



**YOUTH AND CHILD POLICY /GUIDE
OF THE NEW APOSTOLIC CHURCH
ZAMBIA DISTRICT**

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**YOUTH AND CHILD POLICY
FOR NEW APOSTOLIC CHURCH - ZAMBIA DISTRICT**

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FOREWORD

Dear Youths, dear Children,

We have had no written Youth and Child Guide in our district; and yet activities and programmes were carried out well with the guidance of your apostles and the other church leaders.

The need for a written Guide has arisen as a result of the desires, ambitions and challenges of the young people which are ever increasing; and the work of God has also continued to grow. The time in which we are living is also not static but always changing and sometimes very fast.

The participation of the youth and children in all church activities is essential to the work and very much appreciated! You have the opportunity to contribute in many ways to the work because you are stakeholders. You can make a positive change and development in your lives, your congregations and the community at large. It is my desire to avail you with an environment where you may exploit to your benefit and the benefit of the church, the resources in yourselves, your faith, your church and your environment. I need you, your church needs you, and your community needs you!

Your conduct as a Child of God must be evident through your deeds and words because you have the Holy Spirit which you should allow to affect your thoughts, your words and your actions.

This Guide / Policy will help to bring about consistency in the implementation, management and coordination of the young people's activities and programmes in our district.

I wish you much joy and blessings here on earth as you prepare for eternal life.

Charles S. Ndandula
District Apostle

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to thank individuals and groups that participated in various activities that comprised the development process of this policy.

Special tribute goes to District Elder Malinda Malinda for facilitating the development of this Policy.

Debra Kangende Kadango

Head – Public Relations and Income generation



(Photo of participants of policy development workshops)

DEFINITION OF TERMS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is the final phase of HIV infection and is a condition characterised by a combination of signs and symptoms caused by HIV which attacks and weakens the body's immune system making the affected person susceptible to other life threatening diseases
Apostle area	An apostle area is made up of congregations under the care of an Apostle
Anti-Retroviral drugs	A class of medicines that inhibit retroviruses like HIV
Child	A young person from 0 to 14 years (National Child Policy [Zambia]); below the age of 18 years (Education Act [Zambia]); below the age of 21 years (Marriage Act [Zambia]); under the age of 14 years (Employment Act [Zambia]); below 16 years (Juvenile Act [Zambia]).
District area	Apostle A District Apostle area is made up of apostle areas; and may comprise various countries. New Apostolic Church Zambia District consists of Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe.
Gender	All attributes associated with women and men, boys and girls, which are socially and culturally ascribed and which vary from one society to another and over time.
Minister	A person ordained by an Apostle of the New Apostolic Church to preach and perform other duties in the Church and on behalf of the Church.
Youth	A young person aged from 15 to 35 years.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The New Apostolic Church Zambia District is recognized as a legal entity in the countries it is active. It however operates under the New Apostolic Church International, whose headquarters is in Zurich, Switzerland.

The vision of the New Apostolic Church aims at offering people the opportunity to prepare themselves for the return of Jesus Christ and eternal life. The Church reaches out to all people in order to baptize them with water and the Holy Spirit and teach them the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It also provides soul care and cultivates a warm fellowship among members, visitors and guests. This way, everyone in the Church experiences the love of God, and hence is motivated to serve God and fellow human beings.

The divine service is at the centre of all activities in the New Apostolic Church. In addition to the regular divine services, there are special services, including those for the youths and children. The divine services for youths and children form the core of care for the young people of the Church. Care for the young people, however goes beyond divine services. This is so because the needs of youths and children are many, and are ever growing.

Although the role of the Church is mainly spiritual, it does also play various added valued roles to those of key stakeholders in the education and care of young people.

Programmes and activities in the District are under the guidance of area apostles. The apostle areas are supported by the District Apostle in terms of guidelines, materials and capacity building. As expected there is variance in the way care is provided to the young people across the District. It has therefore become necessary to develop a policy which will, hopefully, bring about consistency in the design, implementation, management and coordination of activities and programmes for the young people in the District. The policy/guide therefore should be viewed as a framework supporting local initiative, not replacing apostle area efforts.

