



# Sagalee Abdii

A Periodic Newsletter of

*Our Redeemer Oromo Evangelical Church of Minnesota*

## Editorial Note

By Admasu Simeso

### I. It is Our Hope and Trust in the Lord that Sustains Us.

It is our hope and trust in the Lord that sustains us when we face challenges in life. *“The Challenges of the Time and the Voice of Hope”*, was the headline of our last issue of Sagalee Abdii Issue No. XV, more or less similar to the headline of our present issue.

Our world always has dealt with many challenges facing it. But the 2020/21 challenges were and are unique: a peculiar year with the pandemic covid-19 among the deadliest in the last 100 years, catching the whole world off-guard. The pandemic has shown us human vulnerability still, even in 21<sup>st</sup> Century when we seem to believe that we have achieved to be in control of our destiny, as humans. It has shown us though we might have not learned from history yet, *‘humility’*. *It started last year 2020 affecting the entire world and still has not abated, a real challenge to the survival of humanity. The most amazing thing, it even became a political football in some countries on how to handle it and a lot of time wasted on that.*

*Besides, the loss of lives of millions of peoples around the world, due to the pandemic, the social and economic fallout unprecedented in human history. Many places of entertainments, businesses, bars and restaurants are closed or limited the number of their clients. There are strict travel restrictions everywhere, understandably. This has led to protest and disobeying the orders in some cases, though it was meant for the good of everyone. Places of worship, churches synagogues and*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

#### Editorial Note:

(By Admasu Simeso)

#### I. It is Our Hope and Trust in the Lord that Sustains Us

(Word from the Pastor, Luba Wondimu Legesse)

#### II. The Taking Root and Bearing Fruit of the Surviving Remnant:

(By Obbo Addisu Shunkuri)

#### III. Greetings from OROECM President, Obbo Addisu Shunkuri:

(By Sagalee Abdii Editorial Team)

#### IV. Updates from Around Our Church:

A. Qindeessaa Tajaajila Daa'immanii Irraa:

B. OROECM Council Election.

C. Marriage- Wedding of Feruza Kadir and Dawit Baisa

D. Update on the Situation of our Sister Birtukan Ayana By Admasu Simeso

E. OROECM Bible Study Groups:

F. OROECM Theme of the Year 2021

G. Humility:

#### V. News from Back home:

- The Ordination of Luba (Rev.) Fekadu Begna of EECMY

#### VI. The 2020 US Presidential Election

#### VII. February Black History Month

mosques are affected because of the voluntary/order restrictions of gathering to avoid or limit the spread.

In the case of our church, it has been more than 11 months, (22 March 2020) since we stopped coming together to worship live as we normally did. Still few members more or less about 25-30 people come to the church for worship Sunday mornings out of about 120 members. Still even from these group there are the really committed few who must be at the church every Sunday to organize and lead virtual livestreaming of the worship: the media team, music, worship and the overall leading, preaching of the Word and those who clean, maintain and decorate our place of worship. We thank God for their love for their church and their unyielding commitment.

Most people of our church, members and non-members follow the program virtually from their homes or from wherever they are on Facebook, viber etc. We notice that many of our Oromo people follow our church program from around the world: from different parts of the United States, Canada, Europe, the Middle East and Africa, specifically from our homeland. Actually, it seems that our church got the opportunity for greater outreach than during normal time; may be a blessing in disguise. **So, as we sit in our homes Sunday morning and follow the worship we also imagine that the Spirit of Worshipping God rising from our church in unison reaching homes in different parts of the world in different time zones and thus every participating home becomes the House of Worship.** It is also interesting to think back, what would have we done, what would have happened had our present situation been say a decade or two ago when means of communications were not as developed as today? The only thing we can say is that our God Who everything is in His hands prepared the virtual option of worship for His people for these days. So, we have plenty to thank God and plenty more.

Few of our members did catch the virus, thank God most of it mild and they got over with it quickly after few days self-quarantine; things we should not take lightly as we are aware what it had done to millions in our world. There have been also people who have been ill with other kinds of health issues and God healed and healing them. Specifically, the case of our sister Birtukan who has been in hospital for some time but miraculously recovering day by day and we hope and looking forward

that she will be back in her church soon and we will have a great day of thanksgiving to the Lord together..

**Of course, no matter whether there are challenges or not as Christians it is always our faith in the Lord and His voice of Hope that sustains His people.**

Here in our adopted country the year 2020 has been difficult as well with the pandemic and also the 2020 General Election, Presidential and others. But with God's help finally the relatively peaceful transfer of Presidential Power was done on 20 January 2021 and we, "thank God for that and continue to pray for peace in this country and the throughout the world and good will among all people".

We also continue to hear sad news from back home that war and destruction going on in the northern part of the country as well as conflicts simmering in the rest of the country, especially in different parts of Oromia. Thus, it is our Christian call and duty to pray, not only pray but also do something we could for peace in that land and its people who have been suffering for decades and crying to God for peace through prayers and spiritual songs<sup>1</sup>. Even at this time, everyday there are thousands of people; old, young, men and women who are on the move under harsh condition for survival, survival that they are not sure of, many dying of illness, hunger and thirst. **Our sincere prayers and best wish goes out to all those in need and suffering.**

We do not know, and we have not seen from history when killings, unwarranted destruction and oppressions and subduing people brought lasting solution ever, and we do not know if we will ever learn and come to our senses that God gave us from the beginning. To be in a position of power even temporarily seem to intoxicate and blind people that they forget their turn will eventually come soon or later. We have witnessed this few times even in our lifetime. We hope and pray that the world will come to its senses soon and focus on to build a just world where all God's creation live together peacefully.

So, let us continue to pray unceasingly and earnestly and hope and trust the Lord that He will sustain us in this challenging time. Minneapolis, MN, 27 January 2021

---

<sup>1</sup>Nagaa dheebonne, nagaa! Nagaa hawwine, nagaa!  
Yaaddoon kun yoom nu'rraa ka'a"  
Faarfataa Yaa'iqoob Kadir

## II. Word from the Pastor, the Taking Root and Bearing Fruit of the Surviving Remnant



**Pastor Wondimu Sonessa**

About seven hundred years before the birth of Christ, Isaiah the Prophet heard the voice of God saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” to which he responded affirmatively saying, “Here am I Lord; send me!” (Isa 6:8). What Isaiah could tell for sure about himself and his own people at that exact point was their lostness and uncleanness. Of course, a man of “unclean lips,” Isaiah, testified that his “eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!” (Isa 6:5). God not only revealed himself and talked to Isaiah, but also enabled him to hear from Him and speak to his own people in His Holy Name. Thus, Isaiah was authorized to deliver the message of hope using his prophetic formula, “Thus says the Lord.”

