

African Universal Church, Inc.



“Rich in History...Leading Souls to Christ”

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Scripture: The promises of God are yes and amen.

2nd Corinthians 1:2

Vision Statement: “Helping people become passionate, devoted followers of Christ” 1st Corinthians 11:1 (Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.)

Description: AUC is a universal church for all people. It has a rich history in studying and promoting the Word of God, while helping individuals realize their self-worth and helping them become the best they can be. AUC believes in praise and worship, and continues to exercise faith in service to all mankind.

Motto: “Leading Souls to Christ”

Mission Statement: “Through faith and direction, AUC will praise, worship and execute God’s will, while strengthening relationships with God and leading souls to Christ.”

A scroll with text on it, featuring a parchment-like texture and wooden rollers at the top and bottom. The text is centered and reads:

Conditions of Faith

**We believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
We believe in God's Words,
Which is the Christ's way of life.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
Father of all races of mankind,
and in His Holy Word as set down by His
Prophets and Apostles, in the
Old and New Testaments.
He was conceived by the power of the
Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He was crucified,
died and buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right
hand of the Father.
He will come to judge the
Living and the dead.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
and communion of saints,
the resurrection of the body,
the forgiveness of sins,
eternal salvation,
the power of the Holy Ghost,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

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Which is the Christ's way of life.**

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hand of the Father.**

**He will come to judge the
Living and the dead.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
and communion of saints,
the resurrection of the body,
the forgiveness of sins,
eternal salvation,
the power of the Holy Ghost,
and life everlasting.**

Amen.

Tithes

Tithe \`tith\ vb [ME, *fr.oe teogothian, fr. Togotha tenth*]: to pay or give a tenth part of esp for the support of church. *The word tithe (tith, lieb, ma`äser, Gr. Dekatē which means (the Tenth”)*

History reveals that tithes existed in Babylon in ancient times, also in Persia and Egypt, even in China. The Heb. Word `āsār, “to tithe” is derived from the word signifying “ten”, which also means to be rich. The basic principle of tithing is the acknowledgment that everything rightly belongs to God, including a man’s own property and that men are only:

1. Stewards

Tithing is a token brought to honor the Lord and to recognize Him as owner of all.

2. Stewardship

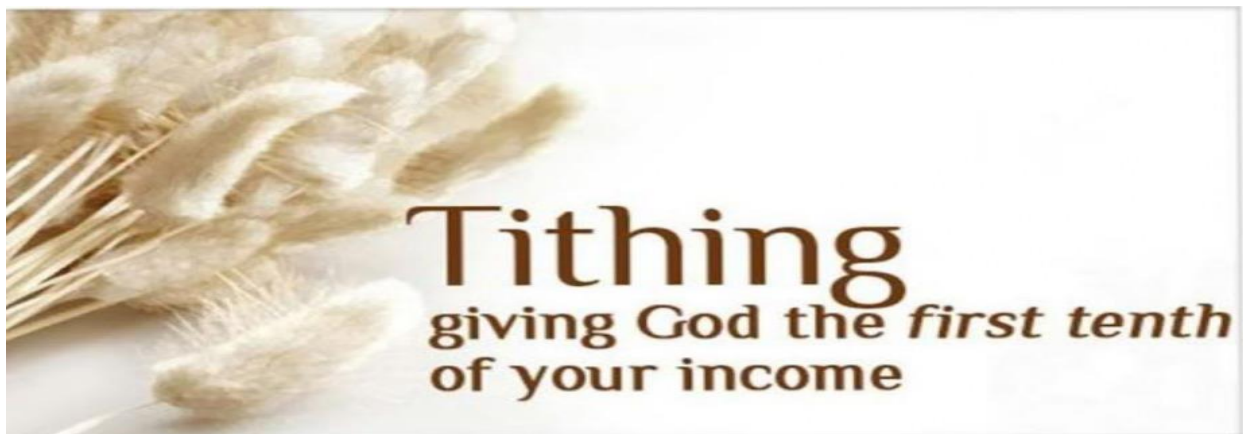
The careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.

In reality everything belongs to God and we exhibit stewardship over what He blesses us with.

A. Psalms 24:1

B. Haggai 2:8

The first mentioning of tithing is in the book of Genesis Chapter 14. Beginning at the 17th verse to verse 20 the last part of the scripture denotes, “And he gave him tithes of all”. Also, Hebrews 7:1-9.



Melchizedek was a King of Salem, and a priest of the most High God, making him a representative of Heaven, and Abram paid God homage.

1. Tithes are God's and Holy unto Him. (Lev. 27:30-33)

A. Jacob's vow (Gen. 28:10-22)

Tithes were used for the maintenance and operation of the Temple of God and Priest. (Malachi 3:10) In Malachi 3:8-11, God said at the beginning of the eighth verse, He imposed a question, "Will a man rob God?" The reason God asked that was because it was Levitical code to bring your tithes and offerings to the temple. But because of taxation by Kings made it difficult to pay tithes. So God says, "Will a man rob Me?" Because people were robbing God by not paying their tithes until Him. The prophetic admonition was to bring all the tithes into the Temple Storehouse, and God would bless them for their piety and faithfulness unto Him.

