

WAAGA 2017 Conference Focuses on Spirit-Empowered Mission



Prayer for the new WAAGA leadership.

More than 700 leaders and delegates from across West Africa gathered in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, for the West Africa Assemblies of God Alliance (WAAGA) 2017 Conference.

The conference, hosted by the Burkina Faso AG, took place on August 1-4, 2017. It was chaired by WAAGA President, Rev. Michel Ouedraogo. Rev. Ouedraogo also serves as President of the Burkina Faso AG. The conference was held in accord with the Africa AG **Decade of Pentecost** emphasis from 2010 to 2020.

The theme of WAAGA 2017 was “The Unfinished Mission: The Holy Spirit’s Challenge to the Church.” Sessions were marked by anointed preaching and teaching, fervent intercessory prayer, and a resolute focus on the church’s unfinished task of reaching Africa and the nations with the gospel before Christ’s soon return.

In daily breakout sessions, the delegates examined their present evangelistic practices in light of the biblical pattern. Out of these sessions came the “**Ouagadougou Resolution**,” which called on all AG churches of West Africa to return to authentic Pentecostal practice based on the apostolic model presented in the Book of Acts.

According to the resolution, this model includes a “commitment to the Word of God, the *baptism in the Holy Spirit, the training of disciples, and the development of missionary activity within the Assemblies of God in West Africa.*” Chairman Ouedraogo challenged the delegates, “God has given us a task, and we must not fail. The salvation of others depends on us.” He further reminded the delegates that we can do this only with the enablement of the Holy Spirit.

In a special ceremony during the WAAGA 2017 Conference, Rev. Djakouti Mitre, outgoing WAAGA chairman, and Rev. Mark Turney, outgoing executive secretary, handed over the reins of leadership of the Africa Assemblies of God Alliance to the new executive team: Dr. Barnabas Mtokambali, chairman; Rev. Michel Ouedraogo, vice-chairman, and Rev. Nate Lashway, executive secretary. The new WAAGA leadership will serve through 2021. Dr. Mtokambali shared his vision for the Alliance, which includes continued Spirit-empowered mission and church planting.

— Dr. Denny Miller, Director Acts in Africa Initiative

AIA Publishes New Book On Missions Strategy

The leadership of the Acts in Africa Initiative participated in the conference. Director Denny Miller and Associate Director Mark Turney took one morning and taught on “The Ministry of the Holy Spirit: Returning to the Acts of the Apostles Model.”

In these sessions Miller and Turney challenged the delegates to follow the missions model laid down by Jesus in Acts 1:8 and followed by the apostles in the book of Acts. They further presented Paul’s ministry in Ephesus (Acts 19) as an effective biblical model for church planting today. AIA produced a booklet entitled, ***The New Testament Strategy of the Spirit: An Acts 1:8 Model for 21st Century Church Planting in Africa.*** They gave one to each registered delegate. You can download this booklet for free in e-book format (PDF) on the www.DecadeofPentecost.com website.

