

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY**

**THE ROLE OF YOUTH MINISTRY IN CHURCH GROWTH: A STUDY OF
STANDARD LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER ASSEMBLY OF GOD,
OFORIKROM- KUMASI**

**PROJECT WORK
(LONG ESSAY)**

EMMANUEL ANTWI AGYEMANG

JUNE, 2019

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STANDARD LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER ASSEMBLY OF GOD,
OFORIKROM- KUMASI**

BY

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**A LONG ESSAY SUBMITTED TO CHRISTIAN SERVICE UNIVERSITY
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WITH ADMINISTRATION.**

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY

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DECLARATION

I, Emmanuel Antwi Agyemang, do hereby declare that this project work report is the result of my own original research except for sections of which references have been duly made and to the best of my knowledge no part of it has been presented to this University College or any other institution for the award of a degree.

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DEDICATION

I humbly dedicate this work to my parents, Rev. Emmanuel Antwi Adjei Agyemang and Mrs. Mercy Antwi Agyei Agyemang. Thanks for your support throughout the years.

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First, I am grateful to God for the favour, strength and protection to finish this work.

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Thanks for your help. May the Almighty God Bless you all!

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CHAPTER ONE

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

This research is to evaluate and bring to the limelight the role of the Youth Ministry towards church growth. There is an assertion that Youth Ministry has a significant role to play in the growth of every church, without which the church has little to achieve.

Often in many churches, the Youth Ministry gets involved in various activities of the church when they are called upon to do so. Church activities such as missions, outreaches, crusades, prayer meetings alike get the youth occupied. Young people have their own way of thinking and putting things together per their level of maturity, the acquisition of knowledge and how this knowledge is applied goes a long way to help the growth of the church.¹ Most young people have special abilities which can be used for the growth of the church if properly nurtured and harvested. Most churches also have various youth groups, which ultimately serve as a platform for displaying all kinds of talent deposits within them which in many cases help in the long term to grow and build the church of God both spiritually and physically. The national youth ministry of the Assemblies of God, Ghana, has its motto as “the youth alive, the work is done” reiterating the need to equip and empower the youth to get the work of God done particularly in the church in diverse capacities. It is important to state that the youth are more or less the backbone of the church and must be given the required attention for the productive use of their energies.

The Youth Ministry in the 21st Century is seen to have the ability and tenacity to build a formidable and vibrant youth to carry the dreams and visions of the church, and

¹Nii Amo Darku, *Holistic City Evangelism* (Accra: Oriented Press, 2005), 23.

prepare diligent and innovative leaders to take up the mantle of leadership to continue good work of the old crop of leaders in helping the church to grow in every aspect.²

Church growth is not a focus on only the increase in membership but also the impact that will be seen in the members of the church. Impact in this context means empowering members to reach out to others with the word of God with the sole aim of populating God's Kingdom with souls.³

Again, the concept of Church growth is neither to make name for oneself nor just bring people to church to be preached to, but that individuals within the church will grow in the knowledge of God's word and be able to spread the gospel just as it is emphasized in Mark 16:15, "And he said unto them, Go ye into the entire world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The economic challenges in Ghana in recent times have made many young people in the church to focus on trying to find a means of survival which has hampered their attendance to most church activities. Some young people in the church are also preoccupied with their jobs. Due to some of these challenges, most of the youth often times do not get themselves involved in the work and activities of the ministry.

Furthermore, some youth Leaders lack the prerequisite leadership skills in handling the Youth Ministry in most churches and thus have failed to unearth great potentials in their youth which would have helped in the growth of the church in no small way and Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God, Oforikrom- Kumasi which is the focus of this work is an instance in this regard.

² Dag Heward- Mills, *Leader and Loyalty* (Wellington: Lux Verbi, 2008), 25 -27.

³ Jack W. Hayford, *The Church on the Way* (Lincoln, VA: Chosen Books, 1982), 24- 26.

1.3 Research Questions

1. The main question for this research is to seek the role of the Youth Ministry in the growth of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God?
2. What are the contributions of the Youth Ministry to the growth of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God?
3. What are the challenges of the Youth Ministry with regards to church growth in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God?
4. What strategies can be employed by the Youth ministry in Standard Life Christian Center Assemblies of God towards the growth of the church?

1.4 Aim and Objectives of the Study

1. The main aim of the study is to examine the role the Youth Ministry in church growth at Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God.
2. To find out the contributions of the Youth Ministry to the growth of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God.
3. To identify the challenges of the Youth Ministry in Standard Life Christian Center concerning church growth.
4. To investigate strategies that the Youth Ministry in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God could employ toward the growth of the church.

1.5 Scope and Focus of the Study

This study focuses on the role of the Youth Ministry towards church growth in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God, Oforikrom- Kumasi. The work will expressively give an account of the role and challenges of the Youth Ministry towards church growth in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God, Oforikrom- Kumasi. The work also seeks to highlight briefly on the historical background of missionary work in aid of church growth in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly

of God, Oforikrom- Kumasi. This study will be used to find out the strategies the Youth Ministry of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God can adopt towards the growth of the church.

1.6 Research Methodology

The researcher used qualitative approach for the entire study. This approach involved an investigation that seeks answers to questions, systematic procedure to answer questions about the research, collects evidence and findings that are applicable. This approach seeks to understand a phenomenon from the perspective of the people who are covered in the research by using the phenomenological approach. It also seeks to obtain information about the values, opinions, behaviors and social context⁴ of the young people in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God, at Oforikrom-Kumasi.

1.6.1 Methods of Data Collection

Looking at this research work, its kind cannot be done in a rarefaction. So the researcher enquired to put in place some methods of data collection that helped in the collating and analyzing data that were accumulated from the study. These included both the primary sources and secondary sources.

1.6.1.1 Primary Sources

The researcher used structured and unstructured interview. The personal interview included having a personal interaction with interviewees. The Interviews helped the researcher and the interviewees to develop a fragile association since the interviewees were attracted in the research the researcher is embarking upon.⁵ It created a

⁴ Mark Saunders, Philip Lewis, and Adrian Thornhill, *Research Methods for Business Students* (Edinburgh: Pearson, 2012), 163, 546.

