# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON 5TH AUGUST, 2021 AT THE EVANGEL ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CHURCH ADABRAKA, ACCRA

#### 1.0 OPENING & DEVOTION

#### 1.1 Opening

The meeting was declared open at 1:00 pm prompt by Ps. Dr. Chris Annan-Nunoo with the Hymn "To God Be the Glory" and Rt. Rev. Dr. Daniel Sylvanus Torto said the opening prayer.

#### 1.2 Devotion

Apostle Prof. Opoku Onyinah exhorted members from Matthew 23:1-39 (NIV). He posed a question to members asking "If Jesus were to be here, what will he tell us?" He compared Jesus' rebuking of the Pharisees on hypocrisy and compared it to the world today. He indicated that the world today was full of hypocrisy with some Christians and Christian leaders indulging in such practices that were against the Christian faith. He admonished members to be mindful of the Pharisee tendencies. Apostle Prof. Onvinah charged members to emulate the life of Christ as Christians and uphold the values of Christianity.

#### **2.0** ATTENDANCE (Please see attendance list on page 5 and 6)

#### 2.1 Welcome Message

Ps. Dr. Chris Annan-Nunoo (Chairman) warmly welcomed members to the 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The Bible Society of Ghana and indicated the essence of the meeting was to give for the Council and Management an opportunity to account for their stewardship. He read Psalm 121 and led members to sing the song "We Love The Blessed Bible".

#### 3.0 INTRODUCTIONS

## 3.1 Virtual Meeting Protocols

The General Secretary (GS) acknowledged members who joined via zoom and walked them through the necessary steps for participation in the AGM.

#### 3.2 Officers and Members of Council and Committees

He introduced the Officers and members of Council/ Committees present as well as past Council/Committee members.

## 3.2 Apologies

The GS acknowledged apologies received as follows:

- 1. Verv Rev. Kofi Owusu
- 2. Mrs. Gladys Owusu
- 3. Capt. Sophia Appiah Sakyi (rtd)
- 4. Mr. Nathaniel Ossam
- 5. Mrs. Agnes Okyere
- 6. Mr. Henry Dortey
- 7. Prof. Mrs. \*\*\* Morgan
- 8. Rev. Father Michael Awuah-Ansah
- 9. Mr. David Hammond
- 10. Mrs. Josephine Engmann
- 11. Ing. Edward Engmann

#### 4.0 ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the 2020 AGM was taken as read and corrected. In the absence of any correction, Rev. Dr. Joyce Aryee moved a motion for the acceptance of the Minutes and this was seconded by Mrs. Efua Ghartev.

## **5.0 MATTERS ARISING**

## 5.1 NUpdate on 2023 World Assembly

The 2023 World Assembly had been proposed to take place in The Netherlands where the idea of United Bible Societies was first conceived. It would be conducted both in-person and virtual.

#### **5.2 Kitase Project**

The GS reported that the Society had revived the engagement with a Strategic Investor for the Kitase Project. He said that the BSG was awaiting the financial models to be able to take an informed decision on the way forward for the project. Meanwhile he mentioned that the two-storev building would be completed for use as a non-residential facility. In the meantime, the Bills of Quantities (BoQs) for the project and landscaping was being reviewed for work by a Quantity Surveyor for work to commence.

#### 5.3 Esahie Bible Launch

The launch of the Esahie Bible was done on 15th November, 2020 at the Church of Pentecost at Dwenase in Sehwi Wiawso and the Bibles were available for distribution.

#### 5.4 The Dangme Bible

The GS reported on the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Dangme Bible as well as the inauguration of its revision which took place at the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Mount Zion Congregation at Dodowa on 22nd November, 2020.

## 5.5 Ga-English Standard Version (ESV) Diglot

The GS reported that the main text of the Ga-ESV Diglot had been printed and that the printing of User notes was in progress. The Ga-ESV Diglot would be available in Ghana by November 2021.

## 5.6 Ewe-English Standard Version (ESV) Diglot

The complete Ewe-English Standard Version Diglot was expected in December 2021.

