

ACCRA RIDGE CHURCH

REPORTS TO THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY, 17TH MARCH, 2024

ACCRA RIDGE CHURCH

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AGENDA FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ON SUNDAY, 17TH MARCH, 2024

1. Opening Prayer
 - Clergy
2. Welcome/Apologies
 - Chairman of Council
3. In Memoriam
 - Clergy
4. Confirmation of Minutes of AGM of 26th March, 2023
5. Confirmation of Minutes of SGM of 30th July, 2023
6. Confirmation of Minutes of SGM of 26th November, 2023
7. Matters Arising
 - 7.1 AGM, 26th March, 2023
 - 7.2 SGM, 30th July, 2023
 - 7.3 SGM, 26th November, 2023
8. Presentation of Council and Ridge Church School (RCS) Reports
 - 8.1 Discussion
9. Presentation of Financial Reports
 - 9.1 Auditor's Report
 - Intellisys Representative
 - 9.2 Presentation of Financial Reports
 - Treasurer
 - 9.3 Acceptance of Financial Report and Discussion
10. Council to Congregation
11. Congregation to Council
12. Other Business: Appointment of Auditors
13. Closing Remarks
 - Chairman of Council
14. Courtesies
 - Member of the Church
15. Closing Prayer and Benediction
 - Clergy
16. Refreshments

Vision

We aspire to be a strong and united Church impacting families, communities, workplaces and nations for Jesus Christ.

Mission

To disciple Christians of all nations, denominations, ages and social classes, using the Bible as the ultimate manual.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY, 26TH MARCH, 2023 IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 8:30 A.M. JOINT SERVICE

1. PRESENT

Ms. Abigail Armah	- Chairman
Mr. Godwin Pinto	- Secretary
Mr. Alfred Ayer	- Treasurer
Rev. Andrew J. T. Odjowo	- Coordinating/Presbyterian Minister
Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng	- Methodist Minister
Rev. Canon Andrew N. A. Torgbor	- Anglican Minister
Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah	- Youth Minister
Rev. Fr. Reginald I. O. Lawson	- Auxiliary Minister

And 224 qualified members of the congregation who wrote their names (i.e., 193 in-person and 31 others via ZOOM platform). A complete list of all who were present is available at the Church office.

2. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the Meeting to order at 11.10 a.m.

3. APOLOGIES

Rev. Dr. Joyce Aryee, Mrs. Jayne Kumi, Dr. Emily Onuoha

4. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed members and thanked God for the quorum for the meeting.

5. OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Andrew J. T. Odjowo said the opening prayer for the commencement of the AGM.

6. IN MEMORIAM

Rev. Canon Andrew N. A. Torgbor prayed for the souls of members who were called to rest in 2022.

7. ELECTION OF NEW COUNCIL 2023-2025

7.1 Report and Introduction of Candidates

The Chairman of the Nominations Committee, Mr. Ted Bernasko, presented a report on the vetting of twenty-one (21) applicants for election to Council for the period 2023 to 2025. The Committee recommended that all twenty-one nominees interviewed by the Committee be presented to the Church for election.

It further recommended that as there was only one nomination each for the positions of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, members at the AGM should declare those positions unopposed. The other eighteen nominees would however, go through the election process in accordance with Article 14 of the Constitution.

The Chairman of the Committee informed the AGM that one of the candidates had withdrawn her nomination for election to the Council resulting in a reduction of nominees to Council to seventeen. The Committee also recommended that those who would not be elected to Council could be engaged one way or other or co-opted whenever there is an opportunity to serve.

The Chairman of the Nominations Committee introduced the candidates standing for election to Council to the AGM.

On a motion by Dr. (Mrs.) Sylvia Boye, and seconded by a member of the congregation, the meeting congratulated the Nominations Committee for the good work done, and the recommendations they made. On a motion by Mrs. Gloria Lamptey and seconded by Ms Eunice Roberts, the meeting accepted the recommendations of the Nominations Committee.

7.2 Appointment of Tellers

Nineteen members of the congregation were appointed as tellers and they in turn elected Mr. Danny E. Mawuenyega as their leader. They fashioned out the election procedure and explained to the AGM the election procedure they had adopted. Mrs. Vicky Adomako inquired if all the tellers were paid up members of the Church. This was verified and the process was allowed to continue.

7.3 Required Number for Election to Council

Mr. Sam Otu-Boateng sought clarification on the number of members the AGM was going to elect out of the number of candidates standing for election.

Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng read the Constitution of the Accra Ridge Church which states in Part III: The Church Council (b) page 21 that twelve (12) communicant members who shall be elected at the AGM to represent:

- i. Ridge Church - 8 members elected at AGM
- ii. Branch - 3 members elected according to Article 24
- iii. Outreach Post - 1 member elected by members of the Outreach Post

It was agreed that only eight (8) members would be elected out of the seventeen (17) standing for election.

Mr. Sam Otu-Boateng suggested that out of the total number of candidates who are not elected, Council should explore ways to either engage them in the activities of the Church or co-opt them to Council.

Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng stated that those who are not elected could only be co-opted onto Council if they obtain 60% of the highest votes in accordance with the ARC Manual of Operations (Ref. Page 14).

There were concerns about whether members of the Manet Congregation would be allowed to vote at the AGM. The consensus reached was that since we belong to one Church, the Accra Ridge Church, all eligible members from the Manet Branch and Tudu Outreach Post should be allowed to vote.

It was proposed that going forward the Constitutional Review Committee or Legal Committee should revisit the issue in the Constitution.

7.4 Election Results

Total number of votes	-	152
Disqualified votes	-	2
Total valid votes	-	150

Results of ARC Council Elections 2023-2025

Position	Name	Number of Votes
1.	Justice (Mrs.) Merley Wood	108
2.	Nana Yaw Otu-Boateng	97
3.	Dr. Nii Darko Asante	84
4.	Mr. Tetteh Kanor Okunor	79
5.	Mrs. Naa Korkoi Amaniampong	77
6.	Mr. Robert Kpakpo Acquaye	76
7.	Ms Liza Obeng	72
8.	Capt. Samuel Thompson	70

From the results above, the nominees from number 1 to 8 were successfully elected unto the Council for the period 2023-2025.

The following were also elected unopposed as Officers of Council for the period 2023 to 2025:

Ms Abigail Armah	-	Chairman
Ms Kukua Awo Pratt	-	Secretary
Mr. Alfred Ayer	-	Treasurer

The following members of the Manet Chapel Management Committee were elected to join the Council for the period 2023 to 2025:

Mr. Seth Dzordzorme
Nana Koomah Boakye-Agyemang
Mr. Kwaku Afful

Mrs. Jayne Kumi was elected to represent the Tudu Outreach Post on Council for the period 2023-2025.

7.5 Prayer for Elected Council Members

Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng prayed for all the elected officers and members to the Council and committed them and their families into God's hands.

It was announced that the newly-elected Council for 2023-2025 will be inducted into office at a later date, once co-options are completed and members assigned their roles and responsibilities.

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF AGM HELD ON 27TH MARCH, 2022

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27th March, 2022 were confirmed subject to the correction below:

Page 10, Item 13.5.1, line 2, insert, "value" between "book" and "was"

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SGM HELD ON 24TH JULY, 2022

The minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 24th July, 2022 were confirmed subject to the correction below:

Page 22, Item 8, line 2, should read: "by a majority decision and one abstention they accepted the following:"

10. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SGM HELD ON 27TH NOVEMBER, 2022

The minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 27th November, 2022 were confirmed subject to the correction below:

Page 28, Item 9, insert "Morrison and Associates" at the end of the sentence.

11. MATTERS ARISING: AGM of 27th March 2022, SGM of 24th July and 27th November, 2022

On a motion by Mr. Harold Richardson, and seconded by Mr. Ted Bernasko, the meeting adopted the itemised notes on the Matters Arising out of the Minutes of the AGM and SGMs of 2022.

12. MATTERS ARISING: Appointment of Auditors

On a motion moved by Mr. Sam Okudzeto, seconded by the Mrs. Margaret Akofio-Sowah and accepted unanimously by members of the Church, **IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** Intellisys Chartered Accountants be and are hereby appointed as the Auditors for the Church, ARC Hall, and Ridge Church School.

13. PRESENTATION OF COUNCIL AND RIDGE CHURCH SCHOOL REPORTS

The following amendments were made to the Annual Report document:

Cover page: The date for AGM should read "26th March, 2023" instead of "28th March, 2023".

Page 33, Last paragraph, line 1, replace, "2022" with "2021"

Page 38, Projections Item 1.0, line 1, replace, "participate" with "physically participate"

Page 39, Other Services, paragraph 3, line 2, insert "This changed to Wednesdays"

Page 64, Item 4, Men's Fellowship Mini-Harvest, date should read: "25th September 2023"

Page 92, Item 2 line 2: replace "2023" with "2022"

Page 115, Item 2:1, date should read, "26th February 2023" instead of "21st February 2023"

The Council and the Ridge Church School Reports were taken as read.

On a motion by Mrs. Grace D. Hanson, and seconded by Mrs. Ophelia Ayeh, the meeting accepted the reports for discussion.

14. DISCUSSION

14.1 Youth Service

Mr. Sam Otu-Boateng suggested that a small committee be set up to brainstorm and determine the way forward regarding the Youth Service, with views taken from the Youth Minister. He opined that it could be that the needs of the youth were not being addressed resulting in their migration.

Some comments shared by some members indicated that the Youth Services were unattractive to the youth.

Mr. Baffour Otu-Boateng questioned the Church's commitment to the youth and suggested that the Church seriously reconsider the issues related to the Youth Service.

Mrs. Esther Apewokin said there was the need to re-visit the Youth Policy and its implementation with the hope of it helping resolve many of the issues discussed and confronting the youth.

Mr. Paul Hammond called on the Church to care for the youth in order to secure the Church's future.

Mr. Sam Okudzeto inquired about why the once vibrant and very prayerful youth were leaving the Church and also reiterated that the Youth Service be reinstated as a safeguard.

Mr. W. A. Mensah enquired about the mandate of the Youth Minister and the need for him to work within his mandate and not reinvent the wheel. Mrs. Charlotte Ahwoi asked for the age group the Church classified as youth.

Mrs. Georgette McCarthy asked whether the Church had taken time to investigate the youth's migration and efforts made to restore them back into the Church. Her view was that perhaps the youth were unhappy about a number of issues which required attention and interaction with them to resolve. In response to the Youth Minister's assertion about the outcome of a survey, Mr. Kelvin Hesse, a former executive member of the Youth Fellowship, enquired about the scope of the survey and whether it addressed the cause of the youth's migration.

Mrs. Leonora Otu-Boateng stated that she had observed that the 6:00 p.m. Service (Ridge) had resumed and even though attendance was at a minimum, efforts were being made to shore it up. Therefore, low participation at Youth Service did not provide a good enough reason for not resuming that Service.

Ms Payin Marfo noted that the youth were not drawn to join the groups in the Church because of the age stratification in these groups. She called for age-stratified groupings to break this barrier. By this method various age groups will be accommodated. Joint meetings can then be held for these groupings to fellowship and exchange ideas.

Ms Eunice Lartey suggested that one way of addressing the needs of the youth would be to organise a prayer retreat to seek the Lord's face for direction to help couch themes and tailor-made activities to engage their interest.

Mr. Anthony Davor, a former Youth Representative on Council, shared his story about the impact of the Youth Service as the main catalyst that drew him to join Accra Ridge Church. His father also joined the Church later. He, therefore, identified with the youth's concerns and reiterated the need to reinstate the Service.

The Youth Minister in response stated that as a result of the closure of Church Services occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Church began to make preparations towards reopening of Services. A survey conducted prior to this initiative, revealed that only 30% of respondents agreed to reopening Church Services. Of this number, 70% were above 50 years of age. This number proved true when Services resumed. At that time, online participation was minimal compared to in-person attendance. When the Contemporary Service resumed it had been hoped that the youth would join that Service, but they did not. The age bracket was from 40 years and above. The only youth who attended that Service were the Youth Music Group and the tech team.

The Youth Minister stated that sentiments being expressed at the meeting were very disheartening, as if nothing had been done. He informed the meeting that he had engaged the Youth Board and a cross-section of the youth in a series of meetings to determine the way forward. The youth had complained about the timing of Services, and content and these were adjusted to suit them. He had

tried to vary the Services to include a prayer service, music, or worship service but these has still not attracted them. He was, therefore, at a loss as to what the youth wanted.

The Youth Minister further stated that he had observed that whenever the youth held a prayer meeting, for example, and adult members attended they would begin to leave. He also observed that though adults attend youth programmes the youth did not do likewise. This observation had Clergy wondering why the youth were aversive to being in the same Service as their parents and older brothers and sisters.

The Youth Minister referred to the Clergy Report in the 2022 AGM Report at page 37 where the youth had been classified under the age range from 18 years to 30 years.

As an interim solution, therefore, he stated that the Clergy had considered making every 5th Sunday in the months that have five Sundays to be designated as Youth-led Services.

The Youth Minister stated that the problem was not the Youth Service but rather the numbers that would be attending the Service and that it would be best for the Church to consider the sustainability of the Service in that regard. He was of the view that graduating the youth from one Service to another was the way forward such that upon attaining the age of 18, they would then join the Adult Service. He remarked that the only place the youth did not seem to fit in was the 10:30 a.m. Service (Ridge) mainly due to numbers and timing. His recommendation was that the youth's request be incorporated in the Contemporary Service.

Furthermore, the Youth Minister stated that presently, the youth no longer determined who preached at their Services since the Church had sufficient Ministers and seasoned lay preachers.

He also indicated that the once vibrant Youth Fellowship no longer existed. He had offered to provide content to the Youth Fellowship to enrich their meetings and increase their meeting schedule. The Legacy Series had been introduced to bridge the gap between the youth and adult members who could serve as role models to influence their development in various spheres of endeavour. Unfortunately, this has not been realised.

In conclusion, he stated that the Clergy were not against the Youth Service but were looking for a sustainable plan as the best way forward for the future good of the Church.

On a motion by Mr. Sam Okudzeto and seconded by Mrs. Peace Mary Akwei-Brock, Council was mandated to reconsider the issue of the Youth Service, the integration of the youth into the Church, identify the attractions to the youth outside the Church, propose solutions, and make recommendations for consideration at the SGM in July, 2023.

14.2 Adoption of Annual Report 2022

On a motion by Mr. Sam Otu-Boateng and seconded by Mrs. Esther Armah, the Council and School Reports were adopted.

15. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT

15.1 Auditor's Report

Ms Mary Ashong, a representative of Intellisys Chartered Accountants, presented "the Independent Auditor's Report" for the Church, ARC Hall Ltd., and School for 2022.

15.2 Discussion

On a motion by Mr. Ted Bernasko and seconded by Mr. Seth Appiah-Kubi, the meeting unanimously accepted the financial reports for 2022 for the Church, ARC Hall Ltd., and School for discussion.

15.2.1 State of the ARC Hall

Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng enquired about the status of the ARC Hall. The member responsible for Property, Mr. Robert Acquaye, informed the meeting that some rooms have been furnished and two (2) have presently been rented out. He went on to inform the meeting that the Basement of the ARC Hall was presently being used for Church Services and other church-related meetings. Apart from these, the Basement was also available for hire for various private functions.

On the completion of the main auditorium, Mr. Acquaye stated that the last invoice for the main auditorium for the total works to bring it to full completion totalled \$2 million US Dollars. This could increase depending on prevailing economic conditions. Currently, the air-conditioning system in the main auditorium is undergoing some work which will be completed soon.

Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng was of the view that members needed to think outside the box to find ways to raise funds to complete the auditorium.

Mr. Sam Okudzeto revisited his plea to the Church to reconsider his proposal of obtaining a loan to complete the ARC Hall. He informed the AGM that the bank was ready to assist the Church in financing the completion of the ARC Hall. This was supported by Mr. Emmanuel Osei.

Several people rejected the proposal of going for a loan including Dr. Alex Glover-Quartey, Mr. Kofi Sampong, and Mr. Baffour Otu-Boateng. The reasons they tabled included the risk involved, the difficulty the Church had in meeting its loan obligation previously, and the economic crunch facing the nation presently. They also mentioned the admonition by the late former Governor of the Bank of Ghana, Mr. J. S. Addo for the Church not to go for a loan for the project.

In response, the Chairman stated that various options will be considered, and a proposal tabled before members regarding the way forward in raising the needed funds to complete the ARC Hall Complex. Mrs. Esther Armah advised the Church to seek God's face on the issue.

15.2.2 Cash Balance

Dr. Rebecca Lomo commended the Finance Committee for a job well done and wondered why the cash balance of the Church was rather on the high side. In response, the Treasurer explained that this was mainly in foreign exchange rather than investment which presently had taken a nosedive. He was of the view it was more prudent to have the funds in foreign exchange.

15.2.3 Restricted Funds

Mr. Seth Appiah-Kubi sought clarification on the composition of the restricted funds and wondered why some funds were inactive.

The Treasurer explained that the active fund was the Church's Scholarship Fund. However, the Wekem Felli and Andoh/Baddoo Funds were currently dormant. The latter, which is geared toward the training of the youth in leadership, has not been utilised because its Board has been dormant.

Mr. Appiah-Kubi sought clarification about why asset performance was about 85%, however, the figure representing property, plant, and equipment seemed rather low. In response, the Treasurer explained that the figure excluded that for the ARC Hall and that most of the buildings were very old and, therefore, historical values were used in the financials.

On a motion by Mr. Seth Appiah-Kubi and seconded by Mr. Emmanuel Osei, the meeting adopted the financial report for 2022.

16. COUNCIL TO CONGREGATION

16.1 Ratification of Tenure of member of Nominations Committee

On a motion by Dr. (Mrs.) Sylvia Boye and seconded by Mr. Emmanuel Osei, the meeting unanimously accepted the recommendations of Council to renew the term of office of the Presbyterian representative on the Nominations Committee, Mrs. Gifty Anterkyi, for one more term, that is, for three (3) years.

17. CONGREGATION TO COUNCIL

17.1 Walkway/Ramp at the ARC Hall Complex

Mr. W. A. Mensah was of the view that the walkway made for the disabled must be carefully looked at since it had no railings on the sides.

17.2 Reverting to 10.00 a.m. Service

Mr. Emmanuel Osei recommended that since the COVID-19 infection has greatly reduced, the Church should consider reverting to its original time for the 10:30 a.m. Service.

The Chairman informed the meeting that this would be considered at the SGM in July, 2023 which will look at the change in timing of Church Services.

17.3 Donation of Television Sets to the Prison Ministry

Mr. E. W. Edusei on behalf of the Christian Services Group made a passionate appeal to members to donate televisions to the Prison Ministry of Ghana.

17.4 E-voting

A member from the diaspora was of the view that the Church should consider e-voting to cater for members outside the country.

The Chairman informed the meeting that this was considered but the logistics and time constraints did not allow it to materialise, but it could be set up by the next elections.

17.5 SHS for Ridge Church School

Mr. Sam Otu-Boateng was of the view the proposed establishment of the Ridge Church Senior High School was long overdue. He added the setting up of the SHS will help the Church inculcate Christian values in those who attended the school.

The Chairman informed the meeting that a previous AGM decision taken requested that the Council submit a comprehensive Business Plan for the project. Unfortunately, the plan could not be delivered on time for the AGM. She added that concerns were raised on the initial financial proposal of the Board of Governors and this was still being reviewed.

She assured the meeting that Council wanted to ensure the right thing was done and when Council is satisfied with the Business Plan it will present this to the congregation for consideration. She further stated that the delay notwithstanding, the School will be launching its Trust Fund for the proposed SHS project on 30th March, 2023.

17.6 Conduct of Ministers

Mr. Sam Otu-Boateng laid before the meeting a complaint about the general conduct of the Clergy. He had on a number of occasions raised this issue with the Coordinating Minister especially. The basis of his complaint was that even though they had been seconded to the Ridge to work on full-time basis, there had been concerns that they were not often available whenever congregants needed their attention. He urged the Council to take up this matter with the heads of the Participating Churches since it was quite serious and should be addressed.

Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng expressed grave concern at Mr. Sam Otu-Boateng's comments. He stated that he was mostly in the manse where his office is located and had not received any complaint about his unavailability from any quarter. That notwithstanding, Clergy will take up the complaint and seek redress.

Mr. Sam Otu-Boateng appealed to the Clergy not to air their grievances as part of their valedictory sermons and rather find more suitable avenues to air their concerns for these to receive the proper attention.

Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng considered that some of these challenges stemmed from the inadequate orientation they received when they assumed office at the Ridge and that it was not until recently that they became aware of some expectations of Clergy. A classic example he gave was the avenue of inviting visiting Ministers to enrich the Services.

He recommended that a well-structured orientation was required for newly-appointed Ministers to make them aware of their roles and responsibilities. He added that Council could make more use of the Steering Committee to address issues facing the Church.

17.7 Interdenominational Church

Dr. (Mrs.) Sylvia Boye reminded the meeting that in all Church deliberations we should bear in mind that we are a united Church and therefore should not foster contentions between denominations.

18. OTHER BUSINESS

18.1 Appointment of Auditors

On a motion by the Treasurer and seconded by Mr. Sam Okudzeto, the meeting unanimously appointed Intellisys Chartered Accountants as the Auditors for the Church, ARC Hall Ltd., and Ridge Church School for the year 2023.

19. CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman expressed her appreciation to God and thanked members for attending and participating actively in the meeting and contributing to the issues tabled.

She observed that the meeting had been engaging, as issues of relevance were brought to the fore and frankly discussed while considering the present state of the Church. She urged members to continue to express their views about the Church and also to help improve on our Christian fellowship, the study of God's Word, and prayer.

20. COURTESIES

Ms Esinam Edusei thanked God, the Chairman of Council, the Administrative staff, members of Council, the Clergy, the Nominations Committee, Tellers, the out-going Council members, members present in-person and online for their various contributions which led to a successfully held AGM. She stated in conclusion that the various constructive inputs made by many helped enrich our discussions during the meeting all in the bid to build a stronger and well-structured Church to the glory of God.

21. CLOSING

On a motion by Mr. Emmanuel Osei and seconded by Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng, the meeting closed at 3:20 p.m.

The closing prayer and benediction was pronounced by Rev. Fr. Reginald I.O. Lawson.

RECORDED BY:

MR. GODWIN PINTO
(*SECRETARY*)

CONFIRMED THIS 17TH DAY OF MARCH, 2024 BY: **MS ABIGAIL ARMAH**
(*CHAIRMAN*)

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY, 30TH JULY, 2023 AFTER THE 8.30 A.M. JOINT SERVICE

1. PRESENT

Ms Abigail Armah	-	Chairman of Council
Ms Kukua Awo Pratt	-	Secretary
Mr. Alfred Ayer	-	Treasurer
Rev. Andrew J. T. Odjawo	-	Coordinating/Presbyterian Minister
Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng	-	Methodist Minister
Rev. Canon Andrew N. A. Torgbor	-	Anglican Minister
Rev. Fr. Reginald I. O. Lawson	-	Auxiliary Minister
Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah	-	Youth Minister

And one hundred and fifty-one (151) qualified members of the congregation who wrote their names and were online, a compilation of which is available at the Church office.

2. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. and apologised for the late circulation of the reports to be considered for the meeting.

3. OPENING PRAYER

The meeting started with a prayer by Rev. Canon Andrew Torgbor.

4. CORRECTION OF THE AGENDA

Following a point of correction raised by Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng on the description of the meeting as well as the agenda items to be discussed, the Chairman informed members that the following corrections be made on the agenda:

- "Annual General Meeting" should be changed to "Special General Meeting to consider Spiritual Matters"
- "Any Other Business (AOB)" to be included as Item 7 of the Agenda
- The underlisted were also added to Item 4 of the Agenda:
- Report from the Clergy on CLAN
- Progress Report on the CLAN Implementation

5. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Rachel Baddoo

6. WELCOME AND PURPOSE

The Chairman welcomed members to the Church's SGM on spiritual matters to discuss the matters arising out of the Paradigm Shift (PS) document.

7. PRESENTATION OF THE CLERGY REPORT ON THE CLAN

The Coordinating Minister, Rev. Andrew J. T. Odjawa presented the Clergy Report on the CLAN.

He began his presentation by stating that the ARC clergy is pleased that the congregation has accepted the CLAN framework and is seeking to finetune it for the purpose of promoting spiritual growth and helping the church to refocus its mandate.

Providing a background to the report, he stated that the CLAN framework had become necessary after the adoption of six documents which he outlined in his report.

He further stated that the documents mentioned above as adopted by AGMs over the years had similar primary concerns and challenges and the Implementation Review Committee then identified three (3) key issues as follows:

- The Coordinating Minister's limited knowledge and ability to make significant impact on the spiritual life of ARC, leaving just when he/she begins to appreciate the spiritual life of the Church;
- Size of Council poses challenges in tackling/discussing issues in-depth, and this leads to significant delay in decision-making;
- Existing governance structure of ARC does not place emphasis on Church life and nurture (spiritual growth). For example, issues related to evangelism, outreach, discipleship, prayer, soul-winning, and church growth.

Below is a summary of his presentation:

a. The Importance of the CLAN framework and Mandate of the Church

Rev. Odjawa stated that Jesus Christ has given two important tasks to His people. The first one is the Great Commandment - loving God with all our hearts and minds and loving our neighbour as ourselves (Matthew 22:37-40). The second one is the Great Commission - preach the Gospel and make disciples all around the world (Matthew 28:19-20).

b. The Purpose and Importance of the CLAN Framework

He stated that the purpose and importance of the CLAN framework was to enable Church life and nurture to deal with various ministries of the Church: children, the youth, women, men, ministry of the aged, worship (music), Christian training (laity), education, mission, evangelism, and counseling, all in the bid to enrich and enhance the worship life of the Church by promoting the ministry work of all groups/fellowships towards achieving the mandate of the Church.

He further stated that some advantages of the CLAN included:

- Steering the Church toward its core mandate geared towards spiritual growth.
- Facilitating Christian education and understanding of the Christian faith.
- Supervising the generational groups, promoting synergy, and encouraging leadership development.
- Enhancing worship, evaluating health status, and promoting counselling.
- Fostering accountability and responsibility among members in fulfillment of the Great Commission.
- Emerging challenges and their possible solutions

Rev. Odjawo stated that some of the challenges which the CLAN seeks to resolve include:

- Groups established without Council's approval resulting in the duplication of effort, thus making monitoring and supervision difficult.
- Focus of attention on constitutional and financial issues only at AGMs.
- Lack of control and collaboration among the groups.
- Inability to assess our health and effectiveness as a Church in the light of the mandate given us by God.
- Delayed or slow decision-making processes in the Church.

Rev. Odjawo concluded by expressing his gratitude to members of the Church for their cooperation and opportunity given the Clergy to serve the Church. He referred to Rick Warren's quotation: "Every Church needs to grow warmer through fellowship, deeper through discipleship, stronger through worship, broader through ministry and larger through evangelism."

He further stated that the Clergy would endeavour to, with the cooperation and collaboration of the members of the Church, produce a balanced and healthy Church, helping the Church to fulfill its mandate and purpose through nurture, edification of believers, and helping people know and love God, "Until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God, and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:13)

8. DISCUSSION OF CLERGY REPORT

On a motion by Dr. Charles Allotey and seconded by Mr. Alex Ayeh, the meeting unanimously accepted the Clergy Report on the CLAN for discussion.

Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng sought clarity on the differences between the CLAN framework presented at the SGM in 2022 and the framework presented during this meeting. Specifically, she stated the following differences:

- Weeping Mothers versus Concerned Mothers ministry
- Ministry Team versus ARC Intercessors
- Bible Readers versus Lay Readers
- Friday prayer group meeting versus Church-wide prayer meeting.

The Chairman in response, stated that these will be clarified in the presentation of the progress report on the CLAN implementation.

Following that, the meeting commended the Clergy for their report and accepted the Clergy Report on a motion by the Chairman.

9. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Dr. Nii Darko Asante presented the Progress Report on the CLAN on behalf of the CLAN Implementation Committee (the "Committee").

Below is a summary of his representation.

Dr. Asante reported that following the directives of the July 2022 SGM, the Council had effectively established the CLAN Implementation Committee (IC) responsible for implementing the CLAN framework.