We may think of his audience as well-prepared to hear the divine oracle. That was not the case. In those days, Israelites were in the midst of confusion, groping “like the blind along a wall” and “like those who have no eyes,” stumbling “at noon as in the twilight,” and like the dead among the vigorous (Isa 59:10). When a society experiences this kind of devastation, hope for survival and future life lies with God. Yet, there should be at least one person whose experience with the divine helped him/her to understand and proclaim to the nations that God’s intention toward his people was love (Song 2:4).

God seems to have been searching for that kind of agent for a long period of time and finally decided to make announcement loudly, which Isaiah embraced believing that it was “the voice of the Lord” (Isa 6:8). This by no means signifies Isaiah’s own purity as he was struggling with his own guilty conscious in God’s presence. It was, rather, the Lord himself who, shortly before that, touched

his lips with “a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs” (Isa 6:7) and removed his guilt with forgiveness. By the divine grace, Isaiah became God’s spokesperson who rebuked disobedience and proclaimed hope at the palace, in the temple, and in public sphere with full confidence.

Once, King Hezekiah sent a prayer request to Isaiah when his day turned out to be “a day of distress, of rebuke, and of disgrace” (Isa 37:3) on hearing a threat of Sennacherib the king of Assyria to destroy his kingdom. Due to this threat, which Hezekiah described as an attempt “to mock the living God” (Isa 37:4, 17), even pregnant women had no strength to labor and deliver babies. Despite the mockery, Isaiah heralded that God’s intention toward his people was still love. He heard the voice of the Lord saying, “The surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward”(Isaiah 37:31). Our church, Our Redeemer Oromo Evangelical Church in Minnesota (OROECM), has taken this verse for the theme of the year 2021.

How does God speak to our situation today? With this verse we are called to acknowledge the past, be thankful for where we are today, and envision the future. We stand in the history of those who started the journey of faith before us. We acknowledge Our Redeemer Lutheran Church which organized their building in October 1914 on 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South & 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota. When fire destroyed the first building in 1934, they dedicated a new one in October 1939 which was also destroyed by fire in 1965. That did not stop them from gathering and worshipping the Lord. *Three years later, they dedicated a new building in September 1968 on 4000 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue South Minneapolis, the current building of OROECM.* Because the voice of the Lord has brought them together, their faith was not affected by the fire that consumed their building. They took root downward and bore fruit upward again. When they celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> year of the church’s establishment in 1989, the theme was “*Acknowledging the Past and Envisioning the Future.*” *Consequently, they passed on not only the building but also the work of proclaiming hope in the midst of hopelessness to the Oromo speaking congregation in 2005. In 2014, some founding members of the church came back and celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church with us.*



Finally, as it was the case with the Israelites of Isaiah's time, we have come through many ups and downs including a devastating experience of division, political persecution, wars, and the pandemic COVID-19, which claimed thousands of lives and is still around. However, the Lord is with us and his intention for us is love. He has removed our guilt and forgiven us our sins through Jesus Christ who died for our sins and for the entire world on the cross. Trusting in the Lord's guidance, acknowledging the past, and envisioning the future, our church sends out a message of hope that the year 2021 be the year of continuing to take root downward and bearing fruit upward to all surviving remnants.

Minneapolis, MN, 30 January 2021

### III. Greetings from OROECM President, Obbo Addisu Shunkuri:



Greetings to all our members and our friends far and near in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We thank God for sustaining us in our faith during this challenging time now we are in a new beginning in the New Year 2021. Please all of us, let us keep our trust in the Almighty and continue to pray that He rebukes the Covid-19 pandemic that created uncertainty in our world and that soon again we will be able to gather back in our church and have a day of thanksgiving and worship together. To that we have seen a very positive indication on Sunday, 31 January 2021.

We also welcome again our elected Council members Yosef Aagaa, V/President and Gamachis Yadesa member. We are happy that you were willing to heed the call of your church and we will work together diligently with God's help.

Again, please always remember our people back home who are suffering from the warlike situation on top of the pandemic. Thank you and God bless us all!

Adisu Shunkuri  
Page 4 of 18

### V. Updates from around Our Church:

Qindeessaa Tajaajila Daa'immaniIrraa:  
AsefaWakjira.

#### Haala Gedderamu keessatti Waaqa hingedderamne waaqeffanna:

Barri 2020 gama fayyaa fi dinagdeen guutummaa addunyaaf yeroo ulfaataa ture. Waldoota Kiristaanaafis akkasuma rakkisaa ture. Keessumaa akka durii qaamaan wal arginee waliin waaqeffachuu fi Irbaata Gooftaa fudhachuuf ulfaataa ta'e. Kana malees nagaa wal gaafatanii waliin buna dhuguunis hin dandaa'amne. Ta'us Waaqayyoon waaqeffachuu keenya karaa dandaa'ame hunda itti fufnee dabarsine. Keessumaa gara dhuma bara 2020 jala guyyoonni addaa kan akka Guyyaa Galateeffannaa [Thanksgiving] fi Guyyaa yaadannoo dhalachuu Gooftaa Keenya Yesuus Kiristoos [Christmas] bifa nama gammachiisuun ayyaaneffanneerra.

#### 1) Guyyaa Galateeffannaa, (Thanksgiving Thursday 26 November 2020):

Guyyaa galateeffannaatti Waldaan keenya waan hedduuf galateeffatti ture. Dhukkuba COVID-19 irraa fayyuu amantootaa, foyya'iina Aadde Birtukan fi gargaarsa tokkoo tokko mana amantoota keenyaa keessatti tureef galata dhiyeessineerra. Luqqisiin keenya Filiphisiyus 4:4 irra kan jiru 'Yeroo hundaa Gooftaatti gammadaa' isa jedhu ture. Nageenyi biyya keessaa dhufnee fi biyya keessa jirru boora'aa ture. Rakkoon fayyaa addunyaa yaadessaa ture. Haa ta'u malee kan nuti itti gammaduu qabnu madda nagaa keenyaa isa ta'e Gooftaa Yesuusidha jennee gara isaa ilaalaa galateeffanne.

