

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT MARIA, ST. MARY  
**E-EMMANUEL**

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**EDITORIAL: ON BEING A MOTHER**

It has been stated by Bombeck (1974) that *“Many women become mothers by accident, some by choice, a few by social pressures, and a couple by [just pure] habit.”* Although we tend to tag being a mother with having a child, having a child does not necessarily make a female a mother—being a mother involves much more than simply bringing a child into the world. Being a mother involves many things but two such responsibilities involve being devoted and being diligent. A devoted mother is one who is committed to the tasks of motherhood—of tending to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of her children. A mother not only commits to the tasks but is also diligent in tending to her children—that is giving keen attention to the tasks of mothering.

For those persons whom God has blessed with children (biological or otherwise), being a mother is considered a honourable task that has been blessed by God so pledge to be devoted and diligent in the execution of your motherly role.

*Dahlia Palmer, Chairperson,  
 Communications Committee*

**TRIBUTE TO MOTHERS**

Mothers are one of the best creations of God. She has amazing powers. She can multitask without complaining and she cares for everyone without any demands.

**Mother's Day Poem (Anonymous)**

Another Mothers' Day is here,  
 Bringing joy and pleasures new,  
 On this special day, Mothers dear,  
 We want to remember you

We cannot give you costly gifts,  
 And we've told you this before,  
 No matter what we give to you,  
 You give back so much more

We're giving you pure, sweet rose,  
 Gathered in the early morn,  
 This rose you planted in our hearts,  
 The day that we were born

In kindly, loving thoughts of you,  
 And with the faith you still impart,  
 The rose we give to you today,  
 Is the love that's in our hearts.

Thought:  
**The hand that rocks  
 the cradle is the hand  
 that rules the world—  
 so rock the cradle with  
 gentle hands!**

**MAY REMINDERS**

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| May        | Child's & Family Month                          |
| 1-8        | Crusade (7 pm nightly)                          |
| <b>8th</b> | <b>Mothers' Day</b>                             |
| 11th       | Cancer Society Team visit                       |
| 15th       | Women's Federation<br>Enrollment Service (6 pm) |
| 18th       | 183rd Anniversary of<br>Emmanuel                |
| 23rd       | Labour day                                      |

May is the beginning of our family month focus and activities.

The first set of activities will be our **Children's Day on May 14th** at 10:00 a.m. with invited speaker, games and talent parade.

Invite your family and friends to participate in the **Children's Day**.

**T**onight is the last of our crusade.  
 Don't miss this final night of the  
 crusade **Trust In God: Your  
 Assurance for tomorrow.**

Invite someone to this final night!

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**May Birthdays**

- |                     |      |
|---------------------|------|
| Lurline Edwards     | 1st  |
| Karlane McLean      | 5th  |
| Daphne Lewis        | 9th  |
| Joycelyn Barnett    | 15th |
| Shanae Campbell     | 16th |
| Olivene McPherson   | 17th |
| Verona Porter       | 17th |
| Vivene Irvin        | 18th |
| Jovan Thompson      | 19th |
| Valrie Johnson      | 20th |
| Pauline Smith       | 22nd |
| Margaret McFarquhar | 24th |
| Gwendolyn Robinson  | 28th |
| Lucan Scott         | 28th |
| Carol Levers        | 29th |
| Louise Plummer      | 30th |

**LILY** is the flower of the month, which means "a return to happiness and humility."

# Family Feature

Today marks the beginning of our special family month feature.

As stated in the last issue of the

newsletter, we will focus on two particular categories of persons in our congregation—the singles and married persons. This month we will focus on the singles and in June, we will focus on the married persons.



## JODIE-ANN PLUMMER

As a single person there are challenges but no pressure from friends or family. The best thing about being single is not having to answer to anybody. I do not feel less of a person because I am single. My advice to persons who are single is to talk with somebody you feel comfortable with. I have thoughts about marriage but that will happen if and when the right person comes along.



## MICHAEL MUIR

I have mixed feelings about being single. Sometimes I enjoy my singleness because I feel very comfortable. At the end of a hard day at work, I can go home and relax on my own terms; I don't have anybody to nag me and I enjoy cooking for myself. At other times

however, I feel bored being by myself.

I would like to get married so that I can have a child. My friends sometimes tease me about my singleness but many times they also discourage me about getting married.

To other single persons, I would encourage them to ask God to help them to seek for the right person. When you find the right person, hold to that person and be faithful. Listen to the voice of God in all that you do.

**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  
Sis. Inez Graham  
Bro. Thomas Bennett  
Bro. Lucan Scott  
Sis. Georgina Peart

Sis. Emma Scarlette-Grant  
Sis. Percuss Scott  
Sis. Roslyn Walters  
Bro. Jeremiah Dalhouse  
Sis. Daphne Reid

## PARENTING

Many parents believe that being a parent has been the most fulfilling, frustrating, exciting, exhausting, mind-boggling, hair-raising thrilling tiring, stimulating, soul-stirring, delightful, difficult, consuming, laborious, uplifting, inspiring, challenging, captivating, and rewarding job they have ever had. But parents have had times when they felt like throwing up their hands in frustrations and saying, "We quit!" or "What we are doing makes no sense because we do not see the difference in the children's lives." At these times, it is important for parents to think about the bamboo tree.

When the Chinese plant bamboo, first they plant the seeds, then water, and fertilize them. The first year, nothing happens. The second year they continue to water and fertilize the seeds, and still nothing happens. The farmer continues this process for a third and fourth year with no visual results. Then sometime during the fifth year, in a period of approximately six weeks, the Chinese bamboo grows ninety feet. The question is, did it grow ninety feet in six weeks or did it grow ninety feet in five years? The obvious answer is that it grew ninety feet in five years. If the grower hadn't applied water and fertilizer every year, there would be no bamboo.

It is the same way with raising children. Parents should pour into their lives, plant seeds of character, pull weeds with discipline, water with prayer, and fertilize with encouraging words. Then one day, if parents are persistent and consistent, they will see beautiful results. As parents, don't give up on your children! Keep praying! Keep encouraging! Keep loving! And one day, when you least expect it, your child will "rise up and call you blessed."

*Adapted from "Girlfriends in God"*

## Benefits of being involved in your child's education

As a parent or care giver, your involvement in the education of your child is considered one of the single most important factor in the school success and achievement of your child.

Research shows that both parents and children benefit from home involvement. Statistics show these benefits include:

- Increases in children's academic achievement and cognitive development
- Enhancement of children's self-esteem, positive attitudes, behaviours and better attitudes towards school
- Improvement in parent-child relationships
- Increases in parents' attitudes and self confidence about themselves

Your children need your involvement even when they get to high school. Sometimes, parents think their teenagers do not want them involved in their school work. It is not true! They need parental involvement as much as when they were little, it just needs to be in different ways. Get involved in your child's education—it will pay off in the long run.

*Adapted from: [www.sig.hawaii.edu/final\\_products/\\_notes/involvement-PARENT.pdf](http://www.sig.hawaii.edu/final_products/_notes/involvement-PARENT.pdf)*