WELCOME SERVICE

For our National Overseer,

Brother Phillip Bennett

The Church of God in England gathered together at Druids Heath Church on 11th October 2008 to officially welcome our dear Brother Phillip Bennett as he embarks upon another year as the National Overseer. Pastor Frances Prince, who both organised and moderated the service, was driven by a heart-felt desire to recognise our Overseer and to encourage him for the work ahead this year.

The service was well supported by the brethren, some of whom invited friends along. The evening began with Brother Bennett being 'escorted' (literally carried!) to the front by two of our stronger male members! This brought with it a little humour and the congregation were in good spirits!

After a prayer by the ministers, all of the churches had their own slot on the programme. The brethren ministered to the Overseer in song, words of encouragement from the Bible, inspirational speeches and poetry. Both Gleaners and Golden Agers alike were involved in the service. Most importantly, the service was full of praise and worship - God's presence could be felt.

Overseer Bennett then encouraged the brethren from Ezekiel 33 reminding us of his role as a watchman, imploring us to live for Christ and to live holy. He encouraged us that together, we can make it!

The purpose of the evening was two-fold. The congregation rejoiced as Sis. Cheryl Brown, Sis. Deondra Davis and Sis. Nikkola Prince took the covenant administered by our Overseer and became members of The Church of God. Praise the Lord! The Church of God flag was waved throughout the sanctuary as we sang unto the Lord.

The evening ended with culinary delights courtesy of Trevor Prince and his team. The food was sweet and the fellowship was even sweeter.

May the Lord continue to bless you Overseer Bennett as you serve another year leading the Church of God in England. We love you and will be praying for you.

Claudine Brown – National Reporter