#### **5.7 Formation of Prayer Committees**

He announced to members that Regional Prayer Committees had been formed in all BSG Regional operational areas and that District Prayer Committees were scheduled to be formed in the first quarter of 2022.

The motion was moved for the acceptance of the Status Report by Lay Pastor Emmanuel Quaye and seconded by Mrs. Edem Amedzro.

#### 6.0 PRESENTATION OF 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

The GS presented the highlights of the BSG 2020 Annual Report as follows:

- a. Governance
- b. Management and Staff
- c. Staff Training and Development
- d. Operations
  - Translation
  - Bible Distribution
  - Bible Engagement and Literacy Programmes
  - Children Programmes
  - Youth programmes
  - Bible Advocacy Programmes
  - International Justice Conference
  - Trauma Healing
- e. Church Relations
- f. Communication and Resource Mobilization
- g. Call to Glory
- h. Finance

The GS reported that, the Bono Bible Translation project was in progress. The Book of Mark was launched in July 2021 to enable the Society receive feedback from the bono-speaking community for finalizing the New Testament.

He expressed gratitude to God, to the members of Council/Committees, Management and Staff of the Bible Society of Ghana for their great support.

The GS moved for the acceptance of the 2020 report for discussion and this was seconded by Ms. Bernice Natue. Members indicated by show of hand their acceptance of the 2020 report.

# 7.0 PRESENTATION OF 2020 INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Ms. MyraStella Ansah read the Independent Auditors report for the year 2020 on behalf of the Auditing Firm - Intellysis. The Financial Report for the year 2020 ended on 31st December, 2020. (Please refer to page 29 of the 2020 Annual Report).

A motion was moved the by the GS for the' acceptance of the Financial Report of the BSG for 2020. This was unanimously accepted.

# 8.0 INTRODUCTION OF NEW OFFICERS/MEMBERS OF COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

The GS introduced new Officers as follows:

- **1. Dr. Yawa Asafo** PR Professional, Chairperson of Promotions & Resource Mobilization Committee.
- 2. Ps. Dr. Nathan Odonkor a Pastor and Counsellor ordained with the SDA Church and the Executive Secretary for Accra City Conference, SDA. Nominations & Gov. Committee.
- 3. Eld. Prof. Ernest Tweneboah Koduah a Lecturer with the University of Ghana Business School, Legon and an Elder with the PIWC, Atomic Member, Promotions & RM Committee.
- **4. Dr. Kojo Essel** a Medical Practitioner and a member of the Methodist Church, Ghana Member, Nominations & Governance Committee.
- Rev. Francis Guggisberg Tetteh A Clergy with the Baptist Church, Chairman of the Tema Local Council of Churches, Vice President of Tema Dangme Baptist Ministers Fellowship – Chairman of the National Prayer Committee.
- 6. Rev. Mrs Mercy Motte-Kpeglah Clergy with Global Evangelical Church, Headmistress of EP Church Ghana Foundation Academy and an Entrepreneur Member, Nomination & Governance Committee.
- Col. Dr. Samuel Amponsah Clergy (Territorial Commander of Salvation Army) – Translation Committee
- **8. Ps. Kerphas Gyamfi** reassigned to the Translation Committee.

The President prayed for the new members of Council/Committees.

The General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Enoch Aryee-Atta introduced the new Officers as follows:

1. Rt. Rev. Dr. Daniel S. Torto, the Anglican Bishop of Accra – Chairperson of the Council.

2. Apostle Prof. Peter Ohene Kyei, Lecturer, Pentecost University – Vice Chairperson of the Council.

The President prayed for the new members of Council/ Committees. The new Chairman gave his remarks and indicated that he was hopeful that God would grant him the needed strength to effectively execute the function of the Chairman of Council.

# 9.0 BSG ANTHEM

The GS gave the background of the BSG Anthem and indicated that the PRMC supervised the task to compose an Anthem for the Society under the chairmanship of the late Mr. Nabanvin Pratt. He explained that letters were sent to a number of choral groups and churches but due to COVID-19, the musical groups of the churches could not meet. The Committee therefore settled on music composers, there of whom were shortlisted to present demos and lyrics for vetting and selection. At the end of the selection process, the song of Mr. James Varrick Armaah was adjudged the best.