⁵ Tom K. B. Kumeqpor, *Research Methods and Techniques of Social Research: Sections 1 - 3* (Accra: Son Life Press, 2002), 189.

comfortable atmosphere for the researcher to meet interviewees anytime possible for any needed information primarily.

1.6.1.2 *Secondary Sources*

Pertaining to the way and manner of the focus and scope of the study, the researcher enquired from different secondary sources encompassing books, journals, articles etc. relevant to this research work. These are published and unpublished materials of scholarly writings. More to it, explicit use of dictionaries and articles were inclusive. The secondary sources helped in a way to collating and analyzing the various views on the issues on the role of the Youth Ministry in church growth.

1.6.2 *Sample/ Sampling Procedure or Technique*

In this study, the researcher instigated a high-quality technical sampling to select his interviewees. The categories of people that the researcher interviewed included Youth Directors, Pastors and Church Leaders who have handled or worked in respect of the Youth Ministry in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God, Oforikrom-Kumasi. These interviewees were contacted on the basis that they are with relevant information and suggestions that will be considered to be essential to the study.

1.6.3 *Data Analysis*

In evaluating the data that was accumulated during fieldwork, a qualitative analysis was employed. This data analysis was based on quality information which is of importance to the subjects being considered or preferably studied rather than on the quantity of findings to a particular issue.⁶ This method of data analysis was also employed since the researcher dwelled largely on interviews which were intended to elicit detailed information from individual interviewees.

⁶ Rubens Muzio, "The Implanting of Healthy Churches—the best strategy", in *Christianity Today*, Vol. 39 Issue 4, (June 2005): 63.

1.7 Literature Review

For the literature review, the researcher reviewed works to critically scrutinize the concept of Youth Ministry in church growth from renowned scholars of the field and to bring to limelight the gaps that are left out. The views of some authors that were examined are categorized in areas such as the church and youth, the bible and youth and the youth and church growth.

1.7.1 *The Church and Youth*

According to Edmund P. Clowney, Christians who have attained a level in the Christian faith have knowledge of the Son of God and His relationship with people is built in love. They encourage each other in the faith and do not look down on others. A growth as such, is a process and it is a growth together. The church does not aim at producing a few supportable saints for media. It seeks the growth of the whole body through the function of every supporting ligament. Every Christian has a part to play in the maturing of Christ's church.⁷ In the view of the Clowney, the church coming together as one body helps in its expansion. Therefore considering the efficacy and effectiveness to promote the church to grow, the church's refusal to involve the young people in the church limits the ultimate goal of God for the entire church. If Clowney sees the church as a place of displaying the love of Christ, then the study will examine how this is carried out in the whole church including the Youth Ministry of Standard Life Christian Centre Assembly of God.

VerStraten affirms that welcoming young people in the church serves as a source of care that portrays the gospel of Christ hence aid in keeping souls and adding up to the church. VerStraten in his view gives a big picture as to how the church can tolerate

⁷ Edmund P. Clowney, *The Church: Contours of Christian Theology* (Downers Grove, Illinois: Inter Varsity Press, 1995), 141.

Christian and non-Christian young people.⁸ VerStraten sees the ministry of the church as working for the salvation of all group in the church across continents. However, the researcher agrees with VerStraten as he showed the way through which young people, the saved and unsaved can be evangelized to and be kept in the church. Thus, effective way of evangelizing to the youth will facilitate church growth.

Root Andrew writes about the significance of the youth in the church. His core findings on the importance of the youth were derived from Dietrich Bonhoeffer whose heartbeat was toward the youth. According to Andrews, Bonhoeffer cared genuinely for the youth ministry of which he mostly emphasized in his ministerial work and believed that it would be very profitable by enrolling young people in the church's activities rather than disregarding them as if they were insignificant. The church focusing on all members in the church is a good thing to do, but locating the young people in the church and building them both physically and spiritually is very important.⁹ Therefore the Youth Ministry is not supposed to be drifted off from most church activities. The researcher will bring out the importance of the Youth Ministry of Standard Life Christian Centre Assembly of God in the Church.

1.7.2 *The Bible and Youth*

According to Jay E. Adams, the word of God must be the fundamental for good family relationships. Adams reviews that, the word of God helps parent to impact good morals to their children. Paul gives us a heartfelt biblical exposition in 1 Timothy 3:4-5. It is the ministry of reconciliation that is, keeping young people or children under control with all dignity by higher authority. When you allow the word of God to be the basics for the Christian living in the home or church the young

⁸ C. A. VerStraten, *A Caring Church Through Shepherding Ministries* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker House, 1988), 75- 77.

⁹Root Andrew, *Bonhoeffer as Youth Worker; A Theological Vision for Discipleship and Life Together* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014), 23.

people are imparted positively to affect their love for God and their parents.¹⁰ Adams points out that the word of God has much influence by imparting the young people positively through parents and other adults. This is very important for the study which addresses the youth's ministry.

According to Harry and Sophia Awortwi, young people who spend their adolescence period profitably and beneficially enjoy this historic period of their life. They may find comfort and joy in a church, in youth clubs, in sports and other social activities. They regularly make new friends who are morally good and therefore they do not have many problems. Harry and Sophia Awortwi continue to establish the fact that, parents must be upright and be in a position to guide their children in the fear and wisdom of God.¹¹ In other words, the Bible gives direction to Christians thus, the young and the old. This falls in line with the study which examines the lifestyle of young people in the church and its impartation on the Youth Ministry.

1.7.3 The Youth and Church Growth

According to Patrick Johnstone, church growth must be viewed from the aspect of having souls at heart. This is because the lost ones will join the church if the church develops a heart for them through missions and evangelizing the lost regularly. Johnstone views that, the church which does not involve mission in their activities is not in the position of helping the church growth. He furthermore describes that, it is obligatory for every Christians to be part of embarking on mission. Johnstone continues to lay emphasis on the fact that mission work is not to the fanatically few or

¹⁰ Jay E. Adams, *Christian living in the Home* (USA: Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker book house, 1972), 103,104.

