



EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT MARIA, ST. MARY

# E-EMMANUEL

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## EDITORIAL: STEWARDSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

September marks the time for us to reflect on our stewardship over the last church year—a time to “weigh ourselves in the balance” and determine if we “are found wanting”. We must examine ourselves individually and collectively and evaluate how we did in the varied areas of life such as: worship, fellowshiping with each other, mission and evangelism, praying, tithing, daily devotions, attending Bible Study sessions, showing love—just to name a few areas. If we are truthful to ourselves, we will admit that we have not being faithful in our stewardship responsibilities over the past year. But, thanks be to God that He forgives us when we falter and fail if we come to Him penitently and with sincere hearts of repentance. Let us therefore seek to repent of our non-actions.

As we face the upcoming new church year, may it be different; let us not be content to serve Christ and others as we did last year; rather, let us pledge to do better with the help of God; let us not look at what others are not doing but let us do what we have been called and elected to do and for sure, God will be pleased that we fulfilled our stewardship responsibilities.

Dahlia Palmer, Chair  
Communications Committee

### DON'T SAY MISSION—DO IT!

Practically every September, we announce that it is “Mission Month” yet our programmes and activities for that month in particular, fail to demonstrate targeted actions of Mission. Mission is not just saying “we are in mission” rather mission is about what we do. We have been equipped through Bible study teachings and sermons to go out into the communities yet with all the training, we do very little as a church to engage in the work of God’s Mission. It is like being trained to be a doctor and at the end of the training, the individual builds a stall to sell fruits. Of course, there are pockets of members who engage in witnessing and helping to meet the needs of the less fortunate but our missional work must extend beyond the one or two persons who engage in these activities.

The degrading social, economic and moral conditions of our communities make it extremely urgent for us as Christians to be engaged in on-going missional activities that will reach the hearts of men, women and children and address their varied needs. The deacons and leaders of the church must not only meet to discuss mission—we must lead the church into engaging in Mission—in going out into the community to share Christ with the people.

We have been talking about Mission—its time for us to do it!

## SEPTEMBER REMINDERS

### September is Mission Month

- 12th Ordination & Induction Service  
For Rev. Hariff Allison at the  
Waldensia Baptist Church
- 19th Ordination & Induction service  
for Rev. Dewayne Williams at the  
Privilege Baptist Church
- 29th Members' Meeting at 6:00 p.m.



### PLEASE REMEMBER TO

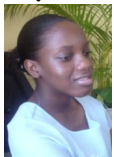
PRAY FOR  
AND VISIT

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. Georgina Peart; Bro. Lucan Scott; Sis. Adassa Reddie.

### September Birthdays: May God's love hover always over you.



Kayl  
Wedderburn  
3rd



Garfield  
Irvin  
5th



Fay  
Hibbert  
10th



Zonika  
Tracey  
14th



Cynthia  
Gayle  
16th



Michael  
Muir  
22nd



Durey  
Daley  
23rd



Katana  
Dunbar  
23rd



Claudette  
Taylor  
25th



Desrine  
Walters  
26th



Elise  
Barnett  
27th

### September Wedding Anniversaries



On September 24,  
Rev. & Mrs. Oral Campbell celebrate 25  
years  
of marriage

### PRAYING FOR OTHERS

Among the many spiritual disciplines, prayer can be one of the most frustrating as well as one of the most rewarding. We know we need to pray, but few of us do so with consistency and with the depth that it deserves. For some of us, prayer is only for when we come to church. Often, we do not feel like praying; and when we do our thoughts wander. There are blessings that come with praying—we deepen our relationship with God and we learn to extend our faith in Christ Jesus.

At times when we pray, many of us focus on praying for ourselves but we should never be selfish in our praying; we should take the time to come before God on behalf of others and we can pray for others in a number of ways. A good example of praying for others is found at the beginning of Paul's letters.

Paul's letters often begin with a blessing of grace and peace. Grace is the reason for our salvation and peace is the result. God's grace in Jesus brings us new life and peace, both with ourselves and with others. Paul was never tired of praying for grace and peace for others as a way of reminding of the root and fruit of faith in God. As we pray for others, let us pronounce a blessing of grace and peace in their lives

In praying for others, Paul would give thanks to God for them. As Paul encountered people whose lives had been changed by God, he was often stirred with gratitude. Paul cherished the work of God in the lives of others and so he would often give God thanks for the believers in Christ. As we pray for others, we should take the time to give God thanks for them—for their faith and resolve in Him, for extending faith in Christ, for showing kindness to others—give God thanks for good things in the lives of the people we pray for.

Paul, in praying for others, would express hope and confidence in God to complete the work of spiritual transformation that He begun. This expression of hope and confidence in God encourages the persons being prayed for to press on in the journey of faith. Paul would encourage the believers to "keep their eyes on the goal" despite the ups and downs and the discouragements of life.

Finally, in praying for others, Paul would make additional requests and the requests depended on the general as well as specific needs of the groups of persons for whom he prayed.

As we engage in praying, we can use Paul's model of praying for others as a way of keeping our thoughts focussed. Let us pray daily for grace and peace for each other; let us give God thanks daily for His work of salvation in the lives of believers; let us through our prayers for others, express hope and confidence in God that our love for God and others will grow as a body of believers; and that we will each continue to grow in the knowledge and understanding of God.

#### **BE IN CONSTANT PRAER**

The Bible tells us to "pray without ceasing" to be "constant in praying". We should never neglect to pray—to converse with God about all the issues of life—good and bad. Let us pray:

- For all our members—that we will continue to grow in faith and love;
- Specifically for members who are going through varied challenges (physical, emotional, financial, spiritual)
- For guidance and meaningful decisions at our upcoming members' meeting;
- For the leaders of our country to model order and demonstrate good sense in governance

#### **BE IN CONTROL**

Just a couple of weeks ago, we were experiencing severe drought; the grass was dry, parched and brown; the river beds had just botches of water here and there and it felt as if the heat would consume us. Now, for the past couple days, we have been having rains—lots of it too. The grass is green again, and the place is not as hot as it was.

With the coming of the rains, there also come ailments if we do not take control. One area we need to control is the breeding of mosquitoes. We can control this by ensuring that we monitor places where water is likely to settle and so become a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

When we take control in this area we are ensuring that all of us remain healthy so we will be able to function at home, work, church and at play.

**We welcome your ideas and suggestions.**

**E-mail us at:**  
emmanuel\_baptist\_1828@yahoo.com

**Write us at:**

PO Box 64, Pt. Maria, St. Mary

**Visit our website at:**

www.emmanuelbaptist-jm.org

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**Thought: *There is a vast difference between knowledge and wisdom; knowledge deals with accumulation of facts and information about life; wisdom is concerned with interpreting the issues of life.***