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NAC Youth Link



The Monthly Newsletter of the Youth of the New Apostolic Church Philippines
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Special Interest Articles:

Chief Apostle

W. Leber -

*Pentecost
Service*

Rosemont, IL

*“Now the Lord
is the Spirit,
and where
the Spirit of
the Lord is,
there is
liberty.”*

II Corinthians 3:17

**Apostle's
Letter Box**

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EDITORIAL

My dear young Brothers and Sisters,

35000 Youth gathered for the European Youth Day. Under the theme **“CHRIST-MY FUTURE”** 4 Days of activities and fellowships were highlighted by a divine service in a stadium attended by 46 000. The Chief Apostle commented: “We can truly be proud of this youth it was grandiose” He was especially impressed how the youth expressed their feelings: on the one side effusively and full of spirits, but then again, when things became serious they were immediately quiet and listening.

From the Divine Service:

“Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead”. Philippians 3:13

This is a magnificent “statement” made by Apostle Paul. In this passage, he briefly looks back (“forgetting those things which are behind”), now making a **new positioning**. Apostle Paul was reaching forward to those things which were **ahead**. For him, ahead was the prize, the fellowship with the Lord (cf. Verse14).

This entails the question: **What is ahead in your life?** In other words: What has utmost priority in your list of priorities? What do you want to make out of your life? Possible answers could be:

- ~ To lead an easy-going life.
- ~ To enjoy life.
- ~ To earn a lot of money.
- ~ To be esteemed.

As understandable as such things might be, it would still not be good if they had utmost priority.

Let us go one step further. There are goals in our life that are certainly good and correct:

- To have a nice family.
- To exercise an occupation that is of benefit to the general public.

The most wonderful goals are those not restricted to earthly things. The following goals should be **quite ahead**:

- ~ To please the Lord.
- ~ To serve Him.
- ~ To be a blessing to others.
- ~ To partake in the Return of Christ.

Apostle Paul says that he is **reaching forward** to those things that are ahead. Here we

might take the picture of a runner on his finishing straight who employs all his strengths to reach the goal as a winner. Let us also employ all our strengths to attain the above mentioned goals.

To please the Lord – this requires a strong faith and trust in the Lord. For without faith it is impossible to please the Lord.

To serve the Lord – this means to employ the gifts and talents received for the Lord and His Work.

To be a blessing to others - this includes professing the faith and showing others that faith is a good lifestyle.

To partake in the Return of Christ - this is only possible by following the Lord, which means to lead a life in accordance with the image of Jesus.

In doing so, we are **reaching forward** to those things which are ahead!

Apostle Paul said of himself that he was not sure about having already apprehended. This statement might surprise us a little. However, it is true: As long as we are here on earth, we must fight and avail ourselves of the divine grace daily anew. No one can say of himself that he has already “apprehended”. Once more the conclusion:

Let us be aware of what is “ahead” for us, thus reaching forward

Do your share, to stretch out, to reach what is ahead of you. The wonderful promises of our Lord Jesus.

DISTRICT NEWS

CHIEF APOSTLE LEBER - Pentecost Service - Rosemont, IL - May 31, 2009

Text: II Corinthians 3:17 “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

CHIEF APOSTLE LEBER:



- I wish you blessings out of the power of the Holy Spirit on this day of Pentecost. It is the birthday of the church of Christ, and on a birthday you express certain thoughts and wishes. My wish is that this blessing of Pentecost accompanies you into the future; that we don't just speak about the Holy Spirit, but that we experience this godly power, each one of us in a special way.
- Aspects and characteristics of the Holy Spirit:
 - The Holy Spirit is:
 - The Comforter

- The Spirit of Joy – that one might even have joy under difficult circumstances.
 - The Spirit of peace – that you might have peace in your heart even if there is unrest around you.
 - Spirit of wisdom. I wish you much wisdom that you are led by this Holy Spirit to make wise decisions!
 - It is a New Apostolic tradition that on the day of Pentecost there is a special word of greeting that shall go around
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the world. This shall be a word of power that will accompany us into the future, and makes clear what has to be done.

- This greeting comes out of 1 Corinthians 15:57 “But thanks be to God who gives the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- This starts with thanks to God. Anything we do as children of God in His work should be with this starting point – to be thankful for everything; not looking to the bad things, to the sorrows and burdens, but with thanks.
- “.....Who gives us the victory over death?” This can be understood two ways. First, Jesus has gained the greatest victory ever – the victory over death. When we as human beings remain in firm connection to Him, we have part in His victory.
- The other aspect of this is that He wants us to gain the victory in our circumstances – every day, in every situation.
- We can’t compare ourselves to the Lord Jesus and gain the victory over death as HE did, but what our Heavenly Father wants us to achieve is that we become the victors in the small things in everyday life. Then we will also be over comers and this will lead us to completion!
- What are these victories:
 - Victory over unbelief.
 - When a thought comes up that takes away your faith, gain the victory over these thoughts and remain confident, full of belief in the Lord. When Jesus asked His disciples if they wanted to leave him as the others did, Peter said, “Where shall we go? We believe and know that You are the Son of the Living God.” That was a victory over unbelief!
 - Victory over Selfishness – self-centeredness. The Good Samaritan maybe was also tempted to pass the helpless man by, but it says he was full of compassion. He gained the victory in this moment.
 - Victory over downheartedness and desperation. If we are in a situation like this, trust in the Lord, and in the connection in prayer, gain the strength of our Heavenly Father.

