all our sensations.

This account also confirms that the scriptures are fulfilled in Him.

- *For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15).*
- *Isaiah says, Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows...But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed (Isaiah 53:4-5).*
- *When I was thirsty they offered me vinegar (Psalm 69:21).*

JOHN 19:30 – IT IS FINISHED.

The victory of knowing and doing the will of God. This is a cry of victory, not despair.

His enemies thought **He** was finished, but He is declaring something else: **It is finished** - the purpose of My life and the will of God the Father to redeem mankind from sin.

- *Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work (John 4:34).*

What did He finish? See the many descriptions of His victory and the completed purpose of His life:

- *For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit (Romans 8:3-4).*
- *And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross (Colossians 2:13-14).*
- *He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins (Colossians 1:13-14).*
- *For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God’s wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ (Romans 5:17 NLT).*

LUKE 23:46: FATHER, INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMIT MY SPIRIT.

The victory of trust in God. These are the last words of Jesus before dying.

- He gave His life voluntarily: *No one can take my life from me. I lay down my life voluntarily, for I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also the power to take it back again (John 10:18).* This reminds us that Jesus had the power to avoid the cross. He had the power at any moment to subdue His persecutors and walk away from the cross. So while it was physical nails that pierced His hands and feet, in reality it was His trust in God and His love for us that bound Him to the cross.
- His mission is complete and He is confident that His spirit will be welcomed and safe in God’s presence, despite the darkness and aloneness of His suffering, now that He has overcome the sin that separates from God. **-WJ/LRK**

SEARCH FOR A DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF
JESUS’ SACRIFICE

HIS SELFLESS LOVE

HIS HUMILITY

HIS WILLINGNESS TO
FORGIVE

HIS POWERFUL DRIVE
TO DO THE WILL OF GOD

Over the past year, we've heard in divine services, discussed in small groups, and heard in *For Your Journey* videos about blessing. Before last year, blessing may have been thought of as an increase in your life from God. Today, we have come to understand blessing as anything in your life that God gives to bring you closer to Him.

Chief Apostle Schneider explained this definition of blessing in the 2015 divine service out of Woodbury. He said we can experience God's love through the blessings He provides us with. With the Old Testament understanding of blessing, we would think that if we have a good job, a lot of money, or good health, then we must be richly blessed by God. And on the other hand, if we had no job, were poor, or were sick, then we were not blessed by God. Let's work on moving beyond this black-and-white definition of God's blessing by considering how God's love is connected to the blessings He gives us. God loves us so much that He created a plan to restore our relationship with Him. This plan of salvation involved sending His own Son to the earth to ultimately sacrifice His life for our sins. Jesus didn't come to give us a better life on earth, He came so that we could have eternal fellowship with God. When we think about how much God must love us so that He would send His Son to earth to die for our sins, then we can look at the blessings in our lives not as things of increase, but anything that might help to restore our relationship with Him.

What has happened in your life recently? You are the one with the power to decide if something is going to be a blessing in your life or not. God provides us with the strength to be faithful and everything we need to take the path that leads to Him. It is our decision to accept what God gives us and remain on this journey of salvation. Believe and trust in God's love that everything in your life, good or bad, has the ability to bring you closer to Him. - **VB/LRK**



Blessing

THRIVE

Transform your nature, using Jesus as your example

Each day we strive to become more Christ-like. He is our example for everything that we think, do, and say. Our relationship with God has been compromised because of sin, but transformation from this condition can be accomplished in cooperation with God by the power of the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Help spread the Gospel

As Christians, we want to help share the message of Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ultimate return. How we live our lives is a testimony and profession to all around us that helps spread the Gospel message.

Respond to the call to serve

Each one is equipped with different passions and gifts, which we are called to engage by serving Jesus in our family, our congregation, and our community. Jesus' life was based on serving and showing love for others, and we desire to have a similar lifestyle.

Invest in your spiritual health

Taking the time to build and maintain your spiritual health through spiritual disciplines strengthens your relationship with God and can be a tool of comfort and confidence when going through trials in life.

Value the Church

The Church provides a place of fellowship and worship with other believers and we can participate in the church of Christ together. In the Church, we can experience unity with one another as we share our spiritual journeys and hear God's word.

Embrace the promise of Jesus Christ's return

We live and hope for the return of Jesus Christ. Waiting for His return should not be a passive waiting, but rather an active preparation as we learn more and work to apply the Gospel to our lives.

Hopefully you have had time to go through the THRIVE Membership Booklet, released in January, and have started to familiarize yourself with the concepts revealed in the THRIVE acronym. In order to provide a fuller picture of the membership booklet, let's talk about where it came from and how it was developed.

Towards the end of 2014, a project group was assigned the task of putting together a booklet for new members. This booklet was intended to be something that introduces new members to the history and beliefs of the New Apostolic Church. The project team researched different booklets that congregations in the USA and other countries had used in the past for this purpose, and also looked at samples from other Christian churches, discovering how they have welcomed new members into the church. With this research, the content began to come together for the booklet and it underwent multiple revisions. Then came the creation of the THRIVE acronym, outlining member expectations based on Bible passages. This also provided the name for the booklet. From this point on, it was decided that THRIVE was not just something for new members, it was something that every member, whether new or a lifelong member, needed to know. It would help contribute to the Stepping Forward plan of creating a positive culture and improving congregational health. Upon approval from the Apostles and the international church theologian, Dr. Reinhard Kiefer, the THRIVE Membership Booklet was ready for the design and layout process, and was finally released in January 2016, more than a year after the project began.

