

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: 7:40 p.m. |Volume 20, Number 18 | May 2, 2015

OUT FROM BEHIND CLOSED DOORS



No one reading the gospels, if even for the first time, could ever mistake the intention of Jesus Christ for those who follow Him. He intended those who follow Him to give personal testimony to Him as a way of life. And yet something different has happened among us.

According to Benjamin Lundquist, the most recent research project about Seventh-day Adventists partnered with the Barna Group reveals that only “under twenty-percent are likely to share their faith.” The natural response to this statistic is to ask, “Why?” Is it because of apathy toward mission? What about the lack of knowledge in witnessing? Perhaps fear is a dominant factor.

In context, we are reminded of what the Bible shares concerning the appearances of Jesus after He arose from the tomb. As recorded in John 20:19-20, the most significant of them all was His appearance to the more than eleven disciples assembled in the room where He once taught them. They were cowering behind locked doors because they feared for their lives. They feared retaliation. They feared misunderstanding.

Is this a picture of the church that has returned? Are there disciples of Jesus hiding behind closed doors? Daunted by the challenges of this modern age, the competing media of communication, skepticism, and a cynical materialistic society... are there those who have resolved to retreat rather than confront?

The truth is, even against the tide of on-going change the disciples of Jesus have nothing to fear. Ellen White wrote, “We have nothing to fear for the future, lest we forget how the Lord has led us in the past” (*Life Sketches of Ellen G. White*, p. 196). Christ has called His disciples—all who follow Him to testify of Him. Would He call us to fulfill His bidding and not equip us?

In Acts 1:8 Jesus is recorded as saying, “You shall be my witnesses” (NKJV). These are words of the risen Savior with all power and authority, spoken to some of the same disciples once locked behind closed doors. And the fact that Jesus proclaimed it means there is no power under heaven that can prevent it from coming to pass. He did not give an injunction but stated a description. His disciples would be witnesses. Thus, today the true disciples of Jesus can only be those who bear witness of Him.

As the day of our Lord approaches, I would contend that there are many sincere disciples of Jesus that must come out from behind closed doors and harness the power available to carry out the work of witnessing. “Every day the probation of some is closing. Every hour some are passing beyond the reach of mercy. (But) where are the voices of warning and entreaty to bid the sinner flee from this fearful doom” (*Patriarchs and Prophets* p. 140)?

If we follow the dialogue between Jesus and His disciples written in Acts 1, we learn that it is quite possible that a neglect to witness can be attributed to a distraction by what should be

considered secondary. As Jesus shared excitedly with His disciples the transformative power of the Holy Spirit to come upon them, they asked, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel” (Acts 1:6 *ibid*)? In fact, their query was an indication that the misnomer of Jesus’ coming to establish an earthly kingdom still occupied their hearts. But Jesus always countered speculation with a call to duty. “It is not for you to know the times or seasons which the Father has put in his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me...” (*ibid*)

This evasion to witness is much the same for those who replace obedience to the command of Jesus Christ with all kinds of speculation about church functions, organization, teachings, and last day events. Instead there must be a move from a secondary mode of speculation to a primary focus on proclamation. When there is deliberate action towards this it will speak, in greater volume, our belief, that the Lord builds the church (Matthew 16:18).

Indeed we are witnesses. And witnesses are devoted to one thing... Witnessing! Quite frequently I am asked: “How can I witness?” Truth be told, the answer is more comprehensive than it readily appears. But what can never be overlooked is that a disciple’s witness always strives to share the truth of Jesus Christ.

In speaking of the time before the end, Ellen White saw in vision: “Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families, and opening before them the word of God. Hearts were convicted by the power of the Holy Spirit, and a genuine conversion was manifest. On every side doors were thrown open to the proclamation of the truth (*Life Him Up* p. 312).” This shall be the consummation of what Jesus pronounced on the Mount Olives two thousand years ago. What a sight to behold! The world “lightened with heavenly influence!” My admonition is that we arrest whatever opportunities we have now in this present age to witness of our Savior. Let us use every medium available. For there is no power on earth that can hinder the assignment we have been given. -Pastor Keith A. Albury

IT’S CAMP MEETING TIME AGAIN!