He added that the Implementation Committee had set out to create Pilot CLAN Ministries as a preliminary

step before fully establishing the CLAN ministries. He explained that the pilot ministries will operate until July 2024, during which time Council would evaluate any findings from the pilot phase and seek approval from SGM 2024 for full implementation.

Dr. Asante further reported that to ease the IC's workload in implementing the CLAN framework while addressing other aspects of the Paradigm Shift proposal, Council had approved the creation of a Governance Sub-committee responsible for analysing the current governance structure of the Church and proposing a new governance structure in the light of the CLAN framework.

Finally, he explained that to fulfill its responsibilities as outlined by Council, the IC had developed a 2-year roadmap that will guide its actions and progress towards achieving its mandate.

Dr. Asante concluded stating that the implementation of the CLAN will require a collaborative effort between leadership and membership and though not everything may start off smoothly, he strongly encouraged members of the Church to get involved to help make Accra Ridge Church a place where our Lord Jesus will be proud of.

10. DISCUSSION

On a motion by Dr. Alex Amankwah-Poku and seconded by Esther Apewokin, the meeting unanimously accepted the Progress Report on the CLAN Implementation for discussion.

10.1 Comparison of Strategies

Mr. Baafour Otu-Boateng expressed his appreciation to the Committee for the work done so far on the implementation of the CLAN. He stated that in principle, he had no opposition to the framework as presented by the Committee and perceived it as a way the Church would be structured to deliver its mandate. However, he sought clarity on the strategy for the spiritual life of Church members which he believed would shape the way the Church is structured. He questioned whether the previous strategies of the Church had been reviewed and inputs sought from members. He also sought clarity on the difference between previous strategies and this new strategy.

The Coordinating Minister responded that the Growth Strategy which was the previous strategy had been partially implemented by the Church. He added that the Discipleship Strategy which was currently being implemented by the Church has not been evaluated or reviewed since its implementation. He further stated that the CLAN Implementation Committee considered and incorporated both strategy documents to ensure the strategy was implemented using the CLAN framework as presented. He stated that the pilot of the CLAN will enable members to provide feedback to ensure that the implementation of the CLAN framework will enable the Church to achieve its goals.

10.2 CLAN Organogram

Dr. Alex Amankwa-Poku suggested that the sub-committee, that is, the governance as mentioned in the presentation of the progress report should be included in the CLAN organogram.

10.3 Status of ACPE Church with respect to ARC

Dr. (Mrs.) Sylvia Boye sought clarity on the status of the ACPE Church. The Chairman explained that the leaders of the ACPE Church had submitted their proposal for ARC to formalise its relationship with them. She further stated that the ARC Trustees and Council held a meeting with the leaders of

the ACPE Church. They were advised to regularise their request. She stated that members will be updated at subsequent meetings on any new developments.

10.4 Additional Services

Dr. Charles Allotey requested that the Church emphasise other Services within the Church such as, Sunday School, Youth and Teen Services.

10.5 Groups and Services Interim Measures

Mrs. Leonora Otu-Boateng requested clarity on the interim measures in place for groups and services while the implementation of the CLAN was being considered. It was noted that the pilot of the CLAN had begun and therefore discussions were being finalised with the various groups of the Church on their mode of operation.

10.6 Leadership of Implementation Committee

Mr. Kojo Hayford commented on the difficulty of obtaining volunteers to constitute the Governance Sub-Committee. He wanted to know who would take over the leadership of the CLAN Implementation Committee after Rev. Odjawa ended his tenure as Coordinating Minister. His concern was in the light of the volume of work required to implement the framework.

The Chairman explained that the leadership of the CLAN Implementation Committee was vested in the role of the Coordinating Minister and therefore whoever assumed office following the end of Rev. Odjawa's tenure would take up the leadership of the Committee. She added that it was difficult to hold members of the Church who took up roles within the Church accountable given that these were voluntary roles. She also commented on the unwillingness of members of the Church to volunteer for roles within the Church stating that it was often the same people who were relied upon. She urged members present to consider volunteering for the work of the Church.

10.7 Putting Volunteerism In Perspective

Rev. Fred Amoah-Darko encouraged members of the Church to put volunteering in the Church in the right perspective, which is that, it is the Lord that needs our participation not the Council. He further explained that it was Christ who said, "I will build my Church" and Accra Ridge Church is the Lord's Church. Again, he suggested that the Clergy should teach on topics like our responsibilities to the Lord.

10.8 Soul Winning Strategies

Mr. Danny Mawuenyega stated that he was of the opinion that the Church was being too clinical about soul winning. He indicated that while evangelism is borne out of passion for Christ by telling one's personal testimony about Christ, discipleship is a command from the Lord, and we reach out with the Word in obedience to this direct command. He urged members to obey the call of God to disciple persons and commit to work within the Church to achieve this goal.

10.9 Church Volunteerism and Soul-winning

Mr. Samuel Okudzeto stated that in his view, a church is a family, and as a family you do not pay people to work, you assign responsibilities. Besides, our focus should be more on the fact that we have voluntarily decided to be members of the Accra Ridge Church and for that reason, this is our Church, and its members are our brothers and sisters.

He admonished members to re-focus their thoughts, appreciate the fact that we are members of the Church, and also find out if we are achieving the goal of soul-winning. In the event that the Church is not, then we should find out what the problem is and find a solution to it together as a Church.

10.10 Views on Church Growth

Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah expressed his thoughts on the growth of the Church. He stated he did not agree that there was no growth in the Church because the Church had taken up so many activities and had accomplished them. He cited ACPE, Manet Branch, and Tudu Outpost as examples of the growth of the Church. He urged us to acknowledge these and be grateful for the growth in quantity and quality of the Church.

In support of Rev. Ankama-Asamoah's comments, the Chairman stated that the growth strategy had led to the establishment of both the Anaviosi and Contemporary Services. She further stated that a lot of initiatives on Church growth have been undertaken. However, because there were no established processes of evaluation members did not get to acknowledge and appreciate the track record on the progress of the Church.

Mr. Duke Amissah expressed his opinion on the lack of growth of the Church. With reference to Acts 2 which states that the Lord added to the Church, this was a sign of growth. He stated that the declining Church attendance, especially the Anaviosi Service, was evidence that the Church was not growing. He seconded Mr. Mawuenyega's comments on the soul-winning using the book of Ephesians chapter 4:11 ff, which refers to how the saints were equipped in the Church. This reference, therefore, required that the Church leadership ought to equip members to develop their passion for soul-winning. He also urged the Council to continue to pray about these matters.

10.11 New Organogram

Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng asked whether the organogram presented was the new organogram of the Church. She observed that the chart did not have key groups of the Church such as the Board of Trustees and Clergy.

10.12 Lack of Evangelism Activities in the Church

Ms. Yacoba Sackey stated that the Church had not undertaken evangelism activities in a long time. She suggested that the Church should organise crusades and outreach activities outside the Church. These she believed would be good and help the soul-winning agenda of the Church as well as bring members together.

The Chairman stated that although there had not been any outstation evangelism activity in recent times, several evangelism activities had been undertaken at Tudu and around the Ministries enclave during the evangelism week celebrations of the Church. She added that there were plans to carry out a medical outreach and preparations were underway.

Ms Caroline Mills sought to correct the perception that the Church was not undertaking any evangelism activities. As a member of the Evangelism Committee, she knew firsthand the programmes which had been organised. However, members were not eager to participate in these programmes, which often resulted in just the Committee members participating. She added her voice by encouraging participation in the Church's programmes.

10.13 Integration of Members Living Abroad

Mr. Richard Crabbe (via the online channel) stated that a very significant number of ARC members were resident abroad. He asked whether there were plans to integrate such members as well as provide spiritual support to ensure their personal growth, encourage them to contribute financially to the Church, and keep them abreast with the growth of the Church.

In response, the Chairman stated that the CLAN framework was yet to consider the suggested integration. However, an avenue can be created in respect of the inclusion of online channels for all Services of the Church. She stated that the Council was also exploring how the online community could also contribute financially to the Church.

10.14 Membership Omissions in the Implementation Committee

Furthermore, Mr. Richard Crabbe asked why the Anglican Minister was not listed as a member of IC. He also suggested that a member of the Youth Fellowship should be added to the committee to capture and incorporate the ideas and views of the future of the ARC.

The Chairman noted that the absence of the Anglican Minister was an oversight given that the former Anglican Minister was a member of the Committee. This she said would be immediately rectified and also that the suggested youth representation would be addressed.

Mrs. Adobea Amissah proposed that the Church should create a platform where people could share the spiritual direction that God gives them about the Church so that we would know what the Spirit of God says about our Church.

10.15 Correction of AGM Agenda

Dr. (Mrs.) Margaret Amankwah-Poku stated that the agenda for the meeting had been posted on the noticeboard for three weeks. Yet no one reached out to the administration to correct the errors highlighted during the meeting. She encouraged members to speak up on matters they felt were not right immediately and not to wait for such meetings for them to be discussed.

10.16 Discipleship

On the topic of discipleship, Rev. Fred Amoah-Darko stated that in as much as the Church was seeking to improve discipleship, the enemy could keep distracting the Church to prevent us from reaching this goal. He encouraged members of the Church to emphasise on prayer and continue to be committed to the Church.

In her response, the Chairman stated that the CLAN retreat held the day before the SGM, the role of prayer in the Church was considered. Besides, the Prayer Committee did not reflect the number of approved prayer groups in the Church. This will be rectified in order that prayer would be consistent for all programmes of the Church and would also be better coordinated.

Dr. Nii Darko Asante concluded the discussions stating that it was essential that these discussions on the spiritual matters of the Church were intended to move the Church forward. He clarified that the organogram of the Church had not changed, and that the CLAN Committee should be considered as a sub-committee of Council under the leadership of the Clergy.

He further stated that the Committee was working within the scope of the Church's Constitution. However, where the decisions of the Church warranted a change in the Constitution, these would be tabled through the appropriate governance processes for consideration and when approved, the Constitution of the Church would be amended to reflect the changes. Finally, he requested volunteers especially among the youth to serve on the sub-committees of the CLAN.

In her final remarks, the Chairman stated that it was essential that members of the Church stayed united and committed to the Church to enable a successful re-organisation of the Church.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Reinstating the Youth Service

Rev. Ankama-Asamoah stated that following the request to re-institute the Youth Service at the last AGM, several consultations had been had with members across the ages within the Church. He stated that it was agreed that Youth Fellowship was integral to the spiritual development of the youth and should therefore be supported to thrive. He further stated that in the second week of the month, a meeting had been scheduled to discuss the targeted age group for the Service, the timing of the Service, mode of Service with respect to design and content, and commencement date.

11.2 Healing Services

Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng stated that members of the Church enjoyed the Healing Services organised by the Church and requested that it should be continued. The Chairman stated that the Healing Service had been combined with Pentecost Sunday as a Healing and Anointing Service.

12. CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting and expressed her appreciation to all for their time investment in the deliberations, prayer support, and presence at the SGM to deliberate on the spiritual life of the Church.

13. COURTESIES

Ms Mary-Ann Addo thanked God for steering the meeting and for the fruitful discussions. She thanked the Clergy for their forbearance and presence at the meeting and also leading the CLAN framework thus far. She further thanked the Council and the CLAN Committee for their efforts and also for the physical and online presence of members adding to the success of the meeting.

14. CLOSING

In the absence of any further discussions, Dr. Alex Amankwah-Poku moved for the closure of the meeting seconded by Ms Mary-Ann Addo. The meeting closed at 1:30 p.m. with a prayer and benediction by Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng.

Appendices

1. Appendix A: CLAN Organogram (Detailed view of group placements)
2. Appendix B: Implementation Committee Roadmap (Visual representation of key timelines)
3. Appendix C: Paradigm Shift Implementation Committee (Full list of members)

RECORDED BY:

MS. KUKUA AWO PRATT
(SECRETARY)

CONFIRMED THIS 17TH DAY OF MARCH, 2024 BY:

MS. ABIGAIL ARMAH
(CHAIRMAN)

MINUTES OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY, 26TH NOVEMBER, 2023 HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 8:30 A.M. JOINT SERVICE

1. PRESENT

Ms. Abigail Armah	-	Chairman
Ms. Kukua Awo Pratt	-	Secretary
Mr. Alfred Ayer	-	Treasurer
Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng	-	Coordinating/Methodist Minister
Rev. Canon Andrew Torgbor	-	Anglican Minister
Rev. Frank Kissi	-	Presbyterian Minister
Rev. Fr. Reginald Lawson	-	Auxiliary Minister
Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng	-	Youth Minister

And 123 qualified members of the congregation who wrote down their names physically and were online, compilation of which is available at the Church office.

2. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:48 a.m.

3. OPENING PRAYER

The meeting started with a prayer by Rev. Canon Andrew Torgbor.

4. WELCOME AND PURPOSE

The Chairman welcomed members to the SGM to discuss the budget estimates for 2024.

5. PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET

The Treasurer, Mr. Alfred Ayer, presented the proposed budget to the congregation.

He began his presentation by stating that as a community of believers, we can testify that God has been good to us in diverse ways. He further stated that the Lord had done great things for us as a Church, family, and nation and that we should resolve to continue to depend solely and wholly on Him for guidance, provision, and sustenance, now and always.

His presentation was done in five (5) parts, namely:

- Performance Review for the nine-month period ended September, 2023
- Projected Income and Expenditure for the year ending December, 2023
- Budget Estimates for 2024
- ARC Hall Complex
- Ridge Church School

5.1 Performance Review for the Nine-Month period ended September, 2023

The Actual Total Income for the period January to September, 2023 was **GH¢7,342,106**, as against a budget for the same period of **GH¢7,793,538**, resulting in a negative variance of **GH¢451,432**, which was **5.8%** below the budgeted income for the period.

The Actual Total Expenditure for the period January to September, 2023 was **GH¢6,374,029**, as against a budget for the same period of **GH¢6,669,467**, resulting in a positive variance of **GH¢295,438**, which was **4.4%** below the budget.

The Actual Excess of Income over Expenditure for the period January to September, 2023 was **GH¢968,077**, as against a budget estimate of **GH¢1,124,071**, resulting a negative variance of **GH¢155,994**, which was **13.9%** below the budget.

5.2 Projected Income and Expenditure for the year ending December, 2023

The Projected Income for October to December, 2023 was **GH¢3,421,970**, resulting in a Projected Total Income for January to December, 2023 of **GH¢10,764,077**, as against a budget estimate of **GH¢11,188,492**, resulting in a negative variance of **GH¢424,415**, which was **3.8%** below the total budgeted income for 2023.

The Projected Expenditure for October to December, 2023 was **GH¢3,152,202**, resulting in a Projected Total Expenditure for January to December, 2023 of **GH¢9,526,233** as against a budget of **GH¢9,111,067** resulting in a negative variance of **GH¢415,166** which was **4.6%** above budget.

The projected Total Excess of Income over Expenditure for October to December, 2023 was **GH¢269,786**, resulting in a Projected Total Excess of Income over Expenditure for January to December, 2023 of **GH¢1,237,844**, as against a budget estimate of **GH¢2,077,425**, resulting in a negative variance of **GH¢839,581**, which was **40.4%** below budget.

5.3 Budget Estimates for 2024

5.3.1 Objectives

- i. To continue to meet spiritual needs of members through Christian education and fellowship.
- ii. To enhance the prayer life of the congregants and the Church.
- iii. To harness the potential of the teens and youth for spiritual growth and development.
- iv. To support the discipleship program in the Church.
- v. To work towards completing the ARC Hall and using it.
- vi. To complete the revision of staff conditions of service and rationalize staff cost.
- vii. To further enhance the multimedia capabilities to take advantage of online ministry.

5.3.2 Assumptions

The following assumptions were made:

- i. There will be an average of 11 Services a week for 52 weeks.
- ii. Donations to the Participating Churches and Church-related organisation remain the same as at 2023. The proposed amounts were **GH¢35,000**, **GH¢18,000**, and **GH¢12,000** to the Participating Churches, the Christian Council of Ghana, and Church-related organisations, respectively.

- iii. An 18% increase in the remuneration of staff.
- iv. An increase in membership dues as follows:
 - Minimum of **GH¢500** per adult member.
 - Minimum of **GH¢200** for members over 60 years and students.
- v. The proposed rates for the use of the Fellowship Centre are as follows:
 - **GH¢2,000** for members of the Church.
 - **GH¢2,500** for non-member.

5.3.3 Income and Expenditure

The Total Income for 2024 was estimated to be **GH¢11,174,791**, as against a 2023 Projected Total Income of **GH¢10,764,076**, which was a **3.8%** increase over the 2023 projected income.

The Total Expenditure for 2024 was estimated to be **GH¢9,526,233** as against a 2023 Projected Total Expenditure of **GH¢10,313,484**, resulting in an increase of **GH¢787,251**, which was an **8.3%** increase over the 2023 projected expenditure.

Total Excess of Income over Expenditure for 2024 was estimated to be **GH¢861,307**, as against a 2023 Projected Total Excess of Income over Expenditure of **GH¢1,237,844**, resulting in a decrease of **GH¢379,537**, which is a **30%** decrease compared to the 2023 projected amount.

The Treasurer highlighted the following:

- Donations and Thanksgiving are expected to increase by **10%**.
- Tithes are expected to remain the same as in 2023.
- Youth expenses are expected to increase to GH¢120,000 over the estimated actual amount of **GH¢107,170** for 2023 to support the youth and teen camps.
- Expenditure for visiting ministers is expected to increase by **5%**.
- Choir expenses are expected to increase by **46.8%**.

5.4 ARC Hall Complex Project (the "Project")

The Treasurer reported that in pursuit of our objective to work towards making the ARC Hall usable, a piecemeal approach targeted at completing essential areas of the Project was adopted. An amount of **GH¢1,321,522** was therefore spent on the project during the year.

The Treasurer further reported that as at 30th September, 2023, a total amount of **GH¢36,074,355** had been spent on the Project.

He stated that the piecemeal approach agreed at the Special General Meeting in January, 2018 will still be pursued in 2024. Therefore, funds will be raised for the completion of specific components of the ARC Hall.

5.5 Ridge Church School

The School's budgeted Income from fees for 2024 was **GH¢10,015,511**, as against the projected unaudited Actuals of **GH¢9,141,132**, for 2023. Other income was budgeted to be GH¢1,562,869, as against the unaudited figure of **GH¢2,050,034**.

The expenditure for 2024 was budgeted as **GH¢10,777,550**, as against the unaudited figure of **GH¢8,828,015**.

The Excess of Income over Expenditure for 2023 was budgeted as GH¢800,831, as against the unaudited figure of GH¢2,363,151, for 2023. The surplus after tax for 2024 was budgeted as GH¢600,623, as against the unaudited amount of GH¢1,772,363, for 2023.

6. DISCUSSION

On a motion by Mrs. Mary Yvonne Poku and seconded by Mr. Ted Bernasko the meeting unanimously accepted the 2024 budget for discussion.

6.1 Tithing

Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng inquired about the Church's approach to fostering greater participation in tithing among its members. She further stated that, previously, tithe envelopes were conveniently placed at the entrances to facilitate the process and suggested that the Church goes back to using that approach.

Additionally, she requested an explanation regarding the factors contributing to the anticipated rise in tithing figures in contrast to the amounts stated for 2023. The Treasurer stated that following the publishing of the performance review document for the meeting, he had done a subsequent review which showed a further decline in the number of people who paid their tithe over the last three years and therefore stated that the figures would be reviewed and corrected. The Chairman further assured Mrs. Osei-Boateng that her suggestion had been noted and would be addressed.

Dr. Julianna Taiwo also commented on the issue of tithes and offering and mentioned that whereas different people have different opinions and views on the issue, there was the need for the Church to take a stance and teach members to understand the essence of tithing and encourage them to pay their tithes and offerings.

6.2 Harvest 2023 Proceeds

Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng requested the actual amount for the 2023 Harvest contributions. The Treasurer informed the meeting that as at Friday, 24th November, 2023, the Harvest contributions received amounted to GH¢ 1,623,660, which meant that the Church had exceeded the anticipated income from Harvest for the last quarter of the year as stated in the performance review document.

6.3 Vehicle Purchase

Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng noted that the purchase of a vehicle had been anticipated in the budget and requested to know its intended use. The Treasurer stated that the vehicle would be the duty vehicle of the incoming Methodist Minister who would be received by the Church in October, 2024 following Rt. Rev. Gyabeng's end of tenure. He noted, however, that the heading for section 2.3 of the Performance Review and Budget Estimates document should be corrected to read, Capital Expenditure only.

6.4 Increase in Expenses/Discipleship

Mr. Sam Otu-Boateng commented on the projected increase in expenses as a result of the current economic conditions. He stated that an increase in expenses was understandable but the projected increase of 10% was not realistic. Additionally, he commended the Council for the amount allocated

to discipleship and stated that he hoped the amount would translate into visible activities and results. He urged the Clergy to lead the discipleship agenda with the Council's support.

The Treasurer explained that although the current economic conditions were unfavourable, there was the need to put measures in place to reduce cost to sustain the Church's financial position. Additionally, the Treasurer encouraged members of the Church to pray and have faith that God will help the Church to achieve this goal. On discipleship, the Treasurer assured the meeting that the Council together with the Clergy had initiated in-depth deliberations aimed at implementing structured programmes to enhance our understanding and practice of discipleship in the Church.

6.5 Training of Priests

Dr. Juliana Taiwo congratulated the Treasurer for a great job done on putting together the proposed budget. She referred to the cost of training priests (that is, **GH¢15,000** a year) as described as part of the sermon during the Service before the meeting and stated that the proposed budgeted amount of **GH¢12,000.00** to be paid to the Trinity Theological Seminary was inadequate.

The Treasurer explained that the proposed budgeted amount was a general donation to the Seminary and was not intended for the training of priests as surmised.

6.6 Evangelism

On Evangelism, Mr. Ted Bernasko suggested that the Church should include reaching out to non-ARC members and the general community. He suggested that outreach programmes such as the Swedru outreach programme held in previous years should be revisited. The Chairman informed Mr. Bernasko that the Church still provided support to the church in Swedru. She further assured him that his suggestion would be duly considered.

6.7 Membership Dues

Mrs. Margaret Akofio-Sowah requested that the proposed increase in membership dues be reconsidered since the dues were quite high in her opinion.

Dr. Rebecca Lomo inquired about the current membership fees. The Treasurer stated that annual membership dues were **GH¢400** for adults and **GH¢150** for students, pensioners, and senior citizens.

Ms. Caroline Mills via the online channel also affirmed that she considered the proposed Church dues too high and could potentially discourage new members from joining the Church.

A counter proposal was moved by Mrs. Margaret Akofio-Sowah and seconded by a majority show of hands and popular acclamation to keep the dues unchanged for 2024.

By a majority decision, IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the yearly membership dues of the Church be maintained at **GH¢400** for adults and **GH¢150** for students, pensioners, and senior citizens.

6.8 Review of Fellowship Centre Hiring Rates

Mrs. Florence Naa Louisa Ansah commented on the proposed rates for the use of the Fellowship Centre. She disagreed with the proposed increases on the basis of contributions members make to other Church commitments. She felt it was therefore unfair to charge such high rates. Additionally, she

mentioned that it was essential that the Church consider the members from the Tudu Church since it was likely that they would not be able to afford the proposed rates.

Mr. W. A. Mensah agreed with Mrs. Ansah's comments and requested that the existing rates for members should be maintained as a benefit for being a member of the Church. Several members of the Church expressed their views about the proposed increase in the rates for hiring the Fellowship Centre. In the ensuing discussions, a counter proposal was moved by Mr. Alex Ayeh, seconded by Mr. W. A. Mensah to increase the rates for hiring the Fellowship Centre to **GH¢1,500** for members **and GH¢3,000** for non-members.

By a majority decision, IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the rates for hiring the Fellowship Centre be increased to **GH¢1,500** for members and **GH¢3,000** for non-members.

6.9 ARC Hall Works

Dr. Rebecca Lomo requested a strategy from the Council for the completion of the ARC Hall by 2024. The Treasurer stated that it was anticipated that by the end of the first quarter of 2024, work on the ceiling and the stage, which were major hurdles, would be completed.

6.10 Administrative Staff Training and Clarity on Hospitality

Mr. Ernest Asare stated that the budgeted amount for training the administrative staff was inadequate. He observed that it was important to enhance the capacity of the employees to obtain best results. He also sought clarity on the components of the budget for hospitality. The Treasurer acknowledged the feedback on the amount for staff training and stated that it would be reviewed. On hospitality, the Treasurer stated that the amount budgeted was mainly for refreshments for Church activities.

6.11 Support to Bible Society of Ghana

Mr. Emmanuel Osei sought clarification about why the last time Bible Society of Ghana received their yearly allowance was in 2021 as per the report presented. The Treasurer explained that the Church took a decision to take both Bible Society of Ghana and Prison Ministry off the regular support list. Instead, the two missions would be allocated a Sunday every year to preach, interact with members of the Church and also raise funds.

6.12 Auditors

Ms Helen Odamtten sought clarification about the auditors' absence from the meeting. The Treasurer explained that the auditors are usually present at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and not at the Special General Meeting (SGM). At the AGM, they would then provide their opinion on the state of the Church's accounts after they had completed their audit.

7. APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 2024

The budget estimates for 2024 were approved and adopted by the meeting on a motion by Mr. Sam Otu-Boateng and seconded by Mrs. Gifty Anterkyi subject to the following changes:

- i. The membership dues for 2024 remaining the same as the dues for 2023.
- ii. The rates for the use of the Fellowship Centre should be as follows:

GH¢1,500 for members of the Church.

GH¢3,000 for non-members.

8. CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman of Council thanked the Treasurer, the Finance Committee, and all who were involved in the compilation and presentation of the performance review for 2023 and budget estimates for 2024. She also expressed her appreciation to members present at the meeting both physically and virtually and for their invaluable contributions that helped to enrich discussions and make pragmatic decisions for the benefit of the Church.

She stated in her remarks that a key area of focus in the coming year would be on Church planting since a significant number of members of the Church had moved to the outskirts of Accra following their retirement.

She urged members to continue to pray for congregants and more especially for God to bless members with good jobs and open doors of promotion to deserving members.

9. COURTESIES

Miss. Mabel Bruce, a member of the Youth Fellowship, on behalf of Council, expressed thanksgiving to God for a successful Special General Meeting. She also thanked everyone for their presence at the meeting, both in-person and online. She expressed her appreciation to the Clergy, Council, administrative staff, and members of the Finance Committee for their diligence culminating in a well-presented report on the Church's finances and financial standing for the year ending and outlook for 2024.

10. CLOSING

The meeting closed at 1:30 p.m. with a prayer and benediction by Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng.

RECORDED BY:

MS. KUKUA AWO PRATT
(*SECRETARY*)

CONFIRMED THIS 17TH DAY OF MARCH, 2024 BY: **MS. ABIGAIL ARMAH**
(*CHAIRMAN*)

A. MATTERS ARISING FROM AGM MARCH, 2023

1. Co-options to Council

The details have been provided under COUNCIL on page 34-35

2. Resumption of Youth Service and Integration of Youth into Church

The Youth Service resumed in October, 2023 and was held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Sunday except for the 4th and 5th Sundays which are designated as Family and Youth-led Services, respectively. The Youth-led Services are intended to support the integration of the youth into the Adult Service. There has also been a deliberate effort to nominate youth to serve on committees within the Church as a learning curve.

3. Review of Manual of Operations

A committee of Council was set up to review the Manual of Operations. The review has been completed pending its submission to the Legal Committee for their review. We expect the Legal Committee to finalize their review within the year for the document to be presented to the congregation by the next AGM.

4. Accessibility Ramp for Persons living with Disability

The unfinished ramp intended for wheelchairs and as access for persons living with disabilities has been demolished. It is being replaced with an access point directly unto the basement floor. Construction is currently underway and is expected to be completed by the end of March, 2024.

5. Completion of ARC Hall and Fundraising

As agreed and adopted, the piecemeal approach to the completion of the ARC Hall is still in progress. Works on the ARC Hall have been prioritised and are currently in progress. It is expected that funds will be raised to complete the main auditorium.