The Youth and Child Policy/Guide of New Apostolic Church Zambia District has been developed in conformity with international and national laws and guidelines on youth and child development and protection; and guidelines from New Apostolic Church International.

1.1 Aim

This Policy aims at meeting spiritual needs of the young people in the District, and at providing support for their development and growth; by providing guidance to ministers, and key stakeholders for youth and child care in the Church. The policy/Guide will provide direction on the management and coordination of youth and children's groups, as well as their programmes and activities.

1.2 Goal

The goal of this policy is to provide soul care to the young people in order to promote healthy spiritual growth and warm fellowship.

1.3 Purpose

The purpose of the Youth and Child Policy for New Apostolic Church Zambia District (Zambia Malawi Zimbabwe) is to ensure consistence in youth and children's movement across all apostle areas, and to create a conducive environment for youth and children's activities within the norms and values of the New Apostolic Church.

The policy/ Guide shall be applicable to all **youths and children in all apostle areas in Zambia District**. Categorisation of the young people shall be activity-based; as follows:

- Children's divine services shall be open to all the young people aged below fifteen (15) years. Parents and guardians will be encouraged to bring babies and accompany the children to these services.
- Baby classes and other activities will be for young people aged below seven (7) years only. Members in the education sector will be encouraged to establish special Baby Care facilities for New Apostolic young people.
- Children's classes and other activities will be for young people aged below fifteen (15) years .
- Youth divine services shall be open to all the young people aged from fifteen (15) to thirty-five (35) years.
- Within the age range of fifteen (15) to thirty-five (35) years, there will be youth fellowship activities, ranging from spiritual; educational; recreation to empowerment, targeted at groups as follows:
 - Youths at school and educational institutions;
 - Youths out of school, including the unemployed and the vulnerable;
 - Youths in rural settings
 - Youths in employment, including those in self-employment;
 - Youths with families, including single parents and teenage mothers;
 - Youths with special needs.

1.4 Policy Statement

New Apostolic Church Zambia District is fully aware of the challenges the young people in the District are facing, and the need to help them remain firm in faith. As a result, New Apostolic Church Zambia District is committed to promoting a spiritually healthy youth movement through effective soul care and fellowship programmes.

In addition, New Apostolic Church Zambia District will support initiatives that promote collaboration and networking among young people in the District and with their peers in other district apostle areas.

1.5 OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

1.5.1 General Objective

To create spiritually active youth movements, provide soul care to all young people, and support ministers and leaders working with the young people.

1.5.2 Specific Objectives

- i) To provide operational definitions of 'youth' and 'child' in the context of Church activities.
- ii) To create an environment that encourages youths of different social, economic, and cultural backgrounds to participate actively in Church youth activities.
- iii) To facilitate networking and develop leadership among youth groups in the Church.
- iv) To promote and uphold rights of the young people in the Church.
- v) To promote and facilitate recreational and educational activities that lead to healthy and productive lifestyles.
- vi) To empower young people with the knowledge of the New Apostolic doctrine.
- vii) To facilitate warm fellowship among the young people of the Church.
- viii) To manage, monitor and evaluate effective implementation of programmes of the young people for the benefit of the Church.

2.0 PRINCIPLES

In conformity with international and national legal requirements, and guidelines from New Apostolic Church International, the following shall constitute the Youth and Child Policy /Guide for New Apostolic Church Zambia District:

2.1 Knowledge of Church Doctrine

Young people are easily carried away by various ideas, opinions and lifestyle. Sound knowledge of our doctrine will strengthen them against both intellectual and social influences, [*Keep sound wisdom and discretion; So they will be life to your soul and grace to your neck. Then you will walk safely in your way, and your foot will not stumble. (Proverbs 3: 21-23)*].

- The District Apostle shall facilitate provision of up-to-date information on the New Apostolic Church, biblical knowledge, and spiritual education to all young people.
- The Apostle shall provide guidelines on development and implementation of information dissemination and education programmes of the young people.
- Ministers shall facilitate dissemination of information and provision of education to the young people.

