

HISTORY OF CHRIST CARE INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY

(1998-2006)

BY: ERIC ANKOMAH

IN PARTIAL FULLFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATING FROM
THE GOOD NEWS THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE AND SEMINARY, OYIBI.

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INTRODUCTION

Many African Independent churches (A.I.Cs), have lost their name, dignity and members, because there are no written documents about the many miracles, healings and prophecies that have gone on from their inception till now.

As a final year student of Good News Theological College & Seminary it is necessary to write about the history of an African Independent church therefore I have chose Christ Care International Ministry so that generation to come would know the historical background in order to discern whether the church is part of the Christian body or organization which merely uses Christian names and forms.

Again there is a need to document the history of the church for people to understand why certain believe and practices are done in the church. It is also necessary for other people to be able to associate with members of Christ Care International Ministry and the African Independent Churches but not hindrance, because they have one faith, one belief and one hope.

Finally I hope that this documented history will be of great importance to all those who have anything to do with the church. As it is written : "*and you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free*" (John 8:32).



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

God has been good to me so far, I have had a great life. I am grateful for every moment of it as man can not do anything unless it has been given him from the above, therefore if this project work has been completed successfully is not my strength nor by my own wisdom, because the battle is not for the strong neither the race for the swift, but it is for the Lord, therefore : "*can do all things through Jesus who strengthens me*" Philippians 4:13.

I am grateful to a lot of people who have been God's instrument in my life and my studies here in Good News Theological College & Seminary.

At the top, is Rev Dr Thomas Kofi Asante Oduro, Principal of the Seminary, who gave me full scholarship in my first year of my studies, and to his wife Mrs. Jemimah Oduro for her motherly love and her priceless support.

I would also like to acknowledge Rev Frank Botchway who took the fatherly role in all these years by encouraging and counseling me through out my studies. My sincere gratitude goes to Miss Mary Gomashie for helping me in editing this project work, not for getting Miss Jennifer Opoku the seminary secretary and Miss Irene Ade Amon for their kindness towards me, my sisters Charity Esi Brew and Diana Asare may the Almighty God bless you all.

Without *East West Interknit Ministry* scholarship I would not have complete this course therefore I would say may God bless all of you and, the entire team for given two years scholarship to complete my course

Again to the Ossa-Madih church the Elmina branch especially the pastor in charge Rev James Auther and Brother Justice Nunoo for making it possible for me to complete this course by helping me financially and praying with me. I say big thanks to my church branch Takoradi Ossa-Madih for their prayer. Last but not the least goes to Rev Caecer Wood the head pastor of Christ Care International Ministry for spending his time with

me. He gave all the information's I needed from him, and again his Contribution to see to it that this project work has been done successfully.

DEDICATION

I dedicate this project work to my late father Rev E.O. Ackimpoh and my mother, Prophetess Mary Same, for their love and support and also not disregarding their tit-bits in life to me. I also dedicate it to my siblings: Florence, Samuel, Kareen, Bright and Sylvester. Thank you all for your consistent prayers for me.

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CHAPTER ONE

Rev. Ceasar Wood

Rev Caesar Wood, the General Overseer and teacher of the Christ Care International Ministry at Ashaiman in the Greater Accra Region of the Republic of Ghana, was born at James Town, Accra in the year on 26th April 1956.

Mr. George Ofori Wood and Madam Juliana Dziido Adjo-Teye are the parents of Rev. Caesar Wood. Mr. George Wood has three children with Madam Juliana Dziido-Teye and one with another woman. Two of the children are male while the other one is a female. Rev. Wood is the first son of his father and second of his mother. All of them are educated.

Mr. George Ofori Wood was born at Anomabu in the Central Region of Ghana in the year 1930. He is an Anglican who never fails to attend the every day morning mass. The date he started working is of unknown but he worked at Avenue Hotel in Accra as a cleaner. Later, he moved to West Africa Banks as a clerk. He was posted to Nigeria and later return to his mother land, Ghana.

He also sold text books and travel to different places selling them. He later engaged himself in painting work. He also worked with the Black Star Line at Tema and after he work as a security officer with Ghana posts and Harbors Authority. In the early 60's, he traveled with Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, the first President of the Republic of Ghana, to the United Soviet Socialist Republic. He also performed at the Arts Center in Accra until he went on retirement.

Madam Juliana Dziado Adjo-Teye was born in 1931 at Big Ada in Greater Accra Region. She worked at restaurant (Chop Bar) at Koforidua, the capital city of Eastern Region of Ghana. She moved from Koforidua to Makola No. 2 in Accra doing the same work. She later moved from Makola to Kwame Nkrumah Circle around railway station where she became the owner of a restaurant. She was later employed to work at a canteen which belongs to R.T Briscoe at South Industrial Area in Accra.

