

June 2002, services were held at the Academy of Arts Dance School in Northeast Columbia and Wednesday night classes were added.

June 30, 2002, Agape Worship Center was chartered on, with twenty-six members and received their official charter as a Church of God organization Sunday School classes were added at 9:45AM and Worship Services held at 10:30AM.

August 2002, Agape Worship Center moved to a leased location, Korean Seven Day Adventist Church at 4201 Hardscrabble Road, in Northeast Columbia.

December 2004, Agape Worship Center purchased nineteen acres of land on Lee Road.

May 2007, Bishop and Christle Collins, members walked through the doors of its new 500-seat state of the art facility with a junior high gymnasium and commercial kitchen.

Under the leadership of Bishop and First Lady Collins, the ministry has grown to 550+ members and has an average weekly attendance of 500. The church ministries includes: Christian Education, Fine Arts Ministry, Youth Ministry, Children Ministry, Family Ministries and Nursery Ministry, Nursing Home Ministry, Boys and Girls Club Ministry, Life-groups, Ushers and Greeters Ministry. Additionally, AWCI ministry offers specialized training in the areas of Marriage and Family, Financial Freedom, Leadership, and numerous others.

April 8, 2018, Bishop Vincent and Christle Collins and AWCI members broke ground adding to the current building, 7,778 square feet expansion adding a café, youth and children facilities, State of the art classrooms, increasing the seating capacity to the sanctuary, an addition 132 parking spaces to the parking lot. In 2019, the campus will house a charter school. God's vision continues to evolve as He revealed it many years ago. God is faithful in His promises. AWCI has embraced the vision, the plan is executed, expect God to continue moving. The best is yet to come!!

AWCI passion is creating an atmosphere where the Glory of God will permeate our presence in each service and filled with the unlimited power of the Holy Spirit. The Body of Christ will grow into its wholeness in body, soul, and spirit loving God, loving people and reaching others through love, acceptance and forgiveness.

#### **WHY DO WE PROPHECY?**

"Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy." **1 Corinthians 14:1**

"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal...to another prophecy." **1 Corinthians 12:7, 10**

"But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort" **1 Corinthians 14:3**

#### **WHY DO WE SPEAK WITH TONGUES AND WHAT IS INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES IN THE CHURCH?**

"Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues." **1 Corinthians 14:39**

"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal...to another prophecy." **1 Corinthians 12:7, 10**

"I would that ye spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying." **1 Corinthians 14:5**

"If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret." **1 Corinthians 14:27**

#### **WHY DO WE PRAY CORPORATELY?**

"And when they heard that, they lifted their voice up to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is" **Acts 4:24**

#### **WHY DO WE SING CHORUSES AND HYMNS?**

"And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" **Ephesians 5:18-19**

"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the lord"  
**Colossians 3:16**

#### **WHY ARE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS PLAYED DURING WORSHIP SERVICES?**

"Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; praise Him with the psaltery and harp. Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise HIM with stringed instruments and organs.

Praise Him upon the loud cymbals; praise Him upon the high sounding cymbals" **Psalms 150: 3-5**

"And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder; and I heard the voice of harpers harping with harps" **Revelation 14:2**

#### **WHY DO WE ANOINT PEOPLE WITH OIL AND PRAY?**

"Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord" **James 5:14**

#### **WHY DO WE DANCE IN THE SPIRIT?**

"Praise Him with the timbrel and dance" **Psalms 150:4**

"Let them praise His name in the dance; let them sing praises unto Him with the timbrel and the harp"

**Psalms 149:3; Jeremiah 31:4; Exodus 15:210, II Samuel 6:14**

## **HISTORY OF AGAPE WORSHIP CENTER INTERNATIONAL CHURCH OF GOD**

The Agape Worship Center, Church of God humble beginnings started prior to Bishop Collins attending the South Carolina State Minister's Conference in January 2002. At that time, he was fasting, praying and seeking God's direction for his life. During this conference God implanted and reinforced His will for his life. God birthed in him a vision for Agape Worship Center.

On January 14, 2002, a powerful message came forth through the evening speaker taken from Habakkuk 2:2-3, titled "The Power of A Vision". Bishop Collins knew the message was directed to him and coming straight from the throne room of God.

