

CALIFORNIA DISTRICT COUNCIL

16th Episcopal District
Pentecostal Assemblies
of the World, Inc.

Expanding to Reach and Embrace More Souls!



CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

2014 Summer
Conference

Thursday
July 10, 2014

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS: California District Council 2014 Summer Conference

77th Annual Conference
Torrance Marriott South Bay
3635 Fashion Way :: Torrance, CA 90503

Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus our mighty God, and honor and favor be upon Our Diocesan Bishop & Presiding Prelate Charles H. Ellis III, Resident Bishops, Suffragan Bishops, District Elders, Pastors, Leadership Spouses, Friends, Supporters and Well-wishers. Welcome to our 77th Annual Summer Conference of the California District Council Sixteenth Episcopal District of the Pentecostal Assemblies of The World, Inc.

I am so elated with the joy and jubilation of excitability about our expansion opportunities because it reminds me of a few past thematic quotes that were popular within our organization and our council in the year of 1999 such as "Anything Wonderful Can Happen When Jesus Is Exalted!" (Bishop Norman L. Wagner), "A New Direction For A New Millennium: Presenting New Methods, Preserving Old Truths" (Suffragan Bishop David C. Foster, Sr., former CDC Chairman), and "Yet For An Appointed Time" (Bishop Aaron Martin, Sr.).

Bishop Martin articulated in his message to us that God has an appointed time for all of us and the devil and his employees can't do anything about it. He went on to emphasize that God doesn't wear a wrist-watch nor does he plan by using the calendar of man to measure time because He IS time and eternity (i.e. present and future). Bishop Martin also applied strong emphasis on the reality of our proclivity to operate presumptuously. For instance, when we don't receive a speedy response to our prayers we begin to doubt the promises of God, forgetting the fact that the Bible clearly states that 'tribulation worketh patience'. Neither do we fully comprehend that, just because God may seem to be taking more time than we think the process calls for, He is working out changes that are beyond our range of reasoning and that His unlimited capacity of knowing which Best Practices are suitable for our present life situations translates into 'taking longer'. I personally agree with Bishop Martin's concept and further believe that Jabez was able to see this, was seen as more honorable in God's Sight, was wise enough to incorporate the Most High into his desire and vision for expansion, and was also willing to be patient with the process of The Lord to the extent that God granted to him his request as recorded in the I Chronicles 4:9-10 Our ever faithful God will do the same for us and more for He is no respecter of persons.

So it is today as it relates to our approaching the completion of our CDC Corporate Expansion Process and right about now I feel like telling somebody to "Hold my mule while I shout, Glory!"

Now the reason I truly want to shout Glory is because while we are celebrating 77 years of Apostolic Corporate Fellowship within the CDC, this Summer Conference represents the bringing to rest our activities as a single Episcopal District. However, in November 2014 (contingent upon the Lord delaying his return) we are designated to Gloriously enter into the formation of three autonomous Dioceses with three new Bishops who will be responsible for incorporating their Councils and govern them under the

Constitutionality and By-laws of our parent body of the P.A. of W., Inc., as well as under the Incorporation Laws of the Great State of California.

I also would like to go on record and apologize for any misinterpretation of my rationale in referring to Suffragan Bishop James Belle (Chairman of Restructuring and Realignment Committee) individuals who contacted me with inquiries pertaining to candidates for Bishop ballots. Please note, this action was performed according to Parliamentary Protocol. However, if anyone desires to gain a full understanding of the reason for the change in procedure from "Voting by Mail" to that of "Voting Onsite and In Person" during the conference, feel free to respectfully and diplomatically submit your inquiries to the Diocesan as he so directs and at his discretion.

Now back to the heart of the matter of "Embracing Our Divine Appointment with an Anointed Expansion", our Presiding Prelate, the CDC Board of Directors, and many of you are anticipating and expecting that after the conclusion of our gathering at this Summer Conference 2014 we can cautiously and expeditiously prepare to enter into our Fresh Territories under the November 2014 theme, "The Manifestation and Revitalization of The Mandate" (reference, John 15:16 - "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the father in my name, he may give it you.")

Therefore, let us keep in mind that many CDC and PAW Stakeholders (not free-loaders) may remember that our late, great former Diocesan, the Honorable Bishop Henry L. Johnson introduced to this body in July, 2007 his vision for the CDC to expand into a Five Regionally-based Diocese consisting of a combination of at least 250 Healthy, Apostolic, 5-Star Church Fellowships (50 churches per region), which would serve as a prototype to evolve into Five New Dioceses per approval of the Parent Body. However, the Lord called him off the field and allowed for him to transition into rest; retiring him from his earthly duties as he is now awaiting to be awoken and awarded. Nevertheless, this vision can and shall be accomplished by way of expanding into Three Ecclesiastical Entities instead of five with the goal of achieving 83 Healthy and Relevant Apostolic Congregational Ministries per Diocese by the close of the year of 2018. But, let me caution you to recognize, realize and understand that I am speaking to the conscience of the Stakeholders of the vision who have bought into vision and are willing to invest into our hard work and determination which is undefeatable when The Lord has favored your efforts.

Although many of us who took this vision to heart and did what we could in contributing to its fulfillment by 2014 fell short of our anticipated outcome due to financial, social and adverse political circumstances and situations that exceeded our abilities to escape some of the major setbacks in achieving these and other goals, we were still able to meet some of our corporate objectives, chiefly that of remaining saved and unified for the most part, knowing that the Lord has not nor will abandon His rich heritage which he instilled in us. "Having therefore, obtained help from God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying no other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come." - Acts 26:22.

In my conclusion let me humbly repeat the fact that there is a greater work for us to accomplish in our days ahead. We have all been given The Mandate and The Charge according to the truth that is declared in St. John 15:16, and this Mandate was given to be carried out and performed as a team and a unit. Yes, we are well aware that DIVISIVENESS is the CANCER to all UNITY and will position its ugly head in a few dream killers that will enter amongst our ranks with a hidden agenda to kill and steal the cement of cooperation in order to prevent us from operating successfully in our purpose and toward our destiny of Kingdom Expansion. HOWEVER, we must unite and destroy his plot at its core! And above all, let us Dream Builders never ever abandon our Kingdom Obligations to respect, connect, protect, direct and sometimes redirect in order to perfect each other; knowing that in unity there is strength and the Joy of the Lord IS Our Strength for His Best Is Yet Come!

Therefore, believing and seeing these through the eyes of faith, let me encourage our great cadre of Pastors, grow your marriage, your ministry and money, and to the anointed constituency of laity, Go Ye Therefore and Win Souls.

Shalom and Godspeed

Suffragan Bishop Robert T. Douglas, Sr., Ph.D.
Chairman, California District Council



Dr. Robert T. Douglas
& Dr. Paulette Douglas

**Embracing Our
Divine**

**Appointment
with an**

Anointed

Expansion

I Chronicles 4:10