B. MATTERS ARISING FROM SGM 30TH JULY, 2023

1. Status of ACPE Church with respect to ARC

There has been some degree of progress in ARC's relationship with ACPE Church. Details have been presented under Council to Congregation.

2. Integration of Members Living Abroad

Council is yet to outline a strategy for the integration of ARC members resident abroad. It is expected that by July, 2024, a strategy would have evolved.

3. Membership Omissions from CLAN Implementation Committee

Council has since appointed Rev. Canon Andrew Torgbor, the Anglican Minister to the CLAN Implementation Committee. What remains outstanding is the appointment of a member of the youth to the Committee. This is currently receiving attention.

C. MATTERS ARISING FROM SGM 30TH NOVEMBER, 2023

1. Revised Budget

In view of the amendments that were made to the Dues and Fellowship Centre fees chargeable to members and non-members proposed for 2024, please find below a summary of the revised budget estimates as approved at the Special General Meeting held on 30th November, 2023.

ACCRA RIDGE CHURCH REVISED BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2024

	PROPOSED BUDGET	REVISED BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
INCOME	GH¢	GH¢	GH¢
Collections and Offerings	2,029,399	2,029,399	-
Dues and Pledges	705,000	580,000	(125,000)
Donations and Thanksgiving	553,080	553,080	-
Tithe	5,286,496	5,286,496	-
Harvest	1,300,000	1,300,000	-
Other Income	279,007	260,000	(19,007)
ARC Hall	1,021,809	1,021,809	-
Total Income	11,174,791	11,030,784	(144,007)
EXPENDITURE			
Ministry	3,438,714	3,438,714	-
Staff Cost	2,335,705	2,335,705	-
Admin. and General Expenses	4,539,065	4,539,065	-
Total Expenses	10,313,484	10,313,484	-
Excess Income over Expenditure	861,307	717,300	(144,007)
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE			
Furniture/Fixtures and Fittings	50,000	50,000	-
Motor Vehicle	300,000	300,000	-
Office Equipment	40,000	40,000	-
Audio Visual Equipment	255,000	255,000	-
Total Capital Expenditure	645,000	645,000	-
Total Assets	216,307	72,300	(144,007)

2023 ANNUAL REPORTS

INTRODUCTION

The ARC's theme for the year 2023 was, "Living the transformed life (Ephesians 4:1-6)".

We praise and thank the Almighty God for seeing us through the year 2023. Our God remained good and faithful. By His grace we had in-person services with the option of attending virtually throughout the year at Ridge, Manet, and Tudu. Most congregants have faithfully honoured their financial obligations to the Church, and we sincerely appreciate your generosity.

The Lord was so good to us despite the nation's economic downturn during the year, Harvest Thanksgiving proceeds exceeded the budgeted figure for the year amounting to GH¢1,795,977. To God be all the glory.

Rev. Andrew Jackson T. Odjawo and Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah completed their duty tour at ARC in September, 2023. They were replaced by two (2) new Ministers, Rev. Frank Kissi (Presbyterian Minister) and Very Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng (Youth Minister) respectively in October, 2023. They were duly inducted into office on 10th December, 2023 by the Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Rev. Dr. Nii Noi Odonkor and Administrative Bishop for the Methodist Church Ghana, Rt Rev. Michael Agyakwa Bossman.

Church-wide, groups and organisations programmes and activities were held both in-person and virtually throughout the year.

Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng assumed the role of Coordinating Minister, while Ms Elizabeth Ocansey remained in office as Administrative Manager.

We are thankful to members of ARC for your continued support in realising the goals outlined for the year under review. May the Lord continue to bless and keep us all as we strive to fix our eyes on Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Sunday, 26th March, 2023. Two (2) Special General Meetings (SGMs) were held to discuss the Spiritual Life of the Church on Sunday, 30th July, 2023, and to approve the Budget for 2024, on Sunday, 25th November, 2023.

COUNCIL

A new ARC Council (2023-2025) was elected at the 2023 AGM. The membership is as follows:

Officers: Ms Abigail Armah (Chairman), Ms Kukua Pratt (Secretary), and Mr. Alfred Ayer (Treasurer).

Elected Members:

Ridge: Justice (Mrs.) Merley Wood (Women's and Widows' Fellowships), Ms Liza Obeng (Christian Services), Dr. Nii Darko Asante (Christian Education)*, Mrs. Naa Korkoi Amaniampong (Services Secretary & Couples Fellowship), Capt. Samuel Thompson (Men's Fellowships & Harvest and Fundraising), Mr. Robert Acquaye (Property), Nana Yaw Otu-Boateng (Publicity and Multimedia), Mr. Tetteh Okunor (Sidespersons' Rep.).

Manet: Mr. Seth Dzordzorme, (Chairman/Asst. Men's Fellowships & Harvest and Fundraising), Mr. Kweku Afful (Finance & Property/Services Secretary), Nana Koomah Boakye-Agyemang (Secretary/Visitation Group).

Tudu: Mrs. Jayne Kumi (Tudu Outreach Post Rep.)

Co-opted Members: Mr. Nee Martey Annang (Neighbourhood Fellowship and Evangelism Coordinator), Dr. Ernest Obuobisa-Darko (Choir), Mrs. Sapphira Adodoadji (Prayer Coordinator), Mr. Peter Christopher Kotei (Youth and Young Adults Rep.), Ms Augusta Lartey-Young (Manet Women's Fellowship Rep.)

Appointments: Mrs. Vivian Campbell (Chairperson, School Board), Ms Amerley Ollennu (Sunday School Supt.), Dr. Nii Darko Asante (Christian Education).

Ex-Officio Members: Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng (Coordinating/Methodist Minister), Rev. Canon Andrew N. A. Torgbor (Anglican Minister), Rev. Frank Kissi (Presbyterian Minister), Rev. Fr. Reginald I. O. Lawson (Auxiliary Minister), Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng (Youth Minister), Mrs. Vivian Campbell (Chairperson, School Board), Ms Amerley Ollennu (Sunday School Supt.), and Ms Elizabeth Korkor Ocansey (Administrative Manager)

TRUSTEES

The Trustees of the Church remained unchanged: Mr. Sam Okudzeto, Mrs. Rebecca Osei-Boateng, Prof. Joe-Nat Clegg-Lamprey, Mrs. Alberta Quarkey and Mrs. Rachel Baddoo.

MEMBERSHIP

In 2023, eighty-seven (87) new members joined the Church. This was made up of 24 Presbyterians, 23 Anglicans, and 40 Methodists.

IN MEMORIAM

The following members were called to be with the Lord during 2023:

Madam Abigail Loveluck Dede Tetteh, Eason James Akwei Allotey, George Ferguson Edwards Gardiner, Mrs. Irene Rawlings Tagoe, Mrs. Dinah Dadzie, Prof. Samuel Ofosu-Amaah, Mrs. Frances Ivy Anin, Mr. Steve Gohoho, Dr. Kwasi Okyere Boadu, Mr. Emmanuel Ackah-Yensu Snr., Madam Faustina Chinery, Mr. Samuel Okai Tettey-Amlalo, Mrs. Rebecca Mills-Odoi, Madam Christiana Naa Darkua Darku-Amoo, Rev. Christopher Sam Kpordugbe, Ing. Robert A. O. Okai, Ing. John Vickerman Augustt, Mrs. Rebecca Mills-Odoi, Mrs. Eileen Baeta, Mrs. Eileen Ennison, Mr. John V. Augustt, Mr. Felix Bosu Longdon, Mrs. Veronica Ama Ofori, Dr. Mrs. Letitia Eva Obeng, Mr. Albert Djan Tackie, Mr. Edward Osei-Bonsu, Mrs. Comfort Grace Mansa Nutakor, Madam Lucinda Ribeiro, Dr. Lucy Pobee, Mr. Alex Kwesi Bernasko, Mr. Victor Nkansa, Mrs. Victoria Akweley Adamafio, Mrs. Christina Odarkor Nutsugah, Mr. Kwesi P. Appiah, Mrs. Dorothy Amuah, Mr. Peter Abban, Mrs. Evelina Norkor Ababio Addai, Ms Dorothy Sackey, Mr. Peter Kwesi Sam Sackey, and Dr. Eugene Tommie Roberts.

CLERGY

The year began with the following Ministers at post: Rev. Andrew J. T. Odjawa (Coordinating/Presbyterian Minister), Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng (Methodist), Rev. Canon Andrew N. A. Torgbor (Anglican), Rev. Fr. Reginald I.O. Lawson (Auxiliary/ Anglican Minister) and Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah (Youth Minister (Presbyterian Minister)).

Reverends Odjawo and Ankama-Asamoah ended their duty tour at the Ridge on 30th September, 2023 and were replaced by Rev. Frank Kissi as Presbyterian Minister and Very Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng a Methodist Minister as Youth Minister.

Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng, who was permitted to serve an additional year, took over the mantle as Coordinating Minister. He also serves on the Board of the Ridge Church School and Harvest and Fundraising Committee in both capacities as Vice-Chairperson.

Orientation sessions were organized for the new Ministers in October, 2024 and were inducted into office formally on Sunday, 10th December, 2023 by Rev. Godwin Nii Noi Odonkor, the Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, and the Rt. Rev. Michael Agyakwa Bossman, the Administrative Bishop of the Methodist Church Ghana.

Pastoral Oversight

With the coming in of the new Ministers, pastoral oversight of the various Church groups and organisations were assigned as follows:

Minister	Church Group/Fellowship
Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng	Men's Fellowship, Discipleship Ministry, Christian Education, Neighbourhood Fellowships, and Church Choirs.
Rev. Frank Kissi	Mission 50+, Widows' Fellowship, Visitation Group, and Sidespersons
Rev. Can. Andrew N. A. Torgbor	Women's Fellowship, Sunday School, Welfare Committee, Editorial Board, and Legal Committee.
Very Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng	Youth Fellowship, Counsellors/Couples' Fellowship, Flower Team, and Evangelism Committee
Rev. Fr. Reginald I. O. Lawson	Service Leaders, Young Adults' Fellowship, Christian Services, and Prayer Committee.

Retreats and Meetings

The Clergy held their first retreat in the year under review at Little Acre Hotel, Aburi where they, among other activities, prayerfully chose the theme for the Church for the ensuing year as, "Deepening our Commitment to the Lord" based on John 15:1-8. Rt. Rev. Michael A. Bossman was the resource person. A second retreat slated for October, 2023 did not come off as scheduled due to the replacement of the two exiting Ministers who were at that time still settling in.

Clergy continued with their monthly meetings to strategize in order to play their roles effectively and to enhance their working and interpersonal relationships.

Clergy appreciated their quarterly meetings held with the Council Officers to deliberate on matters affecting the growth of the Church and their role as Clergy.

Church Activities

Statutory Services: Clergy, in conjunction with the Services Coordinator and other appropriate Committees, ensured that all statutory religious Services and Masses were held smoothly during the year. Clergy continued to serve the worship needs of ACP Estates Interdenominational Church (ACPEIC) featuring them in the annual Preaching Plan. It is hoped that barring any unforeseen circumstances, all effort will be made to facilitate the full absorption of ACPEIC as a branch or outpost of the Accra Ridge Church.

Youth Service: Youth Service resumed in October, 2023 after intense discussions held at various forums of the Church in the course of the year under review.

Christian Education: The Sunday Morning Christian Education programme (Bible Study) was revamped and extended to all the services at Ridge and Manet enabling all willing congregants to participate every Sunday at all ARC venues.

Staff Morning Devotion: Morning Devotions for the staff of ARC was also revived in the last quarter of the year under review.

Special Services: All ARC Special Services were held: Covenant Sunday Service (January), Week of Prayer and Fasting (January), Lenten Meditations (March to April), and Month of Prayer and Fasting (July), Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (December), and Watchnight Services (December). During the Lenten period, Philip Yancey's book, 'Where is God when it hurts?' was adopted for our reflections, guided by Clergy.

Visits: Clergy also visited aged and home-bound members and administered Holy Communion to them.

Baptism and Confirmation Services: Baptism and confirmation services were held for eligible children after they had been adequately prepared by Confirmation teachers at Ridge and Manet respectively. Fifty-three (53) persons were baptized while thirty-four (34) candidates were confirmed in the year.

Weddings and Funerals: Twenty-two (22) Weddings were celebrated during the year under review, while forty-two (42) funerals, and twenty-seven (27) Requiem/Memorial Services were held.

Challenges

A major challenge Clergy faced was the dwindling attendance at in-person Services in the course of the year under review. Efforts to capture and retain our youth in the Church have not borne much fruit. The figures are rather low.

Another challenge was to do with the celebration of Church groups and organisations weeks. On this score, Clergy is requesting that forthwith, Church Groups and Organisations should not assign Guest Preachers to their Sunday thanksgiving services. This has become necessary because this often distorted the preaching plan which were usually planned far in advance of their celebrations.

ADMINISTRATION

All praise and thanksgiving belongs to God for His divine provision and protection throughout the year 2023.

Objectives

To provide support services in terms of administrative, personnel, and general services, promote and enhance the efficient and optimal use of the resources available to achieve the aims and objectives of the Church.

The Staff Strength of the Church's administration is fifty-eight (58). The breakdown is as follows:

No.	Department	No. of Staff	Remarks
1.	Security	18	All full-time staff at Ridge, Tudu, Manet & Manses
2.	Gardeners	5	All full-time staff at Ridge, Manet & Manses
3.	Cleaners	9	All full-time staff at Ridge and Manet

No.	Department	No. of Staff	Remarks
4.	Drivers	5	All full-time staff for ARC
5.	Audiovisual/Technical	5	3 full-time staff, 2 part-timers
6.	Storekeeper	1	1 full-time staff
7.	Music	9	2 full-time staff, 7 part-timers
8.	Administrative	6	6 full-time staff
	Total	58	49 full-time staff; 9 part-timers

Retirement

Mrs. Evangeline Acquah, an Administrative Assistant/Secretary, and Mr. Mumuni Seidu, a Gardener at Manet, both retired in December, 2023.

Thanksgiving Service

The staff held its end-of-year Thanksgiving Service on Friday, 22nd December, 2023 at which retiring employees and some members of staff were duly appreciated.

National Service

The Administration engaged the services of a National Service person in December, 2023 to assist with the administrative work in the Secretariat.

Training

The security staff engaged in a five-day intensive training session with personnel from the Ghana National Fire Service.

Vehicles

The Church purchased one new Suzuki Ertiga saloon car for use by the new Presbyterian Minister in 2023.

Conclusion

The Administration is thankful to God for another successful year. Our appreciation also goes to the ARC Family for your support and prayers.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Another year has drawn to a close, and our Youth Fellowships have stretched and blossomed in remarkable ways. Through the various activities listed below, the youth explored their faith, deepened their friendships, and developed the courage to step outside their comfort zones in 2023.

Activities

- **Victory Concert** - The Youth planned and executed the annual Victory Concert at the Manet Sanctuary on 9th April, 2023 (Easter Sunday), featuring Siisi Baidoo as Guest Minister as well as Minister TK Thomas and the Youth music groups, Virtue (Ridge) and One Accord (Manet). This event was very well attended with positive feedback.

- **Youth Camp** - Youth Camp took place from 19th to 25th June, 2023 at the ARC Basement (19th-21st June 2023) and Pentecost Convention Centre (PCC) (22nd-25th June 2023) under the theme "Behold, a New Dawn." This was the first youth camp held post COVID-19. The Camp featured members from the Ridge, Manet, Tudu, Baatsonaa, ACP Pokuase, Legon Interdenominational Church (LIC), Ghana Police Church, Asbury Dunwell Church, Christ Anglican Church, Legon, and Calvary Methodist Church, Adabraka.
- **Teen Camp** took place at the PCC from 16th to 20th August, 2023, with thirty-two (32) supervisors and seventy (70) campers. The theme was, "Firm Up or Mess Up." at a total cost of GH¢108,656.57. The activities included teaching sessions, workshops, fun and games. Campers enjoyed all the sessions organized, particularly the "Boys Boys/Girls Girls" Session which allowed them to delve into the sensitive issues that plague them emotionally and psychologically.
- **Youth Service** officially resumed at the Ridge on Sunday, 1st October, 2023. It was held on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays of every month. Nine (9) Services were held. Youth Service is yet to resume at Manet, as certain logistics such as venue must be sorted out first.
- **Youth-Led Service** - This was a new introduction to the church's calendar, where the Youth led a church service once every quarter in the year on the fifth Sunday. During this specific service, the Youth took charge of the planning, executing, and leading of these services across all the venues of the Church. The services held so far have been smooth and successful.
- **Fellowship Meetings** - The youth groups at both Ridge and Manet held fellowship meetings on Sunday afternoons at the respective branches. The meetings covered activities including, word ministration, Bible Studies and prayer sessions. In June, there were two (2) joint fellowship meetings held at the Manet Chapel.
- **Prayer Meetings** - These were held on Mondays (6pm at Ridge and 7pm at Manet). The Youth gathered during these meetings to pray and intercede for the Church, nation, families, and individuals.
- **New Youth Minister** - The Youth welcomed a new Youth Minister, Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng, who succeeded Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah whose tenure ended in September, 2023.

Conclusion

The youth congregation of the church is gradually growing and aims at being a dynamic and enthusiastic group, with increased participation in other church activities, including taking charge of the music and technical aspects of the Contemporary Services, and participating in the church-wide activities such as Prayer and Fasting, Family and Career months.

MULTIMEDIA AND PUBLICITY

In the spirit of unity and service, ARC has been actively engaged in various initiatives to enhance its community impact. This multimedia report provides a comprehensive overview of recent events, including training programmes, the invaluable contribution of voluntary workers, collaborations between different branches, and the significant support from anonymous donors, leading to increased funding for our shared mission.

Training Initiatives

One of the cornerstones of ARC's commitment to growth and service has been the implementation of diverse training programmes. These initiatives aim to equip members with essential skills for effective community engagement, pastoral care, and leadership. In 2023, the church organized an 8-week training programme for the Multimedia Team which covered topics such as Video, Camera, Streaming and Work Ethics.

These training sessions have empowered our members to contribute meaningfully to the Church and have strengthened the church's ability to address technical challenges.

Voluntary Workers

The heart of any thriving Church is its dedicated volunteers. Multimedia is blessed to have a team of committed individuals who selflessly devote their time and talents to various church activities. From supporting all Church Services to managing certain administrative tasks, these volunteers play a crucial role in fostering a sense of belonging and service within our church community.

In recognition of their efforts, the Council Chair commended the team at a Family Service to honour and celebrate the invaluable contributions of all volunteers. Their commitment is a testament to the unity and shared vision that defines our church family.

Collaboration Across Branches

Unity in diversity is a hallmark of ARC, with multiple branches working collaboratively to amplify the impact of our shared mission. Recent collaborations between the different branches, mainly Manet and Ridge have included joint services and training sessions, collaborative worship services, and the exchange of resources and ideas.

These collaborative efforts have not only strengthened the bonds between branches but also created a more cohesive and supportive network, enabling ARC to reach more people and address a wider range of needs within the community.

Anonymous Donors and Increased Funding

The generosity of anonymous donors has been a source of immense support for ARC's initiatives. These philanthropists, driven by a shared commitment to our Mission, have provided significant contributions that have bolstered our ability to make a positive impact. Through this, three (3) television sets were purchased for Manet Chapel to aid their audio-visual production, while a set of speakers and subwoofers were purchased for the Contemporary Service at Ridge. Also, the additional funding donated by members has enabled ARC to enhance technological infrastructure for virtual worship and communication.

Conclusion

In conclusion, ARC continued to thrive through the dedication of its members, the strength of collaborations, and the support of generous donors.

As we move forward, we remain steadfast in our commitment to fostering a vibrant and inclusive community, guided by the principles of love, service, and unity. Through training, volunteerism, collaboration, and generous contributions, we are poised to make an even greater impact in the lives of those we serve.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Aims and Objectives

The Sunday School of the Accra Ridge Church is mandated to help:

- Train, nurture, and ensure the spiritual formation of all children aged 0-18 years in our congregation using the Bible as the basis.
- Lead each child to Christ, follow them up to maturity, present them to Christ and the Church for Confirmation and incorporation into the Youth Ministry and Church.
- Recruit, train, deploy, visit Sunday School teachers, and provide opportunity for spiritual growth and development through monthly meetings, Bible Study, and prayer meetings.

Meeting Times

Sunday School runs concurrently with all Congregational Services, that is, 7.30 a.m., 8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m. at Ridge. Manet Sunday School also runs alongside their Services at 8.00 a.m and 10.30 a.m. Tudu's Service is at 9.30 a.m.

Teachers' Meeting - There were several church-wide and local congregational meetings for planning, teacher training, and special events in 2023, especially the Sunday School formation.

Teacher training sessions and retreats are scheduled for February and October/November each year.

Major Events

- **A New Year Party** was organized at congregational level on Sunday, 28th January, 2023.
- **Retreat, Training, and Dedication:** The Youth Minister, Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah organized this for all teachers (150+) at Ridge in February, 2023. Two (2) teachers are currently undertaking a four (4) modular course in Family Life Education with the Presbyterian Church of Ghana.
- **Sunday School Reformation:** Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah led the group to streamline the activities, processes, materials, and documents of the Sunday School from July to September, 2023. The objective was to produce a standard operational document for the group for accountability, assessment, and evaluation purposes and above all to ensure spiritual growth of both teachers and children.
- **Children's Day** was organized at congregational level on different days listed below. This allowed the teachers to support each other.
 - 22nd October, 2023 (Manet, Ridge 10.30 a.m.)
 - 29th October, 2023 (Ridge 7.30 a.m., Tudu)
 - Sunday, 12th November, 2023, Contemporary Service (8.30 a.m. at Ridge)
 - ACP Estates - They are yet to observe the day in collaboration with the congregation's leadership.
- **Christmas Play:** Each congregation had very colourful and interesting Nativity plays on Sunday, 24th December, 2023.
- **Family Services** were held on every 4th Sunday of every month.
- **Teen/Youth Camps:** Some of our children participated in the two (2) camps mostly from Tudu and Manet/Baatsonaa, 8:30 a.m. congregations.

- **Sunday Academy:** The Manet and Tudu congregations continued with the Reading Clinics. However, the Music option was halted because the learners' attendance was irregular, and they lacked a tutor.
- **Other Activities:** We also participated in other activities in the Church - Palm Sunday, Easter, Family Month, and Harvest Thanksgiving. We are grateful to the Church, Clergy, parents, and all our partners who funded and supported our activities. God bless you all.

Challenges

Attendance and Movement to age groups

- Due to relocation to new/far-away places, the numbers of children in our congregations are dwindling.
- Many children in the Ridge 7:30 a.m. and Manet 10:30 a.m. do not attend Sunday Services regularly. Thus, we have to teach lessons several times to different cohorts of children in each class.
- Some children also join classes mid-stream, i.e., whenever they attain the age for the next class.
- Family Service: Many families do not attend Family Services.
- Growing Numbers in Manet and Tudu
- The number of children in these two (2) congregations are increasing rapidly. This has implications for space, teachers, teaching materials, disciplinary issues, and food on Sundays.

Teachers Meeting and Nourishment

Our teachers are busy professionals. Many participated in church-wide programmes for their spiritual growth. We are not able to attend meetings monthly. We also try to meet online as management whenever possible.

Recommendations

- We plead with the Clergy to encourage families from the pulpit to attend Service regularly, especially Family Services and other programmes.
- We would appreciate a visit from the Clergy at least once a month to encourage and check up on us regularly during Services, teachers' meetings, and other activities.
- We are requesting the Services of a music teacher/organist for our services.
- We are appealing for a temporary structure at Tudu Sunday school to help with discipline and reduction of noise levels.
- Manet Sunday School is proposing Saturday Good News club for the 8:30 a.m. Baatsonaa children to enhance their spiritual growth.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP (RIDGE)

Motto: In Christ, we Live and Move and Have our being (Acts 17:28)

Executive: The Executive of the Women's Fellowship, which came into office for a two-year term in April, 2022, were: Peace Akwei-Brock (President), Rachel Baddoo (Vice-President), Esther Tei (Secretary), Ewura-Adjoa Osae (Asst. Secretary), Mary Anim-Appiah (Treasurer), Dora Allotey (Asst. Treasurer),

Elizabeth Manteaw (PRO), Eva Marful-Sau (Asst. PRO), Merley Wood (Ex-officio member) and Dora Okai (Ex-officio member).

Aims and Objectives

- (i) To promote sisterly love and Christian fellowship among members
- (ii) To see to the well-being of the Ridge Church and its members
- (iii) To help members know more about the Bible
- (iv) To help in the care of the needy, such as disabled children, the sick in hospitals, homes, and institutions
- (v) To perform such functions as are incidental or conducive to the realization by the Fellowship of all the above objectives

Meeting Day/Time: We met every second Monday of the month, at 5.30 p.m., in-person or virtually at 6.00 p.m.

Major Events

Our three (3) main Committees, namely, Prayer, Welfare and Fundraising, have been very active:

Prayer Committee: The Committee organized meetings an hour before the regular monthly meetings, where prayers were said for the Church, Clergy, nation, youth, and families, among others. The Committee shared Bible passages, prayer bulletins, and inspirational verses on the Fellowship platforms on a daily basis.

Welfare Committee: The Committee has been actively involved in regular visits to our aged members, ailing, and bereaved members every third Thursday of the month, with gifts of fruits, water, and other items. Other visits were organized as and when needed.

Fundraising Committee: Food Sales resumed after the COVID-19 restrictions were lifted and participation by Church members has been encouraging. Funds were raised for the Fellowship. We also raised funds from Silver Collections during meetings while voluntary contributions were made by members.

Psychiatric Hospital Visits: Thanks to the monthly allocation of funds by the Church, and additional contributions from some of our members, we continued to visit the Male Convalescent Ward of the Accra Psychiatric Hospital every third Saturday of the month, and donated various food items, detergents, toiletries, among others, in accordance with their needs.

Fellowship Week (15-21 May, 2023): The theme for the week was "Holy Spirit: Revealer of all Truth (John 16:13a)". Activities held to mark the Fellowship Week included donation to the Pantang Hospital, a talk on Mental Health Issues, participation in Ghana Prays and Anaviosi, Bible Reading Marathon, a Retreat, and Thanksgiving at the 7.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m., and 6.00 p.m. Church Services. The Resource Person was Rev. Dr. Clara Danquah.

The President's Lunch: God willing, the President's Lunch will be held before the current Executive's term ends in April, 2024. We look forward to the participation of our male and female counterparts in the Men's and Women's Fellowships from both Manet and Tudu.

Assistance to the Akosombo Dam Spillage: Touched by the plight of the victims of the Akosombo Dam spillage, the Fellowship responded to the Church's call for help by contributing Ten Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢10,000). We are grateful for the willingness of members to help in times of need.

Annual Retreat: On Saturday, 18th November, 2023, a number of members went to Kokrobite for our annual Retreat. The Resource Person was Rev. Fr. Reginald Lawson. We enjoyed a full day of spiritual nourishment under his guidance.

Annual Harvest: Once again, the effort of the Women's Fellowship yielded an amount of Forty-seven Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢47,000) as our contribution towards the 2023 Annual Harvest. We give God all the glory.

End-of-Year Get-Together: Our regular December meeting was combined with the End-of-year Get-together which was held at the Basement of the ARC Hall on Monday, 11th December, 2023. It was a joyful day as members feasted and danced to the glory of God. We were joined by the Clergy, members of the Men's Fellowship, spouses, and representatives from Tudu. Manet Women's Fellowship was not represented due to a bereavement. The programme featured a powerful devotion by Sister Abigail Armah, Chairman of the ARC Council. A time of praise was led by Henry and Barry while members were treated to a sumptuous dinner by The Basement. This year, a bazaar was added to the programme of the day, whereby members brought unused personal items for sale during the meeting. A considerable amount was raised from the sales.

Gift Hampers: As done every year, special gift hampers were organized for delivery to the aged and ailing members at their homes.

Representation on the Council: Sister Merley Wood took over from Sister Peace Akwei-Brock as Council member after her election in March, 2023.

Challenges

Unfortunately, attendance at the Psychiatric Hospital visits has been below expectation with only a few members making time for the Saturday visits.