Educational Background of Rev. Wood.

Rev Wood started school in the year 1965 when he was 9 years old at Adabraka Presbyterian Primary and Middle school. He sat for the Common entrance Examination and passed in 1972 at the age of thirteen (14) when he was in middle school Form Two.

Rev. Wood wanted to go to Ghanata Secondary school but he paid his school fees through the post office and the money did not reach the authorities of the school early enough, due to that he was not admitted, so he had to come back to Middle Form Three. During first week his uncle came and took him to Odorgono Secondary School at Adabraka in the same year.

He had wanted to study Pure Science but was refused and given General Arts subjects which included Literature, History, Bible knowledge, Economics etc. Rev. Wood did some part time Accounting course in addition to his regular school course in Adabraka at King Tackie Primary and Middle Schools. He however was unable to write the exams on 1st October, 1980. He left for the Wyath Bible Training College which belongs to Word Wide Evangelistic Healing Center at Abeka in Accra before 1st October, 1980.

After he had completed Evangelistic Healing Center, he furthered his education at Action Bible College which belongs to Action Faith Ministry in 1987 and completed in 1989. He did a Correspondence Course and was awarded a diploma in Pastoral Ministry in 2004.

Early Life and Occupation

Life had never been easy for Rev. Wood and his family. His mother was the sole sponsor of his education and his other siblings. He had to carry items which were used in the chop bar from the house to the chop bar and carry it back to the house.

His Auntie, Emelia Mormor Adjo Teye, whom he was living with, died when he was about to complete his education. His mother had no accommodation for him, so he had to sleep with his friends and at times, he slept in the church. He worked with Ghana Education Service, the regional office at Accra in 1978 as Accountant.

Marriage

In 1986, when he was 27 years age, he married Eunice Morley Markwei, the woman of his heart traditionally. The marriage was blessed in a church in 2002.

Mrs. Eunice Morley Wood was a member of the Church of the Lord (Aladura), an African Independent church, so it was not easy for Re. Caesar Wood to convert her faith to Christian Family International Church, a charismatic church of which Rev. Wood was a member. They are blessed with three children - Sylvia, Glenn, and Fergus.

CHAPTER TWO

HIS CALL

At the age of thirteen, Caesar Wood felt like going to worship with Bethany Church Mission, about a kilometer away from where they were staying in Asylum Down, suburb of Accra. He went and walked round the church building which was behind the Accra Psychiatric Hospital. He did not enter the church; he simply walked away. He did that several times. People always asked him what he was doing but he would not give an answer. He just walked away. However one day he entered the church believing that it was God who led him there.

Caesar Wood joined the choir and the Bible Study Group (Ambassadors). He also aided the resident pastor, Debra Grant, in preparing the church premises for the church service every Sunday. Caesar Wood performed these duties till he completed his Secondary Education in 1978 and started working at Ghana Education Service as a Registrar.

In August 1980 Rev. Wood had a dream that he was standing at the sea shore with a very thin and long stick which could be described as a broom stick and people were in the sea dying. As many as he touched with the stick were brought to the shore saved. When he narrated this dream to his senior pastor he was told that there was the call of God upon his life. This gave him the desire to serve God. Then on 1st October 1980 he entered Wyath Bible Training Center in Accra.

Rev. Wood was with Healing Charter from 1980 to 1987 during which it became his responsibility among others to help establish churches in villages around Pokuase under the umbrella of the same denomination. In 1982 he went to Suhum Tetekaasum off Asamankese Suhum road then to Suhum and then to Wawanya a village off Suhum Nankese road. Rev. Wood came back to Adabraka where he resigned in 1987 to go to Action Bible Training here in Accra.

While he was in Action College, Rev. Wood and his two friends Gershon Nunoo and Lawrence Lebeal tried to put what they were learning into practice. They started a fellowship called Christian Fellowship International which later became Christian Family International Church near the Cocoa Clinic at Kaneshie. Seeing themselves small in their own eyes, they gave into the pressure of the Senior pastor from Healing Charter, Bishop Debrah Grant, who had also resigned Bethany Church Mission. They then committed themselves to him and he became their head pastor.

The Fellowship was transferred to where they were then staying – an uncompleted house belonging to the father of Caesar Wood. Wood was the Assistant to Bishop Debrah Grant from 1987 to the year 2000. They planted churches in Tema, Tema New Town, Asutware, Ashiaman, Korle Gonor, Achimota and other places.