Camp meeting is here again. Camp meeting is intended to inspire within the saints of God a yearning and thirst for Christ’s second coming. Thus we gather with the view of encouraging one another to be ready to meet Jesus when He comes.

This year’s camp meeting will take place at the edifice of the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church and in tents on its grounds. The services will run from Wednesday, June 17 – Sabbath, June 20, 2015. The theme is *Connected: We Press On*. Our guest speaker will be Pastor Calvin Watkins. -Administration

ADVENTIST MEDIA OPEN HOUSE

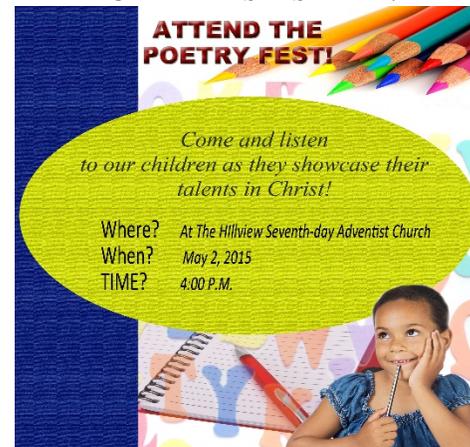
Adventist Media Open House will be held at the South Bahamas Conference grounds on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. - until. Visit the conference office and experience the media ministry first hand. Adventist businesspersons are encouraged to share in this event. It is going to be an exciting time in our conference! For additional information, kindly contact Sister Patrice Williams-Gordon at 3414021. -Administration

NOTICE

Kindly note that four of our pastors will continue their studies at Northern Caribbean University from Monday, May 4, 2015 until June 26, 2015. We encouraged our members to

pray for their success. They are Pastors Paul Scavella, Kent Price, Edward St. Fleur and Leonardo Rahming. -Administration

POETRY FEST IS HERE!



-Mrs. Joan M. Scavella, CHAM Director

CHOIR REHEARSAL FOR UPCOMING CAMPAIGN

All persons interested in singing in the upcoming crusade choir are asked to meet at the Grant’s Town Church on Sunday, May 3 at 5:00 p.m. The Western Region Choir, Meistersingers, Adventist Men and all church choir members are encouraged to participate. -Mr. Nelson Bain, Coordinator

BOOK DAY IS TODAY! MAY 2, 2015



-Pastor Kent Price, Publishing Director & Mrs. Cherry Blackmore, Manager; ABC

THE PINK IMPACT-WOMEN’S FORUM



Please join us for Divine Service at 11:00 a.m. and then later at 5:00 p.m. The Pink Impact will change the way you look at your health. WEAR SOMETHING PINK! -Mrs. Jacqueline Gibson & Nathelyn LaCroix, Directors

FAMILY MINISTRIES

Plan now for the *SINGLE AND GIFTED* seminar hosted by the Family Ministries Department of our conference. The seminar will be held on May 21-28, 2015 at the Centreville Seventh-day Adventist Church located on Fifth Terrace, Centreville at 7 o’clock nightly. The key text is Romans 8:31. The objectives for the seminar are:

1. To bring like-minded singles together for spiritual, social, physical and intellectual empowerment by sharing and receiving information.
2. To provide activities that bring singles together for self-understanding and meeting needs.
3. To point out opportunities for singles to use their gifts for God's service.
4. To provide a forum to address the struggles that singles wrestle with inside and outside the church. **SINGLES, COME AND MINGLE!** - Pastor Peter Joseph, Family Ministries Director