2.2 Young people in the 'Vineyard'

The work of God must be passed on from one generation to another. This can happen when both the young and the old are activity in testifying. The young people are the majority in our society; therefore if they are reached with the right message about God's salvation in our time, the continuity of our Church is assured. The best people to reach the young people are their peers in our Church. In order to be effective in the 'vineyard', i.e., testifying our young people need, among others, to be strong in faith and full of divine wisdom and knowledge [*But the LORD said to me: "Do not say, 'I am a youth,' For you shall go to all whom I send you, And whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of their faces, For I am with you to deliver you," says the LORD. Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth..." (Jeremiah 1: 7-9)*].

- The District Apostle shall facilitate the provision of literature to inform, educate and increase the knowledge and skills of the youths regarding God's work of salvation and the activity of the Holy Spirit in our time.
- The Apostle shall provide guidelines on vineyard activities. Ministers shall support the youths in their vineyard activities.

2.3 Youth and Children's Fellowship

Peer pressure, the media, technology and advancement in education and social status have a potential of creating individualism and unacceptable behaviors in the youths. Meaningful interaction driven by Christian values and New Apostolic love creates oneness and warm fellowship, which leads to a sense of belonging for everyone [*And they [believers] continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers ... Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favour with all the people (Acts 2: 42-47)*]

- The District Apostle shall promote a culture of youth and children's fellowship that enhance oneness, dignity and acceptance.
- The Apostle shall provide guidelines on the development of youth and children's fellowship programmes.
- Ministers shall facilitate the implementation of youth and children's fellowship programmes and activities.

2.4 Youth & social Development

The process of growing up and development brings about a lot of pressure on the young people leading to behavior problems. The young people therefore need spiritual guidance, psychosocial support and skills training within a supportive and conducive environment, such as the Church. [*And the Child [Jesus] grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him... Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers (Luke 2: 40, 46-47)*]

- The District Apostle shall support development of structures and skills training that promote development of the young people.
- The Apostle shall provide guidelines for the development of social structures for programmes and activities of the young people.
- Ministers shall facilitate the development of relevant social structures for programmes and activities of the young people.

2.5 Reproductive and Health Education

Young people are most of the time experimenting, including with the reproductive functions of their bodies. This may lead to risky behaviours, immoral practices, and unproductive lifestyles. Reproductive and Health education, provided together with spiritual guidance, will help the young people avoid risky behaviours and adopt Christian lifestyles. [*Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.... Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's (1 Corinthians 6: 13-20)*]

- The District Apostle shall facilitate provision of information and education on sexuality, reproductive health, family life, and healthy lifestyles.
- The Apostle shall provide guidelines on development and implementation of sexuality, reproductive and health education programmes within Church ethics.
- Ministers shall facilitate implementation of age appropriate and relevant sexuality, reproductive and health education programmes.

2.6 Recreation and fellowship

Young people are full of energy, and need physical and other activities that will improve their health, and make them strong. Sporting and other activities can be useful in occupying the young people when they are out-of-school or not in employment. However, it is important to use sporting activities and other wellness events for mobilizing the young people for spiritual fellowship. [*“Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success (Joshua1: 7-8). ...exercise yourself toward godliness. For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come (1 Timothy 4: 7-8)].*

- The District Apostle shall support recreation and fellowship programmes.
- The Apostle shall provide guidelines on development and implementation of recreational and fellowship programmes.
- Ministers shall facilitate development and implementation of recreation and fellowship programmes.

2.7 Youths in the Ministry and Brothers Fellowship

Youths in the Ministry lack experience and yet are expected to fulfill the requirements of their Ministry just the same as their adult counterparts. The young brothers carrying ministries therefore need support, orientation and mentoring. [*These things command and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. ...give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate of these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you (1 Timothy 4: 11-16)]*

- The District Apostle shall support capacity building for young ministers and brothers.
- The Apostle shall facilitate development and implementation of capacity building programmes for young ministers and brothers.
- Ministers shall mentor young ministers into all responsibilities and expectations of their ministries and facilitate brothers' fellowship.