The panel of Judges for the selection of the BSG Anthem was composed of:

- 1. Prof. Yaw Sakyi Baidoo Chairman
- 2. Dr. Alfred Patrick Adaguay (renowned musician -Member
- 3. Mr. Dominic Ansah Asare (Mido Productions) -Member

The Anthem was played to the hearing of members and subsequently members sang along. Lay Pastor Emmanuel Amartev Quave moved for the acceptance of the BSG Anthem and his motion was seconded by Mr. Commodore. Members accepted the BSG Anthem by the show of hands with a standing ovation.

Rev. Prof. B. Y. Quarshie prayed and dedicated the Anthem to the Glory of God and asked that the song be used to advance the work of the Kingdom.

#### **10.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

# 10.1 BSG Anthem

The GS acknowledged the three (3) contestants for the composition of the BSG Anthem as follows:

1. Rev. Akua Appiah-Ansah 2nd Runner-up 2. Dr. Albert Adusei-Dua 1st Runner-up 3. Mr. James Varrick Armaah Winner

They were commended and awarded for the good work done. The Judges were also acknowledged and appreciated for their support to the Society.

10.2 Constitutional Review Committee

The Constitutional Review Committee were also acknowledged for their commitment towards the review and completion of the Adopted Constitution and Bye-Laws of BSG. The members were:

- Most Rev. Justice Ofei Akrofi
- 2. Mr. David Hammond
- 3. Mrs. Efua Ghartev
- 4. Ms. Bernice Natue
- 5. Rev. Dr. Enoch Arvee-Atta
- 6. Mrs. Susan Livingstone-Antwi

Mrs. Matilda Amissah-Arthur presented plagues to them on behalf of BSG and Apostle Prof. Peter Ohene Kvei praved for

## 10.3 Outgoing Council Members

The following Outgoing Council/Committee members were acknowledged:

#### The Outgoing Chairperson

1. Ps. Dr. Chris Annan-Nunoo

Apostle Prof. Opoku Onyinah (President) made the presentation to Ps. Dr. Chris Annan-Nunoo.

#### The Outgoing Vice Chairperson

1. Prof. Mrs. Akosua Anyidoho

Mrs. Matilda Amissah-Arthur (Vice President) did the presentation to Prof. Prof. Mrs. Anyidoho.

#### **The Outgoing Council Members**

- 1. Mrs. Gloria Lamptey
- 2. Prof. Mrs. Adelaide Kastner
- 3. Rev. Prof. B. Y. Quarshie

The exiting members were presented with citations to acknowledge their commitment over the years of service to the work of the Society by Mrs. Florence Hutchful (Vice President).

## 10.4 Posthumous Award to the late Mr. Nabanyin Pratt

The late Mr. Nabanyin Pratt was presented with a posthumous award for his invaluable service to BSG. It was received by his wife (Mrs Eleanor Pratt) with the support of his children / grandchildren. Ps. Dr. Annan-Nunoo prayed for the family.

#### 11.0 OTHER MATTERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 11.1 Donation

The GS mentioned the BSG momo number for the BSG and indicated that they were available for payments and donations could also be made at the at the exit of the auditorium after the meeting. He urged members to introduce their children to the BSG enhance the legacy membership concept.

# 11.2 One Million Bible Project

The GS notified members of the One Million Bible Project. He explained that the Presidency had commenced a project aimed at ensuring that every school child from upper primary to Junior High School owned a Bible. In view of that, the Presidency was collaborating with interested persons who wanted to purchase Bibles for their Alma Mater. He added that the said Bibles would be distributed by the Society on behalf of the donor.

#### 11.3 Theme and Dates for 2022 Bible Week Celebration

The GS notified members that the theme and date for the 2022 Bible Week Celebration (Page 34 of Annual Report) were as follows:

5th February, 2022	Bible Sabbath Launch
6th February, 2022	Bible Week Launch
12th February, 2022	Bible Sabbath Celebration
13th February, 2022	Bible Sunday

He urged members to take note of the dates and participate in the celebration accordingly.