ATCU PRAYER INITIATIVE

The prayer focus of the Atlantic Caribbean Union (ATCU) for May 3 - 9, 2015 is: **The Need to Seek Christ.** -Pastor Peter Joseph, Prayer Coordinator

ATCU TO HOLD FIFTH SYMPOSIUM

The Atlantic Caribbean Union will hold their fifth symposium at the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church on Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Plan to celebrate with our union as we praise God for His leading in our growing union. -Administration

REPORTS ARE DUE

All Children and Adolescent Ministries leaders of our churches are urged to submit their reports to the conference office. -Mrs. Joan Scavella, CHAM Director

SUMMER FEATURE FOR THE LOGOS

Is your child graduating this summer? Send a brief article (50 words) and an electronic photograph of your child to the editor at jscavella@sbcadventist.com.

CULTURE DAY AT BETHEL

The Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church will host a *Culture Day* on Sunday, May 17, 2015 at the Church. All are invited to attend. -Pastor Lynden Williams, Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church

EDUCATION SECRETARIES

There will be a meeting for the all Education Secretaries at the South Bahamas Conference Office on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. -Mrs. Joan Scavella, Director of Education

MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA AT HILLVIEW

The Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church invites you to attend a musical extravaganza at the church on Tonique Williams-Darling Highway on Sabbath, May 16, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. The Sanctuary, Youth, and Children's Choirs will perform, along with guest choirs from our sister churches. A special offering in aid of the church's organ fund will be collected. Come and be blessed. -Mrs. Sandra Phillip-Burrows, Music Coordinator; Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church

HEALTH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT SBC Monthly Fun/Run/Walk

The SBC monthly Fun/Run/Walk will be held on May 10, 2015 at 6:30 a.m., leaving Goodman's Bay, heading west to Sandy Port and back.

Get Your T-Shirt

Are you interested in getting an "I Want To Live Healthy" t-shirt? To place your order, please contact Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix at 323-0610 or Mrs. June Flowers at the conference at 341-4021. -Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix, Health Ministries Director

BEREA 32 YEARS AND GROWING

Get ready! Get ready! Get ready! Something explosive is about to happen at Berea. Under the theme, "Pressing Forward, United in Faith", Berea will mark its 32nd Anniversary with various activities in May. In fact, we will kick off with a prayer initiative on May 2nd and climax with weekend celebrations on May 29 - 31. All former members and friends of Berea are invited to join the festivities. See the schedule:

May 2 - Prayer initiative: "Revive Us Again"
May 9 - Mother's Day

May 11 ~ 22 - Faith in Jesus Revival
May 23 - Homecoming Sabbath
May 29 - Thanksgiving Vespers: "Still Have Joy"
May 30 - Super Sabbath Celebration
May 31 - Concert
-Mrs. Karen Scavella, Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church

BREATH OF LIFE PRAYER BREAKFAST



-Mrs. Darlene Deveaux, Women's Ministries Leader; Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church

DR. TREVOR GARDNER TO VISIT SBC

Dr. Trevor Gardner, president of Northern Caribbean University will be the guest presenter in our conference on Sabbath, May 23, 2015. He will make presentations at the Grant's Town, Johnson Park and New Providence Seventh-day Adventist Churches at 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m. respectively. All members are urged to attend. -Office of Education

HEALTH IMPACT DAY AND HEALTH EXPO 2015

Sabbath, April 18 was celebrated as Health Impact Day - a time when we showed our communities we cared about their well-being by sharing the gracious gift of good health and God's unconditional love for all. The churches in SBC joined millions of other Seventh-day Adventists around the world in sharing the message of God's love for mankind through the health message.

During the morning hours of Sabbath, thousands of copies of the *Book of the Year, Health and Hope*, were distributed throughout the different communities of the churches in New Providence and the Family Islands.

