

Cameroon Soundings

The Ndjungus Mission Newsletter of January 2017

GREETINGS OF THE NEW YEAR

As we embark in the vicissitudes of another yet unknown annual journey of our lives, allow us to begin this newsletter by wishing you all a Happy New Year 2017. Please know that we are thankful for every effort that you have made in 2016 and the previous years to support us and the ministries in Cameroon. We always pray that the Almighty God may pour his showers of blessing upon you in the name of Jesus Christ. Happy New Year!

CELEBRATING EPIPHANY 2017

Although Epiphany Sunday was on the 1st of January, we of the Cameroon UMC chose to celebrate it last Sunday, January 8, so that to allow families to be with their love ones in the first day of the year.



Rev. Dr. Nkamba Ndjungu leading the liturgy of Covenant Renewal with God

More than 200 people from the four churches of Yaoundé gathered together in the Jordan UMC sanctuary to celebrate the event. Churches gathered on that occasion were: Jordan UMC, Blessing UMC, Carmel UMC and Nazareth UMC. There were a lot of singing and dancing for the **Manifested Lord**. The preacher, Rev. Marie Noelle Kabla, an elder of the Cote d'Ivoire Annual Conference, leaned on two biblical texts of the day to deliver her sermon: Psalm 29 and Acts of Apostles 10: 33-44. Echoing Peter who

said: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism", she exhorted us to practice inclusiveness and banish any segregation among us. The liturgy used was that of the "Covenant Renewal with God".



The people of God gathered to renew their Covenant with God

John Wesley introduced the Annual Covenant renewal service for use by the Methodist societies in 1755. Every year, on or near January 1, the Methodists gathered to renew their covenant with God. The service is adapted from a Puritan ritual. It is a powerful time of self-examination and confession that culminates in renewal of commitment to discipleship. Like those first Methodists and all the Methodists around the globe we, of the Cameroon Mission Initiative, proclaimed our Covenant Renewal with God saying:

I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, exalted for you, or brought low for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen !

On that day where we renewed our Covenant with God for 2017, five were baptized (one child and four adults); and four adults were received as new members of the United Methodist Church.



Five were baptized and four new members were received

YOUNG PEOPLE MINISTRY

The department of the Young People of Cameroon is one of the shining star departments of our Mission Initiative. This unit of our Mission has been honored by seeing one of them be elevated to a higher position at the international level: Agbor Bertile Enowmbi who worships at Hope UMC of Buea and who is also a member of the National Bureau for Young People has been selected to represent the Youth Department of the church in Cameroon at the Division on Ministries with Young People (DMYP) which is a representative body made up of young people from the global United Methodist Church, working together with the Young People's Ministries staff of the discipleship ministries to connect Youth and Young Adult to God, the Church, and the World. She has a four year mandate. The first DMYP meeting took place in Nashville USA from the 3rd – 8th of October 2016 and she could only participate through Skype because of visa constrain. While in the meeting, she was voted as a youth representative to the United Methodist Global Aids Fund (UMGAF) which is a branch of the UMC that supports programs that focus on the prevention, advocacy, testing and counseling.

The Youth department also had a gathering with the Young people of the Lekie circuit which is made up of Lebamzip, Monantele and Obala

UMCs on the 26th of November 2016. During this gathering, the discussion centered on: Prayer and intercession, Youth and Development and the Functioning of the Circuit Bureau. Youth have scheduled to have another gathering with the Young People of the Fako-Meme circuit but due to the ongoing strike action in that area, they decided to postpone the gathering for a later date as we pray that by then there will be peace and serenity once more in the area.



Youth singing and praising the Lord of hosts

In regards to income generating, youth have decided to embark in a cassava plantation project. Documents are ready. Now, they are concentrating on the second phase which has to do with raising funds so that the project can be fully executed. Efforts are already being made towards this goal; and our youth are praying to find favor in the sight of God and man so that they will be able to meet up with all the objectives they have set aside for this ecclesiastic year.

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United Methodist Church in Cameroon

BP 1295 Yaoundé, Cameroon

Phones: (237) 676 232 484 / (237) 694 633 853

Emails: ndjungunkemba@yahoo.com

mbwizun@gmail.com