#### 2) Guyyaa Yaadannoo Dhalachuu Gooftaa, (Christmas):

Guyyaan Yaadannoo Dhalachuu Gooftaa keenya Yesuus Kiristoos akkasuma miidhagaa ture. Amantoonni keenya muraasni qaamaan Waldaa Kiristiyaanaa keessatti argamnee waaqeffanne. Kaan'immoo mana isaanii ta'anii waliin ayyaaneffanne. Keessumaa namoonni kudha lama fuula duratti ba'anii shaamaa qabsiisuu fi luqqisii yaadannoo dhalachuu Yesuusiiin wal qabatu dubbisuun kan nama gammachiisu ture. Yeroo dukkanaa fi yaadood addunyaan keenya guute keessatti dhalachuu Gooftaa Yesuus ayyaaneffachuun

hiika guddaa qaba. Dukkana cubbuu inni dhabamsiisee nu fayyise ammas gara keenya ta'uusaa amanee gammachuun ayyaanessine.

### 3) Galgala Bara Haaraatti Ce'uu, (Thursday 24 December 2020 New Year Eve):

Gara bara haaraattis abdi guutuun ceene. Jala bultiin waggaa haaraa guddaa nu gammachiise. Sagantaa kana walakkaa halkaniitti dhiyaanne jalqabne. Hundumtuu mana keenya teenyee kara zoom hirmaanne. Obboleessi keenya faarfataa Fedhasaa Mikaa'el biyya Canada irraa nu tajaajile. Tajaajilaa Waldaa keenyaa kan ta'an Obbo EphraimOlani ammoo sagalee guddaa nama jajjabeessu nuuf qoodan. Amantoonni Waldaa keenya hundumtuu ergaa бага ittiin isin ga'ee waliif qoodaa hamma ganama keessaa sa'atii 1tti waliin turre. Keessummoonni Waldaa garaa garaatii utuu of hin beeksisin nu waliin hirmaatanis turaniiru. Waaqayyo Isa bara gedderee ofii garuu hin gedderamnettis of laannee gara bara haaraatti ceene.

### 4) Tajaajila Daa'immanii, (Children's Ministry)



Asefa praying for our children in the church, 31 January 2021 and for all children of the world.

Tajaajilli Waldaa keenya kan biroonis ittuma fufee ture. Fakkeenyaaf, tajaajilli daa'immanii akka durii ijoolleen hirmaachuu baatanis warra hirmaatuuf itti fufee jira. Tajaajila kana keessatti ga'een Dureetti Gaagaa guddaadha. Sagantaan walakkeessa torbanii kan guyyaa Roobiis bifa miidhagaan adeemaa jira. Dhuma bara kanaa jala waan haaraa eegalles qabna. Ji'a keessaa guyyaa tokko waa'ee fayyaa irratti gargaarsa ogeessota fayyaa Waldaa keenyaan amantoota barsiisaa jirra. Dhimma barumsa kanaa gara fuula duratti bal'inaan Sagalee Abdii irratti qooduuf jirra.

### 5) Sagantaa Dubartootaa:

Sagantaan Dubartootaa waldaa keenyaa akkuma durii jalqabamee itti beekamu baayyee jabaatee itti fufee jira. Ji'a keessatti si'a sadii Jimaata galgala "zoom" dhaan walga'aanii kadhata waliin wajjin godhu.

### 6) Firoota Waldaa Keenyaa Fagoo Nu Tajaajilan, (Our Friends Who Served our Church from Around the World):

Xumura irratti Waaqayyo inni karaa hundaa nu gargaare haa galateeffamu jenna. Waldaa keenya keessaa ta'e fageenya irraa kan nu tajaajilan namoota hedduu nuuf kenne. Luba Fekadu Begna, Oromia irraa, Luba Guta Dibaba, Bay Area, California irraa, Luba Dassaalenyi Mangashaa Norway irraa, luba Kennasaa Shobor magaala Washington DC irraa, faarfataa Fedhasaa Mikaa'el ammoo Canada, Fort MacMurray irraa Waaqayyo isin haa eebbisu jechuu jaallanna.

### A. OROECM Council Election.

By Admasu Simeso

According to OROECM constitution election of two Council Members in one year and the other 4 members another year is the case, so that they are not elected in the same year and all may be new to the Office. Normally, the election would take place in the fall but due to the COVID-19 this year it had been postponed over to the New Year 2021. The first congregational meeting for the election was held on 18 December 2020 but because of not having a quorum it was rescheduled for Friday, 29 January 2021. The Election Committee, (Aadde Lydia Ashana, Obbo Yifiru Ayana and Aadde Derartu members) led by the Chair of the committee introduced the 2 candidates who have been Council members, Obbo Yoseph Aga, V/President and Obbo Gamachis Yadesa, a member agreed to the request from the Committee to be candidates for another term. Although the Chair asked the meeting to nominate two more candidates from the floor as traditional the congregation unanimously endorsed and requested the two Obbo Yosef Aga V/President and Obbo Gamachis Yadesa a member and elected them to the OROECM Council for 2 more years.





On Sunday, 31 January 2021 Yoseph and Gamachis were called forward after the service and Pastor Wondimu prayed for them in front of the congregation and blessed them by reading from Acts 14:23.



Sunday, 31 January was the last Sunday of the month of January and it was a Holy Communion day of our church. Since our church worship and service went virtual because of the covid-19 since 22 March 2020 it was noticed that this day for the first time the largest attendance, close to 50 people came for the worship in the church live, of course still keeping their distance and wearing *nose/mouth-mask*.

### Marriage- Wedding of Feruza Kadir and Dawit Baisa

By Admasu Simeso

On Sunday, 04 October 2020 the bride Feruza Kadir and the bridegroom Dawit Baisa got married, said their, “*I do*”. The wedding took place at Leopold’s Mississippi Gardens Outdoor Center in order to maintain physical distancing protocols among guests because of COVID-19. Had it not been for the pandemic, they would have loved to celebrate their wedding at their own church, Our Redeemer Oromo Evangelical Church in Minnesota, OROECM.



