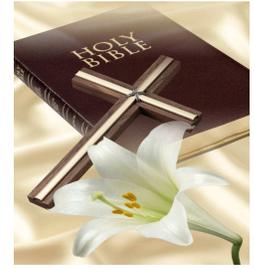


EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT MARIA, ST. MARY

E-EMMANUEL

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EDITORIAL: SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

It is that time of the year again when all attention is turned towards our Sunday School anniversary. Here at Emmanuel, we pause to give God thanks for His blessings on us and praise Him for His goodness towards us. Our parent body, the Jamaica Baptist Union, has called us to live in PEACE as agents of God, living in His world. However, in order to do so it is important for us to recognize that the primary task of the Sunday School teacher is to systematically teach the Word of God, specifically for changed lives. To reach that objective the teacher needs to be the kind of teacher who will make a difference, maintain the right goals, teach the way students learn best, and rely on the work of the Holy Spirit. The teachers' role is to assist children, teens and adults in their personal growth with Christ, equip believers of all ages with a thorough knowledge of the Bible and promote unity and fellowship between the believers and their families. When students sense that the teacher cares about them and that their needs are being met, they will want to keep coming back and they will want to bring others to benefit from what they are getting. By embarking on such we would have set the foundation and establish a framework for peace to be experienced.

Our society is troubled as many long to experience peace and happiness in their personal lives. Can Emmanuel Baptist Sunday School become an agent of change and impact Port Maria and its environs? I trust that our answer will be in the affirmative. May God bless us as we celebrate.

Dafflyn Campbell
Sunday School Superintendent

MARCH REMINDERS

18th	4th Sunday in Lent
25th	Sunday School Anniversary
25th	5th Sunday in Lent

March Birthdays

Shadel Brown	1st
Gregory Walsh	1st
Doris Nelson	3rd
Esther Sahti	8th
Louise Scarlett	12th
Adassa Reddie	15th
Alpha Hibbert	17th
Loretta Reid	20th
Ena Rhoden	20th
Shamar Brown	23rd
Tanesha Holness	23rd
Dafflyn Campbell	26th
Trevelyn Williams	28th
Steve Hamilton	31st

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SUNDAY SCHOOL EXAMS—2011



Twenty-two students sat the Sunday School Exams in October 2011. The scripts were submitted to the Jamaica Baptist Union and subsequently marked. It is safe to say that we performed creditably well. Two of our students gained honours (gained over 80%), that is, Rose Marie Walters (adults) and Shandola Thompson (older children). Six students gained credit and eleven gained a pass. We congratulate them and look forward to participation in all age groups in the October 2012 examinations with the hope that the results will be more rewarding.

ROSEMARIE WALTERS



I feel excited yet humbled to be a Christian especially in these last days. I love to be in the presence of the Lord to worship and to praise Him for His love, His goodness and His grace. Everyday I ask Him to show me His way because I want to walk with Him every step of the way. I also love to read and meditate upon the word of God, for in doing so, I gain strength to help me deal with the everyday cares of the world.

The Older Children Class celebrates

The present Sunday School Year was a very special one for the Older Children Class. There was a certain level of maturity and consciousness among most members of the class. The lessons facilitated discussions about student's everyday life as well as their own personal relationship with God. Somewhere during these discussions four members of the class made decisions for the Lord. The decisions were further cemented during our week of crusade meetings in May 2011. Of the four students who made

decisions and followed through with enquirer's class, three were baptized in August and are now members of the church. One student, Chyanne Graham has since migrated, another, Shakera Sinclair was promoted to Youth class while the third, Shandola Thompson, remains in Older Children Class. They are committed and active participants in their classes and the church.

It is my hope that the fourth student will shortly follow through on her decision and that during the next Sunday School year others will commit their lives to Jesus Christ.

Contributed by Sis V. Irvin (Teacher)

Saluting our Sunday School Stalwarts



Lord your constant love reaches the heavens, your faithfulness extends to the skies (Ps. 36:5)

As a Sunday school we laud the faithfulness of some of our students. They have given many years of service and active involvement in the life of the Sunday school. Oh! how we appreciate their contribution and commend them for their dedication to kingdom building. Deacon Peart has been involved the life of the Emmanuel Baptist Sunday school since 1947. For him it has been a pleasure and delight to teach God's word. Deacon Spence has been actively involved since 1955. He remembers with joy, riding his bicycle to Mason Hall and the Barracks to conduct Sunday school. We salute Sis. Whilby, who became a Sunday school student about 1948. How can we forget Bro. Vernal Allen and Sisters Desrene Walters, Hazel Allen, Louise Scarlett, Ivy Clementson and Loretta Reid. We want also to salute Sis Leila Smith, who is product of the Sunday school and though had a break when lived and worked in the United States. found her place when she returned.

May their contribution become a source of motivation to us and may generations to come find us faithful.

Message from the Sunday School Superintendent

I wish everyone had an appreciation for Sunday School. The importance of members and children being in attendance cannot be over stressed. The scriptures that they are taught, the memorizing of the Books of the Bible and songs that are sung will follow them in a positive way throughout their entire lives. (And when they are old, they will not depart from it). Sunday School is where the young people become acquainted with how much Jesus loves them and get to appreciate people in the Bible like David, Jonathan and many others in a sort of up front and personal kind of way. I have found that adults enjoy Sunday School very much. The class is rich, the teacher is knowledgeable and each person is respectfully given an opportunity to share in the discussion of the lessons. If you haven't been to Sunday School lately, I highly recommend that you give it a try. I believe you will enjoy it as much as we do.

We thank God for our Sunday School teachers and the effort and preparation they make in order to present meaningful lessons. Special mention must be made of the longest serving teacher at the moment, Deacon Vivene Irvin. We give God thanks for the contribution she has made, and continues to enable her to make.

Many say that Sunday School is old-fashioned, outdated and obsolete. Has it become irrelevant and unnecessary? Or, could it be that we have forgotten some of the basic reasons why the Sunday School was and still is so vital in the first place? Sunday School is the place to teach the vital importance of Scripture to our children, teens, and adults and to disciple them in their Christian walk. Sunday School remains one of the church's most powerful ways to affirm the Word of God as the foundation for the Christian life. The goal of Sunday School is to reach lost people for Jesus. Through Sunday School, we challenge all ages to be disciples of Jesus Christ and to invite others to do the same. Sunday School is the place where we help each other live the Holy life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. Matthew 24:35.

**Port Maria Circuit
Youth Retreat
at
COLUMBUS INN**
(Priory, St. Ann)



April 10-13, 2012

Cost: \$3,000

YOUTH
BIBLE
STUDY

YOUTH ISSUES

Remember to pray for and visit

... 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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Visit our website at:

www.emmanuelbaptist-jm.org

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