¹¹ Harry Awortwi and Sophia Awortwi, *The Youth and Sex: A Book for Parent and Young People* (Accra: Asempa Publishers, 2004), 27, 28.

specifically anointed people.¹² Johnstone paints a picture of various churches growing over the years through missionary work of which the church has benefited from. Mission is therefore by view of the author a pertinent phenomenon in growth church. The researcher in this study will show how mission work of the Youth Ministry in Standard Life Christian centre Assembly of God has aided in church growth.

According to Rick Warren, there is a need to understanding into the reality of an effective church growth strategy. Warren brings out his own methodology concerning church growth by saying, purpose driven church must have a way and manner through which vigorous evangelism will be done to aid in church growth. Warren establishes the fact that, effective evangelism which aids in church growth is not only by sharing the message of Christ but also living an exemplary life according to the message being shared. Warren views that, the techniques through which the church shares the message of Christ will add people to the church and also maintain those who are already in the church¹³Warren views that, the church is made up of diverse people. This therefore establishes that, some share the message of Christ and do not follow his way of life, and others follow his way of life but do not share his message. Warren fails to show how one can share the message of Christ and follow Christ's way of life. In this study the researcher will show how the Youth Ministry in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God shares the message of Christ and follow his way of life which enables church growth.

¹²Patrick Johnstone, *The Church is Bigger than You Think* (Great Britain: Christian Focus Publishing, 2000), 23, 24.

¹³ Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Church* (Grand Rapids: Zonderian Publishing House, 1995), 186.

1.8 Significance of the Study

This study will provide an in-depth knowledge as to how Pastors and church leaders should handle the Youth Ministry in the Standard Life Christian Centre Assembly of God in aid of church growth by involving them in most church activities.

Leaders in the church getting to know how the involvement of the Youth Ministry will help in church growth will also help develop the leaders themselves. As Maxwell said, “everything rises and falls on leadership.”¹⁴ This study is to provide help for the young people who are interested in growing the church through the Youth Ministry. The young people will also know how their involvement in the Youth Ministry will help in growing the church.

1.9 Organization of the Chapter or Structure of the Work

This work is organized under five chapters. Chapter one is a general introduction. It gives the Background of the study, statement of the problem, research questions, aims and objectives of the study, research methodology employed literature review, and significance of the study.

Chapter two also focuses on the background to the Oforikrom community, practices and their lifestyle, a brief history of Assemblies of God worldwide, the history of the Assemblies of God, Ghana as well as Standard Life Christian Centre Assembly of God, brief history of youth in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God and the purpose of the youth.

Chapter three looks at the concept of the role of the Youth Ministry in church growth. The chapter examines the concept and shows the various approaches that are adopted in the role of the Youth Ministry in church growth. The chapter also examines who a

¹⁴John C. Maxwell, *Developing the Leader within You* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 1993), 38.

youth is. The aim is to look at the role of the Youth Ministry and to adjust it within a proper terrain or context of the study regarding their role in church growth.

Chapter four will before long deal with the analysis and critique of the issues that rises from the chapter three.

Chapter five which concludes the study gives summary, conclusions and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

2.1 Introduction

The previous chapter addressed the background and general overview of the study. This chapter considers the background to Oforikrom community, practices and their lifestyle, a brief history of Assemblies of God worldwide, the history of the Assemblies of God, Ghana as well as Standard Life Christian Centre Assembly of God, brief history of youth in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God and the purpose of the youth.

2.2 The History of Oforikrom Community

Oforikrom is a town in the Ashanti Region of Ghana. It is Located in the Oforikrom Municipal Assembly. Oforikrom was first under the Amakom Municipal Assembly. Before the name Oforikrom, that geographical area was called “Bep] K]k]”. The residents were into farming. Most of them cultivated oranges, cocoyam and few other crops. Due to the lagging development, people went outside the Oforikrom community to other markets to purchase commodities. The land was first inhabited by one Ofori’s family that is, the family of the founding father of Oforikrom. These were from the clan of Asona of the Ashantis. Hence they became the “odikuro”, which means “ruler of the town”. The Oforikrom was under the Amakom District therefore the Oforikrom community submitted to the Amakom King. Opanin Kojo Ofori used his innumerable nuclear family to establish the Oforikrom community. This was because the members of his extended family were few.¹⁵

¹⁵ Interview with Yaa Dufie, Royal Palace, Oforikrom, 26th February, 2019.

According to Obaapanin Veronica Kyei, Opanin Kojo Ofori had approximately thirteen wives. These wives bore him a total sum of ninety children and also had fifty children out of wedlock through concubines. He built many houses in the vicinity for which he shared amongst his family members including wives, children, siblings and few others. His vision for the Oforikrom community was to build a formidable educational foundation for the entire community. Per this vision, many of the young people were taken to school to acquire knowledge to aid in the development of their lives and the Oforikrom community. Currently, the vision that Opanin Ofori Kojo had, has become a success. Most of the young people who had good educational background have brought about development in the Oforikrom Community. Developments such as schools, churches, business organizations and many others have being a benefactor for the Oforikrom community and beyond. There were no churches in Oforikrom community in the late 1940's. In the early 1970's and 1980's churches started emerging including the Methodist Church, Assemblies of God church among others. Even though Opanin Kojo Ofori attended Roman Catholic Church at Roman Hill, he was not able to build a church in the Oforikrom community when he was alive. Opanin Kojo Ofori was succeeded by his brother Opanin Dickson Ofori after his death.¹⁶

The main occupation of the indigenes of Oforikrom is Carpentry. The population of the town now stands at 3000. The young men are very interested in football when it comes to social phenomenon. Carpentry work is also rampant among the young men. They live together as a united family. Majority of the people who live in the Oforikrom community are Christians, while the minority are Muslims.¹⁷

¹⁶Interview with Obaapanin Veronica Kyei, Royal Palace, Oforikrom, 24th February, 2019.

¹⁷ Interview with Anthony Ofori Adarkwa, Royal Palace, Oforikrom, 29th March, 2019.

