

# THE LOGOS



Connected: Growing in Christ

“Year of The Pastor”

A Weekly Publication of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Editor: Joan M. Scavella Sunsets: 5:27 p.m. |Volume 20, Number 52 | December 26, 2015

## WHAT GIFT CAN WE GIVE THIS SEASON?



**H**ow swiftly another year has escaped us! It would appear that the Christmas season is leaving us as quickly as it came. The message of Jesus’ life and birth is

usually echoed in Christmas plays, carols, and cantatas at almost every Christian gathering during this time. Also, the practice of “abundant living” seems to permeate the homes of many as they go on their shopping escapades to give loved ones a cherished gift that speaks volume of their love and care.

We are cautioned not to get “run over” by any misguided priority, but instead to be cognizant of the opportunities this festive season affords us. That is to draw near to persons who live without a meaningful relationship with Christ, offering to them the greatest gift of all - Jesus Christ.

God gave wonderful gifts during creation week including His creation of you and me. Let us consider His gift of a beautiful earth. Have we been good stewards of this awesome commodity? How protective have we been in guarding our trees, the ocean, and the atmosphere? Simple responsibilities like tuning our vehicles can thwart the poisonous emissions that threaten the health of mankind. Yet, we are negligent in our stewardship.

While driving to work this week, I trailed a garbage truck, and to my chagrin, the driver without regard for the environment, converted the beautifully manicured off-shoulder into a receptacle for his refuse. This behavior speaks to our appreciation or lack of appreciation of the environment. The scant regard that is given to the environment will eventually cause a cataclysmic encounter with global warming.

Another gift that was given during creation was the gift of life. How diminished our value on life has become! Human beings hurt animals jokingly and take the life of a fellow human being without remorse! What degradation from what was intended for mankind! That which is sacred is now considered of little import! The daily news reflects the lowly estate of mankind in regard to the sacredness of life. The legislation of assisted suicide, abortion, and lifestyle abnormalities in some countries is a constant reminder of dysfunctional stewardship. Man has resorted to subversive activities as the panacea for their sinful milieu.

The believer who reflects on the birth of Christ is reminded that Christ came so that he/she can experience abundant life. It is possible to all. The devil seeks to destroy and to kill.

With these realities of poor stewardship, it

is evident that Satan’s intention is to influence man’s response to life and his environment. Satan wants man to eradicate one’s own life, and that of others. This was the mindset of Herod, to take the life of the Christ Child at His birth. It was the mindset of Pharaoh in Egypt at the birth of all Hebrew boys while Israel was in captivity.

Praise God, Satan was defeated then and he is defeated now! This was the intention of Satan when Christ was placed on a cruel cross, and died the death required by your sin and mine, but what the devil failed to realize is that, “In Christ is life, original, unborrowed, undervalued” (Ellen White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 530). God’s word declares that Christ rose on the third day, conquering the attempts of the enemy, thwarting the plans of the devil. Yes, He is alive and has made it possible for you and me to not only celebrate Christ’s first coming, but more so, to be in anticipation of and readiness for His second coming.

Meantime, Christ has invited the waiting church to *Scatter to Gather*. Yes, to go and share the good news that He is alive and that salvation is free and available to one and all. As you celebrate today, would you consider asking God to transform you into a spirit-filled citizen of the Kingdom, an outstanding steward of the gift of grace, and by so doing to utilize your talents, gifts, and abilities to become a faithful steward of the gift of salvation?

Season’s greetings and happy Sabbath to one and all. -Pastor Paul Scavella, President

### STATE OF THE CONFERENCE

State of the Conference under the theme, “Connected: Scatter to Gather”, will be held at the Grant’s Town Seventh-day Adventist Church on Saturday, January 2, 2016 at 3:45 p.m. It will be exciting. Churches are asked to wear their colours and come prepared to repeat their church motto when called on to do so. Be energized for the new journey, as we *Scatter to Gather*. Plan now to experience the explosive power of God! A special blessing awaits all! -Administration

### ANNUAL MEMBERS’ MEETING

The annual members’ meeting will be held at the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sunday, January 3, 2016 at 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. Our pastors will convey details to their congregations. -Administration