Caesar Wood asked to be relieved from assisting Bishop Grant. Bishop Grant decided to give the Ashiaman branch of the Christian Family International Church to him as a parting gift. Wood would under normal circumstances not have preferred the parting gift but he realized, through prayers and fasting for three days seeking the face of God, that the Ashiaman congregation was God's choice for him.

MEANING OF CHRIST CARE INTERNATIONAL

MINISTRY

Christ Care International Ministry was formally called Christian Family International Church before Rev. Wood took over in Ashiaman in 1998.

What Rev. Wood discovered when he took over the Ashiaman branch was that, the leaders were misappropriating the church funds with particular reference to annual harvest proceeds. The only thing these leaders did was to carry the money to their various homes without paying any attention to the decision made on the money by the Church Council. Rev. Wood tried very hard to make amends to forestall accountability in the church finance. He changed the name from Christian Family International Church to *Christ Care International Ministry*. According to him, he had the new name from a book by a Kenyan author he read some years back.

Rev. Wood again found out that Christ Care is a denomination in Australia. So he chose to name his *Church Christ Care* which means that Jesus Christ is the central pillar of the Church. When Rev. Wood went to register the Church in the year 2000, he was told in the registrar's office that some one has already named his Church Christ Care so Rev. Wood at that moment added International Ministry to it and so the name became *Christ Care International Ministry*.

PIONEER MEMBERS

The Church was already established so Rev. Wood only prayed to God to give him people who are full of the Holy Spirit and Wisdom of God (Acts 6:3a) to do the work. Through prayers he appointed Madam Diana Minsle to be in charge of the finance. Brother Enoch Mills was appointed a Choirmaster in charge of praise and worship.

Rev. Wood prepared these two and they become good that the congregation members began to call them "The light". These people did so well that they were called "The Light" by members of the congregation. They taught the congregation the unadulterated word of God by rebuking them when they do wrong, and correcting them when they go way ward and trained them in righteousness. By so doing, the church became well equipped and organized as children of the Lord's Vineyard (2Timothy 3:16).

EARLY CHALLENGES

No sooner had Rev. Wood became the head pastor of the Ashaiman congregation than his mother died on 31st December 1998. His father-in-law too died two months later. These deaths brought some serious implications to the new church and to himself as the head of the church. Compounded to these initial challenges was Bishop Debrah Grant's inability to officially introduce him to the Ashaiman congregation as the new head pastor. Some members consequently defected from the new church at this point to different churches. Rev. Wood, as a result, had to devise some formidable strategies to keep this new church going.

In all this, Rev. Wood never gave up, but he is on going with God's work up to date. He takes a consolation from what the Apostle Paul said in Romans 8:35 that, "who shall separately us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship, or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?" And again from Philippians 4:13 which says, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

CHAPTER THREE

THE GROWTH

TREND OF GROWTH

The desire of every church is to win more souls to Christ, and the following are some of the means through which Christ Care International Ministry at Ashiaman in Accra use.

EVANGELISM

During my interview with Rev. Caesar Wood in Accra on the 6th May, 2007 at the church premises, he admitted that not much has been done in evangelism because he has not trained people for that. As a result the members do not have courage to go forward to witness about Jesus.

Rev Wood later said that it is the need for the church to evangelize, because it is the commission from our Lord Jesus before He left to heaven. Therefore it is his duty as the head pastor to train people for that assignment, but he has not been able to do it, hence the inability for the people to go out, to evangelize.

CRUSADE

According to Rev Wood, the evangelistic crusade involves a lot of planning and some strategies must be put together before they can organize a crusade. When I asked him how the church goes about her evangelistic crusade in order to get new souls for Christ, he said that to organize a crusade there must be some people to play certain roles such as following:

- 1 evangelistic team
- 2 counselors
- 3 worship team
- 4 protocol department

- 5 prayer warriors
- 6 follow up team

Therefore for Christ Care International Ministry to held a crusade they have to work hard and train people to play the above mention roles, so that they will have proper crusade in order to get more souls for Christ.

EVANGELISTIC REVIVAL

Evangelist Revivals are planned to last for two days each week - Wednesday and Friday evenings. The topics usually include: financial breakthrough, spiritual healing e t c. At times they plan revivals that take them away from their church premises to Medie Memorial Gardens and Oyibi Gardens, off Accra Dodowa road for three days beginning from Wednesday to Friday. Because of the good teachings and preaching about the Word of God, other people from Christ Apostolic Church, the Church of Pentecost and Assemblies of God join them; prayers are organized during the night then teachings and ministrations during the day. Many other people gave testimonies that their diseases were healed when they were listening to the Word of God.

