# Hold a Gathering

#### 1GOD 1FAITH 1Church Universe Custodian Guardians



The sound of bell(s) optional outside & Glockenspiel or Organ inside start & end a Gathering. The most senior Elder attending welcomes Supporters, newcomers, guests. Outlines meeting program.

A Gong or Bongo calls to prayer. Attendees stand (sick or handicap sit) put their hands together face towards the rising sun (inside, outside never look directly into the Sun) & pray: Daily & Theme prayers. The meeting program is now in progress.













Musical sound is used for opening & closing (*Glockenspiel or Organ...*), praying & other parts of the program (*Gong or Bongo...*). If there is a Funday-theme, the Gathering adheres to this theme in worship, activities, decor & display. The program keeps local traditions alive: *dialect, dress, drinks, food, music, dance & customs*.

The 1st Gathering of a month welcomes couples who signed a 'Holy-Matrimony Contract' the previous month. The 2nd Gathering of a month welcomes the new-born of the previous month. The 3rd Gathering of a month welcomes the visitors who pledge to be a Supporter. The 4th Gathering of a month reflects on Supporters & members that died previous month.

### **Meeting Etiquette**

Supporters visit a Gathering & encourage others to visit a Gathering. They pray & worship, socialize, discuss, chat, eat (no junk food) & drink (non-alcoholic), sing & dance, laugh, play & harmonize... It is your Gathering enjoy & make it work!

Active participation leads to experiences. Experiences are important; we like to share these with others. We like to discuss our experiences with others. This increases our relationship with others. Increased good relationships translate into happiness.

To make the experience work there needs to be variety. Subjects covered may cover Gathering activities, the Law-Giver Manifest, Shun-lists, knowledge, current-news, hobbies, interests, local & provincial government. Don't be shy!

Discussion-Etiquette: Listen closely without interrupting a speaker. Reply

passionately without being obnoxious, rude or aggressive. Human relationships rely on passion, compromise & tolerance. To diffuse a situation; agree to disagree.

At all Gatherings, Supporters, visitors, Elders & Members are addressed as custodian-guardian (*1st name*) everyone is equal. Elders & Members are leaders with honorary titles. These titles are used only outside the Gathering in public or on committees.

#### **Before Meeting**

Before a Gathering can be held Elders prepare a program & organize a venue.

*Program:* Welcome, outline, itemize, Prayers, readings, discussion & fund raising, ensure main language, local Dialect & Traditions are upheld...

*Organize:* Gathering venue *(hall, security)*, transport for sick, handicapped, elderly...

Publicize: Gathering (when, where & directions), media-releases

Catering: seating, drinks (non-alcoholic), food (no junk food), music, dancing, & clean up...

*Hold:* Mess, elections, induction of newly-wed, new-born & memorial for deceased.

## 1GOD loves Gatherings