2.3 History of Assemblies of God (Worldwide)

The emergence of Assemblies of God denomination was as a result of vigorous revival that took place during the late 1800's and continued through the early 1900's. A pertinent figure in the history of the establishment of Assemblies of God denomination is Charles Parham. With respect to affecting his generation with the word of God, he started a Bible School in Topeka, Kansas, where students came to study the Word of God. In the Bible School his main emphasis was geared towards the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as a significant factor in one's walk of faith. Parham encouraged his students to study the Word of God to discover the biblical proof for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. A prayer meeting was held on January 1, 1901 by Charles Parham. It was on that day that they ascertained the Holy Spirit Baptism is expressed and evidenced by speaking in tongues. The Assemblies of God denomination belief with regards to speaking in tongues as the biblical evidence of Baptism in the Holy Spirit can trace its source from the experience they had at the prayer meeting. The revival spread throughout town and cities in U.S.A and beyond. The Assemblies of God denomination have paid attention and continued to concentrate on Church planting, Missions and Evangelism.¹⁸

2.4 History of Assemblies of God in Ghana

The Assemblies of God denomination has its roots in the religious revival that started during the late 1800's and continued through the early 1900's. The revitalization or preferably, the revival brought about prevalent experience of supernatural manifestations of the Holy Spirit such as tongues speaking and miraculous healing, which gave birth to the Pentecostal movement. The Assemblies of God, Ghana was the first foreign Pentecostal body to work in Ghana. The Assemblies of God Ghana is

¹⁸ Assemblies of God, Ghana, *Adult Teacher Sunday School* (Accra: Assemblies of God Literature Centre Ltd, 2014), 6.

a member of the worldwide fellowship of Assemblies of God spread in 212 countries of the world.¹⁹ Missionaries from Assemblies of God, U.S.A. in the persons of Rev. Lloyd and Margaret Shirer, who happen to be in Moshi land (Ouagadougou) now Burkina Faso moved from there to the Northern Region of the then Gold Coast on horse backs in the early 1931. The Missionaries upon arrival found out that the land was fertile for missionary activities. They therefore went back to the U.S.A to recruit missionaries. Their first recruits, Miss Beulah Buchhwalter and Guy Hickok started the first Assemblies of God place of worship in Yendi. The passion of these early missionaries was so strong and great that they consistently worked and witnessed for the Lord under very inconsiderate conditions and environments. All along, the activities of the missionaries had been confined to the north. Southerners domiciled in the north on their return to the south, shared the gospel with their kinsmen. This led to the establishment of Assemblies of God Churches. As a result, the Accra and Kumasi stations were opened in 1944, followed by the Takoradi station in 1945. From Accra, Kumasi and Takoradi the Church spread to the Eastern, Central, Volta and Brong Ahafo Regions.²⁰

2.5 History of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God

Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God Church started as a result of a mega crusade which caused revival in Oforikrom vicinity and beyond. The crusade took place for three days of which Rev. Nicholas Opuni was the host for the whole program. Rev. Zima from the U.S.A was invited to lead the crusade. The way and manner Rev. Zima presented the gospel to the people caused many from afar and near to gather and listen to the message. He used a projector which could display videos of

¹⁹“History of Assembly of God Ghana,” Google History of Assembly of God Ghana, last modified March 1, 2010, accessed March 9, 2019, <http://www.google.com/history/of/assembly/of/god/ghana>.

²⁰ Brochure, *The 75 Years of Assemblies of God, Ghana* (Accra: Assemblies of God Literature, 2006), 8-12.

the Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ to communicate to the people which was very rare to come by in those days. This attracted most of the people in Oforikrom community and other communities to gather at the crusade grounds after which the people who came for the program were used to start the church.²¹

The church started in December 1979 but on official document, it is being penned down as December 1980. The place of worship was at the Oforikrom Kumasi City Council School where they met in two classrooms in the Oforikrom School. The number of the members they started with was 90 members. Prayer meetings were held most often and their utterances during the meetings were in other tongues which caused revival in the church and the Oforikrom community. The Assemblies of God denomination was the first Pentecostal body to work in Oforikrom community. The young people took upon themselves to help in the growth of the church. The Adults in the church, both men and women also contributed a lot to the welfare of the church. Mr. Kofi Effah Amponsah and Mr. Addai were the first caretakers of the church. They contributed greatly to the growth of the church, both physically and spiritually.²²

In 1983, the church received its first stationed pastor, Rev. Anthony Kwashiga Ahiable Kudmoje who served the church years. In 2017, the church acquired its own two plots of land and erected a temporary structure under which they have been fellowshipping until now. In 2018, Rev. Arthur Philip assumed office as the head pastor of the church after the retirement of Rev. Anthony Kwashiga Ahiable Kudmoje. The church now has an adult and youth membership of 237, whereas the

²¹ Interview with Mr. Adu Gyamfi Boadi, Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God, 22nd February, 2019.

²² Interview with Mrs. Grace Ntiamoah Boadi, Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God, 22nd February, 2019.

membership of the children stands at 58. Out of the 179 adults and youth membership, 102 are females and 77 are males.²³

The church is currently seeking to embark on the construction of their main auditorium in the years ahead. Since the Assemblies of God Church is the only institution which is notified with the great commission, the Standard Life Christian Center Assembly has also engaged in fulfilling this mission, not only by communicating the Gospel to others, but also engaging in social actions. The church has established four branches, one in the new site of the Ashanti Akem Bonfa, Atia community, Ayigya and the other in another community called Buobai.²⁴

2.6 The Purpose of Youth Ministry

The church has a heart for the youth in view of the fact that the young people are the future leaders of the church. Due to this, the church seems to raise great leaders from amongst the youth who will take the place of leadership and continue the good works from where they will stop. The purpose of the Youth Ministry is to develop their zeal for evangelism for Jesus Christ and to build their personal relationship with God in the days of their youth, even as it is written “Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them” Ecclesiastics 12:1 (KJV). The Youth Ministry per the teachings given to them train the young folks to develop a heart for winning souls into the Kingdom of God, thus missions. The young people gets to know the circumstance of this world in order to guard their lives against immorality hence keeping their bodies clean and pleasing unto the God.

²³Interview with Rev. Ntiamoah Boadi.

²⁴ Interview with Rev. Ntiamoah Boadi.

2.7 Conclusion

The chapter considered some background issues relating to the Oforikrom community and the Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God. The issues addressed include, background to the Oforikrom community, practices and way of Life, brief history of the Assemblies of God worldwide, brief history of the Assemblies of God, Ghana, brief history of youth in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God and the purpose of the youth.

