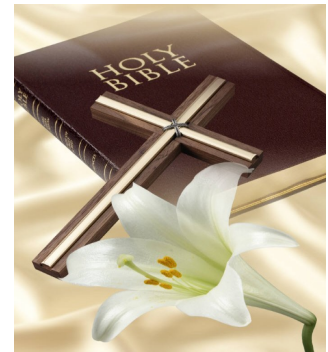


EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT MARIA, ST. MARY

E-EMMANUEL

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4 October—December 2005



EDITORIAL

A NOTE AT CHRISTMAS:

His name shall be called Immanuel - God with us!

The holiday season is here once more. People are busy as they prepare to spend time with family and friends. House decorations are in order. Extra food has been bought and mouth watering cake is waiting to be eaten after a tasty meal of our favourite food.

With all the excitement and preparations for this festive season, there is someone beside us—a neighbour, a co-worker, a relative, a homeless person, or even a friend—who at this time of year, feels most alone. That person may have no family, and friends may be few. That person longs for the days of childhood when their relatives would prepare the house and family for all the festivities that accompanied the celebration of Christmas. That individual beside us, prays that the season will go quickly so that he/she can return to the usual lonely life without so many painful reminders.

God sent His Son, Jesus, to be an ever living presence with us. As we celebrate the birth of Christ, let us remember that God's presence is with us in times of joy and in times of pain and loneliness. Many of us have learnt to sense the presence of God during our lonely times because of family and friendship support. Let us use this Christmas to share the presence of God with that lonely person beside us. What do we mean by sharing the presence of God? Simple! By giving of your self and your substance—not to those who already have but those who are in need.

A Prayer



Heavenly Father, thank You for reminding us that we are never alone;
We pray that Your holy presence will continue to be with us—not only at time,

But for all time;

Thank You for sending Your Son - Immanuel, to be with us.

Help us, we pray, to accept Your presence in our lives. Amen.

Jeanette Rose-Bryan

Chairperson, Evangelism Committee

Be a part of the Port Maria Circuit of Baptist Churches Health Fund

Many persons are finding the cost of simple medical tests to be out of their reach. In an effort to ease this financial strain, the Pt. Maria Circuit launched its

Health Fund on December 4, 2005. Why not be a part of this programme.



For further information contact the church's office at 994-2475.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

DECEMBER

- 11th - **Prayer Vigil** at the Claude Stuart Park
- 18th Self Denial Sunday
- 18th - Christmas Play at the St. Mary's Anglican Church
- 25th - Christmas Concert
- 31st - Watch Night Service

Self-Sacrifice during the Christmas Season

One of the hallmarks of the Christmas season is the act of sacrificing ourselves e.g. through the giving of gifts. As you give various kinds of gifts this year, remember to give of yourself to the Almighty God—the creator of Christmas.

December 18th is our self denial service. Offer to God a sacrifice of your monetary gift as we seek to expand His kingdom through mission in Galina.

Remember to pray for the sick and shut –in members of the church.

Did you know that each Sunday sermons are tape recorded? You can order a copy of a sermon from the Music & Arts Department.