2.8 Youth Sisters' Fellowship

Women face many challenges due to social, biological and other factors. Young female believers too experience the challenges, including those to do with living a faithful and dignified life in the face of poverty, unemployment and weakened social support. Spiritual fellowship with one another, and among groups of peers, where the young female members experience divine guidance, will enable them contribute effectively to the Church and the community at large. [*Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary that the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit... And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her house (Luke 1: 39-41)*]

- The District Apostle shall support programmes for young female members.
- The Apostle/ ministers shall facilitate development and implementation of programmes for young female members.

2.9 Youth Partnership

Partnerships enhance effectiveness in the implementation of programmes for the young people because the young people are able to share resources, skills and network across regions. [*We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification.... Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 15: 1-2, 5-6)*]

- The District Apostle shall promote international, regional and inter-district programmes, and introduce systems and structures for linkages with relevant organizations for, and working with, youths.
- The Apostle shall provide guidelines on networking and inter-district programmes.
- Ministers shall facilitate networking among youth groups.

2.10 Capacity building for Policy Implementation

The implementation of programmes for the young people will occur at various levels and involve many stakeholders. For the sake of uniformity, effectiveness and credibility capacity building is necessary. [*You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also (2 Timothy 2; 1-2)*]

- The District Apostle shall introduce systems and measures to build capacity for management and implementation of youth programmes.

- The Apostle shall support capacity building programmes for implementers of youth programmes.
- Ministers shall facilitate capacity building of implementers of youth programmes.

3.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

New Apostolic Church Zambia shall manage and implement youth and children's programmes and activities through the Public Relations Department, Apostles, Rectors, Coordinators, Teachers, Youth and Child Leaders and Committees. The roles will be as follows:

- 3.1 The District Apostle will:
 - 3.1.1 Provide guidelines on youth and child care;
 - 3.1.2 Authorize International programmes, activities, and contacts;
 - 3.1.3 Approve literature and other information materials, as well, as provide guidance on financial matters regarding activities of the young people.

- 3.2 The Public Relations Department will:
 - 3.2.1 Facilitate international programmes and activities;
 - 3.2.2 Network youth and child groups across countries;
 - 3.2.3 Facilitate production and distribution of literature and materials, as well as, capacity building of youth and child care givers in the District.

- 3.3 The National Committees, appointed by the District Apostle – with terms of reference and tenure of office, and chaired by Apostles in the respective countries, will:
 - 3.3.1 Advice on policy issues regarding programmes of the young people;
 - 3.3.2 Coordinate national programmes;
 - 3.3.3 Mobilise resources for national programmes and projects;
 - 3.3.4 Harmonise capacity building programmes across apostle areas.

- 3.4 The Apostle will:
 - 3.4.1 Provide implementation guidelines to elder districts and congregations;
 - 3.4.2 Provide framework mobilisation and utilisation of resources;
 - 3.4.3 Approve capacity building programmes for ministers, coordinators and youth and child leaders.
 - 3.4.4 Approve inter-elder district programmes, projects and activities; including travel of youth and child groups across elder districts.
 - 3.4.5 Apostle Area Planning and Coordination Committee, appointed by the Apostle - with terms of reference and tenure of office, chaired by the Bishop or District Elder, consisting of ministers and brothers and sisters with expertise in planning, youth work and child care, will;
 - 3.4.5.1 Plan and review annual activities for the Area;
 - 3.4.5.2 Coordinate inter-elder district events, programmes and activities;
 - 3.4.5.3 Develop monitoring and evaluation instruments and formats of annual reports;
 - 3.4.5.4 Mobilise resources for inter-elder district events, programmes, projects and activities.

- 3.5 District Elder will:
 - 3.5.1 Facilitate implementation of district programmes, projects and activities for the young people;

- 3.5.2 Facilitate the mobilization of resources;
- 3.5.3 Facilitate capacity building of coordinators, teachers, and youth and child peer leaders;
- 3.5.4 Network programmes and groups with fellow district elders.