Rewards for Paying Tithes

1. God will bless you and your substance shall increase.

Proverbs 3:9-10

2. God said He would remove hindrances that would stop the "flow of God" that would reward you for paying tithes.

Malachi 3:11 [He will rebuke the *Devourer.]

***Devourer – to remove or destroy (of fire, disease or other forces); to consume (someone or something) destructively; to be totally absorbed by an unpleasant feeling.**

3. Everyone shall call you blessed because of them seeing God rewarding you for paying your tithes.

Malachi 3:12

4. Overflow

Malachi 3:10 (Open windows of Heaven)

Hindrances for not Paying Tithes

The payment of tithes and offerings was a recognition of their subjection to God and a recognition that God owned them and all that they had. To withhold God's tithes is to renounce the sovereign authority of God. Robbing God, we rob ourselves and become recipients of a curse, which causes us to experience lack of harvest and famine.

- 1. We rob God when we don't pay our tithes, because without Him we would have nothing.**
 - a. We rob God when we don't pay our tithes and offerings at all.**
 - b. Withholding part of our tithes and offerings because of hard time that come upon us.**
 - c. Not paying our tithes into the house of God as we should.**

- 2. Our money will disappear, and we won't be able to give account for it. (Haggai 1:5-7)**

Remember, when we obey God, we are God's responsibility (Psalm 37:25), and God will prove Himself (Malachi 3:10 prove Me). God honors His Word, so let us honor God by giving Him His (Isaiah 55:11).



Baptism

(Gr. Nouns *batismos* and *baptisma*; Gr. Verbs *batizō*) means to submerge or immersion in water.

The baptism of water is a symbol of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. This is tokened to express the true significance of baptism – only immersion can properly and fully express what burial with Christ in His death means. (Romans 6:1-6)

Baptism is the outward manifestation of repentance, signifying to the world that Jesus is Lord and that a believer confesses Him as Lord, and receives Him as Lord and Savior.

Before Christ's ascension, also known as "The Great Commission" (Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:13-16)

Why do we get baptized?

Baptism is a part of Salvation in Matthew 3:13-17 "That all righteousness be fulfilled" Jesus commissioned believers to get baptized. (Mark 16:13-16)

- 1. Salvation is two-fold (John 3:1-5). One must be born of water and born of Spirit. Here is a clear illustration of Jesus explaining the two essentials of salvation to Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.**
- 2. Jesus was baptized, leaving us an example to follow (Matthew 20:20-22). The word baptism in Greek here is *batismos* and *baptize* (meaning to be immersed in water) (Matthew 3:13-17).**

Baptism also covers the application of the benefits of Christ's redemptive death to the believer, through obedience to Christ by baptism.

This act signifies that God raised Jesus from the dead spiritually and symbolically we are raised in newness of life. (Colossians 2:12)

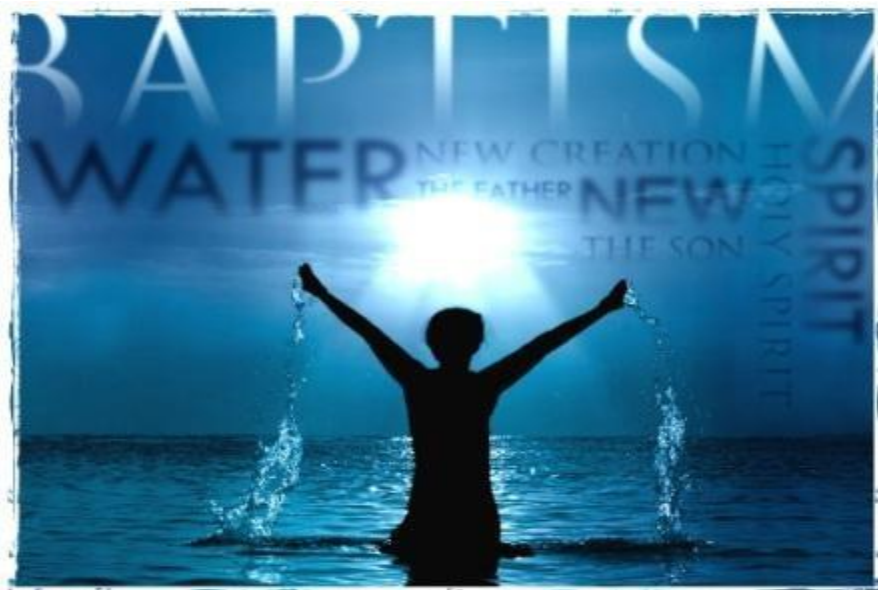
(Acts 2:38) Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

”There is no power in the water, but the redemptive power is through Christ in”The Name of Jesus” (Acts 4:12). So when a believer accepts Christ as their Lord and personal Savior (Romans 10:9-10), he or she is immersed in water baptism in the Name of Jesus. (Titus 3:5-6) (I Peter 3:20-21)

The 3 steps of baptism show the spiritual interaction through salvation.

