

THE LOGOS

“Journey of Hope”

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A Message From The President

Happy New Year and best wishes for 2006! It was indeed touching this past Sabbath afternoon on New Year's Eve for us as we assembled at our various church centers to say goodbye to 2005 and welcome in a brand new year. Such a service, especially within the context of the Communion Service, underscores God's gracious favors to us during the previous year. Ponder this --anyone of us could have perished through hurricane; air, boat or automobile accident, or even through a freak accident at home, on the job or at church.

Truly, God is good as declared by Asaph in Psalm 73. Less I be misunderstood, I add that even in cases where a relative, friend or colleague has been snuffed away by the cold fingers of death, we can still praise God. