

July 16-20, 2014: EOEC hosted the 2014 UOEC conference for the first time.

The Conference was held at EOEC, Portland Ave S., Minneapolis, MN, from July 16-20, 2014. It has two components: **Business meeting** and **Spiritual conference**.

The **Business Meeting** was conducted on July 16 and 17, 2014 and was attended by a maximum of two delegates from each member church. It was open to observers. Member churches attended by country were as follows:

USA by State: Arizona, California (two), Colorado, Georgia, Kansas, Maryland, Minnesota (two), Nevada, Ohio (two), Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington, Washington DC (two),

Canada: Toronto, Winnipeg

Kenya: Nairobi

Germany: Berlin

Oromia: Finfine Mekaneyesus

Church affiliates: Fellowship Of Christian University Students (FOCUS), Divine harvest international

Among agenda items that drew a lot of attention and debate was the case of ELCA membership. In response to the August 2009 ELCA's General Assembly resolution; to ordain and call actively homosexuals to serve as pastor in ELCA-member churches, in diversion from biblical teachings, the UOEC has adapted three resolutions over the past years: Portland July 2010, Minneapolis March 2011 and Las Vegas July 2012, recommending to all UOEC-member churches to exit the ELCA as soon as possible. Unfortunately, some churches defied the resolutions and maintained their membership with the ELCA. This time, a stronger resolution supported by the overwhelming majority of members, that asks all UOEC-member churches to exit the ELCA within a year was adapted. A time line was added to this resolution, to underscore the importance of the issue to the UOEC and to further urge ELCA-member churches to take action and be done with the matter that has been a source of division and contentious debate among UOEC-member churches during yearly business meetings since 2009 and embark in unison towards advancing the missions of churches on Earth. It is hoped that all UOEC-member churches would have exited the ELCA before the next conference, to be held in Winnipeg, Canada.

The **Spiritual Conference** started on July 17, 2014 evening with formal opening ceremony that included welcome and good wish remarks by presidents of EOEC and

UOEC. It continued with three sessions: Morning, Day and Evening hours from Friday July 18, 2014 to Sunday July 20, 2014. Morning sessions were mainly prayers and attended by fewer people, while the day and evening hour sessions featured worship, choir/solo singers, sermons, and prayers and each session was attended by as many as 500 to 600 people. It was a remarkable conference in which the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ was felt and people were healed from bed-bounding, long-standing illnesses. Many attendees witnessed that, this was the first UOEC conference in recent history in which they really experienced the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ and worshipped Him with reverence and true sense of freedom. Many were impressed by the number of attendees, friendly and lovely nature of interaction between people, and hospitality of UOEC members both at church and their homes.

Breakfast, lunch, dinner with coffee/tea and water were served to all attendees for free throughout the conference.