CHAPTER THREE

PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS

3.1 Introduction

The previous chapter centered on the background to Oforikrom community, a brief history of the Assemblies of God as well as Standard Life Christian Centre Assembly of God. This chapter focuses on of the Youth Ministry in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God, the structure of the youth ministry, and role of the youth ministry in the growth of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God.

3.2 The Youth Ministry in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God

The Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God was established on December 1979. During its initial stage, the youth's service was well organized and it was decided that, the ministry of the youth need an appropriate set of courses to make it more effective. It started with 40 youth members at the start of the church which increased to 60 after 5 years. After revivals had taken place in the Oforikrom community in the early 80's, the young people in the church involved themselves in most of the roles in the church. They partook in roles such as going from house to house evangelism, preaching the message of Jesus Christ every dawn, staying to pray overnight for the church and the Community at large, Singing across and along the road and many others. These activities of the youth spread the good news about the church which caused a fame of the church through all the towns round about. The zeal of the youth was as a result of the strong biblical teachings that were imparted unto them. Brother Akwasi Frimpong and Brother Kwabena Sarfo were in charge of Sunday school teaching, whereas Brother Amisah took care of the Good news

message of Assemblies of God thus, Christ died for me and you. They were amongst the vibrant youth who took leadership position in the church.²⁵

Mr. Joseph Donkor who happens to join the church later came to nurture the youth through prayers, fasting and the study of the Word of God. He had a heart for the youth. He led the youth during quizzes and they happen to take first position which brought glory to the church. He also took them to camp meetings, youth rallies, youth games and many others which aided in the growth of the youth both physically and spiritually. It was during the days of Mr. Joseph Donkor that the Youth Ministry was established. Brother Akwasi Frimpong became the Youth Ministry's president. Two people were selected to handle the Youth Ministry of the church. At that particular time, there were no fitting leadership since that was the starting point. The Youth Ministry played many roles in the church which helped in the Growth of the church.²⁶

3.3 The Structure of the Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God is known as "Christ Ambassadors". They are young members of the Church between the ages of 13-35 years. The Youth ministry meets at least once a week at the church premises to promote the spiritual, physical, social, and emotional well-being of the members through worship, training, evangelism and fellowship in the word and prayer.

3.3.1 *Vision of the Youth Ministry*

The church has designed a vision for the Youth Ministry to develop the missionary zeal and a heart for lost souls. The Youth Ministry aspires to build a formidable and vibrant Youth to carry the dreams and vision of the Church, and prepare diligent and

²⁵Interview with Mr. Adu Gyamfi Boadi.

²⁶Interview with Rev. Ntiamoah Boadi.

innovative leaders to take up the mantle of leadership to continue the mandate of Assemblies of God, Ghana.

3.3.2 Mission of the Youth Ministry

The Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God with respect to the youth aims to be a 21st Century Pentecostal Youth Ministry in Ghana, in the Akwatialine District, in the Oforikrom community and beyond, to carry the message of the cross to lost souls and the dying world.

3.4 Role of the Youth Ministry in the Growth of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God

In the Church, there are different ministries which help the growth of the church at every level. These diverse ministries in the church have their own way of helping the church to grow in the aspects of social, economic, psychological, physical and spiritual growth. The development of the church in the aspect of numerical growth and the spirituality of the people in the church may include explicitly, on the vibrant Youth Ministry of the church.

Roy Irving and Roy Zuck views that, the church is a place that can accommodate and tolerate the young people and nurturing them as to how to leave a life in the order of Christ. However it creates answers to their questions and faith for their expedition, and an opportunity for their capabilities and abilities. The church seems to look down upon the role of the youth in the church hence deprives them from getting opportunity to exhibit their gifts and talents.²⁷ This kind of treatment given to most youth in the church makes most of them give up, exhibiting their gifts and talents in the church. The youth many a times, have the zeal of doing something beneficial because they want to embark on their purpose in Life by participating in most activities in the

²⁷Roy G. Irving & Roy B. Zuck, *Youth and the Church* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1968), 76.

church. Young people often want to involve themselves in most church activities because of the zeal most of them have towards the work of God. Nevertheless, if the young people are not assisted to discover, build up and demonstrate their gifts and talents suitably in the church, they can become a problem to the church. The Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God began with most of the young people in the Oforikrom Community who many a times, met to pray and share the Word of God in the church and also to others who are not in the church. Today the church is growing in terms of numbers in membership and spiritual growth; therefore there is the need to appreciate the significant role of the youth in the growth of the church. The youth of the church in their attempt to contribute to its growth, involved in evangelistic activities are discussed below.

3.4.1 The Sunday School

Sunday seem to be the day most Christians choose to serve God and seek out instruction from the Word of God. In view of Rev. Ntiamoah Boadi, the Sunday school of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God over the years have ministered the Word of God to the members of the church which has helped built them in the Word of the Lord. The ideology of the establishment of the Sunday school is to help members both old members and new members to understand the word of God by asking questions and receiving answers to the questions being asked. The Sunday school involves all members ranging from the children, youth and adults. The youth of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God have been very helpful in the Sunday school. Some of the matured youth who have in-depth knowledge in the Bible act as leaders in the Sunday school class and also invites new willing people to join their classes.²⁸

²⁸Interview with Rev. Ntiamoah.

The Sunday school is a class that takes place on every Sunday with the vision of bringing people together to share the Word of God as one family. The nature of the Sunday school is structured to meet the needs of all age levels. The structure consists of the adults, youth and children. This is purposed to teach all manner of people at their level of understanding or preferably stage in Life. The different classes are mostly led by the youth who have been trained as a leader for that course, and often meet for preparatory classes on Saturdays.

3.4.2 Departmental Group Meetings

The membership of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God comprises of adults, youth and children. There are groups in the church which give opportunity to various people in the church to exhibit their God given talents and gifts and also have more knowledge about their talents and gifts. These groups include missions' team, evangelism team, worship team, fellow- up team. According to Mr. Adu Gyamfi Boadi, the youth has been very instrumental in these groups. Aside these groups, there are major departmental groups which are recognized in all the churches of Assemblies of God church worldwide. They include Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, Youth's Ministry and Children's Ministry. The objective of these departments is for instruction in the Word of God and fellowship amongst themselves. The Women's Ministry meets on Thursday at 6:30, the Men's Ministry meets on Tuesday at 6:30pm and the Youth Ministry meets on Mondays at 6:30. As far as the youth are concerned, they are able to invite their friends and others to various church meetings which many a time keep some in the church.²⁹

²⁹Interview with Mr. Adu Gyamfi Boadi.