Following are some of the miracles that happens during the revivals

1. A woman named Comfort Kobina delivered a baby after her time of delivery had passed over three months.
2. A sickness known as fibroid was cured from a woman called Mary Asievie.
3. On 26th December 2006 a boy who had been married to a spirit of the sea was delivered.
- 4.

HEALING AND DELIVERANCE

Healing takes place at Christ Care International Ministry but because they do not have prayer grounds and mission houses where they will accommodate the sick, sick persons are brought to the church premises which happens to be a class room block on Sundays, and prayers are offered for them there.

Due to this accommodation problem it makes their Sunday church service looks a little bit different from other African Indigenous Churches (A.I.C). During preaching sometimes Rev Wood would stop and ask the people to pray, there would be prophecy, healings, deliverances and then he would continue with the preaching. During the healing service because people are possessed by some kind of spirit, it moves some of them to speak in tongues.

I also wanted to know what happens when the people are not healed instantly; Rev Wood said they come back Sunday after Sunday, or he goes to the house of the sick person to pray for them, if they are too weak to come to church. Again I asked if he had been able to heal a mad person before, he said somebody like that has not been brought to him before, but he strongly believes in the Lord that if such a person is brought to him he will pray for him or her for healing to take place.

According to Rev Wood, he has faced many problems during his healing session; it is common to hear some spirit possessed people talking and shouting "*I will go ,I will go*" and according to Rev Wood he will sometimes say's "*you will go*"!! And this will go on for almost three hours and the spirit will not go.

By the grace of God, Rev Wood has been able to deliver almost all the possessed people who have been brought to him. According him, he has been able to do this by the Word of God (Matthew 8:16 and Isaiah 49:24, 25), and by the power that raised Jesus Christ. Rev Wood says the devil has no power over a child of God so he has authority to cast out demon possessed people who are brought to his church to be prayed for, and they has been delivered successfully ,and due to this, his church Christ Care International Ministry is growing very fast.

VISION OF THE CHURCH

The vision of Christ Care International Ministry is to have branches outside Accra and even Ghana. It is their vision as a church to have means of evangelistic crusade, Bible

conferences, publication of authoritative books tracks and magazines. Christ Care International Ministry have a vision to organize and support needy believers, widows and orphans and all forms of Christian endeavors. The interest of the nation stands paramount in the mind of the Christ Care International Ministry.

It is their mission to establish and or endorse Christian educational and academic institution, such as bible schools, primary schools, junior and senior secondary schools, hospitals and orphanages. These are to be in the line with the government educational policies.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRACTICES

BAPTISM

Christ Care International Ministry practices adult water baptism by immersion. They also believe that baptism in water is a type of being buried with Christ and being raised again to “walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:46; Col. 2:12). They also believe that before you will be baptized one must be born again and give a clear testimony of sincere faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts. 8:36, 37). They also believe that when you are baptized you have received grace to walk in the union of Christ. Water baptism is not purifying the body but it gives you a new life and righteousness.

Baptism is done after two to three hours of teachings of the Word of God. During baptism, one is taken to the sea or stream with some elders to bear witness to the ceremony. The elders gather around in a circle with the person to be baptized standing or kneeling in the middle, whilst the elders pray committing the person into God’s care. After the prayers the pastor holds the person and pray for the person, he then ends in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He then ends by baptizing the person in the same procedure.

The church believes in the oneness of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit but claims that they have three names that is why the one being baptized is dipped thrice in the running water.

INFANT BAPTISM

As a result Christ Care International Ministry does not believe in infant baptism. They claim that it is not a biblical teaching and the children are not mature to reason. They rather practice dedication of a child to God.

ADULT BAPTISM

According to the pastor Rev Wood the church baptizes people at the age of 18 and above by immersion. The motive is that, it is time people are mature to confess their sins to God and profess. But before anyone will be baptized, the church will run pre baptism classes before they are baptized. That is the church will teach them the word of God based on Rom, 6 in order to let them understand the purpose of being a disciple or follower of Jesus Christ. According to the pastor baptism symbolizes the previous entrance of the believer into the communion of Christ's death and resurrection. In other words, it signifies regeneration with Christ Jesus.

LORD'S SUPPER

Christ Care International Ministry believe that the Lord's Supper is the ordinance which was instituted by the Lord Jesus Christ. It is to be practiced in the church in remembrance of Him until His returns (Matt. 26:26-30; 1Cor. 11:23-31).

They believe that the elements which is the "*Bread*" and the "*Wine*" represent the "Body" and "Blood" of Christ. (1Cor. 11:24-25). The reason is that, the church believes Christ's body was broken when he was beaten and crucified. He carried our sins and sickness to the cross that we might be forgiven and healed. This means that, the shed blood established a new covenant 1 Peter 3:21-22; 1 Corinthians 11:25).

