

THE LOGOS



Connected: Scatter to Gather

"Lord Transform Me"

A Weekly Publication of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Editor: Joan M. Scavella Sunsets: 7:34 p.m. | Volume 21, Number 35 | August 27, 2016

N O T E A R S L E F T T O C R Y



Are you emotionally exhausted? Have you been repeatedly wounded by a loved one? Have you shed copious tears over the years? Have you been

disappointed over and over again by your lover, spouse, or significant other in your life? Through all of this pain, stress, and misery; you have cried, sometimes leaving you sapped of all energy. Now you feel as if you have no more tears left to cry. You have said all you could say. You have pleaded, discussed, begged, argued, and reasoned, but to no avail. You have spoken to the first elder, the pastors, your close friend, and it is as though nobody believes you. You have compromised your values, changed your lifestyle, and perhaps even joined another church, just to see if it would make a difference, but it did not. You went to bed hungry, avoided purchasing clothing, changed your dress style; but you are still in the relationship. Perhaps you have a few chronic illnesses due to the long-term stress, and you are still there. You have been abused and it seems there is no help for you.

I want to ask you a few questions: What should you do? Is it time to leave? Is it time to give up? Is it worth staying? After all these years of pain, sleepless nights, serious physical illnesses, do you think God is still expecting you to stay? Do you feel trapped because you have given up so much, too long, and you feel there is nowhere to turn? Do you stay, because the pastor told you that you were required to stay despite the physical and verbal abuse?

If you answered yes to any of these questions then I want to encourage you to be bold and do something to make yourself happy.

Here are a few suggestions:

1. If you have not done so yet, seek professional help. A well-trained therapist can help you sort out your feelings and may have strategies to bring healing to the relationship.
2. Write a letter to your partner about your pain and hope. Remember to focus on your feelings and not on what the other person has done. Use the "I" word instead of the "you" word. Say, "I am hurt when you call me names." Do not say, "You always call me bad names."

3. Talk to a friend or pastor who is confidential and supportive.
4. If you have done all you can then know that you have the power to chart your own course. You are not an animal or a little child. You are a grown adult. Hold your chin up and move forward. Yes, it might mean leaving the comfort of the house or the car. It might mean depending on another family member to provide. However, you will have peace of mind and your physical and emotional health will get stronger.
5. Say to yourself, "God made me complete, unique, special, and with a purpose. Therefore, I don't need anyone to be somebody because God made me somebody."
6. Rise up and change your life.
7. Pray.

In the Seventh-day Adventist Church around the world, the fourth Sabbath in August each year is an important day. It is called *enditnow* Sabbath. It is a day to bring awareness and education about domestic violence in all its forms. Adventist world leaders are aware that far too many Adventists are victims of abuse or are abusers themselves. Today we remind everyone to be a warm heart, comfortable place, or gentle spirit to everyone. Let's listen to the pain and make a difference in the lives of those who are being abused. -Pastor Barrington Brennen, Assistant to the President; Associate Communication Director

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Mangrove Cay Seventh-day Adventist Church
Mangrove Cay is calling! Come over into Macedonia and help us. This settlement, the newest entered territory of the South Bahamas Conference, is planning great things for the next twelve months. The Mangrove Cay Seventh-day Adventist Church will hold their first camp meeting on September 24 and 25, 2016. Be a part of history and plan to join us for our first camp meeting. Contact us for details by calling 341-4021 or email us at paul.a.scavella@gmail.com

Documentary on the Work in SBC

Our conference is preparing a documentary that traces the work of the Adventist Church in the South Bahamas Conference (SBC). In this regard, we are seeking to identify persons who can contribute to this effort. The conference requests written and verbal information on the work in New Providence, as well as on the Family Islands. Kindly contact Pastor Barrington Brennen or the media department if you have valuable information that can make this effort meaningful.

Campsite, GMCI, and Auditorium

The campsite is undergoing a \$40,000.00 upgrade. It is our intention to have the campsite, the Global Mission Centre of Influence (GMCI), and the proposed multi-purpose auditorium managed by a board. Maintenance of these facilities will necessitate stringent management; therefore, fees will be attached to the use of the facilities. In this vein, there will be an on-site caretaker at Camp BAMIVOCA in September 2016. The constituency is asked to be aware of these proposals, and to cooperate with the soon-to-be appointed facilities' administrative board.