3.4.3 The Church Programmes for the Youth

Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God has a program for the Youth Ministry which guides and leads them into all truth and reality of the world and in the Word of God. There are divers' activities that take place on the day they meet. Some of the activities are talk on teenage pregnancy, premarital sex, personal hygiene, Abortion, morals, video shows, bible quiz, social living, drug abuse, entrepreneur skills, managing finances among others. There is also teaching about spiritual growth in the Lord and maturing in the Word of God. The Youth Ministry leader who happen to be a youth teaches about prayer, how to win soul, having a heart for souls, love, stewardship, how to obey their parents, teaching or learning Gospel songs, how to talk whiles in public, how to dress as a Christian, these are the unique programmes the Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God has designed for the youth.³⁰

3.4.4 The Youth and Mission

The first meeting of the Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God was a remarkable one since the room to which they worshipped was full and the zeal for God was also paramount. The membership was approximately 90 in number. Most of the members were youth because Oforikrom Community has been known to be predominantly young people as compare to Adults. The young people in the church have had a heart for missionary work, which through them members were added unto the church and also four other branches of the Assemblies of God church were established. Places where churches were established through the missionary work of the youth of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God include Ashanti Akim Bonfa, Atia community, Buobai and Ayigya. The youth were instrumental agents for

³⁰ Interview with Ofori Teiko, Youth Ministry President, 26th March, 2019.

missions work and their presence was beneficial for the growth of the church at large.³¹

3.4.5 The Youth and Evangelism

Evangelism is one of the relevant facets of missionary work which aids in church growth.³² Evangelism work in the 21st Century is many at times done by young people since they have more strength, energy and the capacity to go out there and share the gospel to others. In December 1979, the Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God began evangelism right from the establishment of the church. The youth were actively involved in the evangelism work. They went from house to house sharing the word of God. Currently, through many mediums the youth are able to use their technical knowhow to evangelize to people in and outside the church, which enables church growth. The zeal to which they communicate the gospel is an outstanding way to win their fellow friends to join the church, yet, due to the nature of some of their various works, they can't fully put themselves to do more for the church, which is a big challenge to the youth.

3.4.5.1 Youth and Music

Music is one of the major medium in the art of worship in the church. In most contemporary churches, the way through which music is being communicated to people is by singing together with different kinds of instrumentals. The kind of music you give out to people in your church will either attract people to the church or send them away from the church. The youth of today many a times are attracted by the kind of music given to them in the church. The youth of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God in the early stages of the church used music as a medium of

³¹ Interview with Mr. Adu Gyamfi Boadi.

³² Edward R. Dayton & David A. Fraser, *Planning Strategies for World Evangelism* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishers, 1990), 46.

attraction, for people to know about the church and it is also a way of evangelizing to them. Their contribution in music has helped to attract others to the church.

3.4.5.2 The Youth and the Media

The message of Christ is to be communicated to all manner of people across the world. Since we are in the era of advanced technology, it is very easy to reach thousands of people through different ways. One of the ways amongst others is the media. The media is a channel through which information can be communicated to thousands of people within minutes, just by a click of a button, whether relevant or irrelevant. The media is a vision or audio medium which sends information to the society and also from the society. The Church has achieved many of its goals such as the communication of the gospel through the media. Nevertheless, the youth are seen as those who are very enthusiastic to these media than the adults. There are many media platforms for which the youth shares information across countries. The social media is one of the platforms which shares information across the world to individuals or group of people. Some of these social media platforms are Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp and others. These platforms are used effectively by most youth to share information to people.

However, the church's involvement in media has been beneficial; it has brought about advancement in the technical output in the Church. In Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God, there are Media teams who display various activities in an ongoing service of the church on a projector. These are mostly handled by the youth, in dealings with media, and its efforts to influence society since it is Christ centered.

3.5 Conclusion

The chapter considered and presented the findings that were ascertained from Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God with regards to the role of the Youth

Ministry towards the growth of the church. The issues include the evangelistic activities of the Youth Ministry in Sunday School, Departmental Group Meetings, Church Programs, Missions, Evangelism, Music and Media.

CHAPTER FOUR

INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS

4.1 Introduction

The previous Chapter presented the role of Youth Ministry in evangelistic activities towards the growth of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God. This chapter will analyze the role of Youth Ministry at Standard Life Christian Center Assemblies of God in terms of growth. This include the contributions of Youth Ministry towards church growth, both numerical and spiritual growth, impact on the Oforikrom community, strategies adopted by the Youth Ministry and challenges of the Youth Ministry towards church growth.

4.2 The Contributions of the Youth Ministry towards Church Growth

Church growth is a movement within evangelical Christianity which focuses on developing methods to grow churches based on the business strategies.³³ Members of the Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God who responded to the interview have this to say with regards to the contributions of the Youth Ministry towards church growth. Some interviewees were of the view that in the 21st century, the youth play a significant role in the church, especially in terms of church growth. They continue to elaborate that, every organization wishing to secure its future existence and success must invest in the youth because they are the tomorrow leaders and the future of the church. Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God over the past decades has discovered the essence of allowing the most of the youth in the church to exhibit their potentials towards the well being of the church and as a result the church is now reaping enormous benefits from the youth in the Church.

³³Research club, *youth lifestyle and church growth*, last modified January 5, 2019, accessed May 14, 2019, <https://naira project/1998.html>.

According to Ofori Teiko, when he was taking up leadership in the Youth Ministry, the Head Pastor of the church, Rev. Phillip Arthur said “with passion, determination, obedience, hard work and with the grace of God, the Youth Ministry by their role in the church can help win the Oforikrom community for Christ.³⁴ Ofori Teiko said per the advice from the Head Pastor, He was motivated to lead the Youth Ministry to do more for Christ. The contributions of the Youth Ministry have helped the church in terms of growth. These can be categorized into two thus, numerical growth and spiritual growth.

