

A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

2019 SUMMER EDITION E-BULLETIN

Praise the Lord!

This summer edition of the ACA e bulletin is produced to both inform members, partners and friends and to, in the words of Apostle Paul, "provoke one another to love and good works".

Recently in an ACA online prayer meeting the Spirit exhorted us from Psalms 50 verse 5 which reads: "Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice".

From the beginning God has respected and blessed sacrifice made by his servants.

Noah's first act on leaving the ark after the flood was to offer a sacrifice to God.

Abraham, Jacob, Jephthah and his daughter, David and our Lord to name but a few all made sacrifices.

Let's be clear a sacrifice by definition is costly, painful and certainly not easy to do. God is not impressed with gestures, with pretention as in the case of Ananias and Sapphira who pretended to give sacrificially when they knew they were not doing anything of the sort. Peter in their exposure told them both it was in their power to give as they wanted for they were not under any obligation to sell all they had and give it to the church. Their crime was to lie by giving a portion yet claiming to give

Why was their action such a heinous thing to do? Well there would have been needy people amongst the church community who were poor and needed the money they gave but did so anyway by faith and love for the cause. Later Ananias and Sapphira, who probably were in a better financial position than others, but pretended to give all, brought their so called sacrifice.

Let me illuminate the sacrifice made by a few of the examples given above.

Jephthah, saddened by the idea he had to "sacrifice" his daughter after his vow was encouraged by said daughter to go through with the sacrifice even though it meant a cessation of the family line, for she was an only child of by now, a very successful and popular judge in Israel. God would not allow their sacrifice to be overlooked so He included their story in Judges and also in Hebrews.

David refused to drink the water brought to him by his men when in the heat of battle gave a sigh of thirst. The men hazarded their lives and fought off others to fetch water for their king. David refused to drink the water, for to do so was tantamount to drinking their blood, declared David, so he poured the water onto the ground.

David also paid the full price for a piece of land and oxen to a man who offered it freely to him. David, though king, said he would not offer to God that which cost him nothing.

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Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane who came to fulfill all that was written of him prayed three times not to suffer the humiliation of the cross but surrendered himself each time to his Father's will.

In this we saw the humanity of Jesus not in terms of weakness or fear but in knowing that the cross was humiliating and would represent in the eyes of many the sinner at his worst. However, in the divine plan, it wasn't what people thought or even what Satan believed he would accomplish in Jesus' death but the accomplishment Jesus would secure through his sacrificial death that mattered.

I now turn to the apostolic churches. The Spirit is saying individually we must be willing to make sacrifices in the pursuit of unity: giving up our own plans to support the work of another church. A willingness to invest in another church's ministry to acquire a building, investment in a building, missions work, church planting and many other things that are necessary for the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

The apostolic message is needed more than ever in the UK and around the world but everyman is busy trying to establish his own empire and not the Kingdom of God.

At the start of each year, I ask for information on services we are intending to have so I can share them so that as we plan annual calendars we can bear each other in mind to avoid clashes; very seldom do I get a good response so we plan our services in total isolation and selfishness and wonder why we later clash and thus depleting attendance of each other's meetings.

Moreover, we are disappointed and complain and Satan tempts us to retaliate by not supporting others or pretending to support others by the bare minimum.

It's not too late to start making sacrifices; look again at what your brother is doing and see how you can help. Cancel that mid week service that has perhaps a handful of people and instead support your brother by attending more than one night of a special service.

Close your Sunday night service and attend your brother's special service instead, he and the church will appreciate the sacrifice for many years to come.

Pastors open up your pulpit and let your brother preach and teach the word of God. Recently, I was applauded by ministers in USA and here in the UK for the anointing on my life and the ministries I have been given yet these same ministers have known me for more than twenty years and in some cases thirty years. What's new? They opened up the pulpit and gave me more than a minute to greet the church.

Sacrifices by their very nature are not many or frequent but they are momentous, costly and special.

As saints, let us in our pursuit of togetherness remember that God never sends fire on an empty altar but He does on altars with sacrifices.

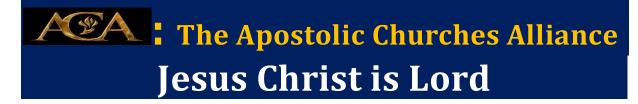
The Lord servant Apostle Lloyd Denny

President of the Apostolic Churches Alliance

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2019 Theme: "Togetherness"

Editorial: This was the front page article in the New Year edition of this bulletin. Having re-read it, its pertinence is even more profound so it's updated and re-presented.

In a divided world and a divided country, togetherness is our theme this year which will be a focus for prayer, fellowship and our work.

At the end of March, Britain was due to exit the EU hence the word brexit. For more than three years Britain has been rudderless, directionless and leaderless. The Cabinet is divided, the Government is divided, Parliament is divided and so is the country. The failure to Brexit at the end of March was due to a lack of togetherness which is costing the country greatly.

The 2016 referendum provided a small majority of 4% in favour of Britain leaving the EU after more than 45 years membership. Yet the damage being done through this division is more damaging to the country than the small majority would suggest. This is the problem with division, its effect is disproportionate, and if not checked can be fatal.

Disunity in an operation room could lead to death of the patient. Disunity in the cockpit of an aircraft could lead to a crash. Togetherness on the other hand brings peace, harmony and success.