The Bride and the Bridegroom Exchanging vows, when they said, “*I Do*”, officiated by Pastor Ebassa Birhanu.



Scenery of Leopold’s Mississippi Gardens Center



Dawit and Feruza, after the end of the ceremony

Sagalee Abdii Editorial Team would like to congratulate Feruza and Dawit for finding one another and wish them happy marriage together for years to come. *Waliin wajjin horaa, Waaqayyo inni isin tajaajiltan fayyaa fi nagaa isiniif hakennu jenna. Guddadhaa, dagaagaa!*

On behalf of the members of our church we would like to say congratulation, “*baga gammaddan*” to Feruza’s family and friends and Dawit’s parents Aadde Lydia Ashana and Obbo Alemayehu Baisa and Dawit’s sisters Hawi and Sololiya. Waaqayyo Gooftaan keeny baga

kanaan isin ga'e warra gammachuu isin godhe! Baayyee isinii gamdnerra!

## Update on the Situation of our Sister Birtukan Ayana

By Admasu Simeso

As we all know our sister Birtukan Ayana who is one of active and committed members of our church, Our Redeemer Oromo Evangelical church in Minnesota, OROECM fell ill in the evening of Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and admitted into the Fairview Southdale Hospital.

From the moment we found her sitting on the couch in her home breathing but unconscious, we knew that her God, the God she dedicated her whole life to serve His Church was with her. He got her home safe in difficult driving condition in snow, parked her car properly got in and sat on the couch normal. One can imagine what would have happened had she been 5 minutes late leaving the office or stranded in the traffic on the road. Our God who cares for His children took her home in **"His Hands"!**

***At the hospital, from all the testing they have been doing regularly they never found any negative result up to this day and the doctors themselves have been very surprised.***

Since the news of her admission into the hospital was heard 3 and half month ago the pouring of support in prayers for her from all over the world was amazing and overwhelming. ***As her habit she brought the whole world together***, proved to be a member of all the Lord's churches, across all languages and denominations, and other faith groups. ***"God has heard the cry of His people for Birtukan" and she is miraculously recovering, and now she communicates well and also takes food and water normal.*** During all this our Pastor, Pastor Wondimu besides leading us in praying for her, has been tirelessly conveying updates on her condition to all of us.

*We have heard about all sorts of miracles all our lives and since we became Christians, the miracles that the Lord performed while He was on this earth. We believe Birtukan's is among those miracles. Again, the Lord has heard and answered the prayers of His people for Birtukan because He said, "If you ask me anything in my name I will give you". The Gospel of John 14:14 Glory to his name!*

*Finally, our brother Mesfin who is in UK and still working on to get his entry visa to US is sending greetings and a big thank you to all people who have been continuously praying for Birtukan and for him during this difficult time and for all the support. He says, Waaqayyo isin ha'eebbisu! "Yoo Gooftaan jedhe wal'argina, nagaan naa jiraa dhaa" jedha. Also, the rest of the family, Birtukan's sisters, brothers and all of us would like to say thank you all, God bless you for your prayers and support. It is amazing and humbling to say the least! We all hope and continue to pray that Birtukan will soon be back home, also back together with Mesfin, back in their church and we all will have a great day of thanksgiving.*

*Thank you everyone.*

*"Irraa hafte, irraa hafte galata Isaa hinfaar'ffanna itti fufnee"!*

AS Jan 2021

### OROECM Bible Study Groups:

There are two Bible Study Groups of members of our church, the first Burnsville/Eagan Group and the other Brooklyn Park/Brooklyn Center areas. Both have been going on without break for many years. The Burnsville/Eagan Group have their meeting, now virtually every other Monday from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. They share the Word of God and pray together for members of our church, for our people, for all people of our Land, for this country that we live in and in general for peace in our world and especially for God mercy to intervene with the serious covid-19 pandemic that has created havoc in the world.

The Brooklyn Park/Brooklyn Center area have theirs every Thursday evening addressing the same prayer needs. We thank God for the commitments and dedications that members have shown and continue to meet, build; support one another to grow in the Lord.

Both Bible Study groups have their root/beginning in the first Bible Study Group started in 1987, (34 years ago) in Minneapolis which was God's Providence guidance grew to the establishment of our church, Our Redeemer Oromo Evangelical Church in Minnesota, OROECM. The only change since then is that the original Bible Study was known as Friday Evening Bible Study and held every Friday Evening. The present ones, the Burnsville/Eagan, every other Monday evening and the Brooklyn Park/Brooklyn Center every Thursday evening.



The most interesting thing, in each group more than half of the participants are from the original group of 1987, (34 years ago). How gratifying and enduring it is with the help from the Lord specially to see the then young ones (children) grown up, established their own families and having children of their own as members of our church, a tangible example of our **“theme of the year 2021”**, *“The surviving remnant of the house of Judah (Oromo people) shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward”(Isaiah 37:31). We praise God in humility!*

AS 03 Feb 2021

## B. OROECM Theme of the Year 2021

By Admasu Simeso

Our church, OROECM theme of the year is taken from Isaiah 37:31, says, *“those who remain (survive) will take root in the ground and grow”* and this verse will be the theme and focus of our congregation in 2021. Our Pastor, Pastor Wondimu has given us two consecutive introductory teaching on the theme and his article *in this issue under the “Word from the Pastor”* covers the *“theme”*. Others who will continue to bring us the *Word of God* will further focus on the *theme* throughout the year.



(Odaa tree that survived and took root and grew to the extent of providing shade, a metaphor to human survival.)

Besides the theme of the year of our church, it is an annual ritual by many people to make *“new year resolution”* every year at the beginning of the year: the resolution which in general is to commit oneself to renew self-discipline includes things like more regular physical

activities, weight reduction, following healthy diet, reading more books, trying to be more productive for oneself and the society, in general moderation in everything in every possible way and above all self-discipline, etc.

On Wednesday, 06 January 2021, during our church evening program Asefa Wakjira our church Children and Youth Section Coordinator, in sharing the word of God virtually with us called upon all members to have a common *“New Year Resolution”* as members of OROECM. He called upon us to make *humility, in our Afaan Oromo, (gadi of qabuu), our shared resolution* of the year 2021 and we found it interesting to have a common resolution as members, specifically to reflect on and practice humility.

