Forward, Ever Forward! Elder Patricia A. Lewis Delivered: January 28, 2018

Under the leading of the Holy Spirit, Apostle Leander Robinson stated that the 2018 theme for CWCC is, "FORWARD! EVER FORWARD! This is a continuation of the word that we received in 2017, The Year of Completion and Triumph, Pressing Toward the Goal – On Purpose – For Purpose. Our battle cry or marching order is "FORWARD! EVER FORWARD! We are to move forward as a church body to the goal of completing the edifice, which we physically started in 2017. Out of the many merges one. We are to move in oneness as a body. Continued unity is key this year. The motto of CWCC is "Family is Key at CWCC." We must march as one.

FORWARD! EVER FORWARD! Is to be applied to our continued pursuit and support of the building of the edifice, to receive the new families to this local flock, and godly musicians who are skilled and also moving forward in God. The Lord also wants us to move forward in our personal goals. It might seem that things are not moving in our lives, but we must say what the Shunammite woman said in II Kings 4:23 when her son died. She did not proclaim death, rather she said, "it is well." In verse 24 after saddling a donkey, she said to her servant, "Drive, and go forward; do not slacken the pace for me unless I tell you." The Lord worked through the prophet and restored life to the Shunammite woman's son. We must focus our energy on our corporate and personal goals with urgency this year and not slacken the pace. In other words, resurrect dreams that seem to be dead in the water. Put them front and center and work on them. Bring them to life. Don't forget to seek help when needed.

CWCC, we serve an awesome God. He placed in my spirit a reminder of the 23rd Psalm (NLT), that He is our Shepherd and He provides all that we need. He lets us rest in green meadows and leads us beside peaceful streams. He renews our strength... He has given us all we need to complete the tasks at hand. We have our marching orders...FORWARD! EVER FORWARD!