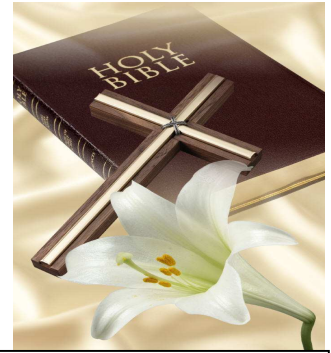


EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT MARIA, ST. MARY

E-EMMANUEL

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 19, NO. 66

December 2010



EDITORIAL:

Once again, we as children of the King are given the opportunity to reflect on the greatest gift ever extended to humanity. We have experienced God's unconditional love without limitation and we ought to pause amidst the hyperactivity and distractions, to show our appreciation and gratitude to our heavenly Father for the awesome love He displayed by offering His ONLY Son. We must ensure that we do not lose focus of the real essence of this season of seasons.

For the past decades we have allowed ourselves to be sidetracked by commercialization, materialism and self interest. If we must wear the name "Children of The King" we must begin to reflect some of His attributes such as gentleness, peacefulness and genuine love and humility. We must once again rekindle the spirit of sharing with one another within the family of God and to extend same to those who might not be as privileged.

May we strive for this Christmas season to be deliberate in doing good. Let us touch the life of someone who cannot give back to us. May we be like the good Samaritan who did not only perform a good deed but inconvenienced himself, went overboard, putting real love in action for people He did not know.

Let us purposefully set out this season to touch lives in a positive way and to extend to them the great love that our Father brought to us through our Lord and Saviour Jesus, the Christ. Then we will be worthy to wear the title "Children of the King."

Bruce Wedderburn
Chairperson, Music & Arts Committee

DECEMBER REMINDERS

- 5th Second Sunday in Advent
- 12th Carol Service (6:00 p.m.)
Cost: FREE
- 25th Christmas Morning service (6:00 a.m.)
- 26th Christmas Sunday Service
- 26th Dramatic Play & Concert (6:00 p.m.)
Cost: \$250
- 31st Watch Night Service (10:00 p.m.)

Please invite family and friends to share in these services.

ADVENT

Advent is a term from the Latin word 'adventus' which means "arrival" or "coming". Although the word "advent" is not found in the bible, the Old Testament prophecies foretold of the coming of Christ (the first advent). As Christians, we await the second advent—when Christ shall return. The time between the two advents (which is the now), is a critical 'wait period' in the sense that while we await Christ's second coming, we must be in preparation mode because Christ will come to us many times before His final coming.

He will come to our hearts—knocking again and again—for us to accept His gift of salvation; He comes to our hearts to cleanse, repair and restore it so that we can be prepared for His final coming. Christ will come into our situations and circumstances, to prove Himself faithful—in His own timing—so that with expectant minds and souls, we will strengthen our own faith in Him. Christ will come to us through His Word—to remind us of His truths, promises and commands—His Word will build us up as a people so that with great anticipation, we will be ready to go into the world to bring light to the people in darkness.

The first advent has come. As we await the second advent, we do so with preparation, expectation, and anticipation, for who Christ is and what He has done for us. He is coming again in great power and glory.

December Birthdays

Mark Campbell	7th
Linda Hines	10th
Earl Irvin	11th
Albertha Bailey	12th
Joan Green	12th
Rockeisha Barnett	18th
Rose Freckleton	24th
Larkland Peart	25th
Winsome Davis-James	26th
Audrey Maxwell	28th

The flower for December is the Poinsettia. This flower is also known as the Christmas flower and symbolizes good cheer and merriment.

TURQUOISE is the birthstone for December.



CONDOLENCES: The mother of Rev. Ainsley Davis passed away on Thursday, December 2. Please remember Rev. Davis and his family in your prayers as they grapple with their loss during this period.

The funeral service will be held on Saturday, December 18, 2010. Additional details will be announced later.

What's coming for January 2011?



There are so many opportunities for you to deepen your faith in God and to ground your roots in Christ. We encourage you to participate in as many of the following up-

coming spiritual events for January 2011:

- JBU School of Evangelism 6th-8th
- Believer's Enrichment Week 16th-23rd
(except Saturday 22nd)
- JBU Music Camp 21st-23rd
- Circuit Convention 30th

Look out for further
information.

Can you unscramble the following words from the Christmas Story:

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 1. STRA | 5. DOEYNK | 9. FITG |
| 2. MAGREN | 6. AEGLNS | 10. SCWO |
| 3. MYAR | 7. JSSEU | 11. NGISK |
| 4. SEPHE | 8. JPHOSE | 12. BALEST |

Do you know the significance of the candy cane?



A Candy Maker's Witness (*Anonymous*)

A candy maker in Indiana wanted to make a candy that would be a witness, so he made the Christmas Candy Cane. He incorporated several symbols for the birth, ministry, and death of Jesus Christ.

He began with a stick of pure white hard candy. White to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus; and the hard candy to symbolize the Solid Rock, the foundation of the Church, and firmness of the promises of God.

The candy maker made the candy in the form of a "J" to represent the precious name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Saviour. It could also represent the staff of the "Good Shepherd" with which He reaches down into the ditches of the world to lift out the fallen lambs who, like all sheep, have gone astray.

Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the candy maker stained it with red stripes. He used three small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received by which we are healed. The large stripe was for the blood shed by Christ on the Cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life.

Unfortunately, the candy became known as a candy cane—a meaningless decoration seen at Christmas time. But the meaning is still there for those who *"have eyes to see and ears to hear."*

May this symbol be used as a witness to the wonder of Jesus and his great love that came down at Christmas and remains the ultimate and dominate force in the universe today.

Give a candy cane this Christmas!

Bring Christmas Cheer to a child: Many children in Jamaica face extremely difficult realities in their family circumstances and in their communities, often resulting in the government authorities removing them from the situation and placing them in the care of a State agency. The State facilities however, are not adequate to provide the nurturing environment for the physical, spiritual and emotional growth and development of each child in its care. As such, the Child Development Agency (CDA), is encouraging persons to foster a child for this Christmas (and throughout the year). Foster Care is aimed at providing a safe family haven for children aged between zero to 18 years who have become wards of the State as a result of being abused, orphaned, abandoned, neglected or unable to be cared for by their parents, relatives or guardians. Use your home to allow a child to be placed within a loving family home environment. (from the CDA website: http://www.cda.gov.jm/foster_care_contd.php)

Thought: *While December brings the only Christmas day in the year, let there be Christmas in the things you do and say.*

We welcome your ideas and suggestions:

Please e-mail us at:

emmanuel_baptist_1828@yahoo.com or

Write us at: PO Box 64, Pt. Maria, St. Mary; or

Visit us at our website: www.emmanuelbaptist-jm.org

Remember to pray

... for the sick and shut-in members of the church and in our surrounding communities. Here is a list of our sick and shut-in members:

Sis. Audrey Maxwell (Port Maria Class); Sis. Emma Scarlette-Grant (Port Maria Class); Sis. Daphne Lewis (Trinity); Sis. Inez Graham (Trinity Class); Sis. Herma Grandison (Trinity Class); Sis. Percuss Scott (Trinity Class); Bro. Thomas Bennett (Mason Hall Class); Sis. Alberta Bailey (Stennett Street Class); Bro. Jeremiah Dalhouse (Stennett Street Class); Sis. Roslyn Walters (Stennett Street Class); Sis. Daphne Reid (Galina Class); Sis. Georgina Peart (Cox Street Class); Bro. Lucan Scott (Cox Street Class)