We say to Asefa thank you and God bless you for reminding/suggest to genuinely live and always remember such an ideal fundamental to our Christian life. *“I will try my best so help me God”!*

## C. Humility:

By Admasu Simeso

On 06 January 2021 on our Wednesday Evening Church Program our church Children and Youth Section Coordinator, Asefa Wakjira called upon members to make *“humility”* as our church resolution of the year all of us together in addition to our personal resolutions. We did not respond to the call immediately, but we had taken the challenge calmly and resolve to try our best to live it with the help from our Lord Jesus Christ who taught us humility by example. We say thank you and God bless you to Asefa for this challenge.

The dictionary defines humility as **“freedom from pride or arrogance: the quality or state of being humble.”** *Humility is a God given virtue very honorable value although it has become very scarce now days even in some so-called churches. As someone has said, “Admittedly, humility and the humbling of oneself is out of fashion in today’s world and seems unappealing to most of us”. May be because of cultural perception we wrongly believe humility as a sign of weakness. Far from it! It is a sign of strength, honorable attribute and God given virtue. Here we also know the other meaning of the concept of the word humility; humiliation or to be humiliated by someone, shamed by shameful deed or by others. But even if people wrongly try to humiliate a*



person they envy against, as long as the person stands for justice and truth they cannot feel humiliated, history will liberate him/her.

Our Lord Jesus Christ showed humility when He was on this earth- He, Himself as the Son of God humbled Himself, to come down from heaven in human form to reconcile humanity to their Creator to save them. Although He was the Son of God, God Himself, Messiah and Teacher, that *Passover Night*, He went to the extent to humble Himself to kneel down and wash His disciples feet, simply to set an example, “*the ordinance of humility*”. Someone said, “*If anyone ever had a good reason not to be humble it was Jesus*”

Although the Lord knelt down and washed the disciples’ feet it did not demean Him from who He was. In His human body He was a 30-year-old young man, may be 31 or 32 when He washed their feet, younger than most of His disciples. But they still called Him Lord, Teacher, Messiah and followed Him everywhere, spiritually and physically.



The Lord washing his disciples feet.

Now days the sad thing we witness, the spring up and proliferation of the so-called churches here and there. Individuals who claim to be Christians, pastors, prophets and apostles who claim to be followers of the Humble Christ turned His example upside down and having people wash their feet instead, and we even hear some strange things as what they do with the water from the washed feet. People are desperate, spoil and worship such crazy people instead of the Lord, which we hear to be more prevalent around Africa even in our homeland. May the Lord spare His true believers from the drama of the time!

In our Oromo language humility is *gadi of'qabuu*. Here we should differentiate between 'proud'

(*boonaa/boontuu*) and arrogant (*of'ajjuu, of'tuultuu*), simply put pride is not bad as such but arrogance is. There are some humble but proud (*boonoo*) people, in which one is not ashamed as who he/she is, about his/her culture, background etc.<sup>2</sup> without looking down upon others. They are confident as who they are and at the same time have respect for others. That is a commendable pride. But arrogance has no decency and has no place. There are few other words that describe the most honorable values and ideal in our Oromo culture; two of them, *gamna* (wise, seasoned) *goota* (hero, brave). The *boonaa* character is brave and heroic but humble with due respect for others reciprocally.

The spirit of humility in the Gospel of the Lord, to be humble does not mean we should allow arrogant people to walk over us and humiliate us. We should stand firm for our God given rights, truth and the rights of those who cannot stand for themselves, without any fear nor submission, no matter as who the arrogant claim to be we do not allow them to put us down<sup>3</sup>. We do Not compromise the truth, the Gospel of Jesus Christ that we believe in is the Gospel of freedom and integrity! That was how Martin Luther said, “*I cannot recant, here I stand*” when he was brought before the Diet of Worms in 1521.

Usually, arrogance and conceit are indication of ignorance. No matter how much arrogant people brag and self-praise they will never be satisfied nor feel content because deep down they are empty, and they will never be able to satisfy their ego by continuing to brag. **Arrogance is vanity, self-centered, only about self, while humility cares more about others in empathy.** Simply put arrogance is basically rooted in and fed upon a person’s ego!<sup>4</sup> We have witnessed and still witnessing this in our lifetime and arrogance is the nature of the *devil, the Father of all Lies, (afuultuu), John 8:44. On the other hand the character of truly humble*

<sup>2</sup> MS Dawn Porter an African American author who described herself, “a proud descendant of slaves

<sup>3</sup> Look at Sagalee Abdii Issue No XV page 9.

<sup>4</sup> Al'tokko namoota lamatu turan, dhuguma kun, (real). Inni tokko baayyee, baayyee of'ajja, of' himuu jaallata. Gaaf tokko namichi inni kaan of'ajjuun namicha gamsiisnaaniif akkana jedheen, “*dhuguma waa'llee hin'hojjettaa, homaa hinjettuu garuu baayyee of'ajja, of'ajjuu baayyifta ittin jedhe. Achumaan inni of'ajjuu jaallatu sun'mmoo akkana jedhee deebiseef. “Anatu of'ajjaa, utuun of'ajjee asan jiraa?” jedheen.*

people, even with outstanding achievement is, if you try to praise/congratulate them they are not comfortable with it and say, 'calm it down, take it easy". Thank God we have few such people even today when humility has become scarce.

Describing the nature of a humble person, St Isaac of Syria a 7<sup>th</sup> Century Syrian saint put it this way. "A humble man is never rash, hasty or perturbed, never has any hot and volatile thoughts, but at all times remains calm. Even if heaven were to fall and cleave to the earth, the humble man would not be dismayed. Not every quiet man is humble, but every humble man is quiet". In Mathew 11:29 Our Lord said, 'Learn of Me, for I am meek and humble of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls".

Again, we say to Asefa thank you and keep growing in humility for giving this challenging ideal to all of us and we will pray to the One who showed/taught us humility by living it, to help us to live it. So, help us God!

#### IV. News from Back home:

##### The Ordination of Luba (Rev.) Fekadu Begna of EECMY

By Admasu Simeso

According to the information we got Luba (Rev.) Fekadu Begna's Ordination took place at Abuna Mekane Yesus Congregation, Western Shawaa Synod near Ambo on September 6/2020. Although he works at EECMY Head Office the ordination had to take place our side of Finfinnee as they could not hold large gathering due to covid-19.