On the whole, the Fellowship performed very well during the year under consideration by the grace of God Almighty. It was a successful year. Our membership grew as we welcomed ten (10) new members. Most members paid their dues and met other financial obligations which enabled the Fellowship to maintain a modest balance in our accounts. The Fellowship was able to assist some sisters in need. We are also grateful for the support given by the Clergy, Council, Administration, and workers in the Church Office.

CHOIR

Aims and Objectives

- To lead the congregation in singing on Sunday and at other Services
- To organize festivals of sacred music from time to time.
- To promote other functions which are reasonably related or incidental to the foregoing.
- To promote fellowship and welfare amongst members.

Meeting Days/Time

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 6:30 p.m. for Ridge, and Thursday 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 6:00 p.m. for Manet.

Major Events

The Choirs continued to minister throughout the year at the regular 7:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 6:00 p.m. Services at Ridge, as well as the 10:30 a.m. Service at Manet. On invitation, the Choir also ministered at birthday thanksgiving services, funerals, and weddings. Increasingly, the youth section of the Choir's services has been sought for funerals, birthday thanksgivings, and weddings.

A **Monthly Devotion** aimed at strengthening the spirituality of choristers precedes choir practice on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Ridge. Manet Choir is yet to introduce the monthly devotion. Offertory during these sessions is used to support donations and other welfare needs of members. Covenant Sunday took place on 1st January, 2023 with the full Choir in attendance at all Services of the ARC.

The Service of Rededication was held on Saturday, 18th February, 2023 at Ridge. The Ministers led the Service. In attendance was the Chairman of the ARC Council.

Service of Passion Music and Meditations on the Seven Words of the Cross was held at Manet and Ridge, and aired on the ARC's YouTube channel on Friday, 7th April, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., respectively. The repertoire included *A New Commandment*, *A Hill Called Mount Calvary*, *Though Your Sins*, and *Christ be our Light*.

Choir Week was held from 10th to 18th June, 2023 under the theme *"Make you His service your delight"*. The activities included a retreat at Ridge on Saturday, 10th June and donation to the Channel of Grace Foundation on Monday, 12th June, 2023. A musical night which was graced by the following invited choirs was held on Friday 16th June, 2023: Cathedral Church of the Most Holy Trinity, Bethany Methodist Church, Dzorwulu, and Kaneshie Presbyterian Church. The week-long celebration climaxed on Sunday, 18th June, 2023 with a Thanksgiving at all Services at Ridge and Manet. The choir is grateful to the Addison family for allowing us to use a selection of hymn tunes by Mr. Atta J. Addison, a prolific composer and organist, during the Service of Hymns.

Choir Robes: A set of seventy (70) English-styled choir robes was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Brew-Butler and family. These were unveiled and dedicated to the glory of God for use.

Harvest Thanksgiving took place on Sunday, 5th November, 2023 with the Choir ministering at the 7:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 6:00 p.m. Services. The anthem sung was Anthem of Gladness by Joseph M. Martin. The Choir also ministered at the Service at Manet.

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols took place on Sunday, 17th December, 2023 at a Joint Service at 9:00 a.m. at Manet and 6:00 p.m. at Ridge. The repertoire included, "For unto us a child is born, Emmanuel, Christmas Blessing, and Merry Christmas, Mozart". The chamber section of the Afromaestros Orchestra was in attendance as usual to lend support to Paapa B. Peprah and Enoch Boahen who were at the organ with Alex Odotei serving as the page flipper. The Choir joined the Tudu congregation for their Carol Service on Sunday, 24th December, 2023.

Wedding and Christening: The wedding of our Treasurer and Bassist, Mr. Yaw Arhin, was held in November, 2023. Subsequently, Organist Enoch K. Boahen, Dr. Tweneboah-Koduah (Bass) and Priscilla Hagan Mensah (Soprano) welcomed and christened their sons respectively in the year.

Obituary: A former chorister, Ms. Dorothy Sackey (Soprano) and four (4) Patrons namely: Mr. Robert Okai, Prof. Samuel Ofose-Amaah, Mr. Peter K. Sackey, and Mrs. Florence. A. Sai sadly passed away in 2023. May their souls rest in peace.

Patrons and friends of the Choir continue to support us with encouraging letters, handsome donations, and interesting treats for which we are grateful.

The Choir is also grateful to all the non-choral music groups in the Church for supporting the Music Ministry with alternative sacred music types in worship.

Sing unto the Lord... A New Song.

PROPERTY

Aims and Objectives

Aligned with the overarching objective of preserving ARC's property through proper maintenance and security measures, our focus during the past year encompassed the following:

- Guaranteeing the well-maintained condition of all Church properties, encompassing both routine and corrective maintenance efforts.
- Executing scheduled projects across the three (3) premises at Ridge, Tudu, and Manet. The primary aim was to provide members with essential facilities while on church premises. In line with this, the objective was to implement a phased approach to the work in the ARC Hall, ensuring its full utilization.
- Additionally, there was a concerted effort to complete the main auditorium of the ARC Hall, making it rentable or usable. The completion progress followed a systematic approach, floor by floor.

Meeting Day/Time

Daily maintenance and upkeep of the church's property were diligently conducted. Several activities, involving significant financial allocations, were strategically integrated into the budget, and executed at designated intervals throughout the year.

Major Events

Throughout the year, various land offers were presented at different locations, including Manet, Kasoa, Pokuase, and Adenta. These opportunities were thoroughly investigated, resulting in diverse feedback from the sellers. In the upcoming year, we plan to delve deeper into these possibilities. This strategic approach aligns with our future plans, considering the potential establishment of branches in those areas or developing the acquired assets for future use by the Ridge Church School.

ARC Hall

- Conducted wall skimming and painting for the majority of the floors.
- Implemented the installation of variable frequency drives in the Plant rooms to regulate the air conditioners across all floors.
- Completed the installation of new power cables for all 85 VRF Indoor units.
- Undertook maintenance on the chillers to support the Main Hall on the Ground Floor.
- Temporarily secured all aluminum doors without glasses with plywood, and closed all roof openings.
- Engaged cleaning services for biannual cleaning of the ARC Hall, including washrooms.
- Currently in the process of conducting comprehensive system testing for the installed chillers in the Main Hall.
- Initiated access improvements to the lift shaft at the basement for the elderly and persons with disabilities.
- Installed all washroom accessories for the basement, 1st, and 2nd floors, including facilities for people with disabilities.

Ridge

- Conducted maintenance on sanitary fittings, fixtures, electrical systems, and carpentry.
- Trimmed and pruned a total of eleven (11) trees on the compound.
- Installed two (2) Rambo 1000 water poly tanks, generously donated by the family of Hon. Hackman Owusu-Agyemang.
- Completed the external painting of the Sanctuary.
- Executed quarterly fumigation of the Sanctuary and surrounding compound.

Manet

- Carried out maintenance on sanitary fittings, fixtures, electrical systems, and carpentry.
- Conducted fumigation in the Chapel, Sunday School, and the compound.
- Installed reinforced concrete slabs for the external drain dedicated to car parking.
- Procured fifty (50) plastic chairs to the congregation for meeting purposes.
- The Manse underwent renovation following the departure of Rev. Andrew Odjawo from the premises to house Rev. Frank Kissi and his family.

Tudu

- Regular maintenance of the facility persisted, encompassing plumbing and electrical fixtures and fittings.

Challenges

All departments faced a common challenge during the year - an emerging need for which no budgetary provision had been made. Consequently, comprehensive budgetary allocations have been established for the upcoming year to address such situations more effectively.

ARC Hall

At the ARC Hall, the installation of chillers encountered challenges due to air pockets in the pipe system. To address this, an additional automatic air relief valve was introduced before testing could proceed, leading to an extension of the completion date and a slightly higher cost than budgeted. Additionally, a comprehensive snag carried out in the entire space revealed that certain items, such as tiles, were deteriorating in unused rooms. To mitigate this, a concerted effort was made to regularly ventilate these spaces.

Ridge, Manet, Tudu

Extensive renovation became necessary in all these areas following a thorough walk-through. A comprehensive list was subsequently compiled, and costs will be assigned to these items. The renovation works will be phased, with priority given to the more urgent ones.

Recommendations

i. Comprehensive Maintenance Schedule

Develop a comprehensive maintenance schedule for all church properties, outlining routine and corrective maintenance tasks. This proactive approach ensures that property issues are identified and addressed promptly, preventing potential deterioration.

ii. Regular Property Inspections

Implement a regular property inspection programme to identify potential issues before they escalate. Schedule routine walkthroughs and inspections to assess the condition of facilities, enabling early intervention and cost-effective maintenance.

iii. Technology Integration for Maintenance Tracking

Explore the integration of technology, such as Computerized Maintenance Management Systems (CMMS), for efficient tracking of maintenance activities. This digital solution can streamline work orders, track maintenance history, and provide real-time updates on property conditions.

iv. Community Engagement for Property Enhancement

Foster community engagement by involving church members in property enhancement initiatives. Establish volunteer teams or committees dedicated to specific maintenance tasks, beautification projects, or fundraising efforts for property improvements.

v. Accessibility Upgrades

Prioritize accessibility upgrades across all church properties to ensure inclusivity for all members, including those with disabilities. This may involve installing ramps, handrails, and other accessibility features to create a more welcoming environment.

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

During the year under review and in line with the ARC's Discipleship Strategy the following activities were undertaken by the Discipleship team.

Bible Study Material

The Content Development Team of the Discipleship Ministry successfully developed and piloted the Bible study material for use by the Impact Groups. Following the success, in consultation with the Coordinating Minister, it was decided that the Impact Groups and the Neighbourhood Fellowships would use the Bible Study material developed in-house as the resource material. The Impact Group/Neighbourhood Fellowship material for the first quarter was developed and submitted to the Ministers for their review and approval.

Discipleship Training

Three cohorts totaling sixteen (16) trainees completed their discipleship and leadership training in the year under review. A date is yet to be fixed for them to be commissioned. With the exception of a group at Tudu which is going through discipleship training, no new groups have been formed for discipleship training.

CAL Seminar

Two (2) members of the Church self-sponsored their participation in the 120th Call to Awaken the Laity (CAL) Discipleship seminar held by the Sarang Church in Seoul, South Korea.

VISITATION GROUP

Aims and Objectives

The focus of this ministry is to bring the presence of Christ and the community of the Church to members who are sick, homebound, dying, lonely and bereaved. We are grateful for the past year of ministry together, and hopeful about the future.

Meeting Day/Time

The group meets monthly on the first Monday and first Sunday for Ridge and Manet, respectively.

Major Events

- Motivated by the love of God, the group visited members of the congregation who are unable to participate in worship or in the life of the congregation, generally due to health concerns, physical limitations, bereavement, loneliness, and provided emotional, physical, and spiritual support. The group also expressed the love of Christ by connecting with such members through phone calls. In addition to sharing the word of God, singing, and praying for and with visitees and their families, we help the Clergy stay informed about their ministerial needs.
- On behalf of the Church, the Ridge team visited and distributed mid-year and end-of-year gift packs made up of provisions to about seventy (70) aging and home-bound members. The Manet team presented groceries to visitees during regular visits and distributed about forty (40) end-of-year hampers.

- Group members celebrated with Madam Annie Porter (a visitee) on the occasion of her centenary birthday.
- The group had a time of fellowship and breaking of bread on 16th September, 2023. Members had a jolly good time.
- The Annual Thanksgiving Service with Holy Communion and sit-in lunch for the elderly and known members who do not attend Church Services regularly, took place on 26th December, 2023 at Ridge. Rev. Dr. Samuel Ayete-Nyampong, whose area of specialization is "Care for the Aged" was the guest preacher. It was a time of blessing to the visitees, their relatives, and group members.

Challenges

- Some of our aging members who are not able to be physically present at Church Services are not on our visiting list due to lack of information. We appeal to members to proffer information to the Clergy, the Visitation Group, and the Church office for follow up.
- While there are dedicated members who participate regularly to carry out our mission, the fact remains that members of the group are gradually aging, and this affected some scheduled visits and meetings within the reporting period.

Recommendations

From time to time, enquire about someone when you do not see him/her in Church. And kindly notify the group when you know of a member who is bereaved, sick or generally would welcome a visit and we will oblige. We welcome new people to join the ministry.

SIDESPERSIONS GROUP

The Sidespersons Group has a three-pronged mission:

1. To elicit favourable impressions of our church as the gatekeepers and first point of contact for worshippers.
2. To serve people of all ages, denominations and social classes with love and the view to draw them closer to Christ and of His saving grace.
3. To create a conducive environment for a genuine worship experience

Executive: A new executive committee was sworn into office on 25th March, 2023 by Rev. Andrew Odjawa (former Coordinating and Presbyterian Minister)

The new executive body comprises Tetteh Okunor (Leader), Patience Dampney (Assistant Leader, 7:30 a.m.), Mary-Anne Addo (Assistant Leader, 10:30 a.m.) and Nana Koomah Boakye-Agyemang (Assistant Leader, Manet).

The rest are Nana Koomah Boakye-Agyemang (Interim Secretary), Jerome Djangmah (Welfare) Beatrice Eshun (Assistant Welfare) Harriet Asamoah (Treasurer) and Effie Ofosu-Appiah (Assistant Treasurer).

Retreat: On Saturday, 30th September, 2023, the group held a retreat under the theme, 'Love and Hospitality' with Rev. Fr. Reginald Lawson as the resource person. This was followed by a short general meeting to discuss issues pertaining to our work in the Lord's vineyard.

Challenge: One major challenge which the leadership is currently addressing is the streamlining of activities and operations across all branches and Services of ARC.

The Sidespersons are thankful to God for His unfailing love in the past year, and we look forward to forging a closer walk with God because we know and believe that our service in the House of God is not in vain.

TUDU OUTREACH POST

Aims and Objectives

To spread the word of God in Tudu and its environs through outreach programmes and services and to bring up children in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Meeting Day/Time

Sundays at 9.30 a.m.

Major Events

- The maiden edition of Hour of Pentecost (HOP), a Youth-led event, was held on Friday, 28th July, 2023. It was a night of prayer, worship, and Word ministration.
- The Tudu leaders held a meeting on Sunday, 2nd July, 2023 to discuss pertinent issues as well as factors affecting the growth of the church and its planned programmes.
- The Annual Harvest and Thanksgiving Service was held on 5th November, 2023. Foodstuff, non-perishable items, and money were donated to the Osu Children's Home after the Service. The congregation at Tudu has done this for the last fourteen (14) years and we pray that the Lord will continue to use us to meet the needs of others.
- This year's Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at Tudu was held on Sunday, 24th December, 2023. The Church Choir (Ridge) was in attendance and contributed to the success of the event.

Challenges

- Heavy rains continued to pose a problem to the Tudu sanctuary and Sunday School premises (Services at Sunday School are held under canopies). The office and storeroom also experienced some level of water damage.
- The quarterly outreach programmes for 2023 did not come off as envisaged due to unforeseen circumstances.
- There has been a drop in attendance at the Adult Service. This is due in part to the relocation of members who previously lived at Tudu and its environs. Some have stopped attending the Service for unknown reasons.

- The Sunday School now has over 200 children. While we are grateful to God for this increase, it adds to the congestion under the canopies. Meeting during the rainy season is difficult.

Recommendations

- The Tudu Sunday School requires improved and more durable structures for Services.
- Better coordination and planning of the outreach programmes in 2024 and beyond, in conjunction with the Evangelism Committee.
- Tudu needs support from the Music Director or his designated representative to help train members of the Choir.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Aims and Objectives

- To promote the spiritual growth and individual well-being of the members.
- To mobilize members to assist with the furtherance of the objectives of ARC.
- To foster fellowship among members.
- To raise funds as and when necessary to assist in the outreach work of the ARC and other activities in a community as decided upon.

Meeting Day and Time

Ridge: 2nd Monday for Bible Study and last Monday of the month for General Meeting. Meetings start at 5.30 p.m.

Manet: 3rd Sunday of every month, after Service.

Tudu: Once every quarter

Major Events

The Men's Fellowships (Ridge, Manet, Tudu) jointly celebrated Men's Week from 9th to 15th October, 2023. The activities during the week-long celebration were:

- A film show at the Manet Chapel on Tuesday, 10th October, 2023.
- Participation in the Anaviosi Mid-Week Teaching Service on Wednesday, 11th October, 2023.
- A talk by Very Rev. Ing Kwesi Sakyi-Appiah of the Methodist Church, Ghana on the topic: Trusting in God - Practical Perspectives for Current Times on Thursday, 12th October, 2023.
- A retreat led by Rev. Canon Samuel Addo, St. Ambrose Anglican Church, Dome on Saturday, 14th October, 2023.
- A visit and donation of food items and toiletries to the Dzorwulu Special School for the Children with learning disabilities after the retreat on Saturday, 14th October, 2023.
- A Thanksgiving Service at 7.30 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. Services at Ridge on Sunday, 15th October, 2023.

Talk: On 7th December, 2023 we had a talk by Rev. Dr. Canon Kwasi Amofo on the topic, "A Gospel View of Mary and the Advent of Christ".

Our **Bible Study** throughout the year was led by Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng who focused on the Book of Romans and gave us a deeper and better understanding of this New Testament book.

Challenges

Most of our members are well advanced in age and this is affecting attendance at meetings. Since most of our members are retirees, payment of dues and raising funds is a serious challenge.

WIDOWS' FELLOWSHIP

Aims and Objectives

The Fellowship aims at bringing together all widows in the Church to provide sisterly love and Christian fellowship as well as address common issues of interest. It also aims to enhance the spiritual growth of members through the various monthly activities of the group.

Meeting Day/Time

Members of the Fellowship meet at 10am in the Church's Conference Room at Ridge on the first (1st) Tuesday of every month except in January and July.

Major Events

- i. **7th February, 2023:** Members were introduced to the Association of Ghana's Elders (AGE) by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who presented an exposition on wellness covering spiritual, mental, and physical resilience. Members were later registered to join AGE.
- ii. **2nd May, 2023:** Picnic - Members held a Potluck lunch meeting with exhortation by Rev. Fr. Reginald Lawson.
- iii. **28th June, 2023:** As part of the celebration of the United Nations International Widows Day, members joined the Tudu congregation on Wednesday, 28th June, 2023 and later distributed toiletries (Toilet soap, key soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes) to ninety (90) children of the Tudu Sunday School.
- iv. **6th August, 2023:** Members joined ARC Christian Services Group to worship with the Tudu Congregation and present toiletries to the Sunday School Children.
- v. **5th December, 2023:** The Fellowship held a Christmas party at its meeting in December, 2023. On Sunday, 17th December, we distributed toiletries and biscuits to the children of the Tudu Sunday School.

Challenges

We lost two (2) of our members in 2023, and only a few members were able to attend meetings due to the debilitating effect of old age on some of the remaining members.

Recommendations

- i. We are appealing to new and young widows to join the group.

- ii. The widows in the Tudu Congregation are relatively young and have been receiving emotional support from the group. They will need financial support as well to tide them over.

SERVICES

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy endures forever. (Psalm 136:1, 4)

We ushered in the year 2023 with a Watchnight Service, which was held on 31st December, 2022 into the wee hours of 1st January, 2023.

Our Annual Covenant Service, during which worshippers rededicated their lives to the Lord God Almighty in the New Year, was held on Sunday, 8th January, 2023. This was preceded by the ARC Week of Prayer and Fasting.

Sunday Services

Sunday Services were held regularly as depicted in the schedule below except on the days that a Joint Service was held. Youth Service resumed in October, 2023.

Venue	Service Times	Service Type
Ridge	7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m.	In-person and virtual (via ARC YouTube Cha
Ridge	10:30 a.m.	In-person Youth Service (with the exception of 4 th Sundays)
Manet	8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.	In-person and virtual (via ARC YouTube Channel)
Tudu	9:30 a.m.	In-person only

The roster for the Service Leaders and Lay Readers was prepared ahead of schedule for all Services. The Secretariat, Service Coordinators, and Services Secretary duly notified members on duty.

The Church Secretariat ensured that the weekly and monthly Service and Prayer bulletins were available at all Services of the Church.

In March 2023, a 4-week Lay Readers Workshop was held at Ridge, which Mrs. Frances Ademola graciously facilitated.

Other Services

The **6.00 p.m. Wednesday Anaviosi Midweek Teaching Service** was held both in-person and virtually at Ridge. Our Clergy, and Guest Preachers expounded God's Word consistently.

The **6.30 a.m. Weekday Morning Meditation/Mass** was held in-person and led by our Clergy on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at Ridge.

The **12.00 noon Afternoon Meditation** came off every working day via the Church's YouTube channel and was led by our Clergy.

German Language Service was held at 11.00 a.m. on the 2nd or 3rd Sundays in the month at the Prayer Room in the ARC Hall designated for the Service. In September 2022, Rev. Benjamin Larbi Asare an ordained Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana was appointed to offer pastoral care to the German congregation.

The Annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service was successfully held at all ARC Services on Sunday, 5th November, 2023 under the theme, "The Joy of Giving Freely and Wholeheartedly".

Joint Services were held on the dates shown in the table below:

Date	Joint Service	Venue
26 th March	Annual General Meeting	Manet, Ridge & Tudu
7 th April	Good Friday Service	Manet
30 th July	Special General Meeting (Spiritual Matters)	Manet, Ridge & Tudu
5 th November	Annual Harvest & Thanksgiving	Manet, Ridge & Tudu
26 th November	Special General Meeting (Budget)	Manet, Ridge & Tudu
10 th December	Branch Congregational Meeting	Manet
17 th December	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols	Manet
24 th December	Christmas Family Service (Family Fiesta)	Manet
25 th December	Christmas Day Service	Manet
31 st December	Youth-Led Service	Manet

Confirmation Services

These Services were preceded by a day's retreat prior after the candidates had undergone the required training sessions with their teachers and the Clergy.

Venue	Confirmation Service	Date	Number Confirmed
Manet	Presbyterian/Methodist	9 th July	7
Ridge	Presbyterian/Methodist	23 rd July	20
Ridge	Anglican	9 th December	7

Children's Day was held on 22nd October, 2023 during the 10.30am Service at Ridge, 29th October, 2023 at 7.30 a.m. Service, and on 12th November during the Contemporary service at the Ridge. These dates were dedicated to the Sunday School under the theme, "Truth and Justice". These services were only held at the Ridge.

The Sunday School children took on the roles of Service Leader, Preacher, Lay Readers of the Bible Lessons and read the Notices at all Services.

Valedictory and Induction Services

Valedictory Services for Rev. Andrew Odjawa (immediate past Presbyterian/Coordinating minister) and Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah (immediate past Youth Minister) were held on the following dates:

Venue	Date	Service	Minister
Manet	3 rd September	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Rev. Andrew Odjawa
Ridge	3 rd September	8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah
Ridge	10 th September	7:30 a.m., Tudu, & 6:00 p.m.	Rev. Andrew Odjawa
Manet	10 th September	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah
Ridge	17 th September	8:30 a.m.	Rev. Andrew Odjawa
Ridge	17 th September	7:30 a.m., Tudu, & 6:00 p.m.	Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah
Ridge	24 th September	10:30 a.m.	Rev. Andrew Odjawa

Both Ministers attended the 10.30 a.m. Service at Ridge on Sunday, 24th September, 2023 to receive presentations from the Church and Church groups.

An Induction Service was held on 10th December, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. at Ridge led by Rev. Dr. Godwin Nii Noi Odonkor, the Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana and Rt. Rev. Michael Agyakwa Bossman, the Administrative Bishop of the Methodist Church Ghana for two (2) new Ministers, Rev. Frank Kissi (Presbyterian Minister) and Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng (Youth/Methodist Minister).

Special Services

Other Special Services, which took place in the course of the year, were as follows:

Other Services	Number
Baptisms	53
Weddings	22
Requiem/Memorial Services	27
Funerals	42

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

The annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, which is jointly organized by the Services Secretary and the Music Director, was held in-person at both Manet and Ridge on 17th December, 2023 and at Tudu on 24th December, 2023.

The readers of the Bible lessons for the Services were drawn from the Sunday School, Youth Fellowship, Couples Fellowship, Choir, Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship, Council, and Clergy.

The Choirs, Instruments of Praise, and One Accord also treated the Congregation to a repertoire of local, classical, and contemporary music.

Support Services

The primary role of the Services Secretary is to ensure the smooth running of all Services. This objective was attained through the joint effort and collaboration of the Administrative Manager and team (office and non-office staff), Multimedia teams, Sidespersons, Music Director and his team (choir, organists, various music groups and instrumentalists) and service assistants (altar party, mass servers, Communion Assistants, Lay Readers, Service Leaders, and Service Coordinators - Ridge, Manet, Youth Service and Contemporary Services).

Throughout the year under review, the Clergy offered their unflinching support, encouragement, and commitment to all the Services that were held.

The last Service for the Year 2023 was the Watchnight Services, which began at 9.00pm on 31st December, 2023 across all ARC venues.

Challenges

Some of the challenges encountered in the year at Church Services were the following:

- Frequent disruptions from malfunctioned microphones at Ridge and Manet.
- Technical hitches with the Tech Team at Ridge.

These issues are currently being investigated and addressed for a permanent resolution.

2024 Activities

Some major activities that will be undertaken in 2024:

- Service Leaders Workshop
- Lay Readers' Workshop

NEIGHBOURHOOD FELLOWSHIPS AND BIBLE STUDY

Aims and Objectives

The Neighbourhood Fellowship (NF) is a programme for the entire membership of ARC. The aim is for every member of the Church to be actively involved in a small study group for the purpose of continuous spiritual growth.

The Neighbourhood Fellowship represents a small Bible Study group of about three (3) to twelve (12) people within an educational environment where relationships are developed through interactions with one another. Above all, it is a vehicle through which members of ARC are brought together as a sub-family of the entire Church and represents "A Church in Your Home".

Activities

Meetings: The Neighbourhood Fellowships (NFs) met regularly in the year under review; some met weekly, fortnightly, or monthly. The NF leaders met quarterly for a retreat or training session to refresh, improve, and hone their skills to effectively lead their study groups.

Retreats and Training: The leaders of Neighbourhood Fellowships and Christian Education held a joint retreat in the course of the year to plan and deliberate on how to start and infuse Bible Study into our Sunday Services. So far, Bible Study sessions have been successfully introduced into the 7:30 a.m. Service.

Two (2) new Bible Study manuals were also introduced namely **Transformed** and **Acts 1-5**. The **Transformed** study manual was based on ARC's theme for the year, "Living out the Transformed Life". Lessons were taken from Ephesians and Romans with topics such as:

- Changing our thinking with God's word (Romans 12:1-2)
- Consider yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus (Romans 6:1-11)
- Set free from sin: slaves to righteousness (Romans 6:15-23)
- Being constantly renewed in the attitude of our minds (Ephesians 4:17-24)
- Speak the truth to one another (Ephesians 4:25)
- Be angry but sin not: don't give the devil a foothold (Ephesians 4:26-27)
- Stop stealing instead work hard and give to those in need (Ephesians 4:27-28)
- Corrupt words grieve the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:29-30)
- Rid yourselves from these things that are opposite to forgiveness (Ephesians 4:31-32)

The **Acts 1-5** study manual was introduced in the last quarter of the year. It contained seventeen (17) lessons focused on the starting and the activities of the early Church. If used rightly, it is expected to help members deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ.

We have been working hard to revive and start Neighbourhood Fellowships in the following areas:

Ridge	Labone	Tesano	Haatso
Osu-Ringway	Roman Ridge	Achimota	Ashalley Botwe
Cantonments	Airport Residential	Dome-Kwabanya	East Legon
East Cantonments	Abelenkpe-Dzorwulu	Ashongman	Adjiriganor
Trasaaco Valley	Airport Hills	Manet Cottage	Manet Gardens
Sakumono	Teshie-Nungua	Tema	Korle Bu
Lartebiokorshie	Mamprobi	North Kaneshie	Dansoman
Odorkor	McCarthy Hill		

Members in the aforementioned areas are encouraged to volunteer to start and host as well as lead a group. If you want to join/or lead and host a Neighbourhood Fellowship, please, text or WhatsApp your Name and Area of Residence to 0505754558.