Mayaguana

The conference administration is prayerfully seeking to open and grow the work in Mayaguana. This is a part of the strategic plan for the quadrennium. If you wish to engage in this pioneering effort, kindly contact the office of the president and ask for Pastor Barrington Brennen. The targeted month for entry is November.

The Oakwood Aeolians & Groundbreaking of Multi-Purpose Building

The Oakwood University Aeolians will visit the South Bahamas Conference on January 4 - 9 2017. They will perform during the official launch and groundbreaking of the Adventist multi-purpose building in New Providence. The administration recommended this venture to the conference committee who voted the approval of the project. The administration subsequently called a meeting with the elders of the conference and got their support to move forward by faith. This objective calls for much prayer. The groundwork has begun. Members, begin to pray, and get ready to participate in this "faith + works" initiative in October 2016. Mrs. Audrey Dean-Wright, conference music director and her team are immersed in plans for the unforgettable concert that will *push* the project. -Pastor Paul Scavella, President

ATCU PRAYER INITIATIVE

The prayer focus of our union, the Atlantic Caribbean Union (ATCU) for August 28 - September 3, 2016 is: **Grant's Town, and New Englerston Churches in the South Bahamas Conference**. Join the entire union in prayer. -Pastor Peter Joseph, Prayer Coordinator

DO YOU ATTEND NORTHERN CARIBBEAN UNIVERSITY?

If you are a student at Northern Caribbean University, please contact the Office of Education at the South Bahamas Conference. -Mrs. Joan Scavella, Director of Education

SBC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Special thanks to all who supported the EnditNow Forum held on Thursday, August 25; in particular, the Living Faith Seventh-day Adventist Church for being such gracious hosts.

MEETING FOR ATTENDEES OF ATCU RETREAT

There will be an important meeting at the SBC office on Monday, August 29 at 5:15 p.m. for all ladies attending the retreat in The Cayman Islands Conference.

THIRD QUARTER'S EVENTS

August 27 EnditNow Emphasis Day (all local Churches)
September 17 Zone 3 Community Out-reach at Her Majesty's Prison
Sept. 31 - Oct. 2 Cayman Islands Women's Ministries Retreat -*Sister Jacqueline Gibson, Women's Ministries Director*

COUNTDOWN TO WINNING YOUR HEALTH GOSPEL CAMPAIGN

The Health Ministries Department of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists invites you to attend

WINNING YOUR HEALTH CAMPAIGN

Join us for an experience of a lifetime of health and wellness

Pastor Dudley Hosin
Health & Family Life Educator

Dr. Alphaeus Allick
Specialist Medical Doctor

AUGUST 20 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2016
Living Faith Seventh-day Adventist Church
Old Trail Road

SPECIAL FEATURES
Blood Screenings, Health Talk
Cooking Demos & Tasting
Exercise & Fitness Demo
Natural Remedies

WEEKLY MEETING TIMES:
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (6:30 p.m.)
Friday and Saturday (6:30 p.m.)
Saturday (9:30 A.M.)

HEALTH TOPICS & MUCH MORE
Choose Life
Rest is Best
Laughter is Good Medicine

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:
Contact 341-3021 or 323-0610

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21ST
Blood Screening
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

-Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix, Health Ministries Director

HEALTH EMPHASIS WEEK

Health Emphasis Week will be celebrated on September 17 - 24, 2016. The theme of the week is "Healthy Churches". -Mrs. N. LaCroix

BAHAMAS ACADEMY UPDATES

*Tuesday, August 30, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. - Orientation for parents of the Early Learning Centre.
*Thursday, September 1, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. - Orientation for parents of the Elementary and Secondary Divisions.
*Friday, September 2, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon - Orientation for new students of all divisions.
*Monday, September 5, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. school reopens for all students. -*Office of Education*

SINGLES: BONDAGE OR FREEDOM

The Singles' Ministry of the Centreville Seventh-day Adventist Church cordially invites you to attend the Single: Bondage or Freedom meetings on Friday, September 2, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. and on Sabbath, September 3, 2016 at

11:00 a.m. The guest speaker will be Dr. Stanley James. Do not miss this event! -*Ms. Tanya Young, Singles' Ministry, Centreville Seventh-day Adventist Church*

SALE AT ADVENTIST BOOK CENTRE

Visit your ABC and take advantage of the Back-to-School sale on August 31, 2016! Store hours: Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Monday to Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and on Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. -*Mrs. Cherry Blackmore, ABC Manager*

"KIDSVILLE"

VBS AT NEW LIFE IN INAGUA

New Life Seventh-day Adventist Church "Kidsville" Vacation Bible School (VBS) can now be written in the annals of history! This came as a result of a dream. One night in May, Elder Winston Ash dreamt that God was calling him to take Vacation Bible School to Inagua. The vision was shared. Approval was granted and thus after much planning, we were ready to make New Life Kidsville Vacation Bible School a reality.