The church believes that partaking in the Lord's Supper indicates ones constant dependence on the one crucified, now a risen savior and serves as a source of spiritual life. Christ Care International Ministry observes the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of every month.

ANNOINTING.

It is the desire of every church that every one who fell sick will be healed by the grace of God, and as a result Christ Care International Ministry believes in Devine healing that:

1. God has revealed Himself as the healer (Exodus 15:26).
2. Christ healed all who came to Him in humility and faith (Matthew 8:16, 17).
- 3 Healing of sickness as well as forgiveness of sin was provided for, in the atonement of Christ (Isaiah 52:5; 1 Peter 2:24).
- 4 Healing is by faith and obedience to the word of God (James 5:14, 17).
- 5 Divine healing is the privilege of every believer today Mark 16:18

Therefore Christ Care International Ministry based their healing thought the Word of God, and prayers. This implies that you have to have faith in the Lord that He being the almighty, has power over every sickness and diseases so that the diseases or sickness will be healed or cured. The church uses water and other things like olive oil for healing only if the direction is said to be giving by God, the almighty . The church claims that members do not put their faith and trust in the items used to heal but in Jesus Christ.

CONCLUSION

Christ Care International Ministry has no doubt a great future, since its doctrine is based on the Bible and its teachings are all biblical. They have contributed in diverse ways to the growth of other churches, supported the less unfortunate in society, healing people etc. I visited the church on several occasions and I hope the following proposals which stem from my observation will help the church to formulate strategies and plans to enhance growth.

1. Having Bible teaching service as one of the ministries in the church.
2. The remaining pastors under the head pastor who haven't attended Theological College and ministerial training should let it be in their plans to do so.
3. The youth, being the bedrock of every church, should be encouraged to attend bible schools so that through them discipline will be instilled in the church. This training will provide a good leadership for the youth to take over the church, after the current leaders and also help them to face the challenges of the twenty first century.
4. Strong evangelistic team which will go out to proclaim the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ needs to be trained.
5. Evangelist Crusades must be organized so that all the corners of Ashaiman and its surroundings areas will experience the power of God.

THE BELIEFS OF THE CHURCH IS STATED IN THE CHURCH'S CONSTITUTION.

Ref. Appendix "A"

CHRIST CHURCH INTERNATIONAL



CONSTITUTION AND BYE-LAWS

CONSTITUTION AND BYE-LAWS OF

THE CHRIST CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

ARTICLE 1

Name and Addresses

This Body shall be known and called CHRIST CHURCH INTERNATIONAL and shall hereafter be referred to as CCI. The permanent address shall be P.O. Box AS 706, Ashiaman, Accra.

ARTICLE II

Establishment

This body shall be incorporated under the Laws of Ghana as non-profit Organisation.

ARTICLE III

Location

The Headquarters of the body shall be located at ASHIAMAN in the city of Accra. Greater Accra Region in the State of Ghana.

ARTICLE IV

Purpose

The purpose of this Body is:-

- Section 1:** To assist in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ by means of Evangelistic Crusades, Bible Conference, Publishing Authoritative Books, Tracts and Magazines.
- Section 2:** To organise and support Christian Churches, needy believers, widows and orphans and all forms of Christian endeavours. The interest of the nation stands paramount in the mind of the Body.
- Section 3:** To establish and/or endorse Christian Educational and Academic Institutions, such as Bible Schools, Primary Schools, Junior and Senior (J.S.S.) Hospitals and Orphanages. These are to be in line with the Government Educational Policies.

ARTICLE V

Membership

Membership of CCI shall consist of Born Again Believers (People who have accepted Christ Jesus as their ~~Personnel~~-Saviour).

PERSONAL

ARTICLE VI

PEROGATIVES

Section 1: The body shall have the right to govern itself in accordance with the Constitution and the Bye-Laws set forth or as the same may be hereafter modified or amended.

Section 2: To ordain Christian workers to complete the work of the Gospel Ministry and to issue Credentials to all ordained Ministers, giving them complete authority to do and perform all duties commonly connected with the office of the Clergy.

Section 3: This Body shall have the right to purchase or acquire by gift, bequest or otherwise, either directly or as a trustee to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of real estate or chattel as may be necessary for the furtherance of its purposes all in accordance with its constitution and Bye-Laws or as the same may be modified or amended.

Section 4: CHRIST CHURCH INTERNATIONAL shall have right to establish Educational Institutes, both Academic, Vocational or Theological. This shall be in conformity without the Laws of the State of Ghana.

Section 5: CHRIST CHURCH INTERNATIONAL shall have the right to organise and establish churches and Missions or such other Institutions deemed helpful towards the realisation of the aforesaid purposes.