Conclusion

Education from the Clergy on the importance of belonging to a Neighbourhood Fellowship at Sunday Services can go a long way in helping our efforts to revive or start new neighbourhood fellowship groups.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Aims and Objectives

Christian Education is a programme of Sunday Bible Study for the entire membership of ARC that is designed to help members have a more meaningful relationship with the Lord, be better able to meet the demands of daily living and grow toward Christian maturity. It aims to help every member to identify their spiritual gift for use in the service of the Lord, and to revive the mission of the Church by equipping members to go forth into the world in response to the Great Commission that Jesus Christ charged His disciples with in Matthew 28:19-20.

Meeting Day/Time

Bible Study is held on Sundays at the following times:

Ridge

- 7.30 a.m. Congregation - During Service, before reading of Gospel
- 8.30 a.m. (Contemporary) - 9.45 a.m. - 10.15 a.m. (after Service)
- 10.30 a.m. Congregation - 9.45 a.m. - 10.15 a.m. (before Service)

Manet (all congregations)

- 9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. - (between 8:00 a.m. Service and 10:30 a.m. Service)

Tudu

- 9:50 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. - (as part of Service)

Online Bible Study (ZOOM)

7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87928597362?pwd=RWpWWEtVUnpJVjVxazduUGZEdGNZUT09>

Major Events

Christian Education was relaunched in 2023, to make in-person Bible Study accessible to all members of ARC. The relaunch has also ensured alignment of all Bible Study material across all congregations in all ARC branches.

At Manet, following the change in service timing from 10.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., in-person Bible Study was restarted in June, 2023. Following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person study had ceased and been replaced by an online study on ZOOM. Although the ZOOM Online Study has been maintained and opened to the whole congregation, the in-person Bible Study has enabled more members to participate. Attendance varies between thirty (30) to forty (40) members.

Christian Education at Ridge was relaunched on Sunday, 6th August, 2023, with a short demonstration Bible Study during the 7.30 a.m., 8.30 a.m. Contemporary, and 10.30 a.m. Services. In the weeks after, separate studies were conducted for all the Morning congregations. A novel feature was the introduction of Bible Study as a part of the 7.30 a.m. Morning Mass.

At Tudu, Bible Study continued as part of the Service, between 9.50 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. To encourage more vibrant sharing, breaking into small groups has been re-introduced (following their suspension during COVID-19). There are currently four (4) groups of about ten (10) to fifteen (15) members each. This has enabled many more to share their thoughts, which is invaluable for personal spiritual growth.

Three (3) retreats for Bible Study Leaders were held (in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Fellowships' group leaders) to prepare Bible Study leaders to lead the Sunday Bible Study, together with Online Study preparation meetings every two (2) weeks on Saturday evenings.

Following the relaunch, studies at all branches were aligned with the theme of the Church and included:

- Equipping the saints for the transformed life - An introduction to Inductive Bible Study
- Impacting others to live the transformed life - A study on evangelism
- Is there a "Christian way" to celebrate Christmas? - A two-week Christmas study

Challenges

Some members of the congregation are not keen on Bible Study and do not see the need for attending. Although, there has been a significant increase in participation in Bible Study since the launch, only a very small proportion of the congregation take part in these studies. In the 7:30 a.m. Service at Ridge, some members are unhappy that Bible Study has been made a part of the Service.

There are also insufficient leaders to handle all the Bible Study groups - especially at the 7.30 a.m. Service. As a result, some of the groups are too large. As we are expecting the numbers of participants in Bible Study to increase, there is an urgent need for more Bible Study leaders.

Recommendations

The importance of Bible Study in the life of a Christian needs to be emphasized through Sunday sermons, to encourage members to seek to be part of a Bible Study group. There is also the need to encourage more members to volunteer to be trained to lead Bible Study.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The Evangelism Committee (EC) coordinates all activities for ARC's evangelism mission. Our purpose is to help fulfill the Great Commission by winning people to faith in Jesus Christ, building them in their faith, and sending them to win and build others.

We are committed to helping proclaim the Gospel in all cultures of every walk of life through diverse outreach programmes planned and executed in creative ways.

The EC continues to support the ARC Young Adults' Fellowship which it started in April, 2022. We hope to build a strong community of young adults who love Jesus Christ and are committed to serving Him and to integrate them into the life and work of ARC.

Meeting Times

The Committee meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month to plan and execute its programmes.

Activities

Breakfast Meeting

The Breakfast Meeting came off as scheduled on Saturday, 11th February, 2023 in the Basement of the ARC Hall. The meeting began at 9.00 am with an opening prayer and a welcome message by Dr. Kwaku Sarkodie who also doubled up as the MC for the day. As usual, inspiring music was provided by the One Accord (Manet) and Instruments of Praise (Ridge), whilst guests had breakfast.

Strong and stimulating testimonies were delivered by the invited speakers. Mrs. Selasi Dede Bedzrah Adane, the minor speaker, shared her life's testimony on the Lord's providence, how she overcame and was healed. She was raised in a family that went to church every Sunday; the Gospel was not a new thing to her. However, she never really understood what that meant to her personally. For her to truly and fully come to accept Christ, there were relationships that had to be broken and rebuilt.

Pastor Fazie Baksmaty, the main speaker, testified of the Lord's goodness throughout his life's journey. His father was a Moslem but never practiced his faith. His mother was a Christian who regularly went to church but was not born again. She later accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord upon a revelation. He was confirmed a Methodist in his secondary school days, but became a Presbyterian by marriage in Accra Ridge Church. He later came in touch with an American missionary named Mr. Dave Hall who introduced him personally to Jesus Christ. Thereon, relationships that God brought into his life by providence reshaped and redirected his life. He thought he was serving the Lord to the best of his abilities, but the Lord had bigger plans for his life calling him into pastoral service at the later age of 65 years.

After the testimonies, there was an altar call during which the opportunity was given for people to either accept or re-dedicate their lives to Jesus Christ. This was led by Pastor Baksmaty and Captain Dick Gbesemete.

A total of 130 people attended the breakfast meeting.

Workshop on Christian Hospitality

On Saturday, 13th May, 2023, a workshop on Christian hospitality was held for all Church leaders, on the theme, "Going beyond the Usual Welcome" led by Rev. Fr. Reginald Lawson. Leaders were equipped with skills for welcoming new members into the church, creating opportunities to share their faith through demonstrating God's love, and inviting others into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

A Night of Music Recital

This was done in collaboration with the Choir and was aired virtually on the ARC's YouTube channel on Saturday, 7th October, 2023. The programme was intended to awaken Christians to focus on their primary call which is witnessing the Gospel and to alert those who have not yet personally received Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour that God's judgment is near.

Month of Evangelism

The month of October was dedicated to Evangelism, themed, "Impacting others to also live the Transformed Life". The main objective served to equip congregants with skills to passionately share the Gospel with family, friends, and anyone in their community, while boldly inviting them to attend ARC Services. A series of teachings were delivered virtually by ARC Clergy at Wednesday Anaviosi Teaching Services. Various topics on evangelism were also treated at Bible Study sessions. Teachings delivered at Anaviosi included:

i. Topic: Witnessing and The Word of God (4th October, 2023)

- Every true Church wins souls
- Is ARC winning souls?
- Who will do the core business of bringing lost souls to Christ?

Text: Acts 2:14-41

ii. Topic: Witnessing and The Holy Spirit (18th October, 2023)

- The Holy Spirit: the source of our power to take the Gospel to the ends of the world

Text: Acts 1:8

iii. Topic: Witnessing and Prayer (25th October, 2023)

- Prayer is really the place where people are won to Christ; sharing the Good News is just gathering in the fruit.
- Prayer played a major part in the witnessing of the early Church.

Text: Acts 4:23-31

It is our hope that these teachings yielded the desired results and strengthened members to effectively conduct their own personal evangelism.

Music and Drama Night took place on Saturday, 11th November, 2023 at the Basement of the ARC Hall (Ridge). The programme was intended to awaken Christians to focus on their primary call which is sharing the Gospel as well as to alert those who have not yet received Jesus Christ that God's Judgment is near.

Groups that performed that night included Instruments of Praise, One Accord, and One Accord Junior, Dramacy, Contemporary Sunday School. The song ministrations were inspiring and uplifting. The Sunday School's drama group performed two (2) sketches dubbed "It is time" and "The last man to hear the Gospel". Dramacy also performed a sketch titled "Laodicea". This sketch depicted a church comprising people who were wealthy and industrious but had a lukewarm attitude towards the things of God. With their apathy came

a spiritual blindness because they claimed to be rich, blessed, and self-sufficient thus missed out on recognizing Jesus Christ when he visited them.

The room was filled to capacity with a mixed audience comprising children, youth, and adults. Rev. Frank Kissi made an altar call, thus creating the opportunity for people to surrender or re-dedicate their lives to Jesus Christ.

Distribution of Gospel Tracts

Approximately 1,200 New Year packs (containing the good news of our salvation and renewal) were prepared and distributed to the ARC congregations on Sunday, 31st December, 2023. Members were encouraged to take the time to go through the tracts and to pass the message on to their families, neighbours, and friends.

Conclusion

Some years back, ARC organized a missionary trip to Swedru, Aboso where together with the support of the Presbyterian Church Ghana (PCG) a church has since been established known as Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Emmanuel Congregation, Swedru-Aboso. In December, 2023, some members visited this church and came back with the report on the need for ARC to help complete their ongoing church building project as well as support members of the congregation to develop their faith in Jesus Christ.

Worshippers should be frequently reminded about their obligation to fulfill the Great Commission.

CHRISTIAN SERVICES GROUP

Aims and Objectives

- i. To be the main outreach and social service arm of the ARC.
- ii. To provide support, on behalf of Accra Ridge Church, to identified institutions and individuals, and also reach out with the message and love of Jesus Christ and seek their spiritual development.
- iii. To offer scholarships and bursaries to needy but brilliant students resident in Accra, who have gained admission into public tertiary institutions.
- iv. To raise funds as and when necessary, towards the Scholarship Fund.
- v. To ensure the spiritual growth and wellbeing of members, and foster fellowship among members of the Group.
- vi. The Group shall be guided by Matthew 25:40b, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Meeting Day/Time

The first Thursday of each month, at 5.30 p.m. at Ridge.

Major Events

Monthly Meetings continued throughout the year. In addition to regular planning, these meetings included presentations on special topics and the Group's 2023 Annual General Meeting. There were three (3) in-person meetings and the remaining were virtual.

Monthly Donations and Visits to Adopted Institutions: The Group was able to donate food items, groceries, and used clothing (donated) to all six (6) institutions: Remar Rehabilitation Centre, Ghana Society for the Socially Disadvantaged, Weija Leprosarium, Accra Rehabilitation Centre, Boys and Girls Industrial Home, and the Senior Correctional Institute (formerly Borstal Institute). Some received donations twice, and others thrice during the year, in addition to their end-of-year Christmas packages. Monthly visits to worship with the institutions continued in 2023.

The **Tertiary Education Scholarship Scheme (TESS)** which started in the 2018/2019 academic year continued to support brilliant but needy students. In the 2022/2023 academic year, three (3) new scholarships and one (1) bursary were awarded while scholarships were paid for six (6) continuing students on the scheme.

Annual Week: The Group celebrated its Annual Week in August, 2023. An amount of **GH¢92,874.28** was raised for the Scholarship Fund. The Group donated packages to Sunday School children of the Tudu congregation, (the older girls were given additional hygiene kits), as part of our Week's celebration.

Challenges

1. Persistent increases in prices continued to reduce the quantity of groceries and toiletries donated to the adopted institutions.
2. The Group's Annual Week celebration in August, 2023 ended up coinciding with the activities of ARC's Family Month, leading to split attention.

Recommendations

1. Council's attention has been drawn to item 1 under challenges and therefore, we trust that budgetary adjustments will be made to accommodate fluctuating prices of groceries.
2. We are hopeful that the clash of programmes will be avoided in future to ensure collaborative efforts in achieving cohesion.

COUPLES FELLOWSHIP (RIDGE /MANET)

Vision

To prepare people for marriage and strengthen marriages into relationships built on the Word of God for healthy family growth and development.

Our vision is derived from the ARC's Vision with focus on the phrase, "impacting families".

Purpose

Our purpose is to empower, and nurture married couples through relationships and the study of God's Word, which is the blueprint for building God-honouring marriages and family relationships. The Fellowship brings together Christian couples to encourage each other, share experiences, testimonies, prayer, and challenges, while discussing in confidence, solutions mostly based on biblical principles. In our various interactions, the group tends to lean on providing additional Christian family and marital support in their life-long journey. The

goal is to see couples throughout ARC being doers of the Word and positively influence our communities and society since we strongly believe the foundation of a disciplined society begins from the home.

The Couple's Fellowship is one family of two (2) groups namely, Manet and Ridge. The groups work together, strategize, and plan similar programmes through their leadership.

Meeting Days/Times

Though physical meetings have not fully resumed, Ridge meets on the 4th Saturday and Manet on the 3rd Saturday of the month.

Major Events

March: Panel discussion on Social Media and its Effects on Marriage and Family

August: Family Month Activities

September: First meeting of the current Executive Committee

October: Handing over meeting

December: End-of year retreat at the Sutherlands (Fellowship, Fun, and ReFocus)

Pre-marriage Counselling sessions for couples who intended to marry were handled by our team of seasoned marriage counsellors at Ridge and Manet. Each couple also completed the Alpha Pre-marriage Course. The resource persons were Rev. and Mrs. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah.

Marriage Counselling has also gone on well. There have been issues of couples planning their marriage not making available sufficient time for counselling. Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah also established sessions for the families of couples yet to be married to meet with the Minister(s) and selected counsellors available monthly.

We also need to be able to identify hurting relationships/marriages to be able to address their needs effectively.

In some cases, there were couples who were remotely domiciled, and this posed a challenge to them receiving counselling. However, various forms of communication were adapted to address these situations, though face-to-face meetings were preferred. We also have Mr. and Mrs. Richard Crabbe on hand to counsel would-be couples in North America.

New counsellors were brought on board during the year under review namely, Dr. Alex and Dr. (Mrs.) Margaret Amankwah-Poku, Mr. Joojo and Mrs. Stacey Bannerman, Mr. Michael and Mrs. Mina Oseku-Afful, and Prof. Joe-Nat and Mrs. Emily Clegg-Lampsey.

Challenges

- Attendance at meetings fell short of expectations.

Recommendations

There is a lot more effort required to build a solid fellowship that will meet the needs of the wide age group of possible members (21-80 years+). We, however, can continue this process by focusing on:

- Encouraging increased participation in activities by ARC couples.
- Consistency from the Lead Committee in planning and organizing

- Focus the current goal to create an active and real fellowship that will be attractive to current fellowship members, other ARC couples, and couples not members of ARC.
- Introduce a programme for Couple Mentorship.
- Work towards the Fellowship impacting the Church, families, and couples.

Serve as a resource for counselling and marital solutions.

Leadership

Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng, Youth Minister has spiritual oversight of the Fellowship.

A new leadership committee was selected in March, 2023. They are Naa Korkoi Amaniampong (Rep. on Council), Alex and Margaret Amankwah-Poku, Daniel and Elsie Koomson, Samuel and Ewurafua Obuobisa-Darko, Peter and Naa Dzadzama Kotei, Michael and Georgette McCarthy (lead couple), and Michael and Naa Norkor Dakwa.

This Committee will hold office for two (2) years after which a new leadership will be chosen. There are plans to set up an advisory team made up of the immediate past executives.

Proposed Programme for 2024

No.	Month	Activity
1.	January	Time with the Ministers
2.	February	Love Dinner
3.	March	Talk
4.	April	Strengthening ARC Families
5.	May	Movie
6.	June	Weekend Retreat
7.	July	Talk
8.	August	Family Fun Activities Weekend
No.	Month	Activity
9.	September	Time with Newly-weds
10.	October	Family Meeting with Evaluations (Assessment Tools)
11.	November	Health/Beach/Sporting Meeting
12.	December	End-of-Year Retreat

PRAYER

The ARC Prayer Committee oversees the prayer activities of the Church and in line with the ARC's vision seeks to impact individuals, families, neighbourhoods, workplaces, the Church and the nation through prayer.

Activities

During the year under review, the activities organized by the ARC Prayer Committee were:

Week of Prayer and Fasting (2nd - 8th January, 2023): The theme was, "The Life I Now Live" (Galatians 2:20). Daily Bible passages were published for meditation. Prayer topics were also made available for use by both ARC members and non-members. The resource persons were ARC Clergy together with Guest Ministers

from the three (3) Participating Churches. Service Leaders were drawn from the laity. Participation was both in-person and virtual.

Lenten Meditations (22nd February-8th April, 2023): This was observed with a period of forty (40) days of prayer and fasting. Meditations were on a book titled, **Where is God when it Hurts?** written by Philip Yancey. The resource persons were the ARC Clergy. Service Leaders were drawn from various Church groups. Meeting days and times were 12 noon to 1:15 p.m. daily (Monday to Friday) at Ridge and 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Manet throughout the period. There was also a half-night prayer session at Manet every Friday from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

An online Morning Devotion via ZOOM was available from 5.00 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. from Monday to Saturday. This was led by the Clergy and laity.

Prayer and Fasting Month (1st-31st July 2023): This was themed, "Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22). The programme commenced on Saturday, 1st July, 2023 at Ridge at 12 noon and 5:30 p.m. with an exposition on the main theme by the ARC Clergy. Corporate prayer sessions were held at Ridge from 12 noon to 1:15 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. whilst at Manet they were from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Half-night sessions were also held at Manet every Friday from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. On Saturdays, there was an ARC Family Altar and Prayer Chain for all Church groups and families from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The resource persons were from the three (3) Participating Churches. They were Rev. Fr. Ernest Wuaboh (Anglican), Very Rev. Isaac Akyerefi-Mensah (Methodist) and Rev. Abraham Opoku-Baffour (Presbyterian). The Ministers were designated to feature in all the sessions at Ridge and Manet.

Online Morning Devotions were held via ZOOM from 5:00 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. as part of the Prayer and Fasting month. At Manet, they held a half-night prayer vigil from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. On Saturdays, there was a 12-hour (6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) ARC Family Altar and Prayer Chain for the various Church groups and individuals. Participation was virtual.

The climax of the month-long prayer and fasting period was a Thanksgiving Service at all the Morning Services at Ridge, Manet, and Tudu.

Coordination of Prayer Groups

The **ARC Intercessors** alternated weekly between in-person and virtual meetings to pray for the world, the nation, the Church, families, ARC Council and Israel. The group engaged in a 24-hour prayer chain from Saturday evening to Sunday evening to pray for the nation on critical issues affecting the country and the Church. The group held four (4) seasonal quarterly vigils by ZOOM to declare good tidings for the nation, the Church, and families. The resource person for the first three (3) vigils was Rev. Fr. Abraham George Nunoo. The last vigil was held on 21st December, 2023 and the theme was "The Promises of God" (1 Corinthians 1:20). The resource person was Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng.

There were two (2) retreats in the course of the year to enhance the spirituality of members and the resource person was Rev. Fr. Abraham George-Nunoo.

Concerned Mothers met every second Saturday of the month, from 9.00 a.m. to 12 noon to intercede for the youth in the Church and in the country, for parents and guardians, and for relevant institutions in charge of education and employment.

The **Youth** continued to meet on Mondays, in-person, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Their prayers mainly bordered on career paths for the youth, families, and the ARC community.

The **Monday Prayer Group** continued with their virtual prayer chain every Monday evening from 8:00 p.m. to 12 midnight. A praise, thanksgiving, and worship session was held on the last Monday of every month.

Ghana Prays continued to meet every Wednesday from 12 noon to 1:15 p.m.

Manet continued with their Monday and Friday evenings in-person prayer meetings. The Sunday evening prayer meetings were virtual.

Prayer Bulletin

Soft and hard copies were published throughout the year. Soft copies were daily posted to the platforms of the various Church groups. The prayer topics were on global issues, the nation, families, and individuals.

Challenges

Members show more interest in virtual prayer sessions than in-person meetings.

Conclusion

Thanks be to God for another successful year in the life of the Church. We are most grateful to the Clergy, for their guidance and support, resource persons, and the leaders of the daily sessions. We are also grateful to all members who participated in the various activities. May the Lord continue to bless us all.

The ARC Prayer Committee will continue to encourage the congregation to actively participate in the prayer activities of the Church as we live a committed life in Christ in the years ahead. Our God is a prayer answering God. Therefore, let us continue to pray without ceasing, especially in these end times for the world, nation, Church and families.

HARVEST COMMITTEE

Aims and Objectives

The Harvest and Thanksgiving Committee was tasked mainly to:

- Organise the 2023 Harvest and Thanksgiving Services across all the various services at the ARC.
- Organise activities and initiatives to raise funds towards Harvest 2023.
- Provide a platform and encourage members of the congregation to give.

Meeting Days/Times

The Committee started meetings in May, 2023, after the newly constituted Council was assembled. The meetings were held on Thursdays between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in-person and when necessary, members joined virtually.

Major Events

The events for 2023 Harvest and Thanksgiving were spread throughout the year mainly as mini harvests. Below is the schedule of the activities and what was realised.

No.	Event	Proceeds (GH¢)
1.	Launching of Harvest (Easter Sunday)	143,465.48
2.	Women's Mini-Harvest	64,764.07
3.	Choir Mini-Harvest	72,233.20
4.	Men's Mini-Harvest	28,106.00
5.	Main Harvest	992,398.50
6.	Schools' Thanksgiving	371,557.23
7.	Sale of Souvenirs	19,420.00
8.	Other Donations	104,032.52
Total		1,795,977.00

The committee initiated the sale of branded harvest 2023 souvenirs as an additional avenue to raise funds. The souvenirs included mugs, drinking glasses, decorative plates, magnetic key rings, clipper key rings, and face towels.

A comprehensive multimedia plan was developed and rolled out by the Committee to aid in getting the theme for the 2023 Harvest and Thanksgiving to the congregation. This made Harvest 2023 visible to the congregation through the various activities.

As of 31st December, 2023, the receipts from the 2023 Harvest and Thanksgiving was **GH¢1,795,977** against a target of **GH¢1,500,000**, resulting an excess of **GH¢295,977**. The Committee is in awe of the goodness of God and grateful to the congregation for their contributions and diverse support.

Challenges

- Church group selection and involvement of all committee members for the planning and implementation of activities.
- Delay in the release of funds for budgeted items. Effective implementation of the financial plan with support from Church Administration.
- Getting more committed members.
- Slow response and lack of early commitment by some nominated chairpersons and co-chairpersons.
- Non-attendance of meeting by some committee members.

Membership

Mr. Danny Mawuenyega (Chairman), Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng (Vice Chairman), Mr. Enoch Ofosu-Appiah, Mr. Seth Dzordzorme, Mrs. Henrietta Arthur-Ofei, Nana Nyarkoa Prah, Ms Chris Edusei, Dr. Yaa Afi Osei, Mr. Tetteh Okunor, Capt. Samuel Thompson, Mr. Godwin Ivan Acquah, Mrs. Naa Korkoi Amaniampong and Ms. Elizabeth Ocansey (Administrative Manager).

Conclusion and Outlook for 2024

The Harvest and Thanksgiving Committee 2023 is grateful to God for His direction and a united front from its members. Church Council was always helpful, and the Clergy was magnificent in our publicity drive. Our chairpersons and co-chairpersons were very supportive and allowed themselves to be used by God.

We are enthused about the 2024 Harvest and Thanksgiving and wish to invite each member of the congregation to join in giving back to God as we together seek to deepen our commitment to Christ our Lord.

We urge all ARC members to immerse themselves in prayer that the storehouse of the Lord shall be overflowingly filled by our heartfelt gratitude to the Lord's blessings for 2023 and even in 2024.

ACCRA RIDGE CHURCH

MANET CHAPEL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (MCMC)

MEMBERSHIP

The newly-elected Manet Chapel Management Committee members (2023-2025) were inducted into office in May, 2023. The Committee is made up of seven (7) members; five (5) of whom are also members of the ARC Council. The membership of the Management Committee are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Seth Dzordzorme | - Chairman |
| 2. Mrs. Nana Koomah Boakyee-Agyemang | - Secretary |
| 3. Mr. Kweku Afful | - Member, Finance & Property |
| 4. Mrs. Joyce Boeh-Ocansey | - Member, Evangelism & Services |
| 5. Dr. Ernest Obuobisa-Darko | - Member |
| 6. Ms. Augusta Lartey-Young | - Member |
| 7. Mr. Nana Addo Opoku | - Member |
| 8. Rev Frank Kissi | - Ex-Officio Member (Clergy) |

REPRESENTATION ON ARC COUNCIL (2023-2025)

The ARC Council has seven (7) members from the Manet Chapel. They are

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Dr. Ernest Obuobisa-Darko | - Choir Rep. |
| 2. Mr. Peter Kotei | - Youth Rep. |
| 3. Mr. Kweku Afful | - Services Secretary (Manet) |
| 4. Ms. Augusta Lartey-Young | - Women's Fellowship (Manet) |
| 5. Mrs. Nana Koomah Boakyee-Agyemang | - Visitation Group |
| 6. Dr. Nii Darko Asante | - Coordinator for Christian Education |
| 7. Mr. Seth Dzordzorme | - Assistant Fundraising (Manet) |

Meeting Day/Time - The MCMC held two (2) in-person meetings and three (3) virtual prayer meetings in 2023.

Activities

Orientation for Newly-Elected Officers of the Church - All elected officers participated in an orientation programme for elected Council members and Management Committee members on Monday, 1st May, 2023.

Tenure Agenda - Towards Manet Chapel's growth in quality and quantity with Christ at the centre; the MCMC developed its tenure agenda for 2023 to 2025.

Groups and Fellowships - Considering that effective leadership requires showing interest in the growth of the groups in the church, members of the Committee were assigned to a minimum of three (3) groups each to serve as focal persons between the group and the Management Committee.

The MCMC is deliberating on the formation of Widows Fellowship and Mission 50+ at Manet to meet the needs of potential members who have expressed interest in joining.

Congregational Meeting - Manet Chapel held its congregational meeting on 10th December, 2023. Major issues arising from the meeting were church attendance and growth, security in and around the chapel, maintenance and repairs of the chapel, youth (mentoring, unemployment, underemployment and fellowship) Christian education and Bible studies, music and sounds (praise and worship).

During the meeting, the immediate past members of the Committee were recognised and honoured with certificates of service from the Church. They are:

Mr. Seth Dzordzorme	-	Chairman
Mrs. Christine Otu-Boateng Kwaning	-	Secretary
Mr. Kwabena Nyarko	-	Member, Finance and Property
Mrs. Ewuradjoa Bonso-Abban	-	Member, Evangelism and Services
Mr. Kweku Afful	-	Member
Mrs. Josephine Anima Donkoh	-	Member
Mr. Nana Ofosuhene Adane	-	Member

Mrs. Ewuradjoa Bonso-Abban, a member of the immediate past Management Committee who had been sick for some time passed away later that afternoon. May her soul rest in perfect peace.

Rebranding of Family Night - The annual "Family Night" was renamed, "Christmas Family Fiesta". This was to cater for easy bussing of the Baatsona children who constitute majority of the Sunday school children. About two hundred (200) children below age fourteen (14) were presented with gifts during the celebration on Sunday, 24th December, 2023.

Inspection and Evaluation of Manet Chapel - An inspection and evaluation exercise on the Chapel was conducted in November, 2023. The findings have been divided into three (3) thematic areas, for further engagements:

1. Major Changes
2. Refurbishment and Proper Utilisation of all Spaces
3. Immediate Fixations

Neighbourhood Fellowship at Manet Chapel - Manet currently has two (2) active Neighbourhood Fellowship groups. Plans are far advanced to relaunch Neighbourhood Fellowship. Six groups with their respective potential leaders have been identified in GREDA Estates, Manet Cottage, Manet Gardens, Community 18, Coastal Estate and East Legon. The objective is to have every member join as much as possible, a Neighbourhood Fellowship by the end of year 2024. We continue to pray for the direction of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer - Members continued to meet every Monday, Friday and Sunday evenings throughout the period. Prayers were said for the church, country, the youth, families, world peace, the sick and the needy.

Evangelism at Manet - There is the need to reconstitute the Evangelism Committee and its activities at Manet. Mrs. Joyce Boeh-Ocansey, a member of the Committee was nominated to work with Nee Martey Annang (Council rep. for Evangelism Committee) on that assignment.