- 3.6 Elder District Training and Advisory Committee, appointed by the Elder - with terms of reference and tenure of office, and chaired by a District Evangelist, consisting of ministers, and brothers and sisters with expertise in training and education of the young people, will:
 - 3.6.1 Plan and conduct training for coordinators, teachers and peer leaders;
 - 3.6.2 Advise rectors on matters related to programmes and activities of the young people;
 - 3.6.3 Support coordinators in implementing elder district programmes, projects and activities;
 - 3.6.4 Plan and support implementation of income generating projects and activities.

- 3.7 The Rector [Shepherd] will:
 - 3.7.1 Facilitate implementation of congregation programmes, projects and activities;
 - 3.7.2 Mobilize resources for programmes, projects and activities of the young people;
 - 3.7.3 Approve congregation programmes, projects and activities of the young people;
 - 3.7.4 Facilitate capacity building of young ministers – mentoring, seminars, workshops, drills.
 - 3.7.5 Network with fellow rectors.

- 3.8 Congregation Coordination Committee, appointed by the Rector, chaired by the Community Evangelist, consisting of all the Coordinators, Teachers, and Youth and Child Peer Leaders, will:
 - 3.8.1 Plan and integrate programmes, projects, and activities of young people into congregational mainstream activities;
 - 3.8.2 Implement programmes, projects and activities of the young people;
 - 3.8.3 Generate reports;
 - 3.8.4 Mobilise and utilise resources.

- 3.9 Coordinators, mature brothers and sisters appointed by Rector - with terms of reference and tenure of office, and appropriately trained by the Church, will:
 - 3.9.1 Plan and coordinate youth and child fellowship activities in the congregation;
 - 3.9.2 Support the teachers and peer leaders;
 - 3.9.3 Network youth and child groups with other groups, ministers and parents in the congregation.

- 3.10 Teachers, mature brothers and sisters appointed by Rector - with terms of reference and tenure of office, and appropriately trained by the Church, will:
 - 3.10.1 Plan lessons, prepare materials and teach classes of young people allocated to them;
 - 3.10.2 Plan and organise fellowship activities of the young people under their charge;
 - 3.10.3 Network young people with ministers and parents in the congregation.

- 3.11 Youth and Child Peer Leaders, young brothers and sisters appointed by Rector - with terms of reference and tenure of office, and trained by the Church, will:
- 3.11.1 Facilitate peer fellowship activities in the congregation.

4.0 STRATEGIES FOR POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 *Ministers:* The implementation of the youth policy will largely depend on the knowledge, attitudes, and participation of ministers. If the knowledge of Church doctrine varies from one minister to another, the youths will lose confidence in them, and find it difficult to meet the major goals of this policy. Among the strategies beneficial to the implementation of this policy, is capacity building of ministers, including making them aware of the expectations of the youth as regards their knowledge of Church doctrine and related matters.

4.2 *Attitude toward the young people:* Responsible positions, decision making positions, are held mostly by elderly people. The majority of the adults have negative attitudes to the young people, especially to young females. Strategies will need to be put in place to promote acceptance of leadership of the young people, including young females. When well instructed and supported, young leaders can be very effective and productive!

4.3 *Inter-denomination fellowship:* The young people will find themselves in institutions of learning and workplaces where they are invited to interact with young people from other denominations. It may be difficult to prevent such interactions. It is therefore important for ministers and coordinators to discuss with the young people what we have in common with other groups, and the differences. Furthermore, the young people need to know how to react in such situations. The invitations from other denominations that come to the congregations asking for our young people to participate in inter-denominations activities will be dealt with accordingly by the ministers. Before the ministers can send our young people to such activities, they need to assess the motives of the organizers, as well as the benefits to our young people and our Church. There are some of our young people who live with parents or guardians who are members of our Church. They need support from the ministers to make them realise that we can still respect people, and their right to believe elsewhere, although we do not agree with them. They also need to be helped to be assertive as far as their faith is concerned; they should still continue to be strong and proud young New Apostolic Church members.