On January 15, 2002, he was awakened by the Holy Spirit. As he fell on his face seeking God, revelation became clear in purpose, God's will and direction for his life. He was to birth a ministry of evangelism and outreach that would be multiracial, reaching all tongues and nations spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ. In this vision, he saw wounded people who had only a form of godliness and individuals bound by the spirit of religion, pride, self-righteousness and lost in sin. His ministry would be to reach them through the unconditional love of God by preaching and teaching His Word. People would be set free as they became spiritually healthy through the power of God's anointing. As God continued, He revealed him standing in a very large white building overseeing a gathering of people that was too large for him to number.

Bishop Collins became restless and driven by the vision. He knew God was up to something larger than himself. He had no details, no plans or strategies, only a vision.

Prior to writing down the vision, God revealed Himself strong and sent individuals to who would assist in supporting the ministry. God demonstrated where there was vision; He would make all provisions to bring it to pass.

In April 2002, seven people met on Thursday night, at 7PM at the Outreach House, 3608 Greenway Drive, Columbia, South Carolina.

In May 2002, the congregation membership increased to thirteen, with an average weekly attendance of twenty-five. The services were changed to Sunday mornings at 10:30AM and held at Hampton Inn on Two Notch Road, Columbia, South Carolina.

## PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY

**Agape Worship Center International** is committed to love, acceptance and forgiveness always striving to bring unity to the Body of Jesus Christ. AWCI is a place where Jesus Christ will be lifted up as He draws men unto Him. **Psalms 133:1-3; Ephesians 4:1-6; John 12:32**

**Agape Worship Center International** will focus on being a community driven ministry that worships Jesus Christ. The purpose of mankind is to worship God as we enjoy His creations. The greatest commandment is to "love God with your whole heart and worship Him in spirit and in truth". **Matthew 22:36-40; John 4:24; Ephesians 1:4-6**

**Agape Worship Center International** will be a church that witnesses the gospel of Jesus Christ through evangelism to a lost and dying world. AWCI is committed to witnessing the saving grace of Jesus Christ and winning the unchurched through love, acceptance and forgiveness. **Matthew 28:18; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46**

**Agape Worship Center International** is committed to building up the Body of Christ and a ministry that will continue to enlarge its foundation on spiritual edification, honoring and glorifying Jesus Christ as the Head of the Church. **Matthew 28:18; Acts 20:17; Romans 12:1, 1 Corinthians 12**

**Agape Worship Center International** is committed to the ministry of the Word by preaching and teaching the uncompromised gospel of Jesus Christ bringing Christians to spiritual maturity. AWCI will build through Bible Enrichment and Discipleship Training classes, Life-Groups, Leadership classes, and specialized training. **II Timothy 3:16-17; Psalms 19:7-11; Acts 6:2**

**Agape Worship Center International** is committed to focusing on fellowship and spiritual growth through life groups. As AWCI incorporates new believers into the Body of Christ, it is essential to develop their spiritual gifts, nurturing spiritual development and their wellness for service in the church and the kingdom of God. **Acts 2:44-45; Acts 4:32-37; 1 Corinthians 12:14**

**Agape Worship Center International** is committed to communion of the holy sacraments representing the Lord's Supper. A great spiritual benefit occurs when the Lord's Supper is properly observed. AWCI celebrates in a reverential approach that brings meaningful, uplifting and edification to personal growth in Jesus Christ. **I Corinthians 11:17-32; Acts 2:42**

**Agape Worship Center International** is committed to the ministry of prayer and fasting. The Holy Scriptures declared that some things only come through prayer and fasting. AWCI believes that prayer moves God and changes our circumstances. The effectual and fervent prayer of the righteous accomplishes much. **James 5:14-18; Philippians 4:5-7; Acts 1:14; 3:1-4; 3:31; 6:6**

**Agape Worship Center International** is committed to the ministry of evangelism and outreach. AWCI incorporate the life of the church, education, connections and inspiration to reach the unchurched in local communities, state and the world through outreaches. **Acts 5:42**

**Agape Worship Center International** is committed to the ministry of missions. In efforts to fulfill the Great Commission, AWCI supports missions programs in the local church. The Lord's commission to disciple all the nations includes efforts to reach beyond the local church, state and international communities by sending, supporting and interceding for those who are sent to reach the lost. **Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 13:1-3, 14:27, 15:36-40**

### WHY DO WE STAND TO WORSHIP AND SING?

"And the Levites...of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the Lord God of Israel with a loud voice on high. **II Chronicles 20:19**

"After this I beheld, and lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." **Revelations 7:9-10**