Sunday Services and Bible Study - In creating an avenue for all members to participate in Bible study as a critical area for the growth and maturity of members, there was an adjustment in service times as follows:

- Timothy Service will start at 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.
- Second Service starts at 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Christian Education and Bible study sessions run from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. every Sunday.
- The Sunday school classes are blessed with amazing teachers who teach our children every week. The 8:00 a.m. classes continue to be dominated by children from the Kiosk Estate and Baatsonaa communities. We saw growth in the number of attendees, and we are excited to see how God will continue to use that to grow our church. There was provision of food packs with a bottle of water for the children attending the 8.00am service.

We are grateful to God, who has guided our Church through 2023. We continue to hope in Him as He protects, renews, and sustains our church with His amazing and wonderful grace.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP (MANET)

The Women's Fellowship (Manet Chapel) continues to give thanks to God for His faithfulness throughout the year 2023. It was a very challenging year; but by the mercy and grace of our faithful God, we came through. Members were continually encouraged to "Fix Our Eyes on Jesus" (Hebrews 12:2) in whom "We live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28).

Membership: Our number on roll is ninety-two (92). This is as a result of the membership audit we conducted in August and September, 2023. Six (6) new members also joined.

Bereavement: We lost three (3) of our dear sisters: Sister Veronica Ama Ofori passed in April and was buried in May. Sister Mercy Esi Coleman Obeng-Darko passed away in November and Sister Ewuradjoa Bonso-Abban in December. The funerals of the last two (2) are yet to take place.

Committees: The three (3) standing committees of the Fellowship namely Prayer, Welfare, and Fundraising were re-organised, giving members the opportunity to change committees. It is our prayer that this year also the committees will put in a lot of work to further the aims and objectives of our Fellowship.

Worthy Women of Faith Groupings: This year, the Fellowship committed to live lives of faith by emulating the lives of selected women from the Bible. In line with our objectives of striving to live as Christian women, who work to foster love and fellowship among ourselves as well as catering for the needs of members, the Church, and the disadvantaged in society, we have agreed, in our bid to work more effectively, to divide into groups named after worthy women in the Bible. The Fellowship was divided into six (6) groups with the

following Old and New Testament names: Phoebe-Huldah, Lois-Ruth, Deborah-Priscilla, Tabitha-Hannah, Esther-Eunice, and Abigail-Lydia.

Our objective is to learn about and emulate the characteristics of these women even as we live out our motto: *"In Him we live and move and have our being"* (Acts 17:28b).

Meetings: We held ten (10) in-person meetings during the year under review. However, the Fellowship had a series of activities aside from the meetings.

Activities

- ARC Week of Prayer and Fasting (January), during Lenten Meditation (March/April) and Month of Prayer and Fasting (July).
- Weddings, Birthday Celebrations, Funerals, and visits to the aged and bereaved
- Fellowship Week
- Father's Day Celebration
- Health Talk: Low Back Pain and Sciatica - Causes and Modern Treatment
- Three (3) teenagers were sponsored to attend Teen Camp in August, 2023
- Honouring the invitation to the 37th anniversary of the Women's Fellowship of United Church, Teshie Nungua Estates, on 19th November, 2023. Their theme was "The Woman God Uses (2 Tim.2:21)".
- Manet Christmas Family Fiesta
- Church Harvest Thanksgiving
- General Meetings

Fellowship Week (15th-21st 2023) was themed, *"The Holy Spirit: Revealer of Truth (John 16:13a)"*. To continue our aim of fostering deeper fraternity, the Women's Fellowships from Ridge, Manet, and Tudu once again had some joint programmes.

The week commenced with personal introspection and self-examination in the Lord, to prepare us for the week ahead.

Monday, 15th May: We watched an inspirational movie, ***Mully*** which demonstrated the faithfulness of God to those who are called according to His purpose. Whom He calls He fully equips.

Tuesday, 16th May: There was a health talk on lower back pain and Sciatica (causes and modern-day treatment) by Dr. Naa Asheley Ashitey. The talk was very well received with a vast range of questions by those who attended in-person and online.

Wednesday, 17th May: Members joined Ghana Prays which is held at Ridge every Wednesday at noon and participated in Anaviosi in the evening, both in-person and virtually. The topic was, "The Fellowship of the Holy Spirit" led by Elder Amos Kevin-Annan.

Thursday, 18th May: There was a Bible reading marathon at Ridge from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and evangelism at Ridge Church School.

Friday, 19th May: Members visited the Power of Love Home at Afienya-Gbetsile, where a donation of various items was made. Members had a lot of fun and prayed with the children.

Saturday, 20th May: Women's Fellowship (Ridge) held a retreat on our joint theme, "The Holy Spirit: Revealer of Truth". Rev. Dr. Clara Danquah of the Ghana Police Church, Accra, gave an eye-opening sermon on the theme.

The Week climaxed on Sunday, 21st May, with a Mini-Harvest and Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 21st of May under the theme, "That They All May Be One". Rev. (Mrs.) Rebecca Abladey of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Calvary Congregation, Chorkor, honoured our invitation as our Special Guest Preacher.

Total proceeds from the mini-harvest amounted to **GH¢33,929.15**, all foreign currencies inclusive. This is a cumulative figure of supporters' contributions, day-born and mini harvest offertory for which we thank God.

Father's Day Celebration: Sunday, 18th June, 2023, was Father's Day. The Fellowship presented gifts to fathers to celebrate them.

Outreach and Donations: This year, in view of the Akosombo Dam spillage on the inhabitants of Lower Volta and its environs, the Fellowship joined the Church to contribute to the victims. In addition, we provided several bags of fairly used clothing in good condition.

The Fellowship also played its part in contributing to Clergy Appreciation Day and the Church Harvest.

Visits: This year, the Fellowship made good progress by visiting all our elderly and indisposed members who can no longer attend meetings and fellowship.

Dues: In the year under review, we are pleased to announce that the Fellowship achieved 77% payment of dues.

End-of-Year Thanksgiving and Party: Some members joined our sisters at Ridge for their End-of-Year Thanksgiving and Party.

Manet Family Day Fiesta/Service: There was a massive turn out of members, clad in our Ghanaian traditional clothing at a Joint Service at 9.00 a.m. on 18th December, 2023 to celebrate our traditional "Family Nite", now renamed, "Manet Family Fiesta". With appreciable support from the Church, some altruistic-minded Church members, and other philanthropists, our Fundraising and Family Fiesta Committee raised funds for the celebration. Father Christmas came as anticipated with a whole lot of goodies for all the over 250 children of the Church. They received special gifts as well as specially parceled cakes, sweets, and drinks. This provision was made to also serve drinks to the entire Church after the Service. There was an opportunity for families to take photos in specialized booths after the Service.

New Executive Members assumed office in February, 2023 after a successful election. The new executive members for the 2023-2025 tenure are as follows:

Sis. Elfrida Adablah (President), Sis. Mavis Hayford (Vice President), Sis. Eugenia Maafo (Secretary), Sis. Adelaide Nartey (Deputy Secretary), Sis. Eunice Nyarko (Organising Secretary), Sis. Elsie Dumenu (Financial Secretary), Sis. Vivian Yebuah (Treasurer), Sis. Veronica Yanyi Ampah (Porter), and three (3) Ex-Officio members namely Sisters Esi Coleman, Mary Hanson, Theresa Oboubisa-Darko, with Sis. Augusta Lartey-Young as the Representative on Council.

Appreciation: The Fellowship continues to thank God for His faithfulness and mercies. We also appreciate the spiritual leadership and selfless support by our Clergy and look forward to abundant blessings as we continue to serve in our Lord's vineyard.

RIDGE CHURCH SCHOOL

The academic year under review was divided into two (2) semesters. This was done to enable the school to revisit its former/old calendar (i.e. July to September) disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Board of Governors

A number of changes were made to the composition of the Board of Governors. Mrs. Grace Dede Hanson (Chairperson), Mr. John Appea (Finance Member), Ms Emma Marfo (Legal Member), Mr. Donald Humphrey-Ackumey (Property Member) and Mr. Emmanuel Cornan (PTA Chairman) ended their term of office. The following have replaced them:

Mrs. Vivan Campbell (Chairperson), Mrs. Angerley Anterkyi (Legal Member), Mrs. Elsie Koomson (Finance Member), Nii Akwei Acquaye (Property Member), and Mr. Bernard Donkor (PTA Chairman).

The other members of the Board remained unchanged: Rt. Rev. Samspon Gyabeng (Vice Chairperson), Mrs. Elfrida Adablah (Education Member), Ms Sharon Mills (Old Ridgean), and Mrs. Nana Ama Acheampomaa Badasu (Headmistress) with Mr. Parker Yarney (Asst. Head, JHS) as Secretary to the Board.

Senior Administrative Staff

Mrs. Nana Ama Acheampomaa Badasu (Headmistress), Mr. Parker Yarney (Assistant Head, JHS), Mrs. Sabina Yawson (Assistant Head, Manet Preschool), Ms. Jennifer Blankson (Assistant Head, KG & Lower Primary), Mr. Martin Alipui (Assistant Head, Upper Primary), Mrs. Phyllis Bannerman (Administrative Officer), Ms. Jennifer Ali (Accountant), Ms. Baaba Otoo (Guidance and Counselling Coordinator), Rev. Laud S. Gyampoh (School Chaplain), Mr. Rene Coleman (Deputy to Asst. Head, JHS), Mr. Emmanuel Osae Ofori (Deputy to Asst. Head, Upper Primary), and Ms. Alice Cleland (Deputy to Asst. Head, KG & Lower Primary).

Staffing

There were thirty-six (36) teachers for the Primary Department, twenty-three (23) for the JHS Department, three (3) for the Kindergarten Department, and four (4) for the Manet Pre-School. Twenty-five (25) Teacher's Aides were employed for the 2022/2023 academic year. Administration had thirteen (13) members of staff and there were eighteen (18) ancillary staff.

Recruitment: The following were recruited during the year: Ms Esther Gloria Appiah (Assistant Accountant) in March, 2023; Mr. Isaac Tekper Akrofi (Cashier) in March, 2023; Mr. Joshua Ntow Asiedu (Stand-in Storekeeper) in May, 2023; Mr. Prosper Adanu (Casual Security Officer) in September, 2023; and Mr. Samuel Agbemeseli (Stand-in ICT Teacher) in October, 2023.

Resignations/Termination of Appointment: The following resigned: Ms Irene Acquah (English Teacher) in August, 2023; and Mr. Adam Copson (ICT Teacher) in October, 2023. However, the appointment of Mr. Yaw Antwi Boasiako (Security Officer) was terminated in May, 2023.

Retirement/Contract: Mr. Atsiwo Ajamvare (Cleaner) retired in August, 2023 after forty-two (42) years of service to the School. He was awarded a contract for the 2023/2024 academic year.

Projects

The PTA refurbished the school's infirmary and handed it over to the school in August, 2023.

Number of Classes/Number on Roll: There are three (3) streams per class. The number on roll for the 2022/2023 year for the Primary Section was 661 and 238 for JHS, making a total of 899, of which 452 were girls and 447 boys.

School Activities

The following school activities took place during the year:

- a. **Orientation** programmes were held for parents of learners in the Kindergarten Department and Class One in September, 2023.
- b. **Open Days** for the two (2) semesters in the 2022/2023 academic year were held on 21st April, 2023 and 29th August, 2023.
- c. **Staff Retreat and Dedication:** The two (2) events took place on 14th and 15th January, 2023, respectively.
- d. Ghana/Independence Week was held on 4th March, 2023 with a colourful parade and cultural displays.
- e. **Excursions:** A number of educational trips were undertaken by learners in July, 2023. Among the sites visited were the Adomi Bridge, Sajuna Beach Resort, Bead-making factory at Odumase, Legon Botanical Gardens, Arts Centre, Bunso Ecopark, Aburi Botanical Gardens, Konkonuru Village, Twellium Industries Ltd., Achimota Shopping Mall, and Lakeside Marina Park.
- f. **Sports:** Learners keenly participated in the sporting activities organized during the year which involved athletics, football, tug-of-war, and basketball. The School also held a friendly football match with the Ghana International School in May, 2023 and with other schools including Lincoln Community School and Fountain of Glory School.
- g. **Participation in External Competitions:** Miss. Delanyo Gbeve, a Class 5 learner, participated in the Miss. Kiddie Ghana Contest in July, 2023. She won "Ms Photogenic" at the end of the competition in September, 2023. She also participated in GHTV Junior HD Plus Generation Essay Writing Competition Season 3 in July, 2023 and was adjudged the winner in Creativity and Talent.
- h. **Passing-Out Ceremony:** The Passing-Out Ceremony for the 2023 BECE candidates took place on Wednesday, 16th August, 2023 under the theme, "Be a good example to your world". The Guest Speaker for the occasion was Mr. Ebenezer Bediako Sampong who spoke on the theme. The graduands were dedicated and presented with their kente stoles and Bibles. Some of them were awarded prizes for consistent good academic work and for leadership qualities.
- i. **66th Speech and Prize-Giving Day:** This took place on Saturday, 26th August, 2023. The Chairperson for the occasion was Lady Justice Rita Doko (a parent). The Guest Speaker was Dr. Yaw Perbi, an old

Ridgean. He spoke on the theme for the occasion, 'Be An Example In All Circumstances'. During the ceremony, prizes were awarded to deserving learners and Special Awards were also presented to some members of staff:

- j. The **Guidance and Counselling Week** was from Monday, 21st to Wednesday, 23rd August, 2023 under the theme, "Trinity Fitness, Get Fit, Don't Quit". Activities held included Fitness crafts, aerobics day, Talentfest and a Health talk.

- k. **Training:**

- i. Teachers held regular Professional Learning Networks (PLNs) to discuss matters of interest in their subject areas and also learn from one another.
- ii. The Assistant Head for KG and Lower Primary was sponsored by the school to undertake a course at the National Teacher Training Centre to improve her professional skills during the year under review. She completed the course successfully.
- iii. **TIME/TEN and Global Super Teachers Conference:** Teachers participated in these to enhance and improve teaching and learning and to acquire novel pedagogies for the 21st century learner.
- iv. **Global Super Teachers Edutalk and Conference (November, 2023):** Teachers had encounters with great educators across the world and were exposed to pertinent issues such as preparing learners for work, parent-school engagement, and the use of technology in schools.

- l. **Christmas Service**

This took place on Tuesday, 19th December, 2023 under the theme, "Christmas, A Time To Adore The Messiah And Replicate His Kindness". The Drama Club of the School put up a short sketch amidst singing of carols and reading of the Bible by learners, staff, and parents. Rev. Laud S. Gyampoh gave a short exhortation.

- m. **Easter Service**

Our Easter Service was held on Wednesday, 5th April, 2023 on the theme, "The Ultimate Sacrifice" (John 15:13, Col 3:1). The school choir as usual rendered Easter hymns and songs. Learners also read the Scriptures and Rev. Laud S. Gyampoh delivered the sermon.

- n. **Harvest/Outreach Programme**

This programme came off successfully on Friday, 3rd November, 2023 at the Accra Ridge Church under the theme, 'Generosity Reaps Blessings'. The three (3) beneficiary institutions were the Children's Department of the Accra Regional Hospital, Senior Correctional Centre, and Accra Rehabilitation Centre.

2023 BECE

The 2023 BECE was written from 7th to 11th August, 2023. The School presented seventy-seven (77) candidates and they wrote the exams at Accra High School. The analysis of the results is captured in the table below:

BECE 2023 RESULTS ANALYSIS BY GRADES															
Subjects	Grades									Total No. of Pupils	2023 Grade 1 (%)	2022 Grade 1 (%)	2023 Grade 1 & 2 (%)	2022 Grade 1 & 2 (%)	Teacher in Charge
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9						
BDT Pre-Tech	12	5	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	28	42.9	9	60.7	31	Mr. Ashidam
BDT Home Economics	7	5	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	17	41.2	18	70.6	45	Mrs. Aidoo
BDT Visual Art	8	8	8	5	3	0	0	0	0	32	25.0	46	50.0	79	Mr. Edward Adjiei
English	19	24	25	8	1	0	0	0	0	77	24.7	46	55.8	81	Mr. Boakye
Social Studies	15	15	16	16	10	5	0	0	0	77	19.5	23	39.0	65	Ms Oteng/ Mr. Wilberforce
ICT	13	16	16	20	12	0	0	0	0	77	16.9	9	37.7	36	Mr. Adjetey Adjiei
Mathematics	12	8	14	19	11	10	3	0	0	77	15.6	18	26.0	42	Mr. Opaye
Relg. & Moral Educ.	11	20	29	10	6	1	0	0	0	77	14.3	32	40.3	61	Mr. Wilberforce
Int. Science	10	14	15	19	12	6	1	0	0	77	13.0	12	31.2	30	Mr. Mensah
French	10	9	16	15	12	12	3	0	0	77	13.0	4	24.7	14	Mr. Elavanyo
Ga	4	7	4	9	6	4	1	0	0	35	11.4	11	31.4	19	Mrs. Ankamafio
Twi	1	8	14	12	5	2	0	0	0	42	2.4	3	21.4	11	Mr. Siaw
NOTE: These results have been ranked according to % Grade Ones obtained.															

MANET PRE-SCHOOL

Staff Position: There are four (4) members of staff; two (2) teachers, a nanny and a cleaner.

Number on Roll: The number on roll is twenty-five (25). The breakdown is as follows:

No.	Class	Learners
1.	Creche	1
2.	Play Group	2
3.	Nursery One	6
4.	Nursery Two	9
5.	KG One	7

Donation of Books

Mrs. Regina Ansah-Boateng, a friend of the school once again donated a box of Teaching and Learning Materials to the School through Mrs. Grace Hanson, the immediate past Board Chair.

Passing-Out Ceremony

On Tuesday, 22nd August, 2023, a passing-out ceremony was held at the School to see the Kindergarten One (1) learners off to the main School. It was well attended by parents. The Headmistress was present at the ceremony.

Submitted by

Endorsed by

NANA AMA ACHEAMPOMAA BADASU (MRS.)

Headmistress

VIVIAN CAMPBELL (MRS.)

Chairperson, BoG

COUNCIL TO CONGREGATION

1. STATUS REPORT OF RIDGE CHURCH SCHOOL SHS PROJECT

At the 2023 Annual General Meeting, members were informed that a Business Plan would be submitted by the school for the attention of the AGM for a decision to be taken about the establishment of the long over-due SHS department of the School.

Background

The Accra Ridge Church (ARC) Council set up an ad-hoc committee to evaluate the business plan for the proposed Ridge Church Senior High School (RCS-SHS) submitted by the RCS Board. In the committee's report to Council dated 5th March, 2023, the following recommendations were made:

- RCS-SHS should "consider relocating some of the current adult use areas (headmistress's office, board meeting rooms, etc.) to the ARC Hall."
- ARC should consider possible mapping and redevelopment of land in RCS and ARC for use by RCS-SHS.
- Consider other facilities within the Ridge environs or other viable locations with good pricing as an option for consideration and long-term investment.

In the main, therefore, space for RCS-SHS to operate dominated the needs list. In the RCS Annual Report of 2022, the estimated cost of bringing the Church Hall complex to a state useable by the SHS was put at GH¢3,536,572.88 to be raised through equity funding by the RCS Trust Fund.

Implications

The cost of developing existing space on the school premises has therefore been obtained. Indicative costs, i.e., excluding professional fees, for two options under consideration are as follows:

- Going up three levels on top of the present canteen block: USD2,276,250
- Going up three levels on top of the present administration block: USD1,756,500

Presently also, RCS does not meet the requirements for the accreditation required to establish the SHS.

Way Forward

It is the view of the Board that the school cannot support these costs out of its present operations and resources.

The Board therefore proposes the introduction of the Cambridge Lower Secondary curriculum as a first step. Existing facilities at RCS meet the requirements, e.g., library, laboratory, infirmary, playing field/courts and computer lab, among others. Teachers are already available and will be trained/orientated to the Cambridge perspectives. Cambridge also provides useful teaching materials that teachers can use in instruction.

The course of study will culminate in an exam at the end of three years which will enable RCS to compete globally and increase its exposure. The introduction of this curriculum will also give parents an alternative to the Ghana national curriculum and stymie the trend of learners being withdrawn after Basic 6.

The programme will be available to Basic 7/JHS 1, Basic 8/JHS 2 and Basic 9/JHS 3. It is expected to start in September 2024. School fees will be higher. It is envisaged that one of the three JHS streams will be dedicated to Cambridge and two to the Ghana curriculum. Parents will be invited to choose which track their children will follow before the learners complete Basic 6.

Conclusion

The School Board expects that if this plan is accepted, it will provide a route to enable the school to introduce the Cambridge curriculum at a lower cost and allow the school time to build up to the SHS level.

2. ARC GIFT POLICY

The Accra Ridge Church Gift Policy came into force in November 2014. Extracts of the Policy are provided in this report. It has become necessary to share this policy with the congregation to provide guidelines for the gifts accepted by ARC and the procedures for accepting and receiving gifts. It is also to forestall any breaches as have occurred in the most recent past.

Mandate: To promote faithful stewardship of all God's property, and to enhance its mission, the ARC has developed this policy to guide the giving and receiving of gifts.

Purpose: The policy seeks to encourage giving to ARC, provides a clear statement to ARC members, congregants, staff, and donors of the types of gifts that the ARC will accept, the conditions under which such gifts may be accepted and the uses which such gifts may be put. This policy outlines procedures for gift acceptance, use and administration. This policy and its guidelines are in place to avoid a case-by-case approach to gift acceptance and administration that could lead to inconsistency or poor judgement.

Definitions: For purposes of this policy, the term "gifts" refers to contributions and donations given for the benefit of the Church. A gift is an outright or deferred contribution received from an individual, entity, foundation or company (the "donor"). ARC may in its discretion accept or decline a proposed gift from these donors. Gifts may range from cash, through items of personal property to real property.

- a. **Designation:** Gifts to the Church may be either given without stipulation by the donor for the general purposes of the Church (undesignated/unrestricted) or for specific uses (designated/restricted) approved by the Council.
- b. **Memorials:** Donors may also memorialize a loved one through a gift.

Beneficiary: All gifts should name ARC as owner or beneficiary.

The policy outlines various forms of gifts.

- I. **Tangible/Personal Property Gifts:** This includes art collections, antiques, jewelry, books, and similar moveable property. These gifts are also referred to as "gifts-in-kind". An offer of tangible personal property will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by Council. The Church is able to accept gifts-in-kind only if the following conditions apply:
 - a. The gift shall not require the Church to commit significant additional expense for its present, or future use, display, maintenance, or administration.

- b. The gift shall not commit the church to any financial or other burdensome obligation, either directly or indirectly.
- c. The valuation of the gift shall on market value as determined by a qualified independent third party who is not an officer or employee of the Church, unless the Church agrees to secure such evaluation, it will be the responsibility of the donor.
- d. There is no expectation, understanding or condition that gifts such as books, paintings, or other tangible property will be loaned back to the donor or his designee for life or for extended periods of time determined by the donor.

II. Real Estate: Real estate gifts can include personal residences, rental properties, office buildings, land, leasehold interests, and other structures.

The Church will undertake due diligence and a thorough evaluation of the condition and characteristics of the proposed real property gift before a gift of real estate may be formally accepted. The donor must provide copies of all legal documents and other relevant information about the property.

III. Memorial Gifts:

- a. Donors may also donate memorial gifts to honour or remember loved ones through Funds or tangible gifts. At least once a year ARC will publish the names of those in whose memory funds have been received that year along with a summary of the uses to which the Memorial funds were put during the year.
- b. When a proposed gift is a physical memorial, or would involve building alterations or additions, interior or exterior fixtures, renovations or decorations, ARC shall:
 - i. receive the proposal and request the donor to provide proposed plans, drawings, photographs, or some other reasonable visuals, to allow Council to determine precisely what is being proposed in terms of size, shape, colours, materials, style, text, etc.; where it would be located; how it would be constructed or installed; how construction or installation would be funded; and how ongoing maintenance would be provided.
- c. Where it is not feasible to accept the gift as proposed, the ARC will explain same to the donor and advise that some other gift of comparable value to the donor would have an equivalent or greater positive impact on the Church and its mission.
- d. An appropriate dedication event for memorial gifts will be scheduled, announced, and performed.

GENERAL CRITERIA FOR GIFT ACCEPTANCE

- 1. **Acceptability of Gifts:** Council is responsible for determining the acceptability of each gift. It shall utilize this Policy in determining the acceptability of gifts and maintain discipline in gift acceptance and administration.
- 2. **Criteria for Evaluating Gifts:** Council recognizes the diversity of potential donors and their gifts. While all gifts are appreciated, not all can be accepted. The following criteria will be included in the evaluation of the acceptability of any gift.
- 3. **Procedure for accepting Gifts**
 - a. ***Request***

Gifts to the Church may come in many forms and donors may communicate their intent to any member, congregant, or staff of the Church. This request must be forwarded to Council, preferably in writing. The following details pertaining to the Donor should be supplied to the Church's Administrative Manager.

- i. The full name and address, phone number, and email address of the donor and the donor's relationship to the Church.
- ii. A complete description of the gift.
- iii. The date the offer of the gift was made.
- iv. The estimated or appraised (specify which) value of the gift.
- v. Restrictions or requirements, if any, placed by the donor or the donor's family, organization, or group upon the use or disposition of the gift by the Church.
- vi. Time period restrictions, if any, placed by the donor or the donor's family, organization, or group upon the Church with respect to the acceptance decision and retention of the property by the Church.
- vii. Responsibility and procedure for maintenance of the gift.
- viii. Current status of the gift, e.g., if tangible property, the location of the property.
- ix. The date the documentation was prepared.
- x. Any other information regarding the gift that the donor, staff member, church member, or church congregant wants considered in respect of the gift.

b. Deliberation by Council

The Administrative Manager shall transmit this request in writing to Council with the documents to be considered for the next Council meeting. Within two regularly scheduled meetings of the Council, the request should be deliberated upon as per the criteria contained in 2. above, a decision taken and communicated to the Donor. Council may, if it deems appropriate, seek legal advice, or designate a sub-committee to consider the whole, or any aspect of the gift within this period.

Where the gift is designated gift containing conditions, the agreed-upon outcomes should be incorporated into an Agreement/Statement in the form described above and signed by both the Donor and Council Chair. In drafting this document, Council should be guided by the considerations of this Policy.

c. Communication of Outcome to Donor

Within two weeks of the acceptance of the gift by Council, the Council Chair will issue a dated, signed letter acknowledging the gifts and thanking donors. The letter will include a description of the gift, and the terms of its acceptance.

d. Anonymous Gifts

Anonymous gifts may comprise cash or non-cash (tangible) donations. ARC acknowledges that it may not be able to track the donors of anonymous cash donations but where the donor of a tangible gift desires to be anonymous, the donor's identity will be restricted to Council members who will be charged to keep the information confidential. ARC prefers that donations of highly significant value should not be anonymous.

4. Records: Minutes/Assets Register/Gift Assets Register

To ensure that gifts are properly documented, the underlisted processes should be followed for recording donations to ARC.

- a. Decisions on gifts should be recorded in the Church's minutes.
- b. Thereafter acknowledgements should be sent for all gifts received.
- c. The Administrative Manager should

- i. maintain an Asset Register which should include a Gift Register containing a record of donors and memorial gifts.
- ii. ensure that all memorial gifts are properly archived, contain sufficient information and are adequately maintained.

3. ACPE INTERNATIONAL CONGREGATION (ACPEIC) STATUS WITH ARC

Following from the request received from ACPEIC for their integration as a branch of the Church in 2023, a meeting was convened between the executive of ACPEIC, ARC Council Officers and Trustees on Friday, 16th June, 2023, where they tabled their request. The meeting requested them to formally put their request in writing. This was received by ARC Council and Trustees in October, 2023.

The reason for their delayed response they explained, was because they were awaiting the outcome of the Appeal Court's judgement of the case between ACP Estate Ltd. and Nii Dodoo Clottey Family. Fortunately, judgement was given in favour of the latter.

ACPEIC has been receiving pastoral care from ARC since 2018 and had been hopeful of being integrated as a branch of the church way back then. However, for the past four (4) years, this expectation had not materialized, thus their concern and desire to know when the relationship between ACPEIC and ARC would be formalized.

