

# EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT MARIA, ST. MARY

# E-EMMANUEL

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## EDITORIAL: THE YEAR OF JUBILEE

Jubilee—it is a time to “blow the trumpets loud and long throughout the land; it is a year to be set apart as holy; a time to proclaim release for all who live there . . .” (Lev 25:8-10a).

Jubilee is about celebration but amidst the celebration of Jubilee, is the gnawing sense of responsibility that comes with achieving this milestone. The above quote from the Bible outlines at least two responsibilities. First, we must use the year to set ourselves apart as holy. The Year of Jubilee requires of us to cleanse and consecrate ourselves before and unto the Lord—to rid ourselves of the things that foster impure thoughts and evil actions. As we set ourselves apart as holy, we will be able to diligently and sincerely run our leg of the race in service to our country. Second, Jubilee requires of us to proclaim release—release to those who are indebted to us; in essence, a time of forgiving. When we engage in the act of forgiving then we liberate others and ourselves to openly and freely celebrate. This is truly a season of singing and dancing; of shouting and clapping—with holy hearts and forgiving spirits. As we celebrate, may God truly set us free in our bodies, minds and souls in this Jamaica’s 50th year of independence—in this our Year of Jubilee!

*Dahlia Palmer, Chairperson  
Communications Committee*

### GIVE THANKS AND PRAISES

“Give Thanks and Praises” is the title of the song that won the Festival Song Competition in 1987 when Jamaica celebrated her 25th year of independence. The song, written by Ashley ‘Grub’ Cooper, was sung by Roy Rayon. Although written and performed 25 years ago, this song is still relevant today even as we celebrate our 50th year of independence, for truly, as a nation we have much for which to give God thanks and praises.

We give God thanks and praises that He has enabled us as a people to survive the brutality of slavery; for allowing us to enter an era where we can embrace freedom and yet look back with pride at our journey, and honour the legacy of our fore-parents. As we continue to take on the challenges of life and claim our place in this historic moment in Jamaica—yes being God’s people in God’s world living in peace—may we always remember to give God thanks and praises for His gracious goodness to us!

*Give thanks and praises, we are [still alive]  
Though the roads [are] rocky and the hills [are]  
steep, still we survive  
We put we faith and trust in the Father,  
Who’s keeping us alive,  
So give thanks and praises, we are [still alive]*

*So put you han’ inna de air an praise Him  
For we pretty little island, praise Him  
For the love in the nation, praise Him  
Let all the people praise Him  
Praise Him, praise Him.*

### AUGUST REMINDERS

- 6th Independence Day  
Celebrating Jamaica 50
- 30th Commissioning Service for  
Rev. Gareth Irvin at the  
Balaclava Baptist Church

### Upcoming September Event

The church’s Annual Members’ Meeting is scheduled for the end of September. Each leader is asked to prepare and submit reports by September 9, 2012 so the final report can be adequately prepared. All members are invited to share in the meeting.

### August Wedding Anniversaries



On August 4  
Vivene & Earle Irvin  
celebrate 36 years of  
marriage



On August 7  
Karlene & Bruce  
Wedderburn  
celebrate 21  
years of marriage

“Your love for each other will be proof that you also love Christ” (John 13:35)

### August Birthdays: In this Jubilee year, endeavour to obey the commands of the Lord your God!



Andrea  
Jackson  
3rd



Dahlia  
Palmer  
3rd



Lorna  
Campbell  
9th



Annette  
Forbes  
9th



Violet  
Daley  
10th



Claudia  
Hylton  
10th



Norman  
Israel  
12th



Patricia  
Brown  
21st



Elaine  
Peterkin  
23rd

**CHURCH TRIP 2012**

On Saturday, July 28, 2012, a group of persons travelled to Aqasol in St. James. It was truly a sunny day for a beach trip. Here are some pictorial highlights of the day.



**Remember to pray for and visit with 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. Inez Graham (Trinity Class); Sis. Percuss Scott (Trinity Class); Bro. Thomas Bennett (Mason Hall Class); Bro. Archibald Henry (Stennett Street Class); Bro. Jeremiah Dalhouse (Stennett Street Class); Sis. Daphne Reid (Galina Class); Sis. Georgina Peart (Cox Street Class); Bro. Lucan Scott (Cox Street Class); Sis. Adassa Reddie (Cox Street).

**We welcome your ideas and suggestions**

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

**Visit our website at:** [www.emmanuelbaptist-jm.org](http://www.emmanuelbaptist-jm.org)

**Like us on facebook at:** <http://www.facebook.com/EmmanuelBaptistjm>

**A NATION ON A MISSION**

There has been much growing anticipation as a people, in looking forward to August 6 when Jamaica will celebrate her 50th year as an independent nation. There have been regular meetings by officials, calculated plans, preparations and practices, all to ensure that the presentations will be well executed so that the people will experience this euphoric moment that hopefully will last for a life time. And, throughout all the advertising, the resounding theme that has been trumpeting all over the country is that we are a nation on a mission—and indeed we are!

It is this kind of energy in planning, grand announcements and careful execution in the proclamation of the gospel, that Christ has called us as Christians to embark on as we set out to accomplish His Mission, that is, to redeem those who are lost in sin. As Christians, Christ has called us to follow His example—that of using our God-given abilities to strategize in techniques so as to influence and impact our nation in positive ways to steer her towards Christ and His plan of salvation.

Yes, we must participate in the celebrations of our country's 50th anniversary milestone and engage in ensuring that she accomplishes her mission in line with that of Christ's; hence as we celebrate, especially those of us who profess to be Christians, we must be equal to the task of celebrating Christ and ensuring that we commit ourselves to spreading the gospel so that the Mission of Christ will be reflected in the mission of our country—Jamaica, land we love—a nation truly on a mission in Christ!

**Independent Jamaica**

Jamaica became an independent nation on August 6, 1962. On April 10, 1962, the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) defeated the People's National Party (PNP) in the pre-Independence general elections. The leader of the JLP then was the Rt. Honourable Sir Alexander Bustamante—he was the first Prime Minister of Jamaica. Below is a JIS photo of Sir Alexander Bustamante (front row 5th from the left) with Jamaica's first Cabinet in independent Jamaica.