The THRIVE acronym, though at the back of the book, is the focus of the membership booklet. It states that we, as Christians, have been given expectations by God that we are called to live by and fulfill. The Church wants to teach and provide these expectations so that the member can embrace them as their own personal expectations. Each member is responsible for their own self, and by laying out these expectations, they can take charge of their self-responsibility by living a life that is pleasing to God. By receiving the sacraments, you have committed yourself to the expectations of being a Christ-follower. However, you are not alone in trying to fulfill these expectations. The Church equips you through the word of God, the partaking of the sacraments, and the small group teachings and discussions.

While the Church is here to equip you to live out THRIVE, there are things you can do to help yourself follow these expectations. There are resources that will help you discover your spiritual gifts, so that you can find out how to best utilize them. There are devotionals that can help you contemplate different spiritual subjects. Apps exist for your phone that can help you financially organize your life so that you have enough to tithe and offer. There are different apps or self-study Bibles that will guide you through reading the Bible. Taking notes during the divine service can help further in studying God's word and making it applicable to your life during the week. THRIVE is a way of life and is a lifelong, spiritual journey. We have the opportunity to grow and flourish every day. This is the life God wants for us – a thriving life for Him. – **VB/LRK**

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2013/2014 OPERATING CHURCH RESULTS

The Church published an annual report for the first time in 2013 (for fiscal year 2012). The compilation and preparation of this printed report constitutes a significant, resource-intensive project.

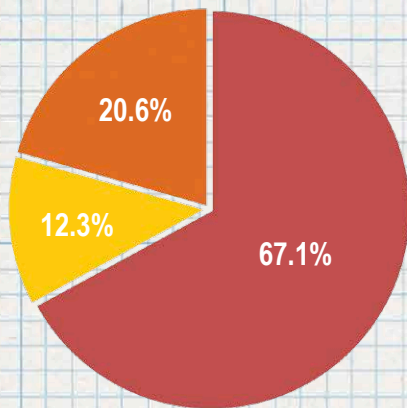
Based on the positive feedback received, we subsequently discussed the frequency of such reports with the members of the Church's annual leadership Synod. We feel that the increased transparency is a key aspect of the Structure section of our Stepping Forward program. It was therefore decided to publish a full, printed annual report every two years.

The next such report will be released later this year (2016), covering fiscal year 2015.

In the years between, an abbreviated version will be prepared and published in the Vision Newsletter. Please find below the comparative audited financial data for the years 2013 and 2014.

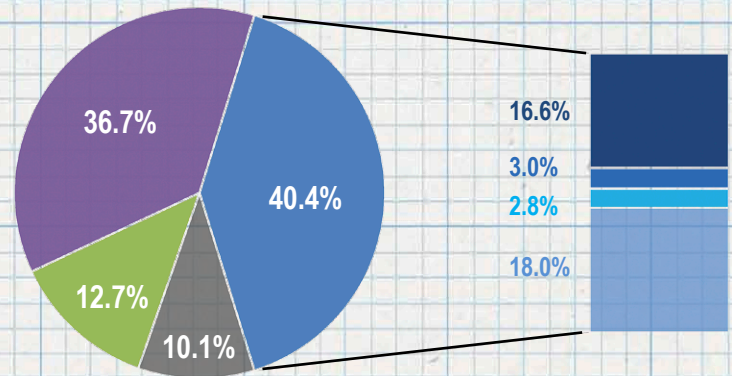
2014 SOURCES OF FUNDS

(% OF 2014 TOTAL)



2014 USES OF FUNDS

(% OF 2014 TOTAL)



Sources of Funds	2014	2013
Regular Offering	\$11,553,003	\$12,510,916
Thankoffering	\$2,484,883	\$2,198,826
Special Donations & Bequests	\$890,336	\$873,796
Other Revenue	\$131,492	\$90,104
Church Revenue	\$15,059,714	\$15,673,642
Net Endowment Income	\$2,212,176	\$2,131,433
Real Estate Income	\$546,524	\$321,728
Reserve Management Income	\$2,758,700	\$2,453,161
Sale of Buildings	\$4,630,814	\$2,506,324
Total Funds Available*	\$22,449,228	\$20,633,127

Uses of Funds	2014	2013
Congregational Supplies & Support	\$3,818,411	\$3,950,744
Church Programs & Events	\$688,131	\$637,079
Benevolence	\$639,136	\$680,401
Church Building Operations	\$4,146,915	\$3,711,965
Total Domestic Church Funding	\$9,292,593	\$8,980,189
International Mission Activities	\$2,328,663	\$2,279,746
General Administrative Support	\$2,913,278	\$2,832,627
Total Church Expenses	\$14,534,534	\$14,092,562
Church Building Activities	\$8,443,843	\$6,701,097
Total Church Funds Used*	\$22,978,377	\$20,793,659

*In both years the difference between available funds and funds used was covered by the church's building reserve.

what a difference a week makes...

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 <i>Palm Sunday Matthew 21:9</i>	21	22	23	24	25 <i>Good Friday Matthew 27:22</i>	26
27	28	29	30	31		



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With many thanks,

Once again, I turn to you with deep gratitude for the many expressions of solace, love, and comfort that were expressed to our families over the passing of my mother. Our families and also the family of my sister were overwhelmed by your thoughtfulness and warm words of love and support that we received. We are at peace with our Heavenly Father's decisions and are thankful that we could experience His gifts to us in our parents for so many years. – **LRK**