4.4 *Financing:* Funding of all church activities come from voluntary contributions of our members. Fundraising activities involving non-members of the Church should be avoided. However, youth groups can earn money from business ventures or projects where they are providing services. Ministers should ensure that businesses and projects are not dealing with illegal commodities, promoting immoral behavior, or putting the name of the Church in disrepute. All funds raised in the name of the Church should be used for church activities for the young people, and accounted for. Abuse of resources by the young people should be checked by the ministers. Likewise, the young people should complain to the Apostle against ministers who misuse funds meant for activities of the young people.

5.0 YOUTH PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

- 5.1 International, Regional and National Programmes and Activities
 - 5.1.1 Through information exchange across, and within, countries, the youths will widen their understanding and appreciation of Bible characters, themes and stories. The activities will include these:
 - 5.1.1.1 Research on biblical issues
 - 5.1.1.2 Exchange of artistic work on Bible themes
 - 5.1.1.3 Teleconferences on Bible issues, themes, stories
 - 5.1.1.4 Exchange information on divine services for youths
 - 5.1.2 Inter-national and national activities on the knowledge of Church doctrine will help the youths appreciate Christian teachings and values; become active and knowledgeable young New Apostolics who can live in any country and fit in church activities there. The activities will include:
 - 5.1.2.1 Exchange of New Apostolic Church literature and pictures
 - 5.1.2.2 Joint Writing projects on areas of interest concerning the youths in the Church
 - 5.1.2.3 Conferences to enhance national and inter-national fellowship and share experiences concerning life in the Church
 - 5.1.2.4 Inter-national and national training programmes and courses on Church doctrine
 - 5.1.4 Inter-national and national activities on health and lifestyles will help youths people adopt healthy lifestyles, avoid risky behaviours and practices, and enjoy healthy youthful lives within the norms and values of the New Apostolic Church worldwide. The activities will include:
 - 5.1.4.1 Exchange of information on Bible teachings related to health and lifestyles
 - 5.1.4.2 Exchange of information on cultural practices as they relate to marriage, reproduction, and risky behaviours and practices
 - 5.1.4.3 Inter-national and national sporting and recreation festivals, and exchange visits
 - 5.1.5 Inter-national and national empowerment activities will help the youths develop inter-national/national entrepreneurship and leadership skills, and may open opportunities for them across borders. The activities will include:
 - 5.1.5.1 Exchange of information on the application of the Bible and Church teachings on wealth, entrepreneurship, and leadership among youths
 - 5.1.5.2 Tele projects on youth leadership training
 - 5.1.5.3 Conferences on business, entrepreneurship and leadership
 - 5.1.5.4 Joint Youth Business projects
- 5.2 Apostle Area, Elder District and Congregation Programmes and Activities
 - 5.2.1 Regular large and small group Bible Fellowship activities will enable all the youths become very familiar with biblical characters, themes, issues and stories. These activities will include:
 - 5.2.1.1 Group and Individual Bible reading
 - 5.2.1.2 Peer Bible Study sessions
 - 5.2.1.3 Lectures on Bible topics by ministers
 - 5.2.1.4 Large and small group dramatisation of characters and stories, including making and use of videos
 - 5.2.1.5 Coordinator facilitated and peer research activities on Bible issues
 - 5.2.1.6 Large and small group art work on Bible stories
 - 5.2.1.7 Large and small group meetings on interpretations of Bible messages
 - 5.2.1.8 Conferences on Bible issues and themes

- 5.2.1.9 Bible courses/seminars or Bible School, including those for young ministers
- 5.2.1.10 Youth Divine Services, at all levels, in venues easily reached by all the youths
- 5.2.1.11 Music School – professionally managed

