

E-EMMANUEL

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EDITORIAL: 181 - NOT OUT!!!

Standing at the crease over the years, the Emmanuel Baptist Church has had a "good innings" in terms of its Christian witness and in continuing to fulfill the mission of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We are at 181 not out! And we give God thanks for those who batted before us – those who have stuck -it-out, over after over, by laying the foundation for us to carry on the Lord's baton. Committed members such as Rev. Joseph Burton, Rev. Spurgeon Smith, Dea. Obediah Linday, Alzie Wilmot, Edna Bryan, Sis Lena Turnbull, Sis. Amy Scott, Dea Stephanie Heirs and Sis. Millicent Anderson (just to name few), have kept their "eyes on the ball" - yes on God Almighty. They have set us an example of service, commitment and faithfulness to the work of the Lord; truly they have "hit many boundaries" on their faith journey.

As we look back at the godly men and women of our past who have helped in shaping our Christian heritage, we cannot help but pledging to diligently carry on the work of the Lord relating to this aspect of our Christian tradition so that we will never experience a "run out" that is, a falling short of God's standards and expectations of us in the outfield. We also cannot help but reflect on our own commitment to the present task as we too prepare those behind us. May we too be steadfast in keeping our eyes on the Lord Jesus and truly be inspired by the examples of our fore-runners!!

Dahlia Palmer,

Chairperson, Communications

May Birthdays

Lurline Edwards	1st
Karlane McLean	5th
Daphne Lewis	9th
Michael Jackson	11th
Joycelyn Barnett	15th
Shanae Campbell	16th
Olivene McPherson	17th
Verona Porter	17th
Vivene Irvin	18th
Jovan Thompson	19th
Valrie Johnson	20th
Pauline Smith	22nd
Pearline Harriot	24th
Margaret McFarquhar	24th
Ena Bucknor	26th
Gwendolyn Robinson	28th
Lucan Scott	28th
Carol Levers	29th
Louise Plummer	30th
Jevan Radway	31st



Reminder of part of our history

Throughout the period of slavery until its emancipation, the witness of the Emmanuel Baptist Church has remained solid. Our history is particularly rooted in our sojourn—the journey of Christian witness inside and outside of the Port Maria environment. However, another part of our history is embedded in our existence as a landmark in terms of our local-



ity—indeed one major aspect of this journey relates to the place of worship, the physical structure where we exist. The faith of the membership has truly been tested and honed during the different phases of building, renovating and remodeling of the chapel. It has been documented that in 1907, the building was severely damaged by an earthquake. The building was renovated and re-roofed and seventeen years later, the entire roof was blown off during the 1944 hurricane. For a short period, the members worshipped at the Methodist Church until the repairs were completed. Over the years, other extensions, repairs and renovations have taken place (including re-roofing, addition of a bathroom complex, renovation of the Education Centre, and more recently retiling of ceiling, and floor among other things. At each phase of the rebuilding, repairing and renovations, the initial thought has been "the task seems insurmountable" but at each phase too our faith has been strengthened as we have witnessed the faithfulness and the working of the great God of the universe, in seeing us through each phase. To God be the glory.



EMMANUEL has a ...

M

eaning: "God is with us"

andate: God has directed us to carry out His Mission;

ission: God has outlined the specifics of the Mission—
Go into all the world and preach Christ.

DID YOU KNOW that ...

... a total of over 20 pastors have served in the Port Maria Circuit?

... the past four pastors are still alive and still in service to the Lord? (They are Revs Stokes, Sharpe, Jarrett and Anderson)

Emmanuel Statistics

Membership Analysis - 2008

Total active members	153	65%
Total sick & shut-in	18	8%
Total studying	9	4%
Total overseas	27	11%
To make contact	28	12%
TOTAL	235	100%

Age Analysis

Under 20	20	9%
20-30	35	15%
31-40	11	5%
41-50	45	19%
over 50	124	53%

Overall Gender Analysis

Males	54	23%
Females	181	77%

Gender Analysis of shut-in members

Males	5	28%
Females	13	72%
TOTAL	18	100%

CELEBRATING FAMILY MONTH

The Emmanuel Baptist Church has been described as a family centre for one reason or another. Part of this name branding is that Emmanuel seeks to cater to the different ages through its varied activities. But the overarching things that make Emmanuel a great family are the caring, hospitable, friendly, and encouraging attitudes of the membership. This is truly a God-given gift which other churches do not necessarily enjoy. As we celebrate family month this year let us reflect on the words of the song as we seek to renew our commitment to each other as a church family:

May the vows we've made go unbroken; may the love we share be true. Let the Lord be the first in our union, happy family month to you

SELF EXAMINATION

Lamentations 3:40 says "let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the Lord." As Christians there are areas of our lives that need attention and we cannot see all these areas. Denial is one thing that keeps us from seeing deep within ourselves. But we need to force ourselves to take inventory of our lives and see these areas in need of improvement. Let us begin by asking God to give us the courage to face these areas so that we can truly grow in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

MAKING CHILDREN NUMBER ONE

- ◆ Children need parents and guardians with clear ideas of right and wrong. The family is the best place to teach these values (home family, church family, school family)
- ◆ Children need rules and regulations in their lives. Studies have shown that simple rules and sanctions in the home positively affects children's behaviour and success in school.
- ◆ Children need parents with a deep commitment to their families. Constant quarrelling and fighting can cause emotional harm to children.
- ◆ The family and the church must be consistent in teaching moral values and attitudes to shape the lives of their children for a more uplifting society.

Opportunities for spiritual growth

Sunday Worship Services, Sunday School, Prayer Meetings, Bible Study
Cell Group Meetings, Personal Devotions

Opportunities for service

Hospitality, Choir, Drama, Dance, Ushering, Social Ministry, Sunday School, Youth, Basic School, Care & Visitation

Emmanuel in pictures



We welcome your ideas and suggestions

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