Symbolically, the water represents a watery grave:

- 1. Immersion – going down into the water – represents Christ’s death**
- 2. Submersion – going down under the water – represents Christ’s burial**
- 3. Emersion – coming up out of the water – represents resurrection of Jesus Christ (Romans 6:4) (Colossians 2:12)**





Communion

Communion \ kə - `myü-nuən/n. [ME, fr. L communion – communion mutual participation, fr. Communis] (14c): a Christian sacrament in which consecrated bread and wine are consumed as memorials of Christ’s death or a symbol for the realization of a spiritual union between Christ and communicant or as the body and blood of Christ.

Also known as: The Blessed Sacrament and the Lord’s Supper.

Communion, along with baptism, is one of two sacraments enjoined by Christ Himself. Communion is mentioned or described in four passages; Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:14-20, and 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.

To better understand the Holy Communion, let us journey back to the children of Israel still in bondage in Egypt as God prepared to send His last plague upon Pharaoh “Death of the First Born” (Exodus 12:1-32). In verses 21-27, we see where the children of Israel, each house, took a lamb and slew it, and took the blood and applied it to the door post, and the Death Angel came to slay all the first born of Egypt. When the Death Angel saw the blood on the door post, the Death Angel passed over them. This is why they celebrated the Passover. Because death “passed over”!!

In the New Testament, the Passover was the first of all annual feast, and historically and religiously, it was the most important of all. It commemorated the deliverance of the Jews from Egypt and the establishment of Israel as a nation by God’s redemptive act.

So, now communion gets its origination from the Passover. In Matthew 26:26-29. Jesus and His disciples prepare for the Passover. In the time of Christ, the Passover lamb was usually a year-old male sheep. The Passover meal consisted of lamb, bitter herbs, and wine and bread (leavened or unleavened).

As they partook of the Passover v. 26 says: As they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and broke it and gave it to His disciples, and said, "take, eat, this is my body." The bread represents the body of Christ.

v. 27-28: And He took the cup, and gave thanks and gave it to them saying, "Drink ye all of it. For this is the blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." The wine represents His blood.

Just as the blood applied to the doorposts of the children of Israel's houses caused death to pass over, Christ became our Passover. (I Corinthians 5:7)

In the gospel according to John (John 1:29), When John the Baptist was baptizing in the Jordan River. He said, v. 9, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." Anticipating that His broken body and shed blood would be offered for the redemption of His people, at the upper room, Christ introduced the new symbols of bread and wine in remembrance of His sacrificial death. (Which is to be commemorated in the partaking of communion.) The eating and drinking together has the significance of a covenant meal, in which the two parties had fellowship and pledged their loyalty to each other.

Communion furthermore explains and displays the atoning death by which comes redemption and in expectation of the arrival of the Kingdom of God in its fullness.

Offerings

Offering – Heb. (*terumah*) \ter-oo-maw\ a tribute or gift. [oblation offered] **oblation** – An act of offering something such as worship or thanks to a Deity [God]. A charitable offering or gift. (A freewill gift through paying homage.)

An offering was instituted by God to show piety to God, by the creation of God, expressed through giving and honoring him. Offerings are an expression of worship, between the Creator and His creation. The act of worship is done by faith, and total reliance upon God for rewards and recognition.

The first mentioned offering unto God is recorded in Genesis 4:1-7. Let us examine Cain and Abel's offering.

Cain's offering

Cain offered from a cursed ground [Genesis 3:17]

Abel's offering

Abel's offering was the best of his livestock and of the fat thereof.

The method of Cain and Abel's offering still exists today. "What we present to God shows God's worth to us" (Matthew 6:21). What we value the most centers our piety, worship, and devotion towards God.



The Benefits of Offering up to God

1. Luke 6:38 Principle of Giving

Reward is pressed down, shaken together, running over.

People giving unto you

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 v. 6 What we sow determines our return from God.

Sparingly – bountifully; grudgingly – cheerful giver

3. God rewards givers (2 Corinthians 9:9-10). When offering in faith unto God with a pure heart and pure motives a believer will never be in lack (Colossians 3:23)

Remember, in giving offerings to God, it is between the giver and the receiver (God and man); the church is just the mediator for median of exchange between the two. The church is the storehouse of God's tithes and offerings. (Galatians 6:7) What we offer up is what we'll receive from God, so, I encourage you to always sow into someone's life, because God will reward you.

**SHARING
BRINGS JOY
TO US. TO OTHERS. TO GOD.**



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the official name of the church?

African Universal Church

When was the church established?

1973

Who is the founder of the church?

Princess Laura Adorka Kofi. Her picture is located above the baptismal pool.

How do I find out more information about the heritage of the church?

There is a "Know Your Church" class held on Wednesday nights at 5:30 p.m.

How can I serve in the church?

You may get with the Minister in Charge for guidance. Currently, it is Minister Cassandra Boykin.

What is the AUC Resource Center?

The center was built in 2004 as a part of the church's ministry to help children and families in the community.

For further information, you may visit AUC archives:

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