- 5.2.2 Instructional and interactive activities at congregation and higher levels on Church doctrine will help the youths appreciate Christian teachings and values, and become active and knowledgeable young New Apostolics. These activities will include:
 - 5.2.2.1 Group and individual study of New Apostolic Church literature, including magazines
 - 5.2.2.2 Congregation and district writing projects on areas of interest concerning the young people in the Church
 - 5.2.2.3 Congregation Information sessions on life in the Church facilitated by ministers and coordinators
 - 5.2.2.4 Apostle area and district documentation projects on activities and life of the youths in the Church
 - 5.2.2.5 Large and small scale action research by the youths to address challenges and improve life of members
 - 5.2.2.6 Group and individual art work on life in the Church
 - 5.2.2.7 Minister and peer facilitated meetings on topical issues concerning youths in the Church
 - 5.2.2.8 Regional and district conferences to enhance fellowship and share experiences concerning life in the Church
 - 5.2.2.9 Training programmes and courses on Church doctrine, for young ministers and peer leaders
 - 5.2.2.10 Establishing and managing Youth Hostels by coordinators and youth groups

- 5.2.3 Social interaction among the youths will foster development of social skills, appropriate attitudes, and life-skills that will reflect in them characteristics of a faithful child of God. Furthermore, they adopt lifestyles that are pleasing before God and helpful in preparing for the return of the Lord. Social activities will include
 - 5.2.3.1 Group and individual study of the Bible and Church literature for lessons on acceptable conduct, as a Christian
 - 5.2.3.2 Group and individual writing projects on social issues concerning the youths in the Church
 - 5.2.3.3 Peer debates, and lectures by ministers, on social issues and themes
 - 5.2.3.4 Large and small group dramatisation of social challenges; and solutions by the Church
 - 5.2.3.5 Group research projects across communities to enhance interaction and collaboration
 - 5.2.3.6 Psycho social counseling by experts and peer education sessions
 - 5.2.3.7 Inter-district and district conferences on social issues and themes concerning the youths
 - 5.2.3.8 Social skills training programmes by experts
 - 5.2.3.9 Youth Social Centre managed by the youths
 - 5.2.3.10 Marriage Counseling sessions/centre managed by experts and youth peer counselors

- 5.2.4 Health Education will empower the youths to adopt healthy lifestyles, avoid risky behaviours and practices, and enjoy healthy youthful lives within the norms and values of the New Apostolic Church. The activities they will engage in will include

- 5.2.4.1 Group and individual study of the Bible and Church literature for advice on health and lifestyles
- 5.2.4.2 Instructions by experts, and peer education, on the Human body, diseases, nutrition and health-seeking behaviours and practices
- 5.2.4.3 Reproductive and Health education by experts
- 5.2.4.4 Large and small group research on health-related topics in the community
- 5.2.4.5 Community service to participate in activities that promote healthy living and provide assistance to the sick.
- 5.2.4.6 Spiritual counseling and youth/child friendly corners at Church premises managed by youth peer counselors and educators
- 5.2.4.7 Inter-district and district sports festivals
- 5.2.4.8 Sporting and recreation clubs for youths
- 5.2.4.9 Youth Recreation Centre managed by the youths

- 5.2.5 Entrepreneurship and leadership training, and other forms of empowerment, will equip the youths with skills and values that will enable them participant in social, economic, and other human development affairs of their communities
- 5.2.5.1 Group and individual study of the Bible and Church literature for advice on wealth, entrepreneurship, and leadership
- 5.2.5.2 Literature based skills training by experts on business, employment, and leadership
- 5.2.5.3 Leadership training by ministers and experts
- 5.2.5.4 Career guidance sessions by ministers and experts
- 5.2.5.5 Job search skills training by experts
- 5.2.5.6 Business skills training by ministers and experts
- 5.2.5.7 Business projects by youths
- 5.2.5.8 Inter-district and district conferences on business, entrepreneurship and leadership
- 5.2.5.9 Youth Business Centre managed by youths
- 5.2.5.10 Tuition Centre managed by youths
- 5.2.5.11 Skills Training School/Centre by experts and youths
- 5.2.5.12 Music School managed by experts and youths

