

# FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORATE 2015 AGM REPORT

The Directorate has undergone major consolidation to build on the successes gained by prior Council. Hereunder are the highlights:

## **VFC MEMBERSHIP Register and Changes during the year**

On our Members Register, We have 791 members. Average attendances are between 351 and 266, Children 120.

Total average attendance - 471.

Breakout examples for adults based on sex are as highlighted hereunder

127 male; 139 female;

147 Male 154 Female

138 Male 149 female -

148 Male 168 Female

166 Male 185 Female

## Average Attendance at the Sunday Evening Service:

Adults: 72

Children 81

No of members inducted on 8th March, 2015	14
TOTAL	14

No attending Adult Sunday Sunday_School	60
No attending Foundation Class	8
No attending Home Fellowship Centres	90

No of Births 6

No of Deaths 1

## **THE WELCOME GROUP**

The welcome group has been relocated from the fire exit entrance where we have had serious distraction to a quieter section of the Sunday school building. We have decorated this section of the Sunday school building to give a welcoming comforting atmosphere for our first time visitors. This has also provided a secure and private environment for counseling and discipleship efforts. We have also consolidated the follow-up team and are providing weekly feedback report submitted for proper follow-up to the welcome team and the house fellowship leaders. As a result of this, we have added fourteen (14) more members to the VFC membership this year. For the first time, orientation was held two Sundays prior to the induction to help new intending members make up their minds in joining the membership VFC after getting a first hand information on our church structure, composition and constitution. We specially want to thank all the welcome committee and house fellowship leaders for a job well done.

### **FOUNDATION CLASS**

This year witnessed the creation of the foundation class after we noticed a gap in our current discipleship arrangement for new believers who don't fit into the adult Sunday school arrangement. We have paired this class with the Baptismal class which use to be organized as at when needed. Now, the foundation class runs along side the adult Sunday school class and has witness uptake of between 5 to 10 new believers who would then move on to be baptized. The class currently study the NIFES study material. Our new visitors who need a firm foundation in Christianity are also directed to this class by the welcome committee to begin the class made up of 10 study classes before baptism.

### **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

We have completed several themes in the course of the year. Attendance has improved tremendously. We currently studying Christian maturity culled from everyday with Jesus.

### **THE CARE GROUP**

The welfare Group has been doing a tremendous job of attending to the physical and spiritual needs of the poor, and brethren in distress, to the limit of their financial ability. They pay school fees and hospital bills of indigent members. They distribute foodstuff to the poor on a monthly basis. This year, we decided to teach them to fish rather than continue to give them fish. Our goal was to make them self-reliant both physically and spiritually. About 21 of them were trained on beard making and also skill required to run a small a business. The care group members currently work with the Missions and Evangelism Directorate to conduct the evening service to teach and disciple the poor and distressed in the community. 127 adults and children currently attend the evening service. The service is held in "pidgin" English and translated to Yoruba. We thank those who donated to this course and we will welcome more donations. Apart from supporting our indigent members, we are also supporting our regular members who are going through challenging experience through the pastoral care funds or voluntary support and donations from other members of the church. We have supported a number of families through this initiative. A standard operating procedure for such funds disbursement is nearing finalization for adoption by Council.

### **THE HOME FELLOWSHIP GROUP**

We held the Annual Home Fellowship Sunday this year where members were sensitized to the need for fellowship. As a result of this fellowship day event, the dedication and attendance increased in several centres. In the course of the year, we added four (4) new home fellowship centres namely Lekki phase 1, Osapa London , Pinnock Beach Estate and Surulere centre. Some older centres have relocated to new centres, some have closed down as a result of member transfer to other cities or other personal issues.. We are currently using a book titled "Prayer Study Course" by Rev. Kenneth Hagin in all our centres. We have had training for the home fellowship leaders and host following, which a new material tied to the quarter, is now been proposed for approval. The material

developed by our directorate will help our members apply the sermons to our every day lives. The material will be sermon application driven.

### **MEN AND WOMEN FELLOWSHIP**

Both fellowships continue to hold on Sunday evenings for the men and Monday evening evenings for the Women. In terms of numbers, the women fellowship is doing quite well. There are two centres for the women fellowship, namely Ikoyi and VGC centres. Average numbers of women in attendance is twenty (20). The women are studying life on the frontline and fruitfulness on the frontline, a DVD series taken from [www.licc.org.uk/fruitfulness](http://www.licc.org.uk/fruitfulness) Outreach Visitation was made to LUTH last year.

VFC Men's Fellowship Group has remained very vibrant in the Church year (May 2014 - April 2015) We have continued to hold weekly meetings every Sunday evening at 5:00pm.

Our attendance at the meetings have been encouraging this church year relative to preceding years as we have continued to record an average attendance of Ten to Twenty men every week. Our desire is that many more members of the church will respond to this clarion call to attend.

In the main, we have used two books as study guides. They are: 1). The Dignity Of Manhood written by Gbile Akanni and 2). Flawed Saints written by Emmanuel Oladipo.

The Dignity of Manhood emphasized the crucial role of the leadership role of the Man in the home as ordained by God in creation. It further admonished as follows:

- a). Man is empowered by creation to provide a covering for his wife and family
- b). Man will be held responsible for the spiritual growth and development of his wife and family
- c). Man must incorporate the views and opinions of his wife before taking decisions that will affect the well-being and welfare of his family members.
- d). Man must continually pray for his family and constantly seek God's guidance in his leadership role in the family.
- e). Man must diligently through divine guidance provide assistance for the growth and maturity of his sons and daughters.

In summary, the book enabled us to fully appreciate the very delicate balance of being a Man, a leader and a father in a home. It also established good men who are nurtured in the way of God also play significant roles in church and community development.

The second study guide - Flawed Saints \_ which we are still studying in essence is addressing the fact that God has through out history used men and and women who were not by any means perfect to deliver His message to mankind. The book so far has established the following:

- a). God will use anybody to accomplish His mission no matter how flawed the person (Saint) is. God is always able to help us overcome our weaknesses and still find us useful in ministry.
- b). That many servants of God in the bible were Flawed Saints and God found them good enough to and relevant to the propagation of His message to mankind.
- c)The scriptures remain the first reference point in trying to establish a position on matters that are controversial and are subject to debate and the resolve of past Flawed Saints does not justify their wrong doings.
- d) There is the constant need to ensure that we are not swayed by the strong views of the world around us. We must be insistent that the word of God guides our final position and that God word is infallible in all generations.

The study of this book is on-going and we hope to glean more knowledge through it.

The Men's Fellowship has continued to pray for all its members and members of the church in general. We have also continued to discuss issues that affect the management of the church and our views are usually passed on to the Church council through our members on the council.

In future, we hope to improve on our work in the immediate community. We will endeavour to increase our home visits and assist our members and other church members in more practical ways. We are also considering setting up mentoring schemes to assist our young men and women in dealing with several pertinent issues in life.

In all, we believe that the Fellowship has grown well and it has the potential to contribute to overall spiritual well-being of the Victoria Fellowship Church.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Dissimilation of electronic Newsletters was consistently embarked on this year. We were able to publish the Voice magazine once this year. A publication committee has been constituted and we are expecting quarterly publication in the coming year.

Our new website is now up and social media account now open. A Social Media Ministry committee was constituted to help in our reaching the digital world initiated by the outlook committee.

To increase fellowship and sense of belonging, we began giving out birthday cards and special event cards to our members while encouraging our house fellowship centres to attend such events.