The mission began on August 3, 2016 when Elder Ash and I arrived in Inagua. The team consisted of six persons from the Grant's Town Seventh-day Adventist Church: Sisters Lillian Forbes (VBS Director), Olinthea Albury and Mykel Mackey (Opening and Closing Exercises and Bible Adventures), Glenda Rolle (Connection Station - Prayer), Esther Newton (Creative Station - Craft), and Sally Fernander (Meals) arrived on August 5, 2016 along with Sis. Catherine Gibson (Snack Shack) and her husband Bro. Lowell Gibson and their son Yannick from the Centreville Seventh-day Adventist Church. Sis. Tonika Prophete (Play Station - Games) of New Life Seventh-day Adventist Church made the team complete.

While Sis. Gibson and her family lived with her brother Lindsey the rest of the team was blessed to find a house to accommodate all of us. This was great for camaraderie and good Christian fellowship. Worship time both morning and evening was special. Meal times, which included our next-door neighbor, Brother Clement McKinney was always a delightful time.

On Monday, August 8, 2016, **Kidsville VBS, where Jesus loves others through you**, got off to a good start with 31 enthusiastic children, ages 3 to 14. Attendance grew daily. In spite of the fact that another VBS was being held at the same time, we closed with 44 students. They came each day to learn the action point, memorize the Bible verse, sing the action songs and participate in each station's activity. The culmination came at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 13 when each group displayed in song, drama and speech what they learned during the week. The highlight of the graduation, which was attended by 37 students, parents and well-wishers was watching the children star in the video and receive their certificates.

We celebrated two Sabbaths with the New Life Church brethren during our stay. On the first Sabbath, Elder Ash directed our thoughts to the older son in Luke 15:25 - 32. On the second Sabbath our attention was drawn to Nehemiah and the rebuilding of the wall around Jerusalem. This second sermon caused Elder

Ash to look at the plight of the few brethren in Inagua and to do something to help them. He discovered from Mrs. Balfour, a non-Adventist, that sixty years ago the Seventh-day Adventists worshipped in The Society Hall under the leadership of Pastor Roy Fernander. The **miracle** is that the members now have a contract to occupy the Society Hall again but much help is needed for renovation.

Bro. Clement McKinney made sure that we got to enjoy the sights and sounds of Inagua. He was our guide as we toured the Morton Salt Company, captured the flamingos in living colours, visited the cave and toured the island. In addition, the younger ones of us climbed to the top of the lighthouse. Those of us at the school were fortunate to hear and see the beautiful Bahama parrots. Alas! We did not even catch a glimpse of a wild donkey but, thankfully, we did not encounter any of the dreaded mosquitoes either.

As we come to the end of this mission, we will be forever grateful to Sister Jacqueline Prophete who was our facilitator in Inagua preparing the way for us, Bro. Clement McKinney, Mrs Willamae Bridgewater, Principal of Inagua All Age School, and Mr. Lindsey Burrows, our nephew for helping to make this venture a great success.

Extra special thanks to all of our team members, as well as the officers of South Bahamas Conference, Sis. Anniemae Armbrister, Sis. Cherry Nesbitt, Elder Tyrone and Sis. Ingrid Paul and Sis. Linda Hepburn for all the assistance they gave. Thanks also to all of you who prayed that God would make this mission a success. Above all, to God be the honour, glory and praise for a mission accomplished. We look forward to the New Life VBS 2017 with great anticipation! -*Mrs. Estherlean C. Ash, Assistant Coordinator; New Life VBS Program*

CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT MINISTRIES

-Art Exhibition-

The CHAM Art Exhibition will be held at Bahamas Academy on Marshall Road on September 12 -15 and 18, 2016. Exhibition room will be opened at the following times:

Monday - Thursday: 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The exhibition will be closed on Friday and Saturday, September 16, and 17.

Get your child's application form from your local CHAM leader or assistant leader. -*Mrs. Joan Scavella, CHAM Director*

**SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH
SEPTEMBER 3, 2016 AT 7:27 P.M.**

Conference website:

<http://southbahamasconference.org>

Email: logos@sbcadventist.com

Have a blessed Sabbath!