6.0 PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

- 6.1 International, Regional and National Programmes and Activities
- 6.1.1 Through information exchange across, and within, countries, the children will learn to appreciate Bible characters and stories. The activities will include
- 6.1.2 Group exchange of art work on Bible stories, facilitated by teachers
- 6.1.3 Group exchange of pictures and information on divine services for children, by ministers and teachers
- 6.1.2 Inter-national and national activities on the knowledge of Church doctrine will expose the children to Christian teachings and values. The activities will include:
 - 6.1.3.1 Joint Writing projects on life as children in the Church, facilitated by teachers

- 6.1.3.2 Children's conferences, hosted by ministers, parents and teachers
- 6.1.3 Through inter-national and national social interactions the children will develop social skills and awareness of social interactions. The activities will include
 - 6.1.3.1 Joint Writing, drawing, projects by groups of children depicting activities of children, facilitated by teachers
 - 6.1.3.2 Social exchange visits of children, facilitated by ministers, parents and teachers
- 6.1.4 Inter-national and national activities on health and lifestyles will introduce the children to health-seeking behavior through exposure to life in other countries. The activities will include
 - 6.1.4.1 Exchange of information and pictures of health facilities, the environment and living conditions
 - 6.1.4.2 Watch videos from other countries
- 6.1.5 Inter-national and national leadership activities for children will enhance potential in the children through widened exposure. The activities will include
 - 6.1.5.1 Exchange of experiences by child peer leaders
 - 6.1.5.2 Conferences on child leadership
- 6.2 Apostle Area, Elder District and Congregation Programmes and Activities
 - 6.2.1 Group Bible Fellowship activities will enable the children model positive behaviours based on Bible teachings. These activities will include
 - 6.2.1.1 Bible study, through reading and role play
 - 6.2.1.2 Bible lessons by teachers
 - 6.2.1.3 Large and small group dramatisation of characters and stories
 - 6.2.1.4 Large and small group art work on Bible stories
 - 6.2.1.5 Children's Divine Services, at all levels, in venues easily reached by all the children
 - 6.2.1.6 Music lessons, by choir leaders and teachers
 - 6.2.2 Instructional and interactive activities in congregations on Church doctrine will introduce the children to Christian teachings and values. These activities will include
 - 6.2.2.1 Group instructions using New Apostolic Church literature, including magazines
 - 6.2.2.2 Congregation writing projects on life of children in the Church

- 6.2.2.3 Group art work on life in the Church
- 6.2.2.4 Regional and district children's conferences to enhance fellowship and share experiences concerning life in the Church
- 6.2.3 Social interaction among the children will foster development of social skills, appropriate attitudes, and life-skills. Social activities will include
 - 6.2.3.1 Lessons, using the Bible and Church literature, on acceptable conduct
 - 6.2.3.2 Large and small group dramatization of social situations
 - 6.2.3.3 Psycho social counseling by experts and teachers
 - 6.2.3.4 Social skills training programmes by experts and teachers
 - 6.2.3.5 Exchange visits, tours, charity projects
- 6.2.4 Health Education will empower the children to develop awareness of healthy lifestyles, risky behaviours and practices. The activities they will engage in will include
 - 6.2.4.1 Instructions by child health experts, and teachers – with consideration of gender, on the Human body, diseases, nutrition and health-seeking behaviours and practices
 - 6.2.4.2 Age appropriate Reproductive and Health education by experts
 - 6.2.4.3 Spiritual counseling and child friendly corners at Church premises, managed by teachers
 - 6.2.4.4 Inter-district and district children's sports festivals
 - 6.2.4.5 Career guidance sessions by experts and teachers
 - 6.2.4.6 Tuition Centre for children, managed by teachers
 - 6.2.4.7 Music School for children managed by teachers

7.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

New Apostolic Church Zambia District will be responsible for the development and implementation of an appropriate monitoring and evaluation system to benchmark, measure and monitor an agreed set of indicators for the performance of youth groups.

New Apostolic Church Zambia District will design and implement a training programme in the monitoring and evaluation system for all coordinators, youth leaders and teachers.

7.1 POLICY / GUIDE REVIEW

The Youth and Child Policy for New Apostolic Church Zambia District shall be reviewed every Five (05) years; however amendments shall be made as need arise.

