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Oct 21, 2013 at 6:35am

Presiding Bishop of Methodist Church calls for peace in New Juaben Traditional Area

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The Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church, Most Reverend Professor Emmanuel K. Asante, has called for peace in the New Juaben Traditional Area.

Most Reverend Professor Asante, who is also the President of the Peace Council, made the appeal at the induction service for Lay Chairmen of seven Diocese of the Methodist Church at Koforidua on Sunday.

The Diocesan Lay Chairmen are the next to the Bishops in the Diocese.

Most Rev Prof Emmanuel Asante, who performed the ceremony, asked those in leadership position to take it as a call and discharge their duties efficiently.

Radio Ghana's Kwamina Onumah and Stephen Amponsah Mensah who were there report that the ceremony brought together representatives from the Southern Dioceses of the Ghana Methodism namely Cape Coast, Accra, Sekondi, Winneba, Koforidua, Oda and Tema to lend their support to the new Lay Chairmen.

They are Prof John Andoh Micah of Cape Coast, Solomon Quaye Lartey of Accra, Francis Arthur of Sekondi and Robert Andrews Ghunney of Winneba Dioceses.

The rest are Leonie Gyebi-Twum of Koforidua, Johnson Yeboah Gyekye of Oda and Ebenezer Haizel of Tema Dioceses. They were all robed with new gowns and a stole each signifying he authority given them. In his homily, the

Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church Ghana, the Most Rev Prof Emmanuel Asante, said it is a privilege and opportunity which they, the newly inducted Lay Chairmen, should use in fulfillment of the Lord's will and not allow to degenerate into abuse through the weakness of the flesh.

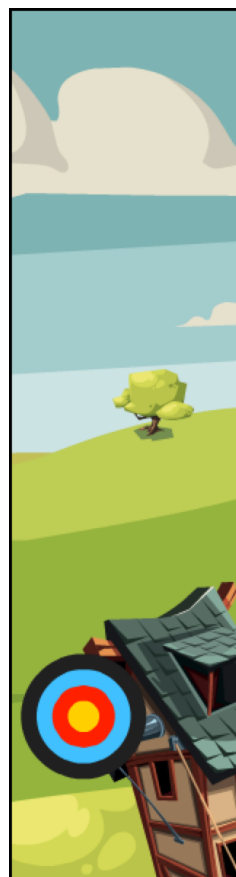
He described the position as a great responsibility on their shoulders to undertake and always be faithful in their stewardship.

Most Rev Prof Asante noted that, the objective of the Laity Division in the Church at the Connexional and Diocesan levels is to strengthen the ministerial role and facilitate church growth.

He said the clergy and the Laity are connected as one to build the church together with each playing his or her divergent role.

Most Rev Prof Asante explained that God has placed an individual person in a

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PHOTO REPORT

different position due to his or her ability to bring their expertise to bear to move the church and the nation forward.

He exhorted them not to allow petty squabbles or trivial issues to disintegrate the church but help it to grow from strength to strength.

The Omanhene of the New Juaben Traditional Area, Daasebre Prof Emeritus Oti Boateng, suggested to the church to take part of their time to learn about chieftaincy in order to know more of the customs and institutions as well as kingmakers, destoolment and enstoolment.

He was proud that the only female amongst those inducted is a citizen of Jumapong in his traditional area and asked the church to allow more women to take up that position.

The Cape Coast Diocesan Lay Chairman, Prof John Andoh Micah, on behalf of his colleagues, promised to work hand in hand with the clergy to enhance the growth of the Ghana Methodism.

As the church aims at evangelising to win many souls, he noted, efforts will be made to ensure that more societies are planted in the various diocese to help increase in membership.

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