#### 11.4 Date for 2022 Annual General Meeting

"The Bible and Integrity"

Theme

The GS noted that the first Thursday (4th) of August 2022 would be a statutory holiday and as such the Council had agreed to hold the 2022 Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 11th August. 2022.

# 11.5 Announcement on Upcoming Programmes

- Mini launch of the Asante Twi ESV Diglot on 4th September, 2021 at the Christ Apostolic Church International at Osu.
- 2. National Prayer Breakfast to be held on 15th September, 2021 at Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Osu Eben-Ezer Congregation at 10:00 am.
- 3. 56th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service to be held on 19th September, 2021 at the Royal House Chapel, 8:00 am.
- National Literacy Conference would take place on 29th September, 2021 at the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Osu Eben-Ezer Congregation Church Hall at 10:00 am.
- 5. Heads of Churches Advisory Group meeting to

- come off on 6th October, 2021 at the Accra City Hotel at 6:00 pm.
- 6. The African Women's Devotional Bible to be launched on 24th October. 2021 at the Presbyterian Church of Ghana – Victory Congregation, Adenta at 9:00 am.
- 7. Gurene New Testament to be launched on 7th November, 2021 at the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Peniel Congregation, Bolgatanga - Upper East Region.
- 8. National Day of Prayer for all members of BSG comes off on 10th November, 2021 in-person and via zoom at the Presbyterian Church of Ghana. Osu Eben-Ezer Congregation at 10:00 am.
- 9. Local Council of Churches National Conference to be held on Thursday, 25th November, 2021 at 9.00 am (in-person /virtual).

#### 11.6 Madina Bookshop Relocation

Members were informed about the relocation of the Madina Bookshop. The new location was opposite the Madina Local Council at the Madina Zongo Junction area.

#### 11.7 Offertory

Members gave offering in support of Bible Work and Rt. Rev. Dr. Torto prayed over the offering.

#### 12.0 CLOSING REMARKS

Ps. Dr. Chris Annan-Nunoo thanked God for his divine providence in the midst of a challenging year. On behalf of the exiting members, he thanked God and members for the opportunity to serve. He indicated that they were always available for service.

#### 13.0 VOTE OF THANKS

Ms. Bernice Natue (Member of Council) gave the Vote of Thanks.

#### 14.0 CLOSING HYMN & PRAYER

Members sang the closing Hymn "Lead us, Heavenly Father, **Lead us"** and the **BSG Anthem**.

Rt. Rev. Dr. Daniel Sylvanus Torto moved for the closure of the meeting and this was seconded by Mrs. Edem Amedzro. The meeting ended at 3:51pm.

Apostle Prof. Opoku Onyinah said the closing prayer, including prayer for the sick and pronounced the Benediction.

PS. DR. CHRIS ANNAN-NUNOO

Chairman

**REV. DR. ENOCH ARYEE-ATTA** 

General Secretary

# **LIST OF 2020 AGM ATTENDEES**

- 1. Abotchi-Ntreh Ben
- 2. Acquaye-Baddoo Victoria
- 3. Adjei James Mireku
- 4. Adiei Samuel
- 5. Mr. Adzakey Fidelis Doe
- Rev. Adzato-Adbla Koffi Nateh 6.
- 7. Afum Caroline
- 8. Akama Rubby
- 9. Prof. Akosua Anyidoho
- 10. Akwa Eric
- 11. Akwei Mildred
- 12. Madam Amedzro Edem
- 13. Mrs. Amissah Arthur Matilda
- 14. Amoah Kwasi
- 15. Amofa-Baah Regina
- 16. Col Amponsah Samuel
- 17. Annang Georgina
- 18. Mad Annan-Nunoo Priscilla
- 19. Ansah Kingsley
- 20. Miss. Ansah Myrastella
- 21. Mr. Ansah Percy Asare
- 22. Mrs. Apietu-Ankrah Alberta
- 23. Appenting Florence
- 24. Mr. Appiah-Ansah Eric
- 25. Rev. Appiah-Ansah Akua
- 26. Madam Appiah-Baah Doris
- 27. Rev. Arhinful Nathaniel
- 28. Mr. Aryee Arthur Kwesi
- 29. Rev. Dr. Aryee Joyce R.
- 30. Dr. Asafo Solace
- 31. Asgong Kwame Samuel
- 32. Mr. Ashirifie Samuel Amoah
- 33. Mr. Ashley Daniel O.
- 34. Madam Asiedu-Dentu Cecilia
- 35. Rev. Attipoe Innocent J.
- 36. Mrs. Awoonor-Williams Emma
- 37. Awuku Catherine
- 38. Dr. Ayerakwa Maamaekua
- 39. Rev. Dr. Mrs. Ben-Naimah Bridgette
- 40. Bennin Kate
- 41. Bosomprah Solomon

