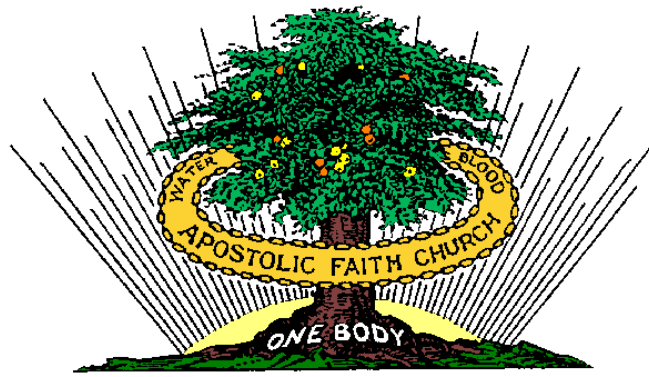


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The Apostolic Faith Church Youth Ministry

“Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not...” (**Ecclesiastes 12:1**). “Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Until I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine” (**1 Timothy 4:12-13**).

The Importance of Youth Ministry



Centre right and left: The Country Overseer for South Africa and His Wife captured in a photo with the Regional Youth Leadership of the South of Limpopo

The Apostolic Faith Church (AFC) recognises Youth Ministry as a vital part of the Church's mission because young people are not only the future of the Church but also an essential part of its present effective life and ministry. The Church is committed to nurturing young people spiritually, equipping them with biblical truth, and preparing them to become faithful disciples, leaders, and witnesses of Jesus Christ.

The foundation of the Youth Ministry is rooted in God's Word. Scripture encourages young people to seek and serve God from an early age: "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not..." (Ecclesiastes 12:1). By leading young people to know Christ during their formative years, the Church helps establish a strong spiritual foundation that enables them to withstand worldly influences and remain steadfast in their faith throughout their lives. The Apostle Paul also reminds young believers that age is not a limitation to serving God: "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Until I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine" (1 Timothy 4:12–13). This passage demonstrates that young people are called to live exemplary Christian lives, devote themselves to the study of God's Word, and actively participate in the ministry of the Church.

The Apostolic Faith Church therefore seeks to provide a Christ-centred environment where young people are taught sound biblical doctrine, encouraged to grow in prayer and concentration, being set apart for divine purpose, to develop Christian character, discover and exercise their spiritual

gifts, and participate in evangelism, discipleship, worship, fellowship, and acts of service. Through intentional discipleship mentorship and leadership development, the Church gets to prepare the next generation of faithful servants and leaders who will continue this precious Apostolic faith and Vision, fulfilling Christ's Great Commission.

The Youth Ministry also serves as a safeguard against the moral and spiritual challenges facing today's generation. By providing biblical teaching, godly fellowship, and positive role models, the Church equips young people to resist temptation, make decisions anchored in and guided by divine wisdom, revelation knowledge and understanding, living lives that glorify God.

Purpose of Youth Ministry

According to the Article 8 of the AFC Governance, Administration and Management Manual under Section One on page 17, the Apostolic Faith Church Youth Ministry is aimed at programs, initiatives, interventions and such youth activities that will equip, inform, educate, encourage and inspire the youths to grow in their faith and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ and prepare them for greater responsibility in the church and wider community. The Youth Ministry will focus on youth training and development, equipping them in the Word and life skills so that they are built up and established in their faith in Christ and grow into effective and responsible people and leaders who will bring transformation to their communities and impact the society for Christ.

The Five Pillars of Youth Ministry

The AFC Governance Manual guides that the youth ministry is anchored on Five Pillars which include: (1) Discipleship (2) Evangelism (3) Youth Empowerment (4) Loyalty and Commitment, and (5) Leadership Development.

The AFC Youth Ministry Regional Convention 2026 Held in the South Africa – South of Limpopo

The Regional Youth Ministry leadership of the South of Limpopo report that the Regional Youth Ministry help a 2026 Convention that was marked by the presence of God. While the main theme of the Church this year is Walking in Divine Wisdom, Revelation Knowledge and Understanding, the Youth Conference was held under a sub-theme that reminded the faithful that God is Restoring His Church and “The Ark Is Coming Back – When God Returns, Joy Follows” according to 1 Samuel 6:13. Just like the men of Beth Shemesh, when the Ark returned, the people lifted their eyes and rejoiced. When God returns to our youth structures, to our hearts, and to our ministry, restoration takes place and there is order and joy that follows – the joy of the Lord that is our strength (Nehemiah 8:10).



The Arrival of the Country Overseer for South Africa, Rev TP Mhlanga

According to the Praise Report received from the South of Limpopo regarding the South of Limpopo Regional Youth Convention, the Youth leadership reports... “We were honoured by the presence of the Country Overseer Rev T. Patrick Mhlanga and Regional Youth Chaplain Rev Stanley Simelane. Their presence, counsel, and prayer, set a covering over the youth conference, ushering in authority and order by the grace of the Lord. We are grateful for fathers who stand with the youth. Proverbs 4:1: “Listen, *my sons*, to the instruction of a father, And pay attention so that you may gain insight and understanding.”

... to be continued.