### WORKERS’ MEETING

The South Bahamas Conference (SBC) will hold its Workers’ Meeting at Bahamas Academy, Marshall Road on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. All workers are urged to be in attendance. Retirees of SBC are invited. -Administration

### RENOVATIONS AT THE GMCI

The campus of the Global Mission Centre of Influence is under mass renovation. All members are asked to proceed with caution while visiting or worshipping at the campus. The cooperation of all is appreciated. -Administration

### NEW FORMAT FOR TITHE ENVELOPES

The Stewardship Department is in the process of preparing a new format for the tithe envelopes. This will lead to greater security of personal information. It is the goal to have these envelopes in our churches by the end of January 2016. -Elder Anthony Burrows, Stewardship Director

### CHURCH OFFICERS’ WORKSHOP

All Church Officers will meet at the Hillview Church for Workshops on Sunday, January 3, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. There will be two sessions to accommodate directors with more than one department. Below is the schedule:

#### First Session: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

DEPARTMENT/DIRECTOR	LOCATION
PMSS/Spirit of Prophecy-Pastor L. Williams	Main Sanctuary Front
Youth-Pastor Green	Upstairs Eastern Wing
Church Clerks-Pastor Joseph	Choir Loft
Treasurers/Auditors-Pastor Lewis, Mrs. Bryan & Campbell	Upstairs Western Wing
Elders/PARL-Pastor Scavella	Main Sanctuary Front
Children & Adol. Min.-Mrs. Scavella	Main Sanctuary Eastern Front
Stewardship/Trust-Elder Burrows	Main Sanctuary Western Front
Community Services-Pastor C. Williams	Main Sanctuary Eastern Rear
Deacons/Deaconesses-Brother H. Sullivan & Sis. Mary Roberts	Balcony

#### Second Session: 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

DEPARTMENT/DIRECTOR	LOCATION
Family Ministries/Prayer Coordinators-Pastor Joseph	Choir Loft
Health-Mrs. LaCroix	Upstairs Eastern Wing
Women’s Ministries-Mrs. Gibson	Upstairs Western Wing
Publishing-Pastor Price	Main Sanctuary Rear (Middle)
Education-Mrs. Scavella	Main Sanctuary Western Front
Men’s Ministry-Pastor Thompson	Main Sanctuary Eastern Rear
Music Ministry-Mrs. Wright	Main Sanctuary Front
Communication-Pastor Scavella	Balcony

Question and Answer Period ~ 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.

### IN GRATITUDE

\*A special thank you is extended to Principal Milton Lewis and staff for assisting nine students from the hurricane ravaged areas of The Bahamas. These students were being educated (*gratis*) at our school, Bahamas Academy.

\*The conference, through the efforts of VBA, began systematically to repair the four churches that have been damaged. We are happy to report that repairs on the Steven’s Seventh-day Adventist Church in Long Island are almost recompleted. At its completion, our team will move to Crooked Island, then to Acklins, and finally to San Salvador.

Brother Winston Ash and his team must be commended. Thanks again to all the members that gave sacrificially toward the relief efforts. We will not relent; we will do all that we can to rebuild the lives of God’s people and His houses of worship. -Administration

### LAY PREACHERS’ INSTITUTE

The Personal Ministries Department will launch a Lay Preachers’ Institute in 2016. Plan and prepare to be a part of the training. Follow the Logos for details on this exciting move in our conference. Prepare, so you can scatter to gather. -Pastor Lynden Williams, SSPM Director

## BACK TO FAITH<sup>+</sup>

Are you burdened for a soul that needs to come back to faith? Well, get onboard the Back to Faith<sup>+</sup> which will expand in January 2016. Watch The Logos for details. -Administration

## ATCU PRAYER INITIATIVE

The prayer focus of our union, the Atlantic Caribbean Union (ATCU) for December 27 - January 2, 2015 is: **For a Place in the New Earth**. Let us join the entire union field in prayer. May we be drawn closer to the Anointed One! With Him we can be more than conquerors. -Pastor Peter Joseph, Prayer Coordinator

## EDUCATING TO WIN!

### -JOINT EDUCATION CONCLAVE-

#### Note the change of venue for January 23.

The first ever Education Conclave of the South Bahamas Conference under the theme, **Educating to Win** will be held on Friday and Saturday, January 22 and 23, 2016!