Health Impact Day 2015 and the Health Expo will be long remembered. The purpose of Health Impact Day was to show the community that we care about their health and wellness and share information on health while impacting the community. The Health Expo and Fair began with the opening ceremony where our Health Ministries Director, Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix and our union and conference leaders both Dr. Leonard Johnson and Pastor Paul Scavella respectively brought remarks. Our guests included Dr. Glen S. Beneby, Chief Medical Officer in the Ministry of Health and The Hon. Glenys Hanna-Martin, Member of Parliament and Minister of Transport and Aviation who brought remarks and opened the event. The Health Ministries Department along with Women's, Men's and Community Services Departments joined forces to provide a health expo and fair displaying the wholistic approach to health. The Mobile Health Expo took participants through the NEWSTART journey to health. Blood pressure screening, blood glucose screening, and cholesterol screening were conducted by the Healthy Lifestyles Secretariat of the Department of Public Health. Volunteers from the Adventist Health Professionals Association were also instrumental in this activity. Approximately 500 containers of hot hearty soup, whole wheat bread, apples, oranges, and bananas were distributed to participants. Other booths included clothing give away, prayer activities,

and chair massage. The presenters gave a good overview of the guidelines to achieve health with topics like The Burden of Chronic Diseases, 8 Doctors, Eating and Exercise Guidelines, Self Control Basics, and Rest and Sleep. Not only was physical food provided but spiritual food with presentations on Temperance and Trust in God led to the distribution of 1000 copies of the book 'Health and Hope' in the neighboring community. The outstanding attendance facilitated the great success that was achieved. This outreach has set a very high bar for future community events. The Health Ministries Department expresses gratitude to all our partners, sponsors, volunteers and church members for their support and attendance. -Dr. Monique Mitchell

REDEMPTION CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

The pastor, officers, and members of the Redemption Seventh-day Adventist Church invite you to celebrate with them today as they give God thanks for one year in their new edifice. They start with Sabbath School at 9:15 a.m. then a thanksgiving service at 11:00 a.m. Be sure to attend, especially if you are a former member. -Elder Dave Williams, Redemption SDA Church

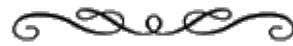
CONGRATULATIONS

Mrs. Victoria Munroe recently received the Golden Heart Award from the Mt. Olivet Seventh-day Adventist. The South Bahamas Conference applauds her on this admirably achievement. She now resides with her daughter in the United States, but was a faithful servant in the Centreville and Maranatha Churches. -Mrs. Eva Glinton, Maranatha SDA Church

POSITION AVAILABLE AT GRAND BAHAMA ACADEMY

Grand Bahama Academy of Seventh-day Adventists is looking for a hard-working, dedicated leader to serve as principal. Under the direct supervision of the Office of Education of the North Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, the principal will manage a team of committed administrators and instructional and support staff.

Candidates may download the application form from the conference website at www.northbahamasmission.org and submit the completed application form along with copies of professional degrees and resume to THE CHAIRMAN, SEARCH COMMITTEE, North Bahamas Conference, Beachway Drive, Freeport, Grand Bahama or mail the completed application form, copies of professional degrees, and resume to THE CHAIRMAN, SEARCH COMMITTEE, P.O. BOX F-40515, Freeport, Grand Bahama by May 8, 2015. The committee reserves the right to reject the application of any or all applicants. -Office of Education, North Bahamas Conference



YOUTH TIDBITS

Youth Council Meets

A Youth Council meeting will be held at the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sunday, May 3, 2015 at 12:00 noon. All youth leaders are asked to be in attendance.

Youth Bible Study

Youth Bible Study continues this and every Sunday at the Hillview Church at 6:00 p.m. Bring your Bible and a friend.

Master Guide Training

Master Guide training continues at the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sunday at 6:00 a.m. -Pastor Larry Green, Youth Ministries Director

SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH

MAY 9, 2015 AT 7:43 P.M.

Website:

<http://southbahamasconference.org>
Have a Blessed and Wonderful Sabbath!