They have identified key areas where the assistance of ARC would be greatly appreciated, namely, evangelism, development of the youth fellowship and general nurture of their Church.

Due to the inadequacy of their current location as a Church, which comprises a small pavilion at the mercy of the vagaries of the weather, they have been seeking a site to construct a church for the past six (6) years. They lost access to two potential plots. However, due to the recent development at the Appeal's Court, they have been offered a plot of land near the security entrance to ACPE by the Nii Dodoo Clottey Family and have since made a substantial down-payment on the plot from their own funds in order to secure this good location as a site for their Church which they are certain will serve two gated communities adjoining ACPE.

Should ARC adopt their Church, it will take over the land purchase and construction of the church and they are ready to make additional financial contributions. However, if ARC is not in the position to provide the necessary funds for the project, they would understand and would wish to be informed should that be the case.

Council is hereby presenting this before the meeting for consideration after which there will be a follow-up meeting with ACPEIC to communicate the Church's decision to their Executives.

4. ANNUAL SPECIAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE COLLABORATION

The Charles and Amy Ofori Trust in memory of Dr. Charles Seth Ofori, have formally informed the Council about their desire to partner the church to organize the annual Special Thanksgiving Service held on 26th December. Last year, they supported the event with Ten Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢10,000.00) from the Trust. This will become a regular collaboration going forward.

5. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PARAPHERNALIA AND TRAINING

There is currently a proposal from the Charles and Amy Ofori Trust to support the Church to enhance its emergency response procedures at the Ridge. It has been observed that, in a gathering of a minimum of

50 persons, there is the likelihood that someone may suffer cardiac arrest. Currently, the Church is ill-equipped to handle such an incident should it occur. In the past, doctors in the Church have had to use their own contacts at Korle Bu Polyclinic and Accra Regional Hospital to address such emergencies.

Discussions are on course to determine equipment requirements, training of volunteers among others to develop primary emergency response prior to escalation. The congregation will be informed when these discussions have been firmed up.

6. RE-NAMING OF HARVEST COMMITTEE

Council wishes to inform the congregation that the Harvest Committee has been given additional responsibilities to raise funds to support church projects, such as the completion of the ARC Hall. The Committee will now be known as Harvest and Fundraising Committee.

7. ARC HALL WORKS

a. On-Going Works In The ARC Hall

As stated in the report from Property, painting works have been carried out on all floors of the ARC Hall in preparation for the Global Christian Forum scheduled to be held in the main auditorium in April, 2024. In line with this event, the main auditorium of the ARC Hall is being prepared for the forthcoming conference. It is hoped that once the forum ends, a structured approach will be adopted to complete the main auditorium and make the entire ARC Hall ready for full commercialization.

b. Disabled Access to the ARC Hall

Members may have observed construction works at the south section of the ARC Hall. Prior to that, the original twirled ramp access to the first floor of the ARC Hall was demolished. Council wishes to inform the congregation that there had been concerns about the steepness of the demolished ramp which led to Council mandating Property to determine whether creating an opening in the south wall of the ARC Hall would not affect the integrity of the building. Once this was ascertained, the works commenced immediately with the support of an anonymous donor who had wanted to refurbish the demolished ramp. The works currently in progress will serve as a disabled access to replace the ramp.

c. Creation of an Emergency Exit

Council has observed that the basement floor of the ARC Hall does not have an emergency exit. The meeting is hereby informed that for this reason, efforts will be made to identify possible outlets at the northern and eastern sections of the basement floor to create emergency exits one of which will also serve as a service entrance.

Accra Ridge Church

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023



Accra Ridge Church

General Information

Steering Committee of Council

Ms. Abigail Armah	Chairperson
Mr. Alfred Ayer	Treasurer
Mr. Robert Acquaye	Member for property
Ms. Kukua Awo Pratt	Secretary (Elected March 2023)
Mr. Godwin Pinto	Secretary (End of tenure March 2023)

Pastorate

Co-ordinating Minister/Member of Steering Committee (Methodist Minister)

Rt. Rev. Sampson K. Gyabeng

Co-ordinating Minister/Member of Steering Committee (Presbyterian Minister)

Rev. Andrew Jackson T. Odjawa (End of tenure September 2023)

Presbyterian Minister

Rev. Frank Kissi (Posted October 2023)

Anglican Minister

Rev. Canon Andrew Nii Ampaw Torgbor

Youth Minister

Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng (Posted October 2023)

Youth Minister

Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah (End of tenure September 2023)

Auxiliary Minister

Rev. Fr. Reginald Ivor Odartei Lawson

Registered Office

No. 5 Abdul Gamel Nasser Avenue
P.O. Box GP 1588
Accra
Digital Address GA-078-0158
Tel: 0302 222 879/ 0243 690 482
info@accraridgechurch.com
www.accraridgechurch.com

Bankers

Fidelity Bank Ghana Limited
Ecobank Ghana Limited

Solicitor

Sam Okudzeto and Associates
Otswe Close, Osu Ako Adjei
Behind Lowe Lintas
F - 122/ 4, Accra, Ghana

Auditor

Intellisys
No. 15 Lardzeh Crescent
North Dzorwulu
P.O. Box KN 4169
Kaneshie-Accra

Accra Ridge Church

Council's Responsibilities and Approval

The Council is required by the Constitution of the Church to maintain adequate accounting records and they are responsible for the content and integrity of the annual financial statements and related financial information included in this report. It is their responsibility to ensure that the annual financial statements satisfy the financial reporting standards with regards to form and content and present fairly the statement of financial position, results of operations and business of the church, and explain the transactions and financial position of the business of the church at the end of the financial year. The annual financial statements are based upon appropriate accounting policies consistently applied throughout the church and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates.

The Council acknowledges that they are ultimately responsible for the system of internal controls established by the Church and places considerable importance on maintaining a strong control environment. To enable the Council to meet these responsibilities, the Council sets standards for internal control aimed at reducing the risk of error or loss in a cost effective manner. The standards include the proper delegation of responsibilities within a clearly defined framework, effective accounting procedures and adequate segregation of duties to ensure an acceptable level of risk. These controls are monitored throughout the Church and all employees are required to maintain the highest ethical standards in ensuring the Church's business is conducted in a manner that in all reasonable circumstances is above reproach.

The focus of risk management in the church is on identifying, assessing, managing and monitoring all known forms of risk across the church. While operating risk cannot be fully eliminated, the church endeavours to minimise it by ensuring that appropriate infrastructure, controls, systems and ethical behaviour are applied and managed within predetermined procedures and constraints.

The Council is of the opinion, based on the information and explanations given by management, that the system of internal controls provides reasonable assurance that the financial records may be relied on for the preparation of the annual financial statements. However, any system of internal control can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. The going-concern basis has been adopted in preparing the financial statements. Based on forecasts and available cash resources the Council have no reason to believe that the church will not be a going concern in the foreseeable future. The financial statements support the viability of the Church.

The annual financial statements have been audited by the independent auditing firm, Intellisys, who have been given unrestricted access to all financial records and related data, including minutes of all meetings of the Members, and Committees of the Church. the Council believes that all representations made to the independent auditor during the audit were valid and appropriate. The external auditor's unqualified audit report is presented on pages 5 to 7.

Accra Ridge Church

Council's Report

The Council presents their report for the year ended 31 December 2023.

1. Review of Activities

Main Business and Operations

Accra Ridge Church is a non-profit making organization incorporated and domiciled in Ghana under the Constitution of the Church. The address of its registered office is No. 5 Abdul Gamel Nasser Avenue, P. O. Box GP 1588, Accra. The principal activity of the Church is to undertake religious and charitable activities. There were no major changes herein during the year.

Financial Results

The Church made a surplus for the year ended 31 December 2023 of GHS 2,252,114 (2022: GHS 2,559,913).

2. Going Concern

The annual financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

3. Events after Reporting Date

The Council are not aware of any matter or circumstance arising since the end of the financial year to the date of this report that could have a material effect on the financial position of the Church.

4. Independent Auditors

Intellisys were the independent auditors for the year under review. The audit fee payable for the year ended 31 December 2023 amounted to GHS 43,527 (2022: GHS 33,523).

5. Capacity of Council Members

Relevant training and capacity building programmes are put in place to enable the Council members discharge their duties. There was a retreat for the Council members for the period under review.

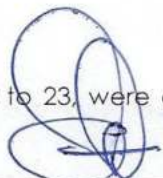
6. Approval of Financial Statement

The annual financial statements as set out on pages 8 to 23, were approved by the Council and signed by



Chairperson

21/02/24
Date



Treasurer

21/02/24
Date



Chartered Accountants
No. 15 Lardzeh Crescent
North Dzorwulu
P. O. Box KN 4169
Kaneshie, Accra,
Ghana
GPS: GA-196-3610
Phone: +233 (0)302 502801
Email: info@intellisysgh.com

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Accra Ridge Church Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Accra Ridge Church set out on pages 8 to 23, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, and the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in funds and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the church as at 31 December 2023 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities (SMEs) and the Constitution of the Church.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Statements of Affairs section of our report. We are independent of the Church in accordance with the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (Including International Independence Standards) (the Code) issued by the international Ethics Standards Board of Accountants (IESBA). We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

The Council are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not and will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities (SMEs) and the requirements of the Constitution of the Church, and for such internal control as the Council determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Council are responsible for assessing the church's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the council either intends to liquidate the church or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Church's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the church's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Church to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

Report on Other Legal Requirements

We are required that in carrying out our audit we consider and report to you on the following matters. We confirm that:

- we have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- in our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the Church, so far as appears from our examination of those books; and
- the Church's statement of financial position and statement of comprehensive income are in agreement with the books of account.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Ben Korley (ICAG/P/1051).


Intellisys (ICAG/P/2024/078)
Chartered Accountants
No. 15 Lardzeh Crescent
North Dzorwulu, Accra.



INTELLISYS
(Chartered Accountants)
P. O. BOX KN 4169
KANESHIE - ACCRA

Dated: 22 February, 2024

Accra Ridge Church

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2023

Figures in GHS

	Notes	2023	2022
Income	4	10,467,141	9,103,721
Ministry expenses	5	(2,966,126)	(2,106,460)
Gross surplus		7,501,015	6,997,261
Other income	6	1,791,236	1,115,935
General and administrative expenses	7	(7,040,137)	(5,553,283)
Surplus from operating activities		2,252,114	2,559,913
Surplus for the year		2,252,114	2,559,913

Accra Ridge Church

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2023

Figures in GHS

	Notes	2023	2022
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	8	955,742	827,087
Investment in ARC Hall	9	36,554,915	34,840,201
		<u>37,510,657</u>	<u>35,667,288</u>
Current assets			
Inventories	10	16,185	26,031
Receivables	11	361,751	446,245
Financial assets	12	992,227	888,251
Cash and cash equivalents	13	2,314,622	1,874,992
		<u>3,684,785</u>	<u>3,235,519</u>
Total assets		<u>41,195,442</u>	<u>38,902,807</u>
Fund and liabilities			
Fund			
Restricted funds	14	1,712,107	1,235,716
Accumulated fund		39,020,412	37,251,389
		<u>40,732,519</u>	<u>38,487,105</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Payables	15	462,923	415,702
Total fund and liabilities		<u>41,195,442</u>	<u>38,902,807</u>

The annual financial statements as set out on pages 8 to 23, were approved by the Council and signed on their behalf by:



Chairperson

21/02/24
Date



Treasurer

21/02/24
Date

Accra Ridge Church

Statement of Changes in Funds

Figures in GHS	Restricted funds	Accumulated fund	Total
Balance at 1 January 2023	1,235,716	37,251,389	38,487,105
Surplus for the year	-	2,252,114	2,252,114
Transfers between fund	483,091	(483,091)	-
Movement in restricted funds	(6,700)	-	(6,700)
Balance at 31 December 2023	1,712,107	39,020,412	40,732,519
Balance at 1 January 2022	929,743	34,955,124	35,884,867
Surplus for the year	-	2,559,913	2,559,913
Transfers between fund	263,648	(263,648)	-
Movement in restricted funds	42,325	-	42,325
Balance at 31 December 2022	1,235,716	37,251,389	38,487,105

Accra Ridge Church

Statement of Cash Flows

Figures in GHS

	Notes	2023	2022
Cash flows from operations			
Surplus for the year		2,252,114	2,559,913
Adjustments to reconcile surplus			
Adjustments for decrease / (increase) in inventories		9,846	(12,085)
Adjustments for decrease / (increase) in accounts receivable		74,347	(173,510)
Adjustments for restricted funds		-	-
Adjustments for decrease in other operating receivables		10,147	13,318
Adjustments for increase / (decrease) in accounts payable		12,458	(8,433)
Adjustments for increase / (decrease) in other operating payables		34,763	(82,298)
Adjustments for depreciation expense		466,415	496,372
Total adjustments to reconcile surplus		607,976	233,364
Net cash flows from operations		2,860,090	2,793,277
Cash flows used in investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(595,070)	(875,643)
Additions to investment in ARC Hall		(1,714,714)	(390,261)
Purchase of fixed deposit		(103,976)	(134,518)
Cash flows used in investing activities		(2,413,760)	(1,400,422)
Cash flows used in financing activities			
Movement in restricted funds		(6,700)	42,325
Repayment of loan		-	(1,361,003)
Cash flows used in financing activities		(6,700)	(1,318,678)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		439,630	74,177
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		1,874,992	1,800,815
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	13	2,314,622	1,874,992

Accra Ridge Church

Accounting Policies

1. General information

Accra Ridge Church is a non-profit making organization incorporated and domiciled in Ghana under the Constitution of the Church. The address of its registered office is No. 5 Abdul Gamel Nasser Avenue, P. O. Box GP 1588, Accra. The principal activity of the Church is to undertake religious and charitable activities.

2. Basis of preparation and summary of significant accounting policies

The financial statements of Accra Ridge Church have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities (SMEs) and the Constitution of the Church. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investment property, certain property, plant and equipment and derivative financial instruments at fair value. They are presented in Ghana Cedi (GHS).

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities (SMEs) requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the church's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in note 3.

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these annual financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

2.1 Income

Income (tithes, offering and annual harvest) is recognised when money is received. Income is not accrued.

2.2 Foreign currency translation

Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in surplus or deficit within 'finance income or costs'. All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in surplus or deficit within 'other (losses)/gains – net'.

2.3 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the Council.

The Church adds to the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment the cost of replacing parts of such an item when that cost is incurred if the replacement part is expected to provide incremental future benefits to the Church. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to surplus or deficit during the period in which they are incurred.

Accra Ridge Church

Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation and summary of significant accounting policies continued...

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method. The estimated useful lives range as follows:

Asset class	Useful life / depreciation rate
Buildings	2%
Plant and machinery	20%
Motor vehicles	20%
Furniture, fixtures and fittings	33%
Office equipment	33%
Audio visual	33%
Music instruments	33%

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised within 'other gains / (losses)' in the statement of comprehensive income.

2.4 Financial assets

Receivables

Receivables are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the church will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Receivables are classified as debt instruments and loan commitments at amortised cost.

Other financial assets are recognised initially at the transaction price, including transaction costs except where the asset will subsequently be measured at fair value.

Where other financial assets relate to shares that are publicly traded, or where fair values can be measured reliably without undue cost or effort, these assets are subsequently measured at fair value with the changes in fair value being recognised in profit or loss. Other investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, demand deposits and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. Bank overdrafts are shown in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

Financial liabilities

Other financial liabilities are recognised initially at the transaction price, including transaction costs except where the liability will subsequently be measured at fair value.

Accra Ridge Church

Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation and summary of significant accounting policies continued...

Where the fair value of other financial liabilities can be measured reliably without undue cost or effort, these liabilities are subsequently measured at fair value with the changes in fair value being recognised in surplus or deficit.

Debt instruments are subsequently stated at amortised cost. Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in finance costs.

Other financial liabilities are classified as current liabilities unless the church has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

Payables

Payables are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.5 Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. The cost of communion wine and literature books comprises purchase cost and all costs necessary in bringing them to a working condition for its intended use.

2.6 Employee benefits

The liability for employees benefit obligations relates to government-mandated payments under the National Pensions Act, 2008 (Act 766). All full-time employees are covered by the programme. The Church makes a contribution of 13% of employee's basic salary in addition to a 5.5% contribution by the employee towards pension as defined under the National Pensions Act.

Accra Ridge Church

Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation and summary of significant accounting policies continued...

2.7 Related parties

A related party is a person or entity with the ability to control or jointly control the other party, or exercise significant influence over the other party, or vice versa, or an entity that is subject to common control, or joint control. As a minimum, the following are regarded as related parties of the reporting entity:

- A person or a close member of that person's family is related to a reporting entity if that person:
 - has control or joint control of the reporting entity;
 - has significant influence over the reporting entity; or
 - is a member of the key management personnel of the reporting entity or of a parent of the reporting entity.
- An entity is related to the reporting entity if any of the following conditions apply:
 - The entity and the reporting entity are members of the same group (which means that each parent, subsidiary and fellow subsidiary is related to the others);
 - One entity is an associate or joint venture of the other entity (or an associate or joint venture of a member of a group of which the other entity is a member);
 - Both entities are joint ventures of the same third party;
 - One entity is a joint venture of a third entity and the other entity is an associate of the third entity;
 - The entity is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of either the reporting entity or an entity related to the reporting entity. If the reporting entity is itself such a plan, the sponsoring employers are also related to the reporting entity;
 - The entity is controlled or jointly controlled by a person identified as a related party;
 - A person identified as having control or joint control over the reporting entity has significant influence over the entity or is a member of the key management personnel of the entity (or of a parent of the entity);
 - The entity, or any member of a group of which it is a part, provides key management personnel services to the reporting entity or to the parent of the reporting entity.

A related party transaction is a transfer of resources, services or obligations between a reporting entity and a related party, regardless of whether a price is charged.

3. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

3.1 Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The Church makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are addressed below.

Accra Ridge Church

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

2023

2022

4. Income

Tithes	5,615,309	5,208,986
Collections and offerings	2,062,607	1,719,283
Annual harvest	1,795,977	1,330,645
Dues and pledges	498,803	405,288
Donations and thanksgiving	494,445	439,519
	<u>10,467,141</u>	<u>9,103,721</u>

5. Ministry expenses

Choir expenses	139,408	72,815
Outreach programmes	936,968	637,091
Grants and donations	261,000	188,500
Synod and seminars	45,775	32,786
Communion expenses	86,619	47,250
Sunday school expenses	152,156	107,826
Visiting ministers and resource persons	56,500	22,900
Discipleship expenses	14,610	6,033
Christian literature	9,184	7,185
Church decoration	16,880	15,447
Service cost	9,355	1,515
Salaries and allowances - Clergy	775,202	617,257
Salaries and allowances - Music department	323,385	289,703
Youth activities	139,084	60,152
	<u>2,966,126</u>	<u>2,106,460</u>

6. Other income

Investment income	103,976	101,951
Church hall contributions	917,477	457,505
Hire of fellowship center	37,000	13,000
Christian service groups	8,350	1,750
Exchange gain	550,553	404,063
Interest income	4,664	15,149
Development levy	3,300	5,330
Evangelism (sale of tickets and donations)	15,256	6,572
Miscellaneous income	150,660	110,615
	<u>1,791,236</u>	<u>1,115,935</u>

Miscellaneous income represents income from projection fees, sale of devotional books and the sale of one church vehicle which was fully depreciated at the time of sale in the current year.

Accra Ridge Church

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

2023

2022

7. General and administrative expenses

Audit fees	43,527	33,523
Bank charges	4,583	4,748
Cleaning and sanitation	308,212	238,821
Depreciation	466,415	496,372
Electricity and water	472,619	402,818
End of service benefit	376,001	247,748
Generator running expenses	148,395	102,162
Health and safety	35,880	19,630
Hire - Equipment and park	30,270	59,735
Hospitality	310,419	249,431
Insurance	61,994	50,632
Medical expenses	123,196	153,408
Motor vehicle running cost	580,574	422,036
Multimedia expenses	159,837	116,139
Newspapers and periodicals	11,276	9,528
Postage and telephone	110,414	95,747
Printing and stationery	248,000	163,781
Professional fees	30,262	36,319
Property rates	3,600	5,712
Publicity and advertisement	26,090	15,021
Repairs and maintenance - Building	600,266	241,087
Repairs and maintenance - equipment	108,359	126,776
Repairs and maintenance - Furniture, fixture and fittings	327,295	268,241
Staff cost - administration and security	1,767,943	1,587,498
Staff training	9,052	6,685
Staff uniforms	22,180	14,002
Travelling and transport	653,478	385,683
	7,040,137	5,553,283

Accra Ridge Church

Notes to the Financial Statements Figures in GHS

8. Property, plant and equipment

Reconciliation for the year ended 31 December 2023

Balance at 1 January 2023

At cost

Accumulated depreciation

Carrying amount

	Buildings	Plant and machinery	Motor vehicles	Furniture, fixtures and fittings	Office equipment	Audio visual	Music instruments	Total
	124,013	158,628	1,115,822	395,215	237,248	471,094	494,686	2,996,706
	(56,943)	(131,174)	(607,439)	(358,348)	(202,331)	(321,307)	(492,077)	(2,169,619)
	67,070	27,454	508,383	36,867	34,917	149,787	2,609	827,087

Movements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Additions from acquisitions

Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment at the end of the year

	-	-	263,395	66,439	108,458	77,968	78,810	595,070
	(2,481)	(27,454)	(180,683)	(49,037)	(58,144)	(119,999)	(28,617)	(466,415)
	64,589	-	591,095	54,269	85,231	107,756	52,802	955,742

Closing balance at 31 December 2023

At cost

Accumulated depreciation

Carrying amount

	124,013	158,628	1,306,224	461,654	345,706	549,062	573,496	3,518,783
	(59,424)	(158,628)	(715,129)	(407,385)	(260,475)	(441,306)	(520,694)	(2,563,041)
	64,589	-	591,095	54,269	85,231	107,756	52,802	955,742

Disposal schedule

Motor vehicle

	Cost	Accumulated depreciation	Carrying value	Proceeds from disposal	Gain/(loss)
	72,993	72,993	-	12,000	12,000

Accra Ridge Church

Notes to the Financial Statements Figures in GHS

Property, plant and equipment continued...

Reconciliation for the year ended 31 December 2022

Balance at 1 January 2022
At cost
Accumulated depreciation
Carrying amount

124,013	158,628	493,968	368,711	201,544	311,469	462,730	2,121,063
(54,463)	(103,718)	(423,730)	(317,923)	(176,624)	(209,866)	(386,923)	(1,673,247)
69,550	54,910	70,238	50,788	24,920	101,603	75,807	447,816

Movements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Additions from acquisitions
Depreciation

-	-	621,854	26,504	35,704	159,625	31,956	875,643
(2,480)	(27,456)	(183,709)	(40,425)	(25,707)	(111,441)	(105,154)	(496,372)

Property, plant and equipment at the end of the year

67,070	27,454	508,383	36,867	34,917	149,787	2,609	827,087
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Closing balance at 31 December 2022

At cost
Accumulated depreciation
Carrying amount

124,013	158,628	1,115,822	395,215	237,248	471,094	494,686	2,996,706
(56,943)	(131,174)	(607,439)	(358,348)	(202,331)	(321,307)	(492,077)	(2,169,619)
67,070	27,454	508,383	36,867	34,917	149,787	2,609	827,087

Accra Ridge Church

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

2023

2022

9. Investment in ARC Hall

Reconciliation for the year

Balance at the beginning of the year

At cost	34,840,201	34,449,940
Carrying amount	34,840,201	34,449,940

Movements for the year

Additions during the year	1,714,714	390,261
Investment in ARC Hall at the end of the year	36,554,915	34,840,201

Closing balance at the end of the year

At cost	36,554,915	34,840,201
Carrying amount	36,554,915	34,840,201

10. Inventories

Christian literature	16,118	11,875
Communion wine	67	14,156
	16,185	26,031

11. Receivables

Staff debtors	328,229	402,576
Prepaid expenses	33,522	31,989
Other receivables	-	11,680
	361,751	446,245

12. Financial assets

Fixed deposits	992,227	888,251
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The investment in fixed deposits with Fidelity Bank Ghana Limited has a maximum tenor of 91 days with interest rate averaged 9.5% per annum during the year under review.

13. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash on hand	9,438	12,599
Cash at bank	2,305,184	1,862,393
	2,314,622	1,874,992

Cash at bank is analysed as follows:

Ghana Cedis (GHS)	449,155	468,475
Forex	1,856,029	1,393,918
	2,305,184	1,862,393

Forex includes US Dollar, Pound Sterling and Euro converted at Bank of Ghana year end rates.

Accra Ridge Church

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

2023

2022

14. Restricted funds

	Scholarship fund	Welfare fund	Wekem Felli fund	Andoh and Baddoo Endowment fund	Total
Balance at 1 January	533,609	520,801	5,889	175,417	1,235,716
Cash received	101,275	-	-	-	101,275
Transfer/payment	(83,975)	(24,000)	-	-	(107,975)
Appropriation from Accumulated Fund	235,565	202,200	1,472	43,854	483,091
Balance at 31 December	786,474	699,001	7,361	219,271	1,712,107

15. Payables

Accrued liabilities	205,815	193,357
Other payables	257,108	222,345
	<u>462,923</u>	<u>415,702</u>

16. Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

No known contingent assets or liabilities existed as at 31 December 2023 that would have a material effect on the results of the financial statements as set out on pages 8 to 23 or the continued existence of the Church as a going concern.

Accra Ridge Church

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

2023

2022

17. Related parties

The Council members and Key management staff were identified as the related parties of the Church as at the end of the year.

The total remuneration and credit facilities to key management staff of the Church are detailed below:

(i) Remuneration

Key management staff	333,245	289,096
	<u>333,245</u>	<u>289,096</u>

(ii) Loans and advances to key management staff

Loans outstanding at 1 January	139,000	107,478
Additions	30,000	80,000
Repayments	(30,667)	(48,478)
Loans outstanding at 31 December	<u>138,333</u>	<u>139,000</u>

(iii) Council members

The Church at the end of the year 31 December 2022 did not grant loans and advances to or receive same from its Council members.

(iv) Related party transactions

Balance at 1 January	34,840,201	34,449,940
Additions	1,714,714	390,261
Balance at 31 December	<u>36,554,915</u>	<u>34,840,201</u>

This is the Church's investment in ARC Hall Limited.

18. Events after the reporting date

The Council are not aware of any matter or circumstance arising since the end of the financial year to the date of this report that could have a material effect on the financial position of the Church.