Before that Luba Fekadu was in the Ministry of his church Mekane Yesus for 33 years without interruption as Parish Coordinator, Central Synod Youth Ministry Coordinator, Central Synod Executive Secretary, EECMY Outreach Ministry National Coordinator, EECMY Campus Ministry National Coordinator, EECMY Christian Life Ministry Division Head, Scripture Light Bible Society Manager, and at present the EECMY Associate General Secretary. As we can see we missed to include this good news in our last issue of Sagalee Abdii No. XV, but we are delighted still to be able to do it now belatedly because Luba Fekadu has been and is an honest and dependable friend of our church who understands his call, he came and served our church several times. And he still serves our church online from

time to time. We congratulate Rev. Fekadu for his commitment and long service in the Lord's field bringing the Holistic Gospel to our people. We are happy to say that we consider him as an honorary member of our church and thank God for his ministry.



Luba Fekadu Benga Ordination on 06 September 2020 at Abuna Mekane Yesus Congregation.

#### EECMY-

On Sunday, 17 January 2021 it was Luba Yadesa Daba one of the former Presidents of EECMY, now a member of our church who preached the word of God. In his introductory remark Luba Yadesa mentioned how we as humans come to realize long afterwards what God had put in place in advance. He mentioned that before

EECMY church was organized as an established national church in Ethiopia the Addis Ababa Mekane Yesus congregation whose origin was from Boojji in Wallagga was invited and registered to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lutheran World Federation Assembly held here in Minneapolis in 1957, (64 years ago).



Addis Ababa Mekane Yesus Church newly built and dedicated December 01, 1963.

His Excellency Obbo Amanuel Abraham who was a member of the Addis Ababa Mekane Yesus Church was delegated to attend the Assembly. But as he was in a high-ranking position in Emperor Haile Selassie government his schedule did not allow him to attend the Assembly and Addis Ababa Mekane Yesus was still accepted into the membership of LWF. Luba Yadesa said he found it was in the advance plan of God now our church, OROECM based here in Minneapolis whose root is EECMY is a member of Minneapolis Area Synod, a member of ELCA. Thus, the unity of believers of the wider Lutheran family, LWF which Addis Ababa Mekane Yesus was accepted into in 1957 and EECMY which was established in 1959 (62 years ago) joined in 1963 still continuous through OROEM in Minnesota, through its membership in ELCA as a congregation of Minneapolis Area Synod. Our Church's mother joined LWF here in Minnesota and through God's plan the offspring of EECMY destined to maintain the relationship, and we more than happy and thank to be able to still maintain the relationship.

Soon after the Addis Ababa Mekane Yesus was accepted into the membership in LWF, leaders of the  
Page **11** of **18**

church relentlessly worked to establish the greater Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, EECMY by expanding contacts with other evangelical congregations with denominations from various mission background such as Presbyterians and started deliberation in April 1958 and succeeded in establishing EECMY on 21 January 1959.<sup>5</sup>



EECMY Cross

The formally established greater and wider EECMY joined LWF at its 3<sup>rd</sup> Assembly held in Helsinki, Finland in 1963<sup>6</sup>, (58 years ago).

We should also mention that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA was not established until 1988. It was the American Lutheran Church based here in Minneapolis that hosted the 1957 LWF Assembly, also hosted the establishment of ELCA in 1988 from a merger of two Lutheran churches, American Lutheran Church from Minneapolis and Lutheran Church in America based in New York City. All ELCA member churches are member of LWF, including our church, OROECM.

EECMY had many seasoned, dedicated well versed in the scriptures and above all humble leaders. From among those we just briefly mention two of them, H.E Obbo Amanuel Abraham Tato and Rev Gudina Tumsa. Obbo Amanuel was President of EECMY from January 1963 to January 1985 for 22 years.

<sup>5</sup> See Sagalee Abdii Issue No. XV page 11.

<sup>6</sup>The EECMY is also a member of [World Council of Churches](#), the [All Africa Conference of Churches](#), the [Lutheran Communion in Central and Eastern Africa](#), and the [World Communion of Reformed Churches](#).<sup>[17]</sup>





Rev. Gudina Tumsa

He also served on the executive committee of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) for twenty-seven years (1957 to 1984) representing EECMY and closely involved with other African Lutheran Churches also.

The other, Rev. Gudina Tumsa, a graduate of Luther Seminary here in St Paul MN (1966) had an unprecedented impact on Lutheran theology in Ethiopia, in African Lutheran Churches and throughout LWF member churches, especially in the area of Holistic Ministry, justice, peace and human rights. He was EECMY General Secretary from 1966 to 1979 the year of his abduction and murder by the regime which claimed to be communist, believed communism gave them the right to arrest, imprison and execute anyone they branded as anti-revolutionary, free to abuse individual rights.

Some of the present members of OROECM were members of EECMY in Ethiopia who were forced to leave their country due to the persecution from the regime and took refuge here in Minnesota through the work of the Lutheran Social Services and the International Institute of Minnesota. Eventually it led to more influx of Oromo and other refugees from the Greater Horn of Africa of various ethnic and faith background, as the result we have the largest East African community in USA here in Minnesota.



In June 1979 Rev, Gudina, through the intervention arranged by Bishop Josiah Kibira of Tanzanian Lutheran Church and Oberkirchenrat Krause of Germany sought the help of the then President Nyerere of Tanzania to intervene with the Mengistu Regime for Rev Gudina to leave Ethiopia for his safety. But Rev. Gudina refused the offer with the following words: **“Here is my church and my congregation. How can I, as a church leader, leave my flock at this moment of trial? I have again and again pleaded with my pastors to stay on.”** He then quoted **2 Cor. 5:15: “Christ died for all that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.’ Never ever will I escape”**. One month later on 28 July 1979 he was abducted and executed in his country close to his church among his people in spirit where his heart always felt at home though no one knew where they buried him except those who carried out the murder. Thus, he was called *Dietrich Bonhoeffer of Africa* by African Lutheran Churches after the German theologian who was executed by Hitler because of his stand. They also call him an *“African Prophet.”*

It is uplifting to know, appreciate and thank God humbly for our root and our place in His Worldwide Church, *“the Communion of Saints”!* **(By the way both President Amanuel Abraham and Rev Gudina were from Booggi ‘the cradle of the EECMY’, the first landing place of the Evangelical Christianity in Biyya Oromo).**