## WHY DO WE CLAP AND LIFT OUR HANDS?

"O clap your hands all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph" **Psalms 47:1**

"Thus I will bless Thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in Thy name" **Psalms 63:4**

"Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and bless the Lord"  
**Psalms 134:2**

"I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting." **1 Timothy 2:8**

## WHY DO WE HAVE AUDIBLE PRAISE UNTO GOD?

"Bless the Lord, O my soul' and all that is within me bless His holy name." **Psalms 103:1**

"And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven saying, Alleluia; Salvation and glory and honor, and power unto the Lord our God...And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of mighty thunders, saying Alleluia; for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth." **Revelation 19:1, 6**

## WHY DO WE PRAY IN TONGUES AND IN ENGLISH?

"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is it then? I will pray with the Spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also."  
**1 Corinthians 14:14-15**

## WHAT IS THE MINISTRY OF PROPHECY?

"...the Lord God hath spoken, but who can but prophesy?"  
**Amos 3:8**

"But he that propheth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort." **1 Corinthians 14:3**

## AWCI MINISTRY FOCUS

**CHILDREN:** The future of the world rest in the foundational building of our children. AWCI mandate is to prepare them for the challenges they will face on daily basis by teaching and empowering a generation of children who will know their potentials in Christ. Our goal is to offer age-appropriate activities and important learning experiences applicable to the Word of God with an environment that fosters a place where church is fun, safe and they can call it home.

**TEENS:** Youth may be the most misunderstood individuals in our society today. AWCI understands their need to belong and personal growth in Jesus Christ, our only hope. Our commitment is to be positive role models, being living examples of Christ, and have a faith rooted and grounded in Jesus Christ. The leaders are prepared to share and impart that hope of Glory, Jesus Christ, to every teenager that comes through our doors.

**FAMILY:** A Christ matured church is created on a solid foundation that labors to build strong families. AWCI offers a place where parents, singled or married, young or seasoned can feel safe, welcome and valued. Agape endeavors to be that place where parents can bring their children and be assured that the highest care is taken for their moral, physical and spiritual welfare. AWCI is the place you can assuredly call home.

**SINGLES/YOUNG ADULT:** In today's culture it has become the norm to reside among a multitude of confusion on our jobs, in our nation, internationally and in our homes. This ministry is designed for age group 19 -31 to bring balance through the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. It is through Him that stability and confidence is restored. AWCI understands being single can be satisfying and but a place of loneliness. As a church family, we are committed to serving the singles in our communities as we grow together in Christ.

**SENIORS:** AWCI values the years of knowledge and Godly wisdom that senior brings to the ministry. Our seniors are respected, valued, honored and loved. Seniors are the living examples of the joy, fulfillment and commitment to Jesus Christ as they grow stronger in their faith, lives and ministry to the Body of Christ. **Job 32:7** (NLT) states "Age should speak; advanced years should teach wisdom."

**FRIENDS:** AWCI places emphasis on life groups and the value of fostering friendships through worship and fellowship. At AWCI, you will find friends and family as God brings out our best through love, acceptance and forgiveness.

## ABOUT OUR PASTOR AND FIRST LADY

Bishop Vincent D. and Christle L. Collins bring to the Agape Worship Center International Church of God thirty-plus years of marriage, ministry and prior military service. Bishop Collins is known for his ability to communicate biblical truth in a simplistic manner ranging from practical teaching to inspirational preaching. His philosophy in establishing AWCI is to minister the gospel of Jesus Christ through love, acceptance and forgiveness. He is a native of Winter Haven, Florida and his wife Christle, is a native of South Hill, Virginia. He is the Senior Pastor of the Agape Worship Center International. Bishop Collins travels as a well renowned international speaker for revivals, conferences, and camp meetings.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Voorhees College, a Master of Divinity Degree in Pastoral Leadership from Columbia International University, Columbia, South Carolina. Bishop Collins is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Ministry Degree.

He serves on the Church of God State Council, member of the Church Planting Advisory Committee for South Carolina, Pastors Advisory Committee for Ministry to the Military International Church of God. He formerly served as Chair of State Church Ministries Board. Bishop Collins is a active member of the Columbia Rotary Club and served twenty-two years in the United States Army prior to retiring in May 2002.

