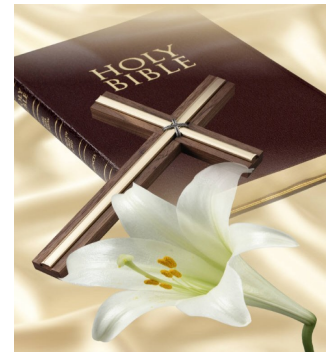


E-EMMANUEL

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EDITORIAL

The story of Pentecost as recorded in the book of Acts, tells us of the institutional birth of the Church. One feature of the story is that persons from different nationalities and languages were welded together into one entity by the Holy Spirit. It is a good reflection of the Church as a family of believers - diverse backgrounds and people who are different in so many ways—yet we can be united with each other through the power of the Holy Spirit. The same is true of families. Families share a common blood line but each member has a different personality. Families can achieve oneness (unity) by God's grace through the Holy Spirit.

Rev. Glenroy Lalor, Pastor

UPCOMING EVENTS:

JUNE - FAMILY ISSUES CONTINUE

- ◆ Today - Day of Pentecost
- ◆ 18th - Fathers Day

Special Family Feature

The Barnetts

Our family is a close knit family and we are special because we maintain a sense of humour. Each person will go the extra mile for each other even in adverse situations.

Family time together is a high priority e.g. conducting devotions and attending a place of worship together. We consider this to be a strength of our family. Each person takes time out to listen to each other (active listening). We allow God to steer us through unsure waters.

We do a lot of things together for example:

- ◆ Maintaining family traditions—we have traditional family night where reading is done. We read books that provide spiritual help and directions for our lives.
- ◆ Family worship
- ◆ Family trips to the country

The Barnett's family is a single parent family. According to Joycelyn,

"Being a single parent is a challenging task. It requires careful planning, teamwork and a lot of patience. I experience difficulties of some sort or another in trying to raise my children single-handedly in a satisfactory manner. It is a very difficult task since all the responsibilities are maintained by me. The nurturing, disciplining, listening, setting limits and rules, settling quarrels, attending meetings, helping with homework—is a full time job and this frequently overloads all my circuits.



Remember to pray for the sick and shut—in members of the church:

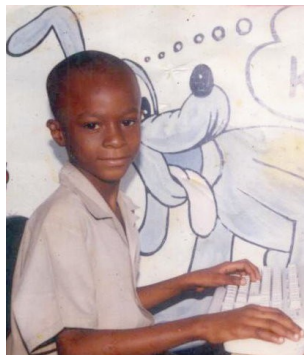
- ◆ **Victoria Dollock**
- ◆ **Jane Marshall**
- ◆ **Zipora Bennett**
- ◆ **Rueben Byfield**
- ◆ **Roslyn Walters**
- ◆ **Lucy DaCosta**
- ◆ **Kenneth Steel**
- ◆ **Jeremiah Dalhouse**
- ◆ **Athelia Williams (Miss Attie)**
- ◆ **Ruby Gilespie**
- ◆ **Herma Grandison**
- ◆ **Ivylyn Johnson**
- ◆ **Lucan Scott**

What impact do you think the current road improvement project will have on the Port Maria Community?

Submit your views, name and a contact number to the church's office. Your views might just get printed!!

Sometimes I am particularly vulnerable because of the frustrations generated by the above responsibilities and also by insufficient funds and many other stresses unrelated to the children. BUT ... God has not left me helpless. He has been guiding me step-by-step and I believe in the power of prayer and faith in God.

I also have to bear in mind that my children have the same needs that other children have and my challenge is to supply those needs alone. However, I am not helpless. I have options. I depend on God, who has promised to supply all my needs according to His riches in glory. I also read books that supply me with practical hints; friends and church family all provide portions of my support system. I also rely very heavily on Philippians 4:13 which says "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."



Do you think that being in a single-parent family makes you any less than other families? "Certainly not!" says Elise, and her response practically came out before the question was completed. Is there a lesson for us to learn about this response? Most definitely! The lesson is this: It is not the number of persons in a family that makes the family a family; rather, it is the quality of the relationship that makes the family.

What does each person think about the family?

According to Joycelyn, each person thinks without a shadow of a doubt that I love and trust them even though they think I am miserable at times. They know that even though misunderstandings and differences occur, their relationship with me is not broken. They know that each person is valued inspite of his/her failure.

What do the children like about their family? Javon likes the fact that the members of the family like to share; Elise likes the fact that everybody is helpful and Shannotta likes the fact that her family is kind and each member is willing to stand up for each other.



FAMILIES OF ALCOHOLICS

Alcoholic family systems are often dysfunctional. The family members sometimes deny the problem and may feel ashamed of their family. Alcoholism can create problems in many aspects of the family life. The alcoholic creates pain for him/herself, and for their immediate family. Confronting the addiction can help an entire family begin the process of recovery. If you or any member of your family is an alcoholic, you can be set free from the bondage of alcohol—

receive healing and recovery from this addiction. You must however be prepared to work through the process. Why not call Teen Challenge (974-4598) or call the church's office (994-2475) and make an appointment to speak with a counselor. Remember that God loves you and wants you to be healthy.

We welcome your ideas and suggestions

Please e-mail us at

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Or write us at:

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