AS 27 January 2021

By Admasu Simeso

## V. The 2020 US Presidential Election and the Peaceful Transfer of Power

The United States General Election which includes Presidential Election first started in 1788 with the election of the first US President, President George Washington. The US government has three branches of government: The Executive, the Legislative and the Judiciary. The constitution crafted in 1787 in Philadelphia, PA in such a way that they incorporate what they called checks and balances. No branch has an absolute monopoly of power. The Congress, the

Legislative Branch has Two Chambers, the Senate, with 100 members, 2 Senators from each of the 50 states regardless of their population size. The House on the other hand, its members called the representatives, are elected according to the size of the population of each State, elected from what they call Electoral Districts. For e.g., California with its largest population of 39.5 million has 53 members of the House of Representatives and the States with smaller population such as Alaska, Delaware, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont and Wyoming each has **one** Representative but 2 Senators. Our own State of Minnesota has 2 senators, (Senator Emmy Klobuchar and Senator Tina Smith) and 8 House members.

Since the first election in 1788 there have been 58 elections each with 4 years duration. The latest elected President Joe Biden is the 46<sup>th</sup> President. There have been Presidents who served two terms of 4 years and only one President, President Franklin D Roosevelt elected 4 times of each 4 years. After serving 3 terms of 12 years on the 4<sup>th</sup> term successful election he passed away only 3 months in office on the 4<sup>th</sup>. His unprecedented 4 times election was not in violation of the Constitution but due to the 1920s Economic Recession reached the worst record in 1929 with the stock market crash. In the meantime, WWII broke out in Europe in 1939 until 1945 between the Nazi Germany group and the Allies led by Great Britain and France later joined by Russia and USA.

It was the famous Athens Greece Philosopher Plato, (428/27- 348 BCE) in his Book the Republic who said *“democracy was the worst form of government”* although he still is known as the father of democracy. During Plato's time the Athenian democracy was a direct democracy of one male citizen vote. In this Plato saw, a *“potential for abuse by opportunists appealing to the worst; base tendencies of emotional, mass group sentiment”*. Sounds familiar?

Prime Minister Winston Churchill of UK put it interestingly by saying, *“democracy is the worst type of government except for the rest”*, meaning democracy is a bad form government but still preferred more than the others. Actually, the Framers of the US Constitution (1787) must have been apprehensive about the Presidential Election based on popular vote, therefore they incorporate in the constitution *Indirect Vote known as Electoral College*. Still today in 2021 the winner of the

Presidential Election is decided on the basis of the Electoral College votes than the popular vote. A candidate may win a popular vote but still lose by losing Electoral College vote, (e.g., former Senator Hillary Clinton in 2016).

Electoral College members are **slated** by each party in each state or by party convention according to the numbers of electors each state allocated. At least it has somewhat progressed that generally nowadays the Electoral Colleges vote according to the outcome of the Popular Vote in that state, to a certain degree taking into consideration the outcome of the popular vote.

The 2020 US General Election including the presidential and other elections was the most challenging one in recent US history, which the whole world was closely watching and wondering as what was unfolding, as the US was known as one of the most enduring democratic countries in the world. Certainly, in addition to other personality factors involved the prevalence of covid-19 did add to the snags to a certain degree. many wondering on what ground would the US be able to question what might happen in other parts of the world in the future. The insurrection at the Capital on 06 January 2021 was the most stunning, hard to imagine and believe that it happened at the US Capital! For those who have visited and seen the Capital the place looks revered, glorious and magnificent, symbol of US democracy. (***That magnificent place was built by the labor and toiling of the enslaved people most of the time in shackles.***)

After all the upheavals, turmoil and uncertainty finally two weeks after the insurrection on 20 January 2021 a peaceful transfer of power took place from the outgoing to the incoming administration of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamilla Harris.



President Joe Biden was sworn in as the 46th president of the United States (by Chief Justice Robert). *Andrew Harnik/AP*

***President Biden run for the Office of the Presidency twice before, first in 1988 and then in 2008 as democratic candidate. He won this time on the 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt which no other candidate had done before. We do not know but God must have reserved him for this time!***



Vice President Kamala Harris sworn in by Justice Sonia Sotomayor of the US Supreme Court

***In all these with the discipline, character, civility and calmness that people from both parties shown the USA proved to the closely watching world that it is still a stable democratic country, despite the challenges, though there is always room for improvement.***

*In the middle of all that went on and the uncertainty, still history was being made; surprising to most of us, this things just taking place for the first time in USA?: 1) The first woman, the first African American women of immigrant parents elected to the position of US Vice President, the highest office that a woman and a black*

woman ever elected to. 2) Also new, the first Second Gentleman, as the husband of the Vice President. 3) The first black Senator from the State of Georgia in the person of Rev. Raphael Warnock, 4) Senator Jon Ossoff of Georgia, a Jewish. 5) Retired General, Lloyd Austin the first African American Secretary of Defense, 6) Janet L Yellen the first woman Secretary of the Treasury, etc. Thus, United States slowly and gradually still making history: 7) White women got voting rights for the first time only in 1920 through the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment, black men in 1867. However, the 1920 19<sup>th</sup> amendment did not include black women, Spanish women, Native American women and Women of Asian origin.



"1867 political cartoon depicting an African American man casting his ballot during the Georgetown elections as Andrew Johnson and others look on angrily" *Getty Images.*

There were a lot of amazing imageries from the inauguration ceremonies and celebrations that followed: the lights and flags that lined up in front of the National Mall to remember the more than 400000 people died from the covid-19, the silent prayer offered in remembrance of those who lost their lives to the pandemic and the singing of the spiritual song "**Amazing Grace**". *Indeed, that was amazing to say the least!*

But the one that most captivated everyone and still covered in the news was the performance of a young lady, 22 years old Amanda Gorman, a Harvard graduate who overcame speech impairment, stuttering as she recited her original poem "The Hill We Climb". God bless her!