- 42. Rev. Botchway David Annang
- 43. Brandford-Mensah Philomena
- 44. Commodore Fbenezer O.
- 45. Ms. Darko Margaret Laura
- 46. Darkwah Daniel Atta
- 47. Rev. Degadzor Raynold
- 48. Mrs. Dodoo Maria Eliza
- 49. Dogbe John Amartey
- 50. Mrs. Dottey Helena
- 51. Dsane Theresa K.
- 52. Dzunu Daniel
- 53. Mrs. Effuah Ghartey
- 54. Ekem John
- 55. Esantsi Isabella .O.
- 56. Essel Kojo
- 57. Mr. Fiabu John
- 58. Fialesegbor Getrude
- 59. Ms. Gaisie Ernestina
- 60. Mr. Gawu Kwesi Isaac
- 61. Mr. Gyenny-Mensah Evans
- 62. Mrs Hutchful Florence
- 63. Rev. Judith Letsu
- 64. Kukua Pratt
- 65. Rev. Lamptey Emmanuel
- 66. Mr. Lawrence L. Mensah
- 67. Manieson Rose Akosua
- 68. Rev. Motte-Kpeglah Mercy
- 69. Narh Glagys Dede
- 70. Ms. Natue Bernice
- 71. Mrs. Nkrumah Harriet
- 72. Apostle Nkrumah-Adaseh Peter
- 73. Elder Norbi Emmanuel
- 74. Mr. Nsiah Samuel Adjei
- 75. Ms. Nunoofio Rosabeth
- 76. Rev. Nyarko Amoah Daniel
- 77. Mrs. Obeng-Akrofi Mercy
- 78. Ms. Ocran Angelina
- 79. Odai Elizabeth
- 80. Mrs. Odjidja Catherine
- 81. Odoi A. Gladys
- 82. Odonkor Mimonte

- 83. Pastor Dr. Odonkor Nathan
- 84. Bishop Odoom Francis
- 85. Elder Dr. Ofoe Ofosu Stephen
- 86. Ofori Francis
- 87. Okormoe Victoria
- 88. Opoku-Mensah Alberta
- 89. Osei Aduamah Rose
- 90. Rev. Mrs. Osekre Odoi Lydia
- 91. Osekre S.I. A
- 92. Prah Marie-Louise
- 93. Pratt Araba
- 94. Pratt Ewurafua
- 95. The Most Rev Pratt T. K. Awotwi
- 96. Mrs. Quartey Emelia
- 97. Mr. Quartey Mills

- 98. Apostle Quaye Emmanuel A.
- 99. Lady-Pastor Quaye Emmanuel Amartey
- 100. Mr. Sakyi Alfred
- 101. Tagoe E. Beatrice
- 102. Tenkorang-Mensah Comfort
- 103. Tetteh Francis Guggisberg
- 104. Mrs. Tetteh Mabel
- 105. Tetteh Nartey Christian
- 106. Mr. Torgbor Humphrey A.
- 107. Tumawoo Francisca
- 108. Tyson Stella
- 109. Yeboah Attuah George
- 110. Ms Yirenkyi Mary Elsie
- 111. Yorke Francis Boama
- 112. Mr. Zadagrey Zadok