4.2.1 Numerical Growth

According to Rev. Dr. David Okai, church growth is not only to be viewed in numerical growth of church members but also the numerical growth in church planting.³⁵ Numerical growth must therefore be viewed in the increase in church membership and planting of churches through evangelism and invitation of the convert to be part of the body of Christ. The Associate Pastor of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God in an interview responded that the active role of the Youth Ministry in the Church has caused an increase in the membership from 80 to 237 within 39 years intervals. Among these membership, 58 are children, 74 youth and 105 are adults and still counting. Seventy percent (70%) was evangelized and invited by the youth through the outreach programs and strategies invented by the Youth Ministry.³⁶

Based on the report from the field presented in 3.4.4, by the youth involving themselves in missionary activities, churches were established through the missionary work of the Youth Ministry of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God

³⁴Interview with Ofori Teiko, Youth Ministry President, 26th March, 2019.

³⁵ Interview with Rev. Dr. David Okai, 23rd April, 2019.

³⁶ Interview with Rev. Ntiamaoh Boadi, Associate Pastor, 26th March, 2019.

which included churches established at Ashanti Akim Bonfa, Atia community, Buobai and Ayigya. The youth remained as instrumental agents for missionary work and their presence was beneficial for the growth of the church at large.

4.2.2 Spiritual Growth

In addition to the above, the interviewer posed a question to some of the members of the Youth Ministry concerning their understanding of spiritual growth, 7 out of 15 gave out a meaningful answer to the question. Those who gave a meaningful answer to the question were of the view that spiritual growth is when one is nurtured to conform into the likeness of Christ thus mentally, physically, emotionally and in character. Most of the church members were not attending most church activities, by the movement of the Youth Ministry whose zeal is in constant state there has been a new revival, that is the new zeal to come for bible studies, reading of their bible at homes, attending cooperate and intercession prayer, evangelizing and among others, which is a sign of spiritual maturity. Some of the youth both male and female who were engaged in all kinds of deviant behaviors have had change in their minds and improvement in their walk with God.

In an interview with Kingsley Amoako, he confessed that he stop smoking because he came to realize that God is not in agreement with that life style.³⁷

4.3 The Role of the Youth Ministry in the Oforikrom Community

The role of the Youth Ministry at Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God contribution to the church's growth has not only affected the church but it has also affected the community at large.

Mr. Alfred Bio who happens to live in the Oforikrom community asserted that though he is not a member of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God but use to

³⁷ Interview with Kingsley Amoako, 26th March, 2019.

complain against some five guys who were suspected to be stealing in the area and always causing commotion. He said since these guys started church, stealing, robbery fighting and all spirit of chaos known to them has reduced in the Oforikrom community.³⁸

According to Anthony Ofori Darkwa, since the church and the Youth Ministry started vigorous evangelism and crusade, the community is enjoying peace from murder, alcoholism, smoking, gambling and many others which use to disrupt the peace and the progress of the community has been dealt with and greater part will be attributed to the church.³⁹ One must understand that the growth of any church must subsequently affect positively, the community it found itself in and truly the Standard Life Christian Center has had this impact on Oforikrom Community.

4.4 Strategies Adopted by the Youth towards Church Growth

In an interview with some interviewees, they said the Youth Ministry embarks on practical ways and uses some strategies adopted by the Youth Ministry themselves to promote the growth of the church. They mentioned the strategies they use as follows;

4.4.1 Youth Ministry in Evangelism

According to Hagar Yeboah, the youth engages themselves in vigorous evangelism that is so appealing by moving from house to house with the Gospel of Christ. They go out nicely dressed in their Youth Ministry evangelism T-shirt, which mostly draws the attention of people to listen to them. She further said they have Christian tracts which contain messages with regards to salvation, encouragement, hope and eternal life in Christ, through this approach some people have been won to the church.⁴⁰

³⁸Interview Mr. Alfred Bio, 6th April, 2019.

³⁹Interview Anthony Ofori Darkwa, *Oforikrom Royal Palace*, 6th April, 2019.

⁴⁰ Interview with Hagar Yeboah, *Youth Ministry Secretary*, 26th March, 2019

4.4.2 Youth Ministry in Missions

Jacob Aduko the Vice-President for the Youth Ministry, also asserted that, as part of the Youth Ministry's mission and evangelism work, they have adopted sports as one of the major ways they can also reach the youth. The Youth Ministry organizes football match and invite other young people to join them. During that period of socialization, food, water, drinks and many others are shared, after which they also share the word of God with them. This method in one way or the other attracts people to watch the football match, which has been noticed to be one of the well-groomed ways young people are won to the church.⁴¹ Some interviewees were of the view that even though the effort of the Youth Ministry in missions is promoting church growth, there is a need for the church to support them with enough finances to yield more results for more adequate outcome.

4.4.3 Youth Ministry and Social Media

The social media has been known to be growing rapidly in its patronage. 10 out of 15 who were interviewed in their response asserted that because of the usefulness of the social media in our contemporary world, Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God is also taking advantage to use it to grow the church. As part of weekly activities of the church, messages are been given to the youth through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Whatsapp, which the youth also share with friends and loved ones and as a result of that, these activities invite most of them to church services during the week, this is also bringing people to the church. Some interviewees suggested that even though the social media is helping the youth in the sharing of the Gospel, they should be wise in using it for positive impact because the social media also has a negative impact.

⁴¹ Interview with Jacob Aduko, Youth Ministry Vice-President, 26th March, 2019.

4.4.4 Youth Ministry in Music

Hagar Yeboah again stated that the Youth Ministry organizes both indoor and outdoor music programs that inspires and entertains outsiders which also draw others to join the church choir. She said these programs are done once every year.⁴² Some interviewees attested to the fact that the way and manner the Youth Ministry strategizes their music ministry draws people to come and worship with the church. They were of the view that the church must be in position to buy prolific musical instruments to improve their music ministry.

4.4.5 Sunday School

The purpose of the Sunday school as stated in chapter 3.4.1 is to help both old and new members of the church to understand the word of God by asking questions and receiving answers to the questions being asked. Some of the youth have taken it upon themselves to be part of the teachers of the various Sunday school class. Some interviewees complemented about the good work of the youth who happen to lead the Sunday school class. They also asserted that, many who were not involved actively in the Sunday school class are now participating by coming to church early to study the Word of God.