Jesus prayed for unity and thank God his prayer prevailed in the establishment of the church and has kept the church despite terrible persecution and still is keeping the church today. Without unity the church would have disintegrated long ago even though it may appear the church is divided.

Denominations divide, organisations divide and sadly local churches also divide but the church of Christ must not divide.

Perhaps the most mature and successful church amongst the early churches is Ephesus. It started with 12 loyal followers of the prophet John the Baptist whom Apostle Paul met during one of his missions.

Apostle Paul after finding out that these loyal followers of John had not received the Holy Spirit he persuaded them concerning the name of Jesus Christ after which he re-baptized them in the name of Jesus Christ, laid hands upon them and they received the Holy Spirit.

This small group went on to become the very large and successful Ephesus church because Paul did not discount their experience as followers of John and neither did he discredit John the Baptist.

Too often our misguided zeal makes us discount any experience that is different from our own and worse, we sow schism from the outset by discrediting their leader or minister.

John the Baptist and Jesus were not divided yet John's ministry would give way to the greater one of Jesus. Apostle Paul led these twelve men from one level of experience and truth to a higher and greater one in Christ Jesus.

In the rest of this e bulletin you will find information on services being organised and supported by the ACA as well as ACA church members' special services in 2019; together let us support each other for in so doing we are working together for the good of the Kingdom of God.

Apostle Lloyd Denny

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ACA NEWS

Congratulations to Pastor Raymond Williams, who with Bethel Apostolic Ark celebrated their silver Anniversary and Thanksgiving service on Saturday 27th April 2019. During the said meeting, which was held at Bethel Convention Centre in West Bromwich, our brother was elevated into the office of Bishop. The attendance was tremendous with churches travelling from the USA, London, Luton, West and East Midlands, Leeds, Manchester to name only some. Bishop Williams, the Lord bless you and the church family and may you and the church go from strength to strength and from glory to glory.







UPC GB & I, led by Bishop Leroy Francis will be celebrating their golden jubilee service from **6**th **to 9**th **August** in Llandudno, Wales. See flyer for details.

Last year RRF International celebrated 50 years of ministry here in the UK and recently (25th to 28th April), RRF India also did the same. RRF certainly appreciated the support last year and in India so please let us get to Wales, its part of the UK, and support Bishop Francis and the ministry. I am sure he would appreciate a good turnout from us here in the UK. Visit the church website for more information.



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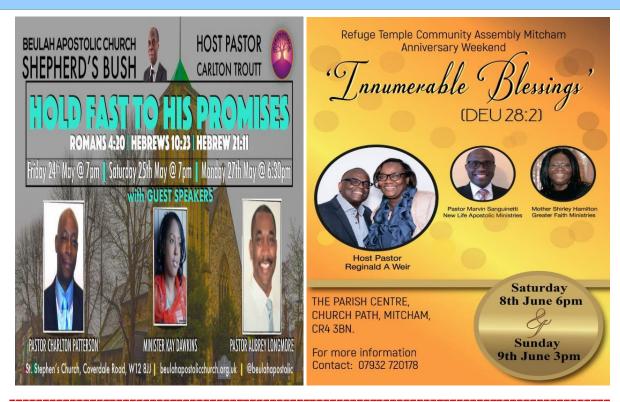




The annual ACA "**In our Time – Wordfest**" is on Saturday **9**th **November 2019** and will be held at: Fellowship House, 90 Dunstable Road, Luton, LU1 1EH.

More information to follow. Please put in your calendar and endeavor to be there.

SUMMER CONVOCATIONS/EVENTS



 $Luton \ Faith \ Conference \ {\rm is \ on} \ 6^{th} \ July \ {\rm at \ Fellowship \ House} \ ({\rm Church \ Address}).$

Topic: "The role of the church in building a stronger community". It starts at 12 noon to 1pm with light lunch. The programme is from **1pm to 5pm** and includes various speakers speaking on such topics as: "righteousness exalts a nation"; ministering to families, reaching and teaching our youths, how to better engage with the community, praise and worship and a key note message to the community. A wide range of ministers will be speaking, including Dr Trevor Adams, Minister Barrington Lee, Minister Pam Stewart and Deaconess Norma Hoyte. **Host:** Apostle Lloyd Denny.

RRF Summer Convocation: is from **Wednesday 25th to Saturday 27th July** at: 50 Church Road, Harlesden, London NW10 9PY. As well as the evening services, there are day services on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday at 11am. Day Services are in the main bible teaching and Questions and Answers on biblical topics. **Host:** Apostle GT Mullings.

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Youth Rally is on 4th & 5th October at: Fellowship House (Church Address). This annual rally is more important than ever because of the need to reach and teach our youths. More information to follow. **Host:** Apostle Lloyd Denny.

RRF Anniversary & Thanksgiving Service is on: **25**th **& 26**th **October** at: 50 Church Road, Harlesden, London NW10 9PY. **Host**: Apostle GT Mullings



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PUBLICATION

This is a publication of the Apostolic Churches Alliance (ACA); you may contact us at the address at the foot of this e-bulletin. <u>Click</u> on the link below to read past copies of the ACA e bulletin. http://www.rrfluton.org.uk/rrfblog/?page_id=1648

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Any comments or suggestions on the content of this bulletin or if you have an article or feature you wish to contribute then please do so. **Please note**, not all suggestions will automatically be accepted or articles featured at the time it is made this will depend on space and editorial judgement.

"2019, the year of togetherness".

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