ARTICLE VII

Offices

Section 1: There shall be an Executive Board (herein after referred ^{TO AS} to as the Board), consisting of a Chairman and a Secretary, a Financial Controller and not more than Eight additional or less than four additional members or as may be modified or amended by the constitution and the Bye-Laws of CCI.

- a. the chairman shall be the Senior Pastor and President of CCI

- b. the other members shall be the Assistant Pastor, a Secretary, and one other Pastor. Other members shall be chosen from the trustees and the general body.

Section 2: There shall be not less than Six members to hold in trust all legal titles to properties in order to administer it for CCI under the direction of the Board.

Section 3: There shall be Ministers (who are ordained pastors) who shall be the Head of CCI and its branches.

- a. they shall be assisted by the following:-
 - i. cell leaders
 - ii. area Overseers
 - iii. deacons
- a. cell leaders and area overseers shall be responsible for formation and supervision of Home Cells.
- b. The deacons shall be responsible for maintenance and general wellbeing of the church.

ARTICLE VIII

Finance

Section 1: All funds for the maintenance of and for the furtherance of the purpose of CCI shall be provided by freewill offering by the membership and by Voluntary contributions of friends. All funds shall be administered by the Chairman under the direction of the Board.

Section 2: All monies realized by CCI should be duly entered into Cash Book and thence be deposited at the Local Bank of Christ Church International.

However, if there are some pressing expenses and overheads, it should be met before sending the monies to the Bank.

ARTICLE IX

Properties

All properties of CCI shall be deeded to CCI and shall be held in its name. No property shall be purchased, leased, or mortgaged or otherwise received or disposed of by CCI without the same shall be first been recommended by two thirds at the Board at any regular or specially called meeting for the consideration of the proposal. The Chairman or the Secretary shall certify in such conveyance, lease or mortgagee, that the same has been duly authorised and recommended by a vote of the Board of CCI. Such certification shall be held to be conclusive evidence thereof.

ARTICLE X

Tenet of Faith

The Bible is our all sufficient rule for faith and practice. This statement of fundamental Doctrines is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us. The words I this statement are not said to be inspired, but the truth set forth is held to be essential to full gospel teaching. No claim is made that it contains all Biblical truth, only that it covers our need as to these fundamental doctrines.

a. The word of God

1. The Bible is the inspired word of God through which he has revealed himself to man (2 Peter. 1:20, 21 and 2 Tim. 3:16).
2. The bible is the infallible rule of faith and conduct to guide mankind in all their relations to him (Psalm 119:11, 105 and John 20:31).
3. Nothing shall be added to or taken away from the word of God (Rev. 22:18, 19).

b. The One true God

The one True God has revealed Himself as the Eternal one (Deut. 6:4), the Creator of the universe (Gen. 1:1, 26 and John 1:1-5), the Saviour of mankind (John 3:16 and Titus 3:4-6). He exists as a Holy Trinity: Father, ^{son} and Holy Ghost (Luke 3:22, Matt. 28:19, 20).

c. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:-

1. His sinless life (1 Peter 2:22 and Acts 10:33)
2. His virgin birth (matt. 1:23 and Luke 10:35)
3. His miracles (John 2:11; Acts 2:22; 10:38)
4. His substitutional work on the cross (Rom. 5:8-10 and 2 Cor. 5:21)
5. His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matt. 28:6; Acts 3:13; Rom.13:4);
6. His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9, 11, Phil. 2:9-11 and Heb 1:3).
7. His personal future return to earth in power and glory (Matt. 23:30).

d. The Salvation of Man

1. Man was created good, but by voluntary transgression was separated from God (Rom. 5:12). Now, man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God (Rom. 3:25-26).

2. The salvation of the soul is a spiritual and miraculous transformation of change that takes places when the individual repents and believes the gospel (Mark 1:15; Rom. 10:8-10 and 2 Cor. 5:17)
 - a. The individual is redeemed by the blood of Christ (1 Pet. 1:18; 19)
 - b. The individual is born of the Spirit by the Word of God (John 3:3-6; 1 Pet. 1:25).
3. Salvation is obtained through Christ.
 - a. Jesus Christ is the only Saviour (Acts 4:10-12)
 - b. Jesus Christ is the only way (John 4:5)
 - c. Jesus Christ is the only Mediator Tim 2:5).
4. There is no salvation through any other means or person.
 - a. It is not by works of the law of Moses (Gal. 2:16).
 - b. It is not by faith in idols or images (Exodus 20:4, 5) and Psalm 135:15-16).
 - c. It is not through Mary and mother of Jesus nor any other saint or prophet who was merely human (Luke 1:46, 47 and Rev. 19:10).
 - d. It is not by water baptism (Luke 23:43 and Acts 8:13, 21).
 - e. It is not by works (Titus 3:5 and Eph. 2 8, 9)
5. The evidence of salvation
 - a. The inward evidence of salvation is a direct witness of the spirit (Rom 8:16).
 - b. The outward evidence of salvation is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Eph. 4:24 and Titus 2:12)

e. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

1. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is for every believer. It was not for the Apostles only (Acts 2:38, 39).
2. Every believer should earnestly desire and seek to be filled with Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4, 5) Eph. 5:18)
3. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign or evidence of speaking in another tongue or languages as the spirit gives utterance (Acts 2:4 10:44-46 and 19:6)
4. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit imparts power to witness for Christ (Acts 3:31)

F. Sanctification –A Holy Life

1. Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil and of dedication unto God (Rom. 12:1, 2; 1 Thess. 5:23 and 2 Cor. 6:17).
2. God is holy and requires holiness in His people for without holiness, no man shall see the Lord (Heb. 12:14). By the power of the Holy Spirit; we are able to obey His command "Be ye Holy for I am holy".
3. Sanctification is attained:
 - a. Through faith in the Word of God (John 17:17 and Eph. 5:26).
 - b. Through faith in the Blood of Christ (Heb 10:10, 29)
 - c. Through the work of the Holy Spirit in the believer (1 Peter 1:2 and Gal 5:16).
4. Sanctification is realised in the believer:
 - a. Instantly – at conversions by union with Christ in His death and resurrection (1 Cor. 6-11)
 - b. Continually – by the daily yielding of one's self to God (Rom. 6: 11-13).

g. The Church

1. The church Universal is composed of all true believers world-wide.
 - a. They are redeemed by the Blood of Christ (1 Pet. 1:18, 19).
 - b. They are separated from the world (2 Corin 6: 16-18)
 - c. They believe the Bible and practise its teachings (Titus 2:11-14), thus fulfilling the great commission (Matt. 28:19,20)
2. The true church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit (Eph 2:20-22).
3. We enter the true church through regeneration, also called the "new birth" (John 3:3-5 and Titus 3:5).
 - a. Faith in Jesus Christ and in the power of his blood to cleanse from all sin (John 3:16 and Rom 3:24, 25)
 - b. Genuine repentance – the confession of sins to God and the forsaking of them (1 John 1:9 and Prov. 28:13)
 - c. Public confession of faith in Christ which leads to baptism in water (Rom. 10:9, 10)
4. Symbols used to show the nature of the church
 - a. Body – Christ is the head and believers are the members of he body (Eph. 1:22, 23 and 1 Cor. 12:12, 27).

- b. Building or Temple – Christ is the "Foundation" and "Chief" Cornerstone" and believers are the "living stones" (1 Cor. 3:11; Eph. 2:19-22 and 1 Pet. 2:5)
- c. Bride – Christ is the ^{BRIDE GROOM} -Bridegroom, and the believers are the bride preparing herself to become the wife of the Lamb (Eph. 5 25-27) and Rev. 19:7
- d. Vine – Christ is the Vine and the believers are the branches bearing fruit (John 15:1, 2)

h. The Ministry

A divinely-called and scripturally-ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for a two-fold purpose:-

1. To evangelise the world (Mark 16:15)
2. To edify and perfect the Body of Christ (Eph. 4:11-13).

i. Divine Healing

1. God has revealed himself as the healer (Ex. 15:26)
2. Christ healed all who came to Him in humble faith (Matt. 8:16, 17)
4. Healing of sickness as well as forgiveness of sins was provided for in the atonement of Christ (Isa. 53:5 and 1 Pet. 2:24)
4. Healing is by faith and obedience to the word of God (James 5:14, 15)
5. Divine healing is the privilege of every believer today (Mark 16:18);

MARK

j. The Second Coming of Christ

1. The Blessed Hope

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their rapture together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord, is the imminent and blessed hope of the church (1 Thess. 4:16, 17 and Titus 2:13).

