



## Newsletter May 2023



**Dear friends of Houses of Hope Ministries International,**

Please read this newsletter with the report of spring mission Ghana 2023.

On March 14, Rev. Wim left for Ghana to complete the preparations for "The Easter Convention" in Berekum

together with the team in Ghana.

The first days after arrival were necessary to acclimatize because the temperature difference with the Netherlands was very large. It was very hot in Accra. The transition of food was also a bit more problematic for him this time. In the first days we mainly focused on the logistical completion of the conference. Buses were already rented. Only we didn't know exactly how many people would travel from the churches in Accra and Sunyani.



The arrival and stay of Pastor Joel Santana from America in Accra and the bus trip with him to the Brong Aharo Region also had to be finalised. When that had all been arranged, Apt. Cennick and Rev. Wim traveled by bus to Berekum to check everything on the spot and to arrange the last things so that our people from Accra and Sunyani could travel with their bus to Berekum on April 5th.

Then we must think of enough places to sleep, buying food, showers, drinking water and electricity in the big house in Berekum, which we still have freely available, which is a great blessing. Also the sound system and the chairs that have to be rented for the meetings. Apt. Cennick went back to Accra after a few days to arrange the last things there and to pick up Pastor Joel Santana from America at the airport.

### **The Easter Convention.**

On April 5, 2023, the people of our church left Accra for Berekum where they arrived the next day, April 6, in the morning: men, women and children. However, the last minute

registrations were so great that many more people showed up than we expected. As a result, a number of people and the people of our worship team had to travel with the large coaches where Apst. Cennick and Ps. Joel were assigned. That meant extra travel expenses, extra mattresses, renting extra chairs and buying extra food at the last minute.

The people of our church from Sunyani also came in during the morning and they also came with more people. In the end they all found a mattress and a place to sleep.



Thursday night was the opening night of the conference, and to our great surprise many more people from outside our churches came.



The first evening, Apst. Cennick welcomed everyone and Pastor Daniel of the Berekum HoH Church shared the Word. It was a mighty opening service where God was exalted with prayer, song and dance and where God's Spirit was clearly present . This first evening ten people gave their lives to Jesus Christ. What a grace!

After the meeting, we ate together in the big house for our people from Accra and Sunyani.

**Friday morning April 7 , 2023 ,**





**Good Friday** , five o'clock in the morning, the day started with the daily morning prayer together. At nine o'clock the second meeting of the conference began, in which Rev. Wim led the way with the Word and leading the Lord's Supper.



**Friday evening April 7, 2023.** The worship team opened the evening with praise and worship. Pastor Emmanuel shared the Word. It was a mighty gathering of worship, dance, praise. So many people have experienced a renewal in their relationship with God. The pastors and leaders prayed with the newly converted people of Thursday night for the fulfilment of the Holy Spirit and several were filled on the spot and began to worship the Lord in new tongues.



**Saturday morning April 8, 2023.** Five o'clock in the morning the day started with the daily morning prayer together.

**9.00 Meeting with Ps. Joel Santana America.** Powerful Word: At the call for renewal of the relationship with God, many people heed his invitation.



**Saturday evening, April 8, 2023** Also in the evening meeting at seven o'clock, Ps. Joel spoke and also then God's Spirit was clearly present at the praise, worship. The Word was powerful and again called for surrender and renewal; many people have prayed. The fellowship, the encounters with each other were so encouraging!

**Sunday morning, April 9, 2023** Also on Sunday morning, Easter morning, it was prayer time at five o'clock in the morning...

**9:00 a.m. meeting with Apst. Cennick Boateng**

Apt. Cennick shared the Word on Easter morning. This was also the last meeting of our "Easter Convention". During this meeting Pastor's Wife Stella Boateng was ordained as Pastor and Elder Nana as Elective Pastor of our HoH Church in Accra by Rev. Wim, bishop Houses of Hope Ministries Int. and Apst. Cennick, Overseer Houses of Hope Ministries Int. Ghana.



The pastors' wives of HoH churches Berekum and Sunyani were also ordained as elect pastors.

We have deliberately made this appointment of the pastors' wives as pastors, because God has shown us the important role of the pastors' wives in Ghana. In addition to pastoral care in the churches, they often have to take on a pioneering role as female leaders for social situations and responsibility within the churches and beyond. In a country like Ghana this is a heavy responsibility because there is no social services or organizations that provide assistance to the poorest in society.

In the afternoon another baptismal service was planned, but in consultation with our local pastors couples we decided to postpone this baptismal service, because our people from Accra and Sunyani would travel back in the afternoon and evening and all the stuff had to be packed into the buses and the big house had to be tidied up and cleaned to leave it as a good testimony to its owner.

Tuesday mornings are Ps. Joel, Apst. Cennick and Rev. Wim went to Sunyani to discuss the situation of the emergency building of the church of Ps. Emmanuel and to visit the piece of land that we were able to buy two years ago in Sunyani thanks to a donation.

This emergency building looked very shabby, had no lighting. In the near future we hope to set aside money for a connection to the mains. A few months ago Ps. Emmanuel had indicated that the church needed a drum kit to bring some rhythm during praise and worship and also when people desire to express their gratitude to God in song and dance. Ps. Emmanuel was so touched when he saw the simple building, without light and without instruments. During our visit he bought a drum kit for the HoH church from Sunyani and gave it to Ps. Emmanuel.

When we visited our church plot which we bought in Sunyani we saw that this new area is developing very fast. Several houses are being built around our church plot. And we therefore see the need to start laying the foundation of the church building as soon as possible so that the roof construction can be erected. That means stepping out again in faith and asking the Lord to provide the finances needed for this. So that when the first residents move into their new homes, there is already a church they can go to. Are you praying with us?

To conclude. What a blessed time we had in preparation for, during the conference and also afterwards. We see that several new people that we were able to greet in conference have now become members of our various churches in Accra, Berekum and Sunyani. What a joy in heaven but also with us. All the investments we were allowed to make spiritually and financially have been more than worth it. Even if only one person would have been converted.

Our teams in Ghana, America and the Netherlands thank you for your prayers, gifts and donations that made this Easter Convention possible.

United with you in Christ,



**Wim and Sonja Odendaal**

**Superintendent and founder  
Houses of Hope Ministries International  
Suriname, Baltimore, USA & Ghana.**

*Help us to help!!!*

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