4.5 Challenges of Youth Ministry in the Church

The researcher asked questions with regards to the challenges the Youth Ministry faces. 15 out of 15 interviewees gave their own opinions as they said that indeed Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God has seen enormous improvement concerning the growth of the church through the Youth Ministry. Nevertheless, there are grievances put forth by various members of the church members which is a challenge to the church. For example, the music coordinator many a times complains

⁴²Interview with Hagar Yeboah.

that, there are some faults in the musical instruments that need maintenance. Upon reporting, it seems the church has not heard it and as a result they can't play music as they are supposed to.

The interviewees further said that the leaders of the Youth Ministry are not well equipped in the bible and in other leadership qualities, therefore, sometimes their behavior towards new converts restrains some not to join the church, One interviewee said a lady complained that, though at her age, she should have been in the Youth Ministry, the treatment she received from some of the leaders of the Youth Ministry has prevented her from joining the Youth Ministry.

Rev. Philip Arthur the Head Pastor in an interview said that school and work is a challenge in the Youth Ministry, he viewed that, most of the youth are workers and students, when school reopens most of them leave to school which is far from home and church.⁴³ Currently the President of the Youth Ministry is not attending church because he is schooling at a far town therefore he cannot make it to church, which one way or the other, threatens the progress of the youth. Some interviewees were of the view that, concerning work, those working mostly come to church really late especially during evening programs because they close very late from work.

Some interviewees also said, by observation, most of the youth are not allowed to fully exhibit their gifts even though few of them are given the opportunity to perform some activities in the church. It would be good for the church to take care of these challenges so that the youth can enjoy smooth success in growth.

⁴³ Interview with Rev. Phillip Arthur, Head Pastor, 26th March, 2019.

4.6 Conclusion

The study analyzed data on the role of Youth Ministry in Church Growth at Standard life Christian Center Assembly of God. Interview was granted to (15) respondents which consisted of (2) pastors, (2) youth leaders, (11) members who evaluated and summarized the role of the Youth Ministry in the Growth of Standard life Christian Center Assembly of God. The analysis is concluded on the note that, the youth is the future of the church and therefore their contributions in the church are really needed in aid of the growth of the Church.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary of the Study

The study set out to examine the role of Youth Ministry in the church growth at Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God. The study was demarcated into five chapters. The introductory chapter addressed the background and general overview of the study, the problem statement, the research questions, aims and objectives, scope and focus of the study, research methodology, and literatures were reviewed, the significance of study, as well as organization of the study.

Next to that, some of the background issues relating to the study were examined. The issues addressed pertaining to the background included the history of Oforikrom community, brief history of the Assemblies of God worldwide, brief history of the Assemblies of God, Ghana and the purpose of the youth. In addition, the work presented a brief history of youth in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God. It addressed issues such as the structure of the youth ministry, and the role of the youth ministry in the growth of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God.

Finally, the study involved an analysis and discussion on the findings from phenomenological approach. It addressed issues such as the role of the Youth Ministry at Standard Life Christian Center Assemblies of God in terms of growth. This include the contributions of Youth Ministry towards church growth, both numerical and spiritual growth, impact on the Oforikrom community, strategies adopted by the Youth Ministry towards church growth and challenges of the Youth Ministry towards church growth.

5.2 Conclusion

The study examined the role of the Youth Ministry in the church growth at Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God. It examined how the role of the Youth Ministry over the years has impacted the church and the community. It was ascertained that, most of the activities in the church for which some of the youth happen to play a role in it have made advancement towards the Ministry of the Kingdom of God and the growth of the church. Since the youth many a time is considered to be the future of the church it was reviewed by some respondents that their involvement in most church activities propels and contributes a great results of success in the church, therefore the youth must be given the opportunity to exhibit their talents and gift in order to advance the Kingdom's mandate and the growth of the church. It was indentified that it is important for churches to periodically evaluate and assess the contribution of the youth and improve their efficiency and effectiveness. The role of Youth Ministry in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God has brought about positive impact in the numerical and spiritual growth of the church.

5.3 Recommendations

Considering some of the challenges that the Youth Ministry is encountering at Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God as stated in the previous chapters, the researcher suggests that if the following will be taken into consideration, the youth and the church will see a new phase of progress in its growth, both spiritually and physically.

1. The success of every organization is incumbent on the leaders of the organization. The church should therefore set out leadership training for all departmental heads or leaders especially the youth leaders which will enable

them to know how to lead the Youth Ministry more productively in the advancement of the Kingdom of God and towards church growth.

2. One of the effective aspects of every church service is based on the music ministry in the church. The order of the service will be distracted when there is a poor sound emanating from the music instruments and the singers. The church in this wise must give much attention to the setting forth of good music instruments and the training of the singers to produce quality music.
3. The Leaders of the church must support the Youth Ministry financially during outreach programs and constantly visiting them which will serve as a source of motivation to the youth of the church.

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Hagar Yeboah, Youth Ministry Secretary, 26th March, 2019.

Jacob Aduko, Youth Ministry Vice-President, 26th March, 2019

Kingsley Amoako, 26th March, 2019.

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Mr. Alfred Bio, 6th April, 2019.

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Ofori Teiko, Youth Ministry President, 26th March, 2019.

Rev. Dr. David Okai, 23rd April, 2019.

Rev. Phillip Arthur, Head Pastor, 26th March, 2019

Rev. Ntiamoah Boadi, Associate Pastor, 26th March, 2019.

Yaa Dufie, Royal Palace, Oforikrom, 26th February, 2019.

APPENDIX I

INTERVIEW GUIDE

1. How long have you been a member of this church?
2. What impact has been made with regards to the role of the Youth Ministry in the activities of the church?
3. What is your understanding of church growth?
4. How will you assess the role of Youth Ministry in the growth of the church
5. How do you assess the Youth Ministry's leaders and their work?
6. How can the Youth Ministry of Standard Life Christian Center Assembly of God help to make church grow?
7. What are some of the challenges that underpin the effectiveness of the Youth Ministry in Standard Life Christian Center Assembly Of God?
8. What do you suggest the Youth Ministry should do to help build the church both spiritually and physically?