

# THE LOGOS



## Connected: The Refreshing

## "Lord Transform Me"

A Weekly Publication of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Editor: Joan M. Scavella Sunsets: 5:22 p.m. | Volume 22, Number 51 | December 16, 2017

### FISCAL PRUDENCE DURING THE HOLIDAYS



The holiday season brings with it much excitement and joy. It is a time when many gather with family and

friends, exchange gifts, carry out overdue home repairs, travel or purchase that new vehicle they have wanted for so long. It is also a time some receive a little extra funds in the form of bonuses with which to do these activities.

Unfortunately, Christmas is also one of those times of the year that many normally throw caution to the wind and find themselves losing control of their spending. As Christians, we are called to be prudent in our spending. Proverbs 22:3 says, "The prudent sees the evil and hides himself, but the naïve go on and are punished for it." Ellen White counselled the believers to "Let nothing now be spent needlessly, but let every penny that can be spared be put out to the exchangers" (Review and Herald, Dec. 9, 1884). Even though the holiday season can be tough on the wallet, there is no need not to enjoy it or share a gift or two. With a little holiday budgeting and lots of self-control, you can make sure that you have a stress-free and truly joyous holiday season; and January will not be that "long" month that we often say it is. Here are a few simple tips that can help you avoid a financially stressful season:

#### Plan Your Holiday Budget

A good place to begin managing your holiday spending is to plan your holiday budget before entering the store or sitting at the computer, and stick to it. This budget can be an addendum to your regular monthly budget (which every household should have) and does not have to be difficult or time consuming. It should be done as early in the year as possible.

#### Determine the Amount for Holiday Shopping

In preparing the budget, the first thing to determine is how much funds will be available for holiday shopping. To do this, one must identify the monthly expenses (fixed expenses) such as rent or mortgage, utilities, insurance payments, savings and, of course, your tithe and offering. Subtracting this figure from your income, you will have what is available for you

holiday budget. It is important to note that if the planning process begins early in the year, funds can be set aside in the monthly budget towards holiday spending.

#### Make a List of Things You Plan to Buy

Once you know how much is available for spending, the next step is to make a list of the things you plan to spend on. Separate this list into a "must have" list, which will include things such as a laptop for your child making the honor roll, family dinner and so on, and a "like to have" list- things that it would be nice to purchase, but if funds are not available, you can do without.

#### Rank the Items According to Importance

Now it's time to make some decisions. Rank the items on your list based on importance and dollar value. Doing a little research to determine how much you are planning to spend on each person or things will be very beneficial at this stage. Then come up with a plan for spending the money you have left in your budget on the most important items. Being creative with your gift giving such as making homemade gifts, or cooking dinner, can have a positive impact on your budget and is often more appreciated by many. Whichever route you take, let your gift be of real benefit to the receiver; and remember to stick to your plan.

#### Remember the Less Fortunate and God

Finally, but by no means least, when planning our holiday budget, let us not forget the less fortunate and He that is the Master Giver. God has given us not only all that we have, but the greatest gift of all, His Son Jesus, so that we can have eternal life. We are admonished to "...show that we appreciated this gift and respond as far as it is in our power with thank offerings. Let us celebrate Christmas by remembering God instead of remembering our friends and relatives with gifts which they do not need" (RH December 11, 1888, Art. A, par. 20). -Mrs. Kimberly S. Bryan, Associate Treasurer

### 2018 - YEAR OF THE CHILD AND ADOLESCENT

The South Bahamas Conference joins the other fields of the Atlantic Caribbean Union in preparing to celebrate 2018 as the *Year of the Child and Adolescent*. The theme chosen to direct the conference activities is *Living for Jesus*. A launch date will be announced in The Logos on Sabbath, December 23! -Pastor Paul Scavella, President

#### MEETING FOR CHAM LEADERS

A meeting for CHAM leaders and assistants will be held at the South Bahamas Conference Office on Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. It is important that everyone attends. -Mrs. Joan Scavella, CHAM Director

#### ATCU PUSH INITIATIVE

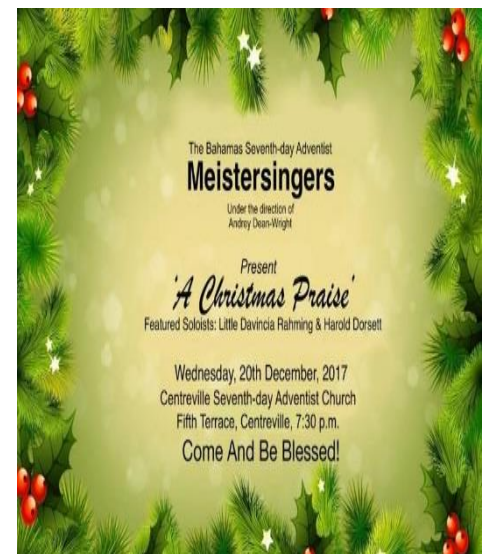
The prayer focus of The Atlantic Caribbean Union (ATCU) for the week, December 17 - 23, 2017 is: *Relationship to Fellow Brethren*. -Pastor Peter Joseph, Prayer Coordinator

#### EVANGELISM AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The Evangelism and Leadership Training for pastors and laity concludes at the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church at 4 o'clock this afternoon. It is a joint service! -Pastor Paul Scavella, President

#### OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

The Berea Children and Adolescent Ministries Department will hold a Christmas programme under the theme "An Old Fashioned Christmas" on Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church. This musical celebrates the birth of Christ using familiar carols. It presents the Christmas story in a fun and lively way, so let the joy of the season ring as the children perform. For more information, email us at [bereastorytime@gmail.com](mailto:bereastorytime@gmail.com). Visit our website at [www.bereasadachurch.com](http://www.bereasadachurch.com). -Elder Eugene Greene, Cham Department



## ADVENTIST BOOK AND NUTRITION CENTRE

The Adventist Book and Nutrition Centre will have a storewide sale on Wednesday and Thursday, December 20 and 21, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. -Mrs. Cherry Blackmore, Manager

## PRAYER MINISTRIES CONFERENCE

The 3rd Annual SBC Prayer Ministries Prayer Conference and Retreat will be held at the Courtyard Marriot on West Bay Street in New Providence, Bahamas on February 1 - 4, 2018. Call 341-4021 to reserve your room! Residential or non-residential registration is available. Space is limited. Call Elder David Knowles: 4251191, or Elder Keble Dawkins: 455-0276, or Sis. Ali McIntosh: 423-2709 for package prices. -Prayer Ministries

## LESSONS FROM THE FIRST 50

The Women's Ministries Department of the Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church will host a free women's seminar on the theme, *Lessons from the First Fifty* at their church on Bailou Road South on Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. All young women 18 years and older are invited to attend and learn these lessons to improve their lives. Please register by calling 601-1392; WhatsApp at 802-3668 or email at footworks242@gmail.com. Lunch is provided along with gifts, prizes and surprises. Dress code casual jeans and white top. This event is free. -Ms. Martha Rolle, Berea Women's Ministries Leader

## A FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

The Philadelphia and Redemption District presents *A Festival of Carols* at the Philadelphia Seventh-day Church on Sabbath, December 23, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. All are invited to attend. You will be blessed! -Mrs. Annette L. Dorsett, Music Coordinator

## WEEK-DAY LOCAL TV PROGRAMS

This is the amended schedule of programs for ATV:

- Around the Conference - Mondays 7:00 a.m.
- Adventist News - Fridays 4:00 p.m.
- Voices - Tuesdays 5:00 p.m.
- NBC Focus - Wednesdays 5:00 p.m.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

December 2017 - Sisters bringing Yuletide - Zone 4 Outreach Initiative Geriatric Home, Her Majesty's Prison and Children's Home. -Sister Jacqueline Gibson, Women's Ministries Director

## HEALTH MINISTRIES Uchee Pines: For Remedies and Preventative Medicine

All persons interested in travelling to Uchee Pines on March 25-29, 2018 to attend the Simple Remedies and Preventive Medicine seminar may contact Sis. Nathelyn LaCroix at 323-0610.

## 8 Weeks to Wellness Save the Date

8 Weeks to Wellness 2018 starts February 5, 2018. Put things in order now for this beneficial exposure to your health! -Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix, Health Ministries Director

## PATHWAY TO HEALTH PHOENIX MISSION TRIP PHOENIX, USA

There will be a mission outreach in Phoenix, USA on December 25 - 27, 2017. If you are interested in participating, contact Dr. Idamae Hanna at 323-5473 or get information from this link, <https://pathwaytohealth.org/pathway-to-health-phoenix/>.

Hotel accommodations and partial meals will be provided. You will need to purchase your airline ticket. -Dr. Idamae Hanna

## FAMILY ISLAND MISSION

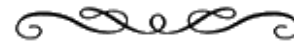
Are you interested in travelling to South Andros? Join the mission team from December 19, 2017 - January 2, 2018 (you do not have to stay the entire period). Assist in three building projects, provide health education, lifestyle counseling, and health screenings to the communities! You are invited to come along. Let's go on God's errands! For further details please contact Elder Audley Mitchell at 601-6435 or Nathelyn LaCroix at 323-0610. -Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix

## AHPA PRAYER BREAKFAST 2018

All, especially our health professionals, are invited to the Adventist Health Professional Association (AHPA) Prayer and Re-consecration Service on January 7, 2018 at 7:00 a.m. at the Philadelphia Seventh-day Adventist Church. -Health Ministries Department

## BLOOD DRIVE AT BREATH OF LIFE

The Breath of Life Seventh-day Adventist Church is having a blood drive on location this Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please come out. Give your support as we contribute to our local blood bank. -Sister Manouchka Bien Aime, BOL



## YOUTH TIDBITS Fall Youth Revival

The Youth Department invites you to the youth joint divine worship experience at the Maranatha Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath, December 16, 2017 with Pastor John Bradshaw. -Pastor Larry Green, Youth Director

## PHILADELPHIA

### Jumble Sale and Breakfast Sale

The Pathfinder and Adventurer Clubs of the Philadelphia Seventh-day Adventist Church will hold a *Jumble Sale and Breakfast Sale* at the church grounds in Elizabeth Estates on Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. All items will be at give-away prices. Call 455-5996 or 428-4251 for information/directions. -Ms. Shandera Amoy Smith

### Youth Award Banquet

The Youth Award Banquet is December 17, 2017. The banquet is open to every SBC youth. -Pastor L. Green, Youth Ministries Director

## SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH DECEMBER 23, 2017 AT 5:26 P.M.

Conference website:

<http://southbahamasconference.org>

Email: [logos@sbcadventist.com](mailto:logos@sbcadventist.com)

Telephone: 341-4021

Have a blessed Sabbath!