Pastor Christle holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Excelsior College in General Business and several Master Degrees from Webster University in: Human Resources Management, Management and Leadership, Human Resources Development and Information Technology Management. She serves on the South Carolina Church of God Women Ministries Board. Pastor Christle served twenty-six years in the United States Army prior to retiring in October 2005.

The Collins has one daughter, Christy Collins Nicholson. She currently resides in Charlotte, North Carolina.

## DECLARATION OF FAITH

### We Believe:

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons: namely the Father, Son and Holy Ghost
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead. That He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the Blood of Christ, through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the Blood of Christ, through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism with the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement
12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet
13. In the pre-millennial second coming of Jesus. First to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth for a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous, and eternal punishment for the wicked.

# AGAPE WORSHIP CENTER INTERNATIONAL

# CHURCH OF GOD

## Confession of Faith

### Confession of Faith

The Agape Worship Center International Church of God is a ministry committed to reaching the world for Jesus Christ through love, acceptance and forgiveness.

People are standing in line to get in this church to hear the Word of God. Every seat is filled in every service with expectations of signs, wonders and miracles.

Every need in this ministry is met because we are 100% tithe gives. All of our property is paid off in full and we owe nothing to man but to love him.

Every member of this church is healed, healthy, blessed, prosperous and Spirit-filled. Being confident of this very thing, that He who hath begun a good work in us will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

In Christ, we shall succeed in everything. The doors of failure have been closed and we shall not know defeat. (Repeat three times)

We are fully persuaded that what He hath promised, God is able to perform.

In Jesus' Name!! Amen, Amen



What makes the Agape Worship Center International (AWCI) a special place to worship is the atmosphere of loving God and loving people and serving others. AWCI serves you through ministries that are designed to meet the on regularly basis through church-wide activities for you and your family. It is our vision that relationships are established and Jesus Christ is magnified and the Holy Spirit has complete liberty. AWCI is a fast growing church in the northeast Columbia area where many have established the ministry as a place to call home. The mission of the AWCI is to bring the saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ to all through love, acceptance and forgiveness.

If you do not know Jesus Christ as your personal savior, we invite you to accept Him right now. John 3:16 states, For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. If you desire to be saved, you must "confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9-10)

We welcome you and extend a personal invitation to make AWCI your church home.

Please let us know if we may be of service to you.

In His Service,  
*Bishop Vincent and Christle Collins*  
Senior Pastors

## WORSHIP WITH US

### MONDAYS

Intercessory Prayer  
(1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays)  
Life Giver's Ministry 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday  
6:30PM  
7:00PM  
7:00PM

### TUESDAYS

Tribes of Judah Dance Team Rehearsal  
6:30PM

### WEDNESDAYS

Bible Enrichment classes  
Boys Club (ages 5-12)  
Girls Club (ages 3-12)  
H.E.A.T Bible Study (ages 13-19)  
Youth/Children Choir Rehearsal  
(2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday)  
7:00 PM  
7:00 PM  
7:00 PM  
7:00 PM  
6:30 PM

### THURSDAYS

Praise & Worship Rehearsals  
Adult Choir Rehearsals  
Mime Ministry Rehearsals  
Noon-Day Bible Study  
6:30 PM  
7:00 PM  
7:00 PM  
12:00 PM

### SATURDAYS

Children's Liturgical Dance Rehearsals  
(2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday)  
Mime Rehearsals (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday)  
9:00 AM  
9:00 AM

### SUNDAYS

Early Worship Service  
Children's Church  
Discipleship Training (Adult, Young Adult, Youth, Children,  
Gate Theology)  
Worship Service  
Children's Church  
9:00 AM  
9:00 AM  
10:30 AM  
11:00 AM  
11:00 AM

### OTHER SERVICES/MINISTRIES

Leadership Training (2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays)  
Women's Fellowship (3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)  
Single's Ministry (3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays)  
Men's Fellowship (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays)  
5:30 PM  
7:00 PM  
7:00 PM  
9:30 AM

**TAPES AVAILABLE:** If you would like to order a CD/DVD of any of the services, please visit the Media store to place your order.

CD-\$5

DVD-\$7



# AGAPE WORSHIP CENTER INTERNATIONAL



## CHURCH OF GOD

## WELCOME BOOKLET

424 LEE ROAD • COLUMBIA SC • 29229

803.454.2373

[www.agapeworship.org](http://www.agapeworship.org)

E-mail: [agapeassistant@yahoo.com](mailto:agapeassistant@yahoo.com)