Amanda as she recited her poem at the inauguration

*In its issue of 27 January 2021, the New York Times covered, “The poet Amanda Gorman wowed Americans from coast to coast at President Biden’s inauguration when she recited her poem “The Hill We Climb.” Her grace and words struck listeners as hopeful at a time when the country faced multiple crises. It was clear that they were watching a star in the making”. From Amanda’s achievement we could learn that if young people worked hard, determined and trust the Lord no impairment can limit them; the Lord would help them to overcome any limitation and propel them onto national prominence, and accept it with thanksgiving and humility! Not many people knew Amanda before 20 January 2021.*

Our church, Our Redeemer Oromo Evangelical Church in Minnesota, OROECM, we have been praying earnestly as we believe many churches did, for a peaceful election process and conclusion. Now we join our Synod, Minneapolis Area Synod member congregations, all ELCA member churches and other Christian denominations and other faith groups around the country in giving thanks to our God at the end it ended much better than expected.

*We are cognizant of the provision in the US Constitution of the Separation of Church (religion) and State we hope that all churches and other faith groups will continue to pray and also come together to work on the next chapter, the healing need after such critical*

*polarization/division. Churches as religious organizations do not have to take side even though their members belong to different political parties, but we earnestly believe that all faith groups; the churches taking the lead (mainline Protestants- Lutherans, Presbyterians, Baptists, Catholics etc. and all other Evangelical groups) and other faith groups, Muslims and Jewish invited and work together to educate people that humanity as well as all God’s Creation, we have common destiny, it is only if we step back and reflect on our future built on “goodwill towards one another” that we survive all the challenges together such as what the world is in now. **With the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their hand, there are no other institutions equipped more than the churches to build a more peaceful, equitable and just society.***

The United States has a big role and responsibility beyond its border, in the world to build and maintain a peaceful world. *One of the most effective US interventions on world stage, exactly 200 years after the writing of the US Constitution was the Berlin Wall Speech by former US President Roland Reagan, a Republican on 12 June 1987. Standing at the Berlin Wall gate challenged the then Russian President Mr. Michaël Gorbachev, by emphatically saying, “Tear down this wall Mr. Gorbachev”! **He did not say, “build the wall Mr. Gorbachev”! Before that on 26 June 1963 President John F. Kennedy a Democrat stood at the same Burlin wall in his speech he said, “ich bin ein berlinar” “I am a Berliner”.***

*Apparently deep-down Mr. Gorbachev was inclined toward real democratic ideals at heart, stark difference from the present situation, and within 2 years on 09 November 1989 the Berlin Wall came down.*

*Therefore, the era of retreat and isolation passed a century ago in 1920s. If we think carefully we have more that unite us than what divide us. Thus, again we repeat, “Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth (peace in USA) and goodwill among people of God”. Luke 2:14.*

AS January 2021

## VI. February Black History Month

By Admasu Simeso

Since 1976 the month of February has been Black History Month. Today, 01 February 2021, as this note is written this is the first day of the month of February and the starting of Black History Month. Why and how was February chosen to be Black History Month?

It was a young man Mr. Carter G. Woodson himself a son of an enslaved father who managed to educate himself in black history credited for establishing Black History Month. Why did he choose the month of February as a Black History Month? He chose February because February was the month in which two people who greatly influenced the African American population and history were born: they were Frederick Douglas who “escaped slavery from the South and became an abolitionist” celebrated his birthday on February 14 and President Abraham Lincoln, himself a slave owner but issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 01, 1863 which abolished slavery in Confederate States. Lincoln was born on Feb. 12. Black History Month is celebrated during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of February.

Sagalee Abdii (Voice of Hope) would like to pay tribute to all those who toiled in bondage as well as those who sacrificed their lives in the struggle for freedom. Among them Harriet Tubman, herself escaped slavery and helped other slaves from the South to escape to the North on underground train.



Ms. Harriet Tubman. (There is a suggestion that she might be put on US \$20 bill).

As immigrant community, our members should familiarize themselves with the pain and agony the ancestors of African Americans went through. Two things that we should mention: 1) History is still made to these day- the election of an African American woman, though may not be from the decent of the enslaved in America, as the V/President of US, the second highest office in the land. 2) What sustained those enslaved people in their situation? ***Their faith in God, the Voice of Hope (Sagalee Abdii).***



Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights Icon, (January 15, 1929- April 4, 1968), known for his speech “I have a Dream”!



Another Civil Rights Icon Rep. John Lewis, (Feb 21, 1940- July 17, 2020). Mr Obama awarding him the Medal of Freedom.

They were sustained and survived mainly by spiritual music they composed and continued to sing as they toiled in bondage. Some of the lyrics were: *Go Down Moses taken from the Old Testament “with the story of deliverance and liberation”, Let us Break Bread Together, Swing Low Swing Chariot, Wade in the Water and Song of the Free.*

It was their unshaken faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ that gave Black Civil Rights leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. strength, courage, high moral ground and

kept them moving in what they believed. May their sole rest in peace with the Lord!

We will observe Black History Month during 2<sup>nd</sup> week of

February 2021.

*Baroonnis dhufanii darbanii,\**

*Guyyoonis dhufanii darbanii,*

*Gooftaan Kennya Teessoo Isaa'rra jira,*

*Hingeeddara malee hingeeddaramu, Inni.*

*Aboon hundinuu harka Isaa keessa jira!*

*(Hingeedare, 2020 irraa 2021"tti)*

Sagalee Abdii Editorial Team:

Obbo Alemayehu Baisa, Obbo Daniel Namara,  
Aadde Dune Silga and Obbo Admasu Simeso.

Sagalee Abdii on behalf of OROECM would like to acknowledge the very essential technical support provided freely by the Yadesa brothers and Dawit Baisa. Chali Yadesa for the design of the new Sagalee Abdii logo and Gamachis for the formatting and the layout of the publication and all the technical input and Dawit for web posting. Thank you and God bless you all, (Waaqayyo isaan ha'eebbisu)!





Sagalee Abdii on behalf of OROECM would like to acknowledge the very essential technical support provided freely by the Yadesa brothers and Dawit. Thank you and God bless you!

---

Chali Yadesa for the design of the new Sagalee Abdii logo and Gamachiis for the formatting and layout of the publication and all the technical input and Dawit for web posting design and all the Sagalee Abdii Edditorial Team Obbo Alemayehu Baisa, Obbo Daniel Namara, Aadde Dune Silga and Obbo Admasu Simeso. Without their help it would have cost our church a substantial amount. Waaqayyo isaan ha'eebbisu!

Sagalee Abdii

---

