



EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT MARIA, ST. MARY

E-EMMANUEL

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EDITORIAL: TRIUMPHANT, PROUD, FREE

It is critically important for us as Jamaicans to reflect on Emancipation Day and celebrate Independence Day. These dates (August 1 and 6 respectively) are significant to who and where we are as a people. We obtained full freedom from slavery because our fore-parents fought against oppression to obtain this basic right for us. We must never ever take this freedom as a nation for granted; rather we must guard it—we must guard against the erosion of our culture, moral values and Godly principles because if we lose these defining features we would have lost our identity ... then, those who sacrificed their lives for us, would have done it in vain. Therefore, as a people of freedom, we must not allow ourselves to be enslaved by forces that try to change our laws; we must not allow our children to endure any kind of abuse; we must facilitate law and order and live lives of truth, justice and integrity as God ordained. These are just some of the elements of life that will help us to live and maintain our traditions and truly enjoy freedom.

So, as we celebrate this year, let us stop to truly reflect on our freedom (which ironically was not free) and let us pledge to work towards building a better nation under God so that each day from hereon, we can truly say with conviction *“our hearts salute Jamaica land we love—triumphant, proud and free!”*

Dahlia Palmer, Chair
Communications Committee

AUGUST REMINDERS

- 4th Emancipence Service
- 4th Harvest Ingathering at Oxford
- 6th Independence Day
- 10th Home-Coming Dinner (Formal)
- 31st Circuit Officers' Retreat-10 a.m.

Upcoming September Events

- The church's Annual Members' Meeting is scheduled for the end of September. Each leader is asked to prepare and submit reports covering the period October 2012-September 2013. All members are invited to share in the meeting.
- September is Mission Month. Please be in prayer as we embark on focused Mission activities for the month.



**PLEASE 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; Sis. Emma Scarlette-Grant; Sis. Ionie Thomas; Sis. Inez Graham; Sis. Percess Scott; Sis. Valerie Melbourne; Sis. Loretta Reid; Bro. Thomas Bennett; Sis. Gwendolyn Byfield; Bro. Archibald Henry; Sis. Daphne Reid; Sis. Violet Daley; Sis. Lurline Edwards; Sis. Georgina Peart; Bro. Lucan Scott; Sis. Adassa Reddie.

DEPENDENCE LEADS TO INDEPENDENCE

Jamaica became an independent nation on August 6, 1962. On that day, many Jamaicans gathered at the National Stadium to witness the symbolic transference of power from one country to another through the raising of the Jamaican flag (among other things). Since then, each year we celebrate our independence. There is a tendency to think and believe that independence means total reliance on oneself. This is a false belief. It is our dependence on people, systems and institutions, that leads to our independence. We can never ever survive without relying on someone else. In Galatians 6:1-10, we are encouraged to facilitate independence by being available for others to first depend on us—that is, we must be willing to support each other as we journey through this life.

As Christians, we must understand that being a part of the body of Christ, does not embrace self-sufficiency; it is a place of interdependency. We share in each other's joys, and problems so that we can fulfil God's law of love. And, as we seek to support each other, we look to God Himself—our ultimate source—and depend on Him to lead and strengthen our resolve to follow Him.

So, as we think about our independence, always remember that it is dependence on God and others that leads to independence.

August Wedding Anniversaries



On August 4 Vivene & Earle Irvin celebrate 37 years of marriage



On August 7 Karlene & Bruce Wedderburn celebrate 22 years of marriage

August Birthdays: May the love of God always be your freedom!



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
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GOD’S WORDS WORK!

It is a fact that many of us as Christians, spend some amount of time searching the Word of God so that we can claim a promise, or find comfort and reassurance of God’s love. We should not only search through God’s Word, but we should allow God’s Words to search us.

We can have an idea when the Word of God is searching our souls, that is, when we question aspects of what is presented, when we argue about principles, when we are tempted to stop reading because we feel uncomfortable or when we become upset when it does not fit our ideologies. At times like these, God is using His Word to force us to examine our souls and our responses to His Word. In examining our souls and responses to the Word of God, we should ask ourselves questions such as: why am I responding in this way? What aspect of my behaviour or attitude is it addressing? How does the Word of God differ from how I am living? What do I need to change in my life? Our honest responses to these questions will fuel spiritual growth and draw us closer to God as He reveals His plans for our lives.

We often sing the paraphrased verses of Psalm 139:23-24, a scripture passage that urges God to “Search me, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends You, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.” Let not the words of this scripture be vain repetitions—but we should allow God’s Words to expose our sins and use the same Word to accept the remedy for those sins, and let God continue His work in our lives, through His Word!

CONSERVE:

Water is a precious commodity. We tend to take it for granted until it hits the summer period when the rivers literally “run dry” and the water levels in the dams fall below set levels. We have to make a conscious effort to conserve water not just during the summer months but all year round. Here are a few tips that we can consider to help in conserving water:

- Do not run pipes/showers unnecessarily; monitor young children when they take their baths
 - Fix leaking pipes and toilets.
 - Use rinse water from washing to water plants
 - Use water in a bucket when washing vehicles at home
- These tips not only save water, but they will save money and save our lives in the long run.

ATTENTION:

Enter the **Summer Evangelism Tract Competition.**
See the notice board for further details.

We welcome your ideas and suggestions.

E-mail us at:

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Write us at:

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Visit our website at:

www.emmanuelbaptist-jm.org

Follow us on facebook at:

http://www.facebook.com/EmmanuelBaptistjm

Thought:

We may not be able to control events, but we can control our attitude toward them.

CHURCH TRIP 2013

On Saturday, July 27, 2013, a group of persons travelled to Negril - Westmoreland. Here are some pictorial highlights of the day.