All services will be joint. See details below:

- Friday, January 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. - Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Sabbath, January 23, 2016 at 9:15 a.m. - Bahamas Academy, Marshall Road
- Sabbath, January 23, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. - Bahamas Academy, Marshall Road

Get a closer look at our 103-year old academy! Claim your stake in Seventh-day Adventist Christian education and show up for the inspirational messages by Mr. David Daniels, Senior Director of the Bainum Family Foundation based in Maryland, USA. -Mrs. Joan Scavella, Education Director

## COMING IN 2016!

*Cure for the Common Life (CFCL)* provides the platform to experience reality without reproach through a transformational series of personal "intra-views", profound teachings and practical tools for releasing baggage and living unfettered. Nobody's perfect but we can help to perfect each other, through authentic connection and an atmosphere of candor and encouragement. CFCL sessions feature ordinary people sharing life-changing truths on surrender, sex, forgiveness, unbelief, divorce, and the Holy Spirit, among others. Sessions open to men and women. Beginning Wednesday, January 27 - through Sabbath, February 6, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at Living Faith Seventh-day Adventist Church. For more information, contact the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director, Pastor Paul Scavella at 341-4021 or Dr. Stephanie Hutcheson at [cureforcommonlife@gmail.com](mailto:cureforcommonlife@gmail.com) for more information. -Dr. Stephanie Hutcheson, Psychologist

## WINNING YOUR MARRIAGE

Let us not get weary in well doing! Yes the Winning Your Marriage Club night is coming to Nassau! It will be on February 6, 2016. Save the date. You will never regret this life-changing event in your marriage. Venue to be announced soon. -Pastor Peter Joseph, Family

## 8 WEEKS TO WELLNESS

The 8 Weeks to Wellness Program begins on Monday, February 29, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the GMCI (Old Bahamas Academy Gym), Wulff Road. Join us and learn how to prevent and manage hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol, cancer, weight gain, stress and much more. A small donation is required. Contact the South Bahamas Conference at 341-4121 or the Health Director at 323-0610 or [lifestylecounselor64@gmail.com](mailto:lifestylecounselor64@gmail.com). Screening and registration is scheduled for Thursday, February 25 2016 at 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 28, 2016 at 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the GMCI. -Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix, Health Ministries Director

## EMOTIONAL WELLNESS SUMMIT

Are you travelling to Orlando, Florida to attend the Emotional Wellness Summit on January 13 - 17, 2016? Contact Nathelyn LaCroix at

telephone 323-0610 or email [lifestylecounselor64@gmail.com](mailto:lifestylecounselor64@gmail.com) for information. Register and choose the presentations you would like to attend at: <http://www.emotionalwellnesssummit.com> -Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix

## MONTHLY JOINT SBC RUN/WALK

Join us on January 10, 2016 at 6:00 a.m. for overall rejuvenation. Starting from Goodman's Bay to Sandyport and back. If you cannot walk the entire route, come and do what you can. Your body will thank you for it! We are encouraging participation from all the churches. At the end of the year, the church with the largest participation will be recognized. -Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix

## AHPA PRAYER BREAKFAST

All Adventist Health Professionals, Health Directors/Assistants and those with a passion for health and wellness are invited to attend the annual prayer breakfast under the theme, "Sowing For The Harvest". This event will be held on Sunday, January 31 at 7:30 a.m. at the New Providence Seventh-day Adventist Church. Join us for this time of spiritual rejuvenation and recommitment. -Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix

## CONFERENCE OFFICE CLOSED

In addition to the public holidays, the South Bahamas Conference office will be closed on Monday, January 4, 2016 for workers' meeting. -Office of the Secretariat

## ADVENTIST BOOK AND NUTRITION CENTRE

The ABC will be closed on the following days during the holidays:

January 1, 2016 - Holiday

January 4, 2016 - Workers' Meeting

Storewide *Book Sale* will be for the entire month of December. -Mrs. C. Blackmore, Manager

## MESSAGE FROM THE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

The life of a woman is often stressful. As a woman, a wife and sometimes a mother the many roles we play demand a carefully skilled juggling act. Our days begin early and end late into the night; and from January straight through December we endure this roller coaster ride.