2. The Millennial Reign of Christ

After the Rapture and the Great Tribulation Christ will come to the earth with His saints, to reign on earth for 1,000 years. (Matt. 24:21 and Rev. 20:1-6)

k. The Final Judgement

After the millennial reign, the wicked dead shall be resurrected for final judgement before the Great White Throne. Whosoever is not in the Book of Life shall be cast into the lake of fire. (Rev. 20:11-15 and 21:8).

l. New Heavens and New Earth

We, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelt righteousness (2 Pet. 3:13 and Rev. 21:1-4)

m. Ordinances

Water Baptism by Immersion

- a. Baptism in water is a type of being buried with Christ and being raised again to "walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:46 and Col.2:12).
- b. Candidates for baptism must:-

- 1. Be born again and give a clear testimony of sincere faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 8:36, 37).
- 2. The Lord's Supper
 - a. this ordinance was instituted by our Lord, to be practised in the church in remembrance of him until He returns (Matt 26:26-30 and 1 Cor. 11:23-31). MAY
 - b. The elements, "Bread" and "Cup" represent the "Body" and "Blood" of Christ (1 Cor. 11:24-25).

BYE-LAWS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF
CHRIST'S CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

ARTICLE 1

Section 1

Officers
Executive Board

The "Executive Board" shall act in an advisory capacity in all the affairs pertaining to Christ's Church International". The Board shall appoint all officers.

Section 2

Duties of Officers

Chairman - It shall be the duty of the Chairman to preside at all regular and special meetings of the Body. The President (who is also the Chairman) shall sign all legal documents together with two people appointed by the Executive Board. Unless three authorised signatories sign on any legal documents, it shall be considered null and void.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-President shall act in his seat. He shall perform such other duties, as the Executive Board shall assign to him.

Secretary - It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a complete and efficient set of books and records on business activities of this body, and he shall prepare and present a detailed report for approval by the Executive Board in annual business meetings and or at such another meetings where this may deem essential. The Secretary shall keep a complete record of minutes of all business and annual meetings.

Section 3

The Financial Controller – shall submit a financial report as may be required by the Executive Board and yearly report accompanied with the statement of findings by the auditing committee to the Annual Meetings of this body. He shall deposit all money in the Bank designated by Board and shall pay by vouchers all bills approved bearing the signature of the president.

The Financial Year of this Body shall terminate as of the last day of September. The General Auditor as Chairman of the Finance Committee should be responsible for the yearly auditing of the Books and the Finance Records of the Secretary and Financial Controller prior to the annual meeting of this body.

Section 4

Under no circumstances should a Minister, Deacon or other Church Officer invite strangers or allow any unauthorised persons to conduct services in our churches. Men who have been dropped from the Ministry or dismissed from the church fellowship in other places or designing persons who have had no connection with the church, should not be permitted with plausible words to gain admission to our pulpits. Great care should be exercised to prevent this.

Section 5

Every one worthy of confidence of our churches will be able to identify himself by producing proper credentials. God's work is to be jealously safeguarded by the responsible leader in every step of organisation from the local church to the Executive Board. It must be strictly observed that valid and up-to date denominational credentials be strictly presented before a person is allowed to speak to any congregation. It is recognised that there may be times when it is proper for our congregation to be addressed by a Government official or by Civil Deacons, but all others should be excluded from the Pulpit.

Section 6

Credentials are to be renewed annually. If for any reason it is deemed inadvisable to renew credentials to any Minister, he ceases to function as a worker in the General Church Assembly. The possession of out-of-date or expired credentials does not authorise him to function in any of the offices of a Minister. In such a case he has no more authority or standing than any other lay member of the Church.

Section 7

Any vacancies created in the Executive Board by any means shall be filled by appointment from the Board.

Section 8

Any Officer, Board Member, Trustee or a full church member may be removed from office at any time, when he contravenes the requirements of this constitution and By-laws of this Body after a fair trial by the Board by a two-thirds majority vote against him.

Section 9

MARRIAGE **CHRISTS CHURCH INTERNATIONAL**

Members of the Christ's Church International should marry Christians of the same faith and are not allowed to marry Non-Christians, whatever the inducement may be in the

way of money or position. Unduly early marriages must not be permitted. Each party must be of a suitable age, the man not less than twenty and the woman eighteen years of age. A fortnight notice or whatever is legal time should be given, and the marriage then be performed by Ordained Minister of the CHRIST'S CHURCH.

Section 10

Membership may be terminated if a member has been found guilty after fair trial of disobedience to this constitution and bye-laws or has been proven detrimental to Christian witness. The General Church Assembly shall be considered the last Body of appeal of this Mission.

Section 11 TRUSTEES

The following shall be the appointed Trustees of the Church:

1. MR. SETH KORMEGAH
2. MADAM DIANA MINGLE
3. MR ENOCH OFOSU MILLS
4. MR FOSTER DONKOR
5. MADAM EUNICE MARQUAYE
6. MR BLISS BRONI

SANCTIONED

REV. SAMUEL CAESAR-WOOD
(PASTOR)

BRO. RAPHAEL ABLEDU
(ASSOCIATE PASTOR)

DATED AT ACCRA THIS 26TH DAY OF APRIL 2000