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SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

JULY 2009

SERVICE FOR THE DEPARTED

July 01, 2009

**Divine Service, 10 AM
Makati Central Church
DE Depaz**

Sunday

July 12, 2009

**Divine Service, 10 AM
Makati Central Church
Sh. Silvano**

Sunday

July 19, 2009

**Divine Service, 10 AM
Makati Central Church
D Ev. Navarro**

Sunday

July 26, 2009

**Divine Service, 10 AM
Makati Central Church
Ev. Muda**

Midweek Services every Wednesday at 8 pm

Experienced of Faith

SIGN OF PEACE

from Our Family, Vol.53, No.8, Aug2007

When Priest Paul drove to the divine service one Sunday, a rainbow reminded him of an experience he had had a year before. At that time, an elderly sister who had not been able to attend the services for some time on account of her illness passed away. During a visit to her family, the conversation turned to the brother of the departed soul, a faithful Priest. At the latter's passing, so Priest Paul learned, his granddaughter had drawn a large rainbow and said: "That's where my grandpa is now." And on the day of the burial, a rainbow had indeed spanned the horizon.

Priest Paul had conducted the funeral for the departed sister, and with the help of the Lord had been able to find words of comfort for the mourners. On the way home, he was reminded of the experience with the

rainbow and thought: "How comforting it would be if a rainbow were also to appear in the sky now!" When he looked out of his window two hours later, there was indeed a rainbow on the horizon – created when light from a distant source such as the Sun fall upon a collection of water drops. A law of nature. Whenever this phenomenon occurs, it is a reminder of the covenant that the Lord made with mankind after the flood; it is a sign of peace.

That evening Priest Paul's son told him that he had seen a rainbow while at school and that it seemed to have had its source in the neighbourhood of the cemetery where our sister had been laid to rest. For Priest Paul this was an occasion for joy, as it demonstrated to him that his sister had found peace in God.

R.P. /Whr

District Apostle Letter Box

Dear District Apostle,

I wanted to know if our ministers allowed or can conduct Funeral service for a Non-Apostolic member? What will be the benefits to the Departed?

More power and more blessing to you.

ANSWER:

Yes certainly, there is no problem to conduct a funeral service for a non new apostolic member. If the Family requests this for reasons on their own or maybe because they themselves are members there is no reason why this should not be done.

Funeral Services are mainly to comfort the mourning. There is no direct benefit to soul's salvation. Since the deceased is not new apostolic we certainly would pray for his soul, to get access to the altar and the sacraments offered.

Loving greetings

Urs Hebeisen

- Victory over Idleness - Apostle Paul was a strong man; always busy, active, hard working. He could have said, "I've done enough; let the others do their part." He didn't do that, and gained the victory over idleness.
- These four are not big things which come to the attention of the public, but they are small things that are most important.
- I want to establish this as a motto: Gain the victory every day over small things.
- Gain the victory over these things and you will be an over comer. In Revelation it says the over comer will inherit everything, a wonderful promise of the Lord Jesus.
- In our text word it says, "Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty".
- The word liberty is characteristic of your country, to be free. But there are still many laws that have to be minded. If everybody did what they wanted according to their own will, it would be a disaster. There have to be some rules and guidelines.
- But - if everyone would act according to the Holy Spirit, what would be the result? Complete harmony, no struggle, an atmosphere of joy which we can't even imagine. But that's our future! The day will come when the Holy Spirit will govern everything, and that must be a wonderful life!
- In the Thousand Years of Peace the government of Jesus Christ will rule, the Holy Spirit will be active in a way in which we can't even imagine today. And going even further, the new heaven and new earth will be governed by the Holy Spirit completely.
- Complete harmony, complete peace, complete joy; wonderful!! That's what we are striving for.
- While today it is not always possible that our life is governed completely by the Holy Spirit, our congregational life should be a pattern for what that means. It is my wish, my dream, that in the congregations there are no bonds that we are completely free, that there is liberty – that we are all governed by the Holy Spirit.
- What can bind us?
 - Bonds of sin
 - We won't get rid of sin completely as long as we are here, but sin shall not reign over us and govern us; the regency of the Holy Spirit means that we are free of sin; and sin will not determine the direction of our lives.
 - Bonds of earthly thinking
 - We have to do our part each day, but we will not restrict ourselves to the boundaries of this natural life. We are striving for a goal which lies beyond, and we want to achieve a life with God in the yonder life. THAT is our goal!
 - Bonds of selfishness; self-centeredness. The Holy Spirit can free us from these bonds.
 - Bonds of fear
 - When you really trust in the Lord and have a strong belief there is no fear. Apostle Peter was a strong testifier, and even when thrown into prison he never stopped testifying because the Holy Spirit governed his heart and he was able to overcome all fear.
- Where we really love the Lord and His work there is no room for fear any more.
- Liberty is actually connected to the day of Pentecost. When Apostle Peter preached to everyone and they could hear it in their own language that means there were no bonds, no boundaries. Naturally that is the result of the Holy Spirit. Let us act according that we, on the day of the Lord, can experience the wonderful liberty of eternal life.