Once again we approach the season that has been coined the "busiest time of the year." While there are some of us who may join in the festive season with fun, frolic and festivities, it is also a time for us as Christian women of God to focus on "peace". Peace of heart and mind that comes from none other than Jesus.

So as we go about our preparations, let us pause and pray for those who have no peace. Find some opportunity to introduce them to the "Prince of Peace" in Isaiah 9:6 which says, "For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And His name will be called... Prince of Peace." On behalf of the Women's Ministries Department of the South Bahamas Conference, I take this opportunity to thank our local leaders here in New Providence and the family of islands, my council members and our GEMS along with their mentors for their willingness to be used by God in ministry and service during the year 2015. I am also grateful to all women in the South Bahamas Conference for their unwavering support and encouragement. My hope and prayer for each of you is a peace-filled Christmas season and the blessing of a new year. -Mrs. Jacqueline Gibson

## PRAYER MINISTRIES UPDATES

The SBC Prayer Ministries will begin the year 2016 with a spirit-filled blast at the **State of the Conference** at the Grant's Town Seventh-day Church on January 2 at 3:45 p.m. The Prayer Ministries has chosen the theme, *Moving Forward in Prayer by the Holy Ghost with Great Expectation*. All prayer warriors and prayer ministries leaders are asked to be in attendance. Please dress in the coloured T-Shirt to represent the Prayer Ministries during the Parade of Churches. All are invited to participate.

Our 1st monthly scheduled Prayer Session for 2016 will be in the form of an All Night Prayer Meeting to be held at the Centreville Seventh-day Adventist Church on Saturday, January 2, 2016 at 9:00 p.m. to Sunday, January 3, 2016 at 6:00 a.m. A breakfast will follow. A high-powered line-up of preachers will keep you empowered throughout the night.

Remember our weekly Prayer Session at SBC Office every Wednesday at 12 noon.

Let us continue to prayer for one another, for our Conference and the nation at large.

If there are any questions, please feel free to call Elder David Knowles at 425-1191, or Sister Ali McIntosh at 423-2709. Blessings on you! -Sister Ali McIntosh, Lay Prayer Administrative Coordinator

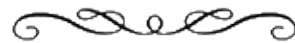
## CONVENTION IN SOUTH ANDROS

Calling all South Androsians and friends, to be a part of the 2016 convention on January 8 - 11. The district is also joining with Pastor Duncombe and the global prayer network and Holy Land experience.

For further details contact the front desk at the conference. -Pastor Paul Scavella, District Pastor

## LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CIVIL SERVANTS' SERVICE

The annual Law Enforcement and Civil Servants' Service will be held at the Maranatha Seventh-day Adventist Church on Prince Charles Drive on Saturday, February 20, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. The entire conference is urged to attend as we encourage those who face the daunting circumstances to keep our country safe. -Mr. Teddy McDonald, Coordinator

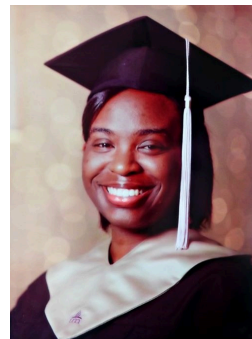


## NOTE OF THANKS

Pastor John and Mrs. Shazarah Carey are grateful to all who visited, called or prayed for Mrs. Carey during her recent illness. Undoubtedly the prayers and various expressions of support made a difference in her recovery. We appreciate the continued prayers of the saints. -Pastor J. Carey

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Dr. Marvette Moore who was successful in her recent dental board examinations! Dr.



Moore matriculated at the University of Montemorelos and graduated in 2013. In 2014, she completed her internship at the University of Technology in St. Andrew, Jamaica. Board certification

qualifies her to practice as a dentist in The Bahamas. We wish her every success for the future... and as Dr. Moore puts it, "All praise be unto God!" -Family and Conference

## EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

Thanks to all churches in the South Bahamas Conference that were fervent in prayer for me during my time of sickness. I am grateful to everyone who prayed for me and who also assisted me in other tangible ways. Because of your support, God has continued to heal and sustain me in mind, body, and spirit. To God be the glory, great things He has done. -Mr. Matthew Brian Adderley

## SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH JANUARY 2, 2016 AT 5:31 P.M.

Website:

<http://southbahamasconference.org>

Have a Blessed and Wonderful Sabbath!

