

IWC LILONGWE DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

LESSON: HISTORY OF PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS ASSOCIATION



Contents

1. Background to Pentecostalism
2. Formation of the Pentecostal Holiness Association
3. PHA in Africa
4. Brief History of the International Worship Centre (IWC) – Lilongwe
5. Mission of IWC - Lilongwe
6. Benediction

PHA in Africa

1. Background of Pentecostalism

Pentecostalism is a Protestant Evangelical movement emphasizing personal experience with God through baptism in the Holy Spirit. Rooted in Pentecost (Acts 2:1–31), it upholds biblical authority, spiritual gifts like speaking in tongues, and miraculous signs, reflecting the Apostolic Age.

Pentecostalism emerged in the early 20th century from the Wesleyan-Holiness movement, fuelled by revivalism and the expectation of Christ's imminent return. In 1900, Charles Parham taught that speaking in tongues was the evidence of Spirit baptism. William J. Seymour later led the **Azusa Street Revival** (1906–1909), which propelled Pentecostalism's global expansion, with most early Pentecostal denominations tracing their origins to this revival.

2. Formation of the Pentecostal Holiness Association

1912 – On May 7, A group of believers, committed to a Full Gospel (for both Soul and Body) and seeking church organization, led by God, established the **Pentecostal Holiness Church** in *Buffalo, New York*.

Their motivations included

1. Determination to know nothing among men except Jesus Christ and Him crucified,
2. Feeling the great burden for souls,
3. Seeing the great spiritual death around them, and
4. the lack of clear Bible teaching along the lines of Justification, Sanctification, the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire, also Water Baptism and the healing of the body.

1912 – On August 1, At the first Annual Conference, the church was officially incorporated as the **Pentecostal Holiness Association (PHA)** in *Greece, Monroe Country, New York*.

The purpose of PHA was agreed to be:

- Salvation of the lost,
- Giving aid to the needy, fallen and afflicted, and

- Bringing to those who walk in spiritual darkness the knowledge and love of God through the teaching of His Word.

The first Trustees of PHA were: Fred S. Perkins (**Chairman**), William F. Hassel (**Clerk**), Lorin L. Mandeville, Andrew J. Henderson, David N. Thomas, Frank Fremont, John Lawrence.

3. PHA in Africa

1928 - PHA was brought to Africa by a member of Assemblies of God Church, **Paul Derr**, a Dutch missionary from America. PHA started in Igale, Mbeya Region in Tanzania on October 10, 1928.

1932 - PHA moved to *Malawi* and started at **Kameme, Chitipa** by Noah Sibale.

1959 - PHA was registered with the Government on 10th November 1959.

1966 - A new certificate of incorporation was obtained under the Trustees Act Chapter 5.03 of the Laws of Malawi in 1966 to align the church with political change and new legal requirements of the country.

1931 - On 2nd May, 1931, a resolution was passed at the Annual Conference convened in *Union City, Pennsylvania*, authorizing the formation of an African Conference.

4. Brief History of the International Worship Centre (IWC) – Lilongwe

Rev. Saswell Kayuni was appointed to lead the City Church in Area 49 on 18th September 2017. Midweek services began on 6th December 2017 at his residence. The first English service at Area 24 Church was held on 18th March 2018, attended by 43 worshipers.

2017 - On 18th September, Rev. Saswell Kayuni was appointed by Bishop A. Lwesya to lead the City Church to be based in Area 49.

2017 – On 6th December, the church started midweek services operating at Rev Saswell and Laureen Kayuni’s residence in Area 49.

2017 – On 18th March, with motivation from students at MAGU & ABC Universities, the church started to conduct English Services at Area 24 PHA church. There were 43 worshipers that attended the first service from 07:00 to 08:45 am.

5. Mission of IWC - Lilongwe

Goal: To grow a diverse community of believers who serve Jesus Christ with their time, talents, and resources.

Vision: “A community of worshipers from different generations and nations, learning, growing, and serving God together in the Spirit-empowered life of faith.”

Mission: To honor Jesus Christ by inspiring worship, love, learning, and leadership through the Word of God and the Holy Spirit's power.

Core Values:

- **Worship** – True worshipers for God.
- **Love** – Connecting and engaging across generations and nationalities.
- **Strong Relationships** – Family-oriented faith.
- **The Word of God** – Discipleship and spiritual growth.
- **Prayer** – Unceasing and sincere prayer.
- **Innovation** – Creative ministry approaches without compromising biblical truth.

Objectives:

By 2025, IWC aims to have 1,500 regular worshipers:

- **Children (5–10 years):** 300
- **Youths (10–17 years):** 200
- **Young Adults (18–35 years):** 700
- **Adults (36–50 years):** 200
- **Senior Adults (51–70 years):** 100

Key Strategies:

1. **Evangelism** – Spreading the Gospel and retaining believers.
2. **Teaching** – Deploying ministers to train believers for spiritual maturity.
3. **Prayer** – Strengthening faith through fervent prayer.
4. **Stewardship** – Managing human, financial, and material resources effectively.
5. **Praise & Worship** – Establishing IWC as a worship-centered church.
6. **Worship Services** – Creating meaningful worship experiences for all.
7. **Worship Environment** – Maintaining an inviting and modern place of worship.
8. **Partnerships** – Building community service and support networks.

6. Benediction

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all” (2 Corinthians 13:14).