

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT MARIA, ST. MARY

E-EMMANUEL

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EDITORIAL: FAITH OR FEAR FACTOR?

Fear is something that most if not all of have experienced. It is a panic that overtakes us without notice and leaves us with an unsettled feeling in the stomach. Life often brings fear into the picture and many times this causes some of us to give up and walk away—thus preventing us from progressing. Fear stymies our growth emotionally, socially and spiritually—and this is what Satan wants. But, God did not give us a spirit of fear. Rather, He charges us as Christians to be courageous and to have faith. We must do our part of praying and believing; stretching our “spiritual muscles” and take action—take steps of faith in our lives and confront whatever it is that we are faced with. As we go about in our daily lives, we must make a decision—we can choose the fear factor (to run) or the faith factor (to confront). May God grant us the grace to choose the faith factor!

Sis. Dahlia Palmer

Chairperson, Communications Committee

Welcome

Today, we are happy to receive and welcome into our fellowship, four new members. Sisters Marcella Taylor-Stewart and Paula Cameron, will be received after their baptism on Good Friday ...



Marcella Taylor-Stewart



Paula Cameron

... as well as Bro. Lester McKenzie and Sis. Dawn Young.

As a church family, we want to welcome you all to the fellowship and rest assured of the continued prayers from the members.

Please be in **prayer** for our up-coming crusade under the theme:

Jesus is the Way; Trust Him today!

Invite and take someone you know who is in need of salvation

CRUSADE 2013

under the theme:

**Jesus is the Way
Trust Him today!**

April 14- 21, 2013
6:30 p.m. nightly

Speakers:

**Rev. Leo Hall
Rev Andre Blake**

Come and be blessed!

APRIL REMINDER

14th -21st Annual Crusade Service
20th VBS Training
27th BWA Men's Day of Prayer

Want to hear about

SLANDERING?

- What is it?
- Why do people slander?
 - How does it affect people?
 - How can a person overcome slandering?

Come to **Bible Study** to hear about and share your views on this and other issues!!

You cannot afford to miss it!!

Wednesdays, 5 - 7 p.m.

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:

Port Maria Class: Sis. Audrey Maxwell; Sis. Emma Scarlette-Grant; Sis. Ionie Thomas; **Trinity Class:** Sis. Inez Graham; Sis. Valerie Melbourne; Sis. Percess Scott; **Mason Hall Class:** Bro. Thomas Bennett; Sis. Ivy Clemetson; Sis. Gwendolyn Byfield; **Stennett Street:** Bro. Archibald Henry; **Galina:** Sis. Daphne Reid; Sis. Violet Daley; Sis. Edwards; **Cox Street Class:** Sis. Georgina Peart; Bro. Lucan Scott; Sis. Adassa Reddie.

April Birthdays: May you strive always to be God's masterpiece!



Pauline
Hamilton
1st



Isaac
Watkis
4th



Delmena
Young
7th



Rev. Oral
Campbell
12th



Myrtle
Genius
16th



Loretta
Reid
21st



Rachel
Francis
24th



Cynthia
Bryan
29th

April Wedding Anniversary

On April 18, 2013 Sylvester and Novelette Barnett will celebrate 23 years of marriage.



HEALING THE PAIN OF YOUR PAST

Here is a secret that you all must hear: NO ONE HAS A PERFECT PAST!! Each of us has been “broken” in one way or another—no one is alone in brokenness. So ... welcome to the club of persons who have and carry pains from the past. God however, does not want us to be burdened with the pains of the past. To release the burdens of the past, we must:

- Remember the pain. Remember not to be depressed but as a last farewell to the thing that has hurt us over the years
- Move the pain outside of your heart. This can be done by writing it, recording it, then ripping it apart or burning it
- Forgive and pray. Forgiveness is a decision; not a feeling. You must forgive yourself and forgive those who have hurt you. And forgive God if you must. Then pray and thank God for your deliverance.
- Do yourself good. Do for yourself what will heal the places of hurt e.g. buying something for yourself

Healing the pain of the past takes time. Yet the places where you have hurt the most, will be your most compassionate depths—after you have visited them and left them behind with the blessing of forgiveness.

Adapted from CareNotes

A PLUMB LINE

A plumb line is a length of string that has a weight tied to one end. When the string is held up with the weighted end hanging down, gravity ensures that the string is perfectly vertical. When held next to a building or structure, the plumb line provides something sure by which to check whether the building is correctly positioned. Unless a building is built in line with the plumb line, the structure will not stand as firm as it could.

The Lord God, in order to admonish the Israelites to admit their sin, used the analogy of a plumb line. He said “*I will test my people with this plumb line. I will no longer ignore all their sins*” (Amos 7:8).

We too must have a plumb line with which to measure ourselves. We must base measurement of our moral character on truth. If we measure ourselves against a faulty standard, we won't be able to see the truth and confess it to God.

As Christians, the Word of God is our spiritual plumb line. Just as we cannot argue with gravity, we cannot argue and try to change the spiritual laws given us in the Bible. It is to our advantage to measure our lives by the plumb line of God's Word. When things don't measure up, it is important that we admit the problem and there begin the process of rebuilding.

Adapted from the New Living Translation version of the Bible

We welcome your ideas and suggestions:

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Visit our website at:

www.emmanuelbaptist-jm.org

Like us on facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/EmmanuelBaptistjm>

Thought: Self-examination is one test from which no Christian is excused!

Declining good values and attitudes

Our elderly citizens will share, if asked, about the good old days they had when there was community spirit, willingness to work hard, protection of women and children, respect for men, and love for God. Since these elements of society are hardly seen, it can be determined that good values and attitudes have declined. The decline in good values and attitudes is evidenced in the high murder rate, the frequent rape and abuse of children and women, high levels of corruption among leaders in all areas of life and the extent of dishonest living e.g. scamming.

Good values and attitudes must begin at home and supported at the school, Church and community levels. These agents of socialization must be on the same page as it relates to moral values and living; and work in tandem with each other so that our children and youths will realize that working hard is not a crime but rather can yield success; that education is of critical value and that respect for self, others and property is a virtue to emulate and practice.

We must make it a priority to teach the next generation about the principles of God. In fact, God instructed us to “*teach them to [our] children; talk about them when at home and when away on a journey; when lying down and when getting up ... so that as long as the sky remains above the earth, you and your children may flourish ...*” (Deut. 11:19-21).

Let us work towards bringing back the good values and attitudes in this our island home—Jamaica!!

PRAYER

Prayer is an opportunity for perseverance to ask, look and knock (Matt 7:7-8). These three commands are positive habits to be developed in our prayer lives—that we will persist in prayer with hope knowing that our Father hears our prayers and will respond according to His will and to His way!

FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!

Do you want your picture to be in the 185th Anniversary Souvenir Magazine? Does the Communication Committee have a picture of you on file?

As part of the 185th Anniversary celebration, a Souvenir Magazine will be compiled and published. Individual portrait pictures of members will be featured, along with the birth-date and month (not the year). You can have your pictures taken by Sis. D. Palmer OR if you prefer, give us one of your pictures and we will scan it.

The deadline to take or submit pictures is **May 26, 2013!!**