19. Going concern

The annual financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

Accra Ridge Church

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

20. Approval of annual financial statement

These financial statements were approved by the Council and authorised for issue on

22/02/2024 2024

ARC HALL LIMITED

**Statement of affairs
for the year ended 31 December 2023**



ARC Hall Limited

Annual Statement of Affairs

General Information

Directors

Mr. Sam Okudzeto
Mrs. Frances Ademola
Mr. Andrew Lokko

Pastorate

Co-ordinating Minister/Member of Steering Committee (Methodist Minister)

Rt Rev. Sampson Kwaku Gyabeng

Co-ordinating Minister/Member of Steering Committee (Presbyterian Minister)

Rev. Andrew Jackson T. Odjawa (End of tenure September 2023)

Presbyterian Minister

Rev. Frank Kissi (Posted October 2023)

Anglican Minister

Rev. Canon Andrew Nii Ampaw Torgbor

Youth Minister

Rev. Dr. Abraham Boateng (Posted October 2023)

Youth Minister

Rev. Kofi Ankama-Asamoah (End of tenure September 2023)

Auxiliary Minister

Rev. Fr. Reginald Ivor Odartei Lawson

Registered Office

No. 5 Abdul Gamel Nasser Avenue
P.O. Box GP 1588
Accra
Digital Address GA-078-0158
Tel: 0302 222 879/ 0243 690 482
info@accraridgechurch.com
www.accraridgechurch.com

Bankers

Fidelity Bank Ghana Ltd
Ridge Towers

Auditor

Intellisys
No. 15 Lardzeh Crescent
North Dzorwulu
P.O.Box KN 4169

Solicitor

Sam Okudzeto and Associates
Otswe Close, Osu Ako Adjei
Behind Lowe Lintas
F - 122/ 4, Accra, Ghana

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Directors of ARC Hall Limited

Report on the Audit of the Statement of Affairs

Opinion

We have audited the statement of affairs of ARC Hall Limited as at 31 December 2023, and notes to the statement of affairs, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion the accompanying statement of affairs give a true and fair view of the financial position of the company as at 31 December 2023 and its financial performance in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities (SMEs) and the requirement of the Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Statements of Affairs section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (Including International Independence Standards) (the Code) issued by the international Ethics Standards Board of Accountants (IESBA). We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, but does not include the statement of affairs and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the statement of affairs does not cover the other information and we do not and will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the statement of affairs, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the statement of affairs or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

To the Directors of ARC Hall Limited

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the statement of affairs that give a true and fair view in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities ((SMEs) and the requirements of the Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992), and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of statement of affairs that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the statement of affairs, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Statement of Affairs

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of affairs as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these statement of affairs.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the statement of affairs , whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the statement of affairs or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the statement of affairs , including the disclosures, and whether the statement of affairs represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Communicate with the Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

To the Directors of ARC Hall Limited

Report on Other Legal Requirements

The Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992) requires that in carrying out our audit work, we consider and report to you on the following matters. We confirm that:

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- in our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the company, so far as appears from our examination of those books; and
- the Company's statement of affairs are in agreement with the books of account.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Ben Korley (ICAG/P/1051)

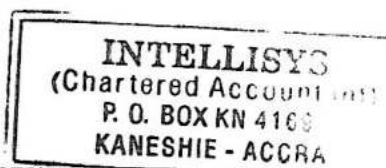


Intellisys (ICAG/F/2024/078)

Chartered Accountants

No. 15 Lardzeh Crescent

North Dzorwulu, Accra



Dated: 22 February, 2024

ARC Hall Limited


Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Statement of Affairs

Figures in GHS

	Notes	2023	2022
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	1	<u>36,554,915</u>	<u>34,840,201</u>
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	<u>95,618</u>	<u>93,463</u>
Total assets		<u>36,650,533</u>	<u>34,933,664</u>
Equity and liabilities			
Liabilities			
Non-current liabilities			
Related Party - Accra Ridge Church	3	<u>36,554,915</u>	<u>34,840,201</u>
Current liabilities			
Other payables	3	<u>95,618</u>	<u>93,463</u>
Total liabilities		<u>36,650,533</u>	<u>34,933,664</u>
Total equity and liabilities		<u>36,650,533</u>	<u>34,933,664</u>

The annual financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and signed on their behalf by:


Director

21/02/2024
Date


Director

21/2/24
Date

ARC Hall Limited

Statement of Affairs

Accounting Policies

1. General information

ARC Hall Limited is a Company limited by guarantee registered and incorporated in Ghana under the Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992). The address and registered office can be found on page 2 of this report.

2. Basis of preparation and summary of significant accounting policies

The statement of affairs of ARC Hall Limited have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities (SMEs) and the Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992). The statement of affairs have been prepared under the historical cost convention. They are presented in Ghana Cedi (GHS).

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these statement of affairs are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated.

2.1 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost . Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the Directors.

ARC Hall Limited

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

1. Property, plant and equipment

Balances at year end and movements for the year

	Work in progress	Total
Reconciliation for the year ended 31 December 2023		
At cost	34,840,201	34,840,201
Movements for the year ended 31 December 2023		
Additions	1,714,714	1,714,714
Property, plant and equipment at the end of the year	36,554,915	36,554,915
 Reconciliation for the year ended 31 December 2022		
At cost	34,346,336	34,346,336
Movements for the year ended 31 December 2022		
Additions	493,865	493,865
Property, plant and equipment at the end of the year	34,840,201	34,840,201

	2023	2022
2. Cash and cash equivalents		
Bank balances	95,618	93,463
3. Other payables		
Other payables	95,619	93,463

4. Related party - Accra Ridge Church

	Transfer from related party	Transfer to related party		
Accra Ridge Church	1,714,713	-	36,554,914	34,840,201

The amount represents balances owed to Accra Ridge Church for the investments in ARC Hall Limited.

Ridge Church School

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 August 2023**



Ridge Church School

General Information

Board of Governors	Mrs. Vivian Campbell	Chairperson	Appointed (18 April 2023)
	Rt Rev. Sampson Gyabeng	Vice Chairperson	
	Mrs. Angerley Anterkyi	Legal Member	Appointed (3 July 2023)
	Ms. Elsie Ackaah	Finance Member	Appointed (3 July 2023)
	Ms. Sharon Mills	Old Ridgean	
	Mrs. Elfrida Adablah	Education Member	
	Mr. Nii Akwei Acquaye	Property Member	Appointed (3 July 2023)
	Mr. Bernard Donkor	PTA Chairman	Appointed (26 January 2023)
	Mrs. Nana Ama Acheampomaa Badasu	Headmistress	
	Mrs. Grace Dede Hanson	Chairperson	Retired (18 April 2023)
	Mr. John Appea	Finance Member	Retired (3 July 2023)
	Ms. Emma Marfo	Legal Member	Retired (3 July 2023)
	Mr. Donald Humphrey-Ackumey	Property Member	Retired (3 July 2023)
	Mr. Emmanuel Cornan	PTA Chairman	Retired (26 January 2023)

Registered Office

Abdul Gamel Nassar Avenue
P.O. Box GP 2316
Accra
Digital Address: GA-078-4868

Solicitor

Sam Okudzeto & Associates
Sena Chambers
Admin Link, Otwe Close
Osu Ako Adjei
Behind Lowe Lintas, F122/4
Accra - Ghana
Digital Address: GL-016-5135

Independent Auditor

Intellisys
No.15 Lardzeh Crescent
P. O. Box KN 4169
Kaneshie - Accra

Bankers

Absa Bank Ghana Limited
Republic Bank (Ghana) PLC
Zenith Bank (Ghana) Limited

Ridge Church School

Report of Board of Governors

In accordance with the requirements of section 136 of the Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992), we the Board of Governors of Ridge Church School submit our report together with the audited financial statements of the School for the year ended 31 August 2023.

1. Board of Governors' Responsibilities

The Board of Governors are required to maintain adequate accounting records and are responsible for the content and integrity of the annual financial statements and related financial information included in this report. It is their responsibility to ensure that the annual financial statements satisfy the financial reporting standards with regards to form and content and present fairly the statement of financial position, results of operations and business of the School, and explain the transactions and financial position of the business of the School at the end of the financial year. The annual financial statements are based upon appropriate accounting policies consistently applied throughout the School and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates.

The Board of Governors acknowledge that they are ultimately responsible for the system of internal financial control established by the School and place considerable importance on maintaining a strong control environment. To enable the Board of Governors to meet these responsibilities, the Board of Governors set standards for internal control aimed at reducing the risk of error or loss in a cost effective manner. The standards include the proper delegation of responsibilities within a clearly defined framework, effective accounting procedures and adequate segregation of duties to ensure an acceptable level of risk. These controls are monitored throughout the School and all employees are required to maintain the highest ethical standards in ensuring the School's business is conducted in a manner that in all reasonable circumstances is above reproach.

The focus of risk management in the school is on identifying, assessing, managing and monitoring all known forms of risk across the school. While operating risk cannot be fully eliminated, the school endeavours to minimise it by ensuring that appropriate infrastructure, controls, systems and ethical behaviour are applied and managed within predetermined procedures and constraints.

The Board of Governors are of the opinion, based on the information and explanations given by management, that the system of internal control provides reasonable assurance that the financial records may be relied on for the preparation of the annual financial statements. However, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. The going-concern basis has been adopted in preparing the financial statements. Based on forecasts and available cash resources the Board of Governors have no reason to believe that the School will not be a going concern in the foreseeable future. The financial statements support the viability of the School.

The annual financial statements have been audited by the independent auditing firm, Intellisys, who have been given unrestricted access to all financial records and related data, including minutes of all meetings of the shareholder, the Board of Governors and committees of the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors believe that all representations made to the independent auditor during the audit were valid and appropriate. The external auditor's unqualified audit report is presented on pages 5 to 7.

Ridge Church School

Report of Board of Governors

2. Review of activities

Main business and operations

The principal activity of the Ridge Church School is the operation of an educational institution. There were no major changes herein during the year.

Financial result

The school generated a surplus after tax for the year ended 31 August 2023 of GHS1,785,880 (2022: GHS569,451).

3. Going concern

The annual financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

4. Events after reporting date

All events subsequent to the date of the annual financial statements and for which the applicable financial reporting framework requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.

The Board of Governors are not aware of any matter or circumstance arising since the end of the financial year to the date of this report that could have a material effect on the financial position of the School.

5. Board of Governors

The Board of Governors of the school during the year and up to the date of this report are as follows:

Mrs. Vivian Campbell
Rt Rev. Sampson Gyabeng
Mrs. Angerley Anterkyi
Ms. Elsie Ackaah
Ms. Sharon Mills
Mrs. Elfrida Adablah
Mr. Nii Akwei Acquaye
Mr. Bernard Donkor
Mrs. Nana Ama Acheampomaa Badasu
Mrs. Grace Dede Hanson (retired)
Mr. John Appea (retired)
Ms. Emma Marfo (retired)
Mr. Donald Humphrey-Ackumey (retired)
Mr. Emmanuel Cornan (retired)

6. Capacity of Governors

There was no training for the members of the Board of Governors for the year under review.

7. Corporate Social Responsibility

The School did not undertake any corporate social activity for the period under review.

8. Independent Auditor

Intellisys was the independent auditor for the year under review. The audit fee payable for the year ended 31 August 2023 amounted to GHS 38,520 (2022: GHS 33,523).

Ridge Church School

Report of Board of Governors

9. Approval of Financial statements

The annual financial statements set out on pages 9 to 23 which have been prepared on the going concern basis, were approved by the Board of Governors and were signed on their behalf by:


Chairperson


Date


Finance Member


Date



Chartered Accountants
No. 15 Lardzeh Crescent
North Dzonwulu
P. O. Box KN 4169
Kaneshie, Accra,
Ghana
GPS: GA-196-3610
Phone: +233 (0)302 502801
Email: info@intellisysgh.com

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Governors of Ridge Church School

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Ridge Church School set out on pages 9 to 23, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 August 2023, and the statement of income and expenditure, the statement of changes in accumulated fund and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the school as at 31 August 2023 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities (SMEs) and the requirements of the Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (Including International Independence Standards) (the Code) issued by the international Ethics Standards Board of Accountants (IESBA) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

The Board of Governors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not and will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

Board of Governors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The board of governors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities (SMEs) and the requirements of the Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992), and for such internal control as the board of governors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the board of governors are responsible for assessing the school's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the board of governors either intend to liquidate the school or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the school's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the board of governors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the board of governors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the school's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the school to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Communicate with the board of governors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

Report on Other Legal Requirements

The Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992) requires that in carrying out our audit we consider and report to you on the following matters. We confirm that:

- we have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- in our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the school, so far as appears from our examination of those books; and
- the school's statement of financial position and statement of income and expenditure are in agreement with the books of account.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Ben Korley (ICAG/P/1051)

Intellisys

Intellisys (ICAG/F/2024/078)
Chartered Accountants
No. 15 Lardzeh Crescent
North Dzorwulu, Accra



Dated: 22 February, 2024

Ridge Church School

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 August 2023

Figures in GHS

	Notes	2023	2022
Fee income	4	9,628,264	7,865,752
Direct expenses	5	(4,493,211)	(3,808,511)
Gross surplus		5,135,053	4,057,241
Other income	6	2,078,640	954,539
General and administrative expenses	7	(4,796,213)	(4,250,205)
Surplus before tax		2,417,480	761,575
Income tax expense	8	(631,600)	(192,124)
Surplus for the year		1,785,880	569,451

Ridge Church School

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 August 2023

Figures in GHS

	Notes	2023	2022
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9	3,822,432	4,086,358
Intangible assets	10	13,305	20,725
		<u>3,835,737</u>	<u>4,107,083</u>
Current assets			
Inventories	11	688,692	420,504
Trade and other receivables	12	332,331	203,264
Cash and cash equivalents	13	6,108,447	4,195,914
		<u>7,129,470</u>	<u>4,819,682</u>
Total assets		<u>10,965,207</u>	<u>8,926,765</u>
Accumulated fund and liabilities			
Accumulated fund			
Accumulated fund		<u>7,973,551</u>	<u>6,187,671</u>
Liabilities			
Non-current liabilities			
Deferred tax liabilities	14	<u>204,336</u>	<u>170,280</u>
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	15	989,617	1,350,744
Current tax liabilities	16	1,797,703	1,218,070
		<u>2,787,320</u>	<u>2,568,814</u>
Total liabilities		<u>2,991,656</u>	<u>2,739,094</u>
Total accumulated fund and liabilities		<u>10,965,207</u>	<u>8,926,765</u>

The annual financial statements as set out on pages 9 to 23, were approved by the Board of Governors and were signed on their behalf by:


Chairperson


Date


Finance Member


Date

Ridge Church School

Statement of Changes in Accumulated Fund

Figures in GHS	Accumulated fund	Total
Balance at 1 September 2022	6,187,671	6,187,671
Surplus for the year	1,785,880	1,785,880
Balance at 31 August 2023	7,973,551	7,973,551
 Balance at 1 September 2021	 5,651,868	 5,651,868
Surplus for the year	569,451	569,451
Adjustment	(33,648)	(33,648)
Balance at 31 August 2022	6,187,671	6,187,671

Ridge Church School

Statement of Cash Flows

Figures in GHS

	Notes	2023	2022
Cash flows from operations			
Surplus for the year		1,785,880	569,451
Adjustments to reconcile surplus			
Adjustments for income tax expense	8	631,600	192,124
Adjustments for increase in inventories		(268,188)	(103,890)
Adjustments for (increase) / decrease in trade & other receivables		(129,067)	279,309
Adjustments for decrease in trade & other payable		(361,127)	(371,481)
Adjustments for depreciation and amortisation expense	7	566,014	638,820
Total adjustments to reconcile surplus		439,232	634,882
Net cash flows from operations		2,225,112	1,204,333
Income taxes paid		(17,911)	(4,261)
Net cash flows from operating activities		2,207,201	1,200,072
Cash flows used in investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	9	(294,668)	(306,631)
Purchase of intangible assets	10	-	(7,700)
Cash flows used in investing activities		(294,668)	(314,331)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		1,912,533	885,741
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		4,195,914	3,310,173
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	13	6,108,447	4,195,914

Ridge Church School

Accounting Policies

1. General information

Ridge Church School is a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992) and domiciled in Ghana. The address of its registered office is Abdul Gamel Nasser Avenue. P.O. Box GP 2316, Accra. GPS: GA-078-4868.

2. Basis of preparation and summary of significant accounting policies

The financial statements of Ridge Church School have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities (SMEs) and the Companies Act, 2019 (Act 992). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investment property, certain property, plant and equipment, biological assets and derivative financial instruments at fair value. They are presented in Ghana Cedi (GHS).

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) for Small and Medium-sized Entities (SMEs) requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the school's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in note 3.

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these annual financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

2.1 Income

Income includes only the gross inflows of economic benefits received and receivable by the entity on its own account.

Income is recognised only when it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity. In some cases, this may not be probable until the consideration is received or until the uncertainty is removed. However, when an uncertainty arises about the collectability of an amount already included in income, the uncollectible amount or the amount in respect of which recovery has ceased to be probable is recognised as an expense, rather than as an adjustment of the amount of income originally recognised.

2.2 Foreign currency translation

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in surplus or deficit within 'finance income or costs'. All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in surplus or deficit within 'other (losses)/gains – net'.

2.3 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the board of governors.

The school adds to the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment the cost of replacing parts of such an item when that cost is incurred if the replacement part is expected to provide incremental future benefits to the school. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to surplus or deficit during the period in which they are incurred.

Ridge Church School

Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation and summary of significant accounting policies continued...

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method. The estimated useful lives range as follows:

Asset class	Useful life / depreciation rate
Leasehold Land and Buildings	25 years
Office Equipment	20%
Motor vehicles	20%
Fixtures and fittings	20%
Furniture and fittings	33%
Manet playground equipment	20%

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised within 'other gains / (losses)' in the statement of comprehensive income.

Intangible assets - Website and Termly report software

Intangible asset is made up of Website development, MyClassCampus software, Educational site software, Microsoft educational package and software for ICT lab. They are amortized at 20%.

2.4 Financial instruments

Financial assets

Financial assets are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, held-to-maturity financial assets and available-for-sale financial assets, as appropriate. The School determines the classification of its financial assets at initial recognition. When financial assets are recognised initially, they are measured at fair value, plus, in the case of investments not at fair value through profit or loss, directly attributable transaction costs.

The School assesses at each financial position date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset of the School is impaired. If there is objective evidence, the asset is tested for impairment. The amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the assets's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows (excluding future expected credit losses that have not been incurred) discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through use of an allowance account. The amount of the loss is recognised in statement of income and accumulated fund.

Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of trade receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the school will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, demand deposits and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. Bank overdrafts are shown in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

Financial Liabilities

Trade and other payables

Trade payables are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Ridge Church School

Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation and summary of significant accounting policies continued...

Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised initially at the transaction price, including transaction costs except where the liability will subsequently be measured at fair value.

Where the fair value of other financial liabilities can be measured reliably without undue cost or effort, these liabilities are subsequently measured at fair value with the changes in fair value being recognised in surplus or deficit.

Debt instruments are subsequently stated at amortised cost. Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in finance costs.

Other financial liabilities are classified as current liabilities unless the school has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

1.5 Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. The cost of finished goods and work in progress comprises packaging costs, raw materials, direct labour, other direct costs and related production overheads (based on normal operating capacity). At each reporting date, inventories are assessed for impairment. If inventory is impaired, the carrying amount is reduced to its selling price less costs to complete and sell; the impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

1.6 Tax

The tax expense for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in profit or loss, except that a change attributable to an item of income or expense recognised as other comprehensive income is also recognised directly in other comprehensive income.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date in the countries where the entity operates and generates taxable income.

Deferred income tax is recognised on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements and on unused tax losses or tax credits in the entity. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and a valuation allowance is set up against deferred tax assets so that the net carrying amount equals the highest amount that is more likely than not to be recovered based on current or future taxable profit.

Employee benefits

The liability for employees benefit obligations relates to government-mandated payments under the National Pensions Act, 2008 (Act 766). All full-time employees are covered by the programme. The Company makes a contribution of 13% of employee's basic salary in addition to a 5.5% contribution by the employee towards pension as defined under the National Pensions Act.

3. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Ridge Church School

Accounting Policies

Critical accounting estimates and judgements continued...

3.1 Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The school makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are addressed below.

.1.1 Income taxes

The school is subject to income taxes in numerous jurisdictions. Significant judgement is required in determining the worldwide provision for income taxes. There are many transactions and calculations for which the ultimate tax determination is uncertain. The school recognises liabilities for anticipated tax audit issues based on estimates of whether additional taxes will be due. Where the final tax outcome of these matters is different from the amounts that were initially recorded, such differences will impact the current and deferred income tax assets and liabilities in the period in which such determination is made.

.1.2 Useful economic life of property, plant and equipment

The School determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation charges for its property, plant and equipment. The Board of Governors will increase the depreciation charges where useful lives are less than the previously estimated lives. The Board will write-off or write-down technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold.

Ridge Church School

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

2023

2022

4. Fee Income

Tutorial fees	9,315,764	7,438,252
Admission fees	312,500	427,500
	<u>9,628,264</u>	<u>7,865,752</u>

5. Direct expenses

Teaching aids and expendable materials	126,898	128,946
Wages and Salaries - Teaching staff	4,350,749	3,668,802
Examination and tutorial expenses	15,564	10,763
	<u>4,493,211</u>	<u>3,808,511</u>

6. Other income

Sundry income	175,569	192,443
Interest on other investment	45,989	37,706
Outreach silver collection	61,728	43,198
Sale of stationery & uniform	363,520	259,268
Interest on treasury bills	1,382,803	378,794
Academic income	49,031	43,130
	<u>2,078,640</u>	<u>954,539</u>

Ridge Church School

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

2023

2022

7. General and administrative expenses

Advertising and promotion	3,736	3,655
Amortisation	7,420	7,420
Audit fee	38,520	33,523
Bad debt	1,792	-
Bank charges	14,941	11,002
BECE Teachers and learners motivation	11,699	2,520
Building and business operating permit	13,450	11,277
Cleaning and sanitation	319,382	158,949
Depreciation	558,593	631,400
Donations	72,400	14,060
Exchange difference	-	7,992
External examiners fees	7,800	-
Honorarium	800	1,700
Insurance	5,526	5,560
Library books and materials	2,400	5,252
Medical expense	92,095	77,053
National service allowance	3,055	22,204
Printing and stationery	572,104	518,202
Repairs and maintenance	180,804	409,291
Security	3,578	4,285
Software support fee and internet service	56,817	50,026
Speech & Prizes and refreshment	269,639	118,328
Training	22,169	46,946
Travelling and transport	6,402	5,609
Utilities	317,678	206,673
Vehicle running expense	16,791	8,829
Wages and Salaries - Administrative staff	2,196,622	1,888,449
	4,796,213	4,250,205

8. Income tax expense

Current tax	597,544	162,280
Deferred tax	34,056	29,844
	631,600	192,124

Ridge Church School

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

Property, plant and equipment

Balances at year end and movements for the year

	Leasehold Land and Buildings	Office Equipment	Motor vehicles	Fixtures and fittings	Furniture and fittings	Manet playground equipment	Work- in- progress	Total
Reconciliation for the year ended 31 August 2023								
Balance at 1 September 2022	5,094,680	2,030,215	72,847	224,320	1,359,797	7,700	10,000	8,799,559
At cost	(1,513,319)	(1,771,692)	(72,847)	(93,005)	(1,259,258)	(3,080)	-	(4,713,201)
Accumulated depreciation								
Carrying amount	3,581,361	258,523	-	131,315	100,539	4,620	10,000	4,086,358

Movements for the year ended 31 August 2023

At cost	-	263,938	-	-	30,730	-	-	294,668
Additions from acquisitions								
Depreciation	(203,787)	(215,579)	-	(44,026)	(93,662)	(1,540)	-	(558,594)
Adjustment								

Property, plant and equipment at the end of the year

	3,377,574	306,882	-	87,289	37,607	3,080	10,000	3,822,432
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Closing balance at 31 August 2023

At cost	5,094,680	2,294,153	72,847	224,320	1,390,527	7,700	10,000	9,094,227
Accumulated depreciation	(1,717,106)	(1,987,271)	(72,847)	(137,031)	(1,352,920)	(4,620)	-	(5,271,795)
Carrying amount	3,377,574	306,882	-	87,289	37,607	3,080	10,000	3,822,432

Ridge Church School

Notes to the Financial Statements Figures in GHS

Property, plant and equipment continued...

Reconciliation for the year ended 31 August 2022	Leasehold Land and Buildings	Office Equipment	Motor vehicles	Fixtures and fittings	Furniture and fittings	Manet playground equipment	Work-in-progress	Total
Balance at 1 September 2021								
At cost	5,094,680	1,919,779	72,847	218,987	1,168,935	7,700	10,000	8,492,928
Accumulated depreciation	(1,309,531)	(1,589,810)	(72,847)	(15,302)	(1,059,123)	(1,540)	-	(4,048,153)
Carrying amount	3,785,149	329,969	-	203,685	109,812	6,160	10,000	4,444,775
Movements for the year ended 31 August 2022								
Additions from acquisitions	-	110,437	-	5,333	190,861	-	-	306,631
Depreciation	(203,788)	(181,882)	-	(44,056)	(200,134)	(1,540)	-	(631,400)
Adjustment	-	-	-	(33,648)	-	-	-	(33,648)
Property, plant and equipment at the end of the year	3,581,361	258,524	-	131,314	100,539	4,620	10,000	4,086,358
Closing balance at 31 August 2022								
At cost	5,094,680	2,030,215	72,847	224,320	1,359,797	7,700	10,000	8,799,559
Accumulated depreciation	(1,513,319)	(1,771,692)	(72,847)	(93,005)	(1,259,258)	(3,080)	-	(4,713,201)
Carrying amount	3,581,361	258,523	-	131,315	100,539	4,620	10,000	4,086,358

Ridge Church School

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

2023

2022

10. Intangible assets

Reconciliation of changes in intangible assets

	Website/ Termly Report Software	Total
Reconciliation for the year ended 31 August 2023		
Balance at 1 September 2022		
At cost	37,099	37,099
Accumulated amortisation	(16,374)	(16,374)
Carrying amount	20,725	20,725
Movements for the year ended 31 August 2023		
Amortisation	(7,420)	(7,420)
Intangible assets at the end of the year	13,305	13,305
Closing balance at 31 August 2023		
At cost	37,099	37,099
Accumulated amortisation	(23,794)	(23,794)
Carrying amount	13,305	13,305
Reconciliation for the year ended 31 August 2022		
Balance at 1 September 2021		
At cost	29,400	29,400
Accumulated amortisation	(8,955)	(8,955)
Carrying amount	20,445	20,445
Movements for the year ended 31 August 2022		
Additions	7,700	7,700
Amortisation	(7,420)	(7,420)
Intangible assets at the end of the year	20,725	20,725
Closing balance at 31 August 2022		
At cost	37,099	37,099
Accumulated amortisation	(16,374)	(16,374)
Carrying amount	20,725	20,725

Ridge Church School

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

2023

2022

11. Inventories

Exercise books	31,541	17,073
Stationery	155,270	80,603
Uniforms	501,881	322,828
	<u>688,692</u>	<u>420,504</u>

12. Trade and other receivables

Fees receivable	12,637	38,643
Other debtors	121	1,792
Prepayment	182,837	124,877
Staff debtors	87,612	37,952
Trust fund loan	49,124	-
	<u>332,331</u>	<u>203,264</u>

13. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash on hand	8,883	72,429
Balances with banks	(273,186)	492,311
	<u>(264,303)</u>	<u>564,740</u>

The overdrawn bank account balance represents cheques issued in excess of bank balance available.

Short term investment

Republic unit trust	83,838	80,713
Treasury bills	6,288,912	3,550,461
	<u>6,372,750</u>	<u>3,631,174</u>

Total Cash and Cash Equivalent

<u>6,108,447</u>	<u>4,195,914</u>
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14. Deferred tax

At 1 September	170,280	140,436
Charge to profit or loss	34,056	29,844
At 31 August	<u>204,336</u>	<u>170,280</u>

15. Trade and other payables

Fee deposits	407,193	855,584
Trust fund donations	103,095	-
Accrued liabilities	38,520	33,523
Other creditors	440,809	461,637
	<u>989,617</u>	<u>1,350,744</u>

Ridge Church School

Notes to the Financial Statements

Figures in GHS

16. Current tax liabilities

	At 1 September	Paid during the year	Charge for the year	At 31 August
Company tax				
Up to 2021	1,060,051	-	-	1,060,051
2022	158,019	-	-	158,019
2023		(4,220)	580,002	575,781
	<u>1,218,070</u>	<u>(4,220)</u>	<u>580,002</u>	<u>1,793,851</u>
Growth and sustainability levy				
2023	-	(13,690)	17,542	3,852
	<u>-</u>	<u>(13,690)</u>	<u>17,542</u>	<u>3,852</u>
Total	<u>1,218,070</u>	<u>(17,910)</u>	<u>597,544</u>	<u>1,797,703</u>

The tax position is subject to agreement by the Ghana Revenue Authority.

17. Related parties

Key management staff were identified as the related parties of the School as at the end of the year. The total remuneration of key management staff during the year are as follows:

	2023	2022
Key management staff		
Salaries and allowances	846,878	663,732
	<u>846,878</u>	<u>663,732</u>

18. Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

No known contingent assets or liabilities existed as at 31 August 2023 that would have a material effect on the results of the financial statements as set out on pages 9 to 23 or the continued existence of the School as a going concern.

19. Events after the reporting date

The Board of Governors are not aware of any matter or circumstance arising since the end of the financial year to the date of this report that could have a material effect on the financial position of the School.

20. Going concern

The annual financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

21. Approval of annual financial statements

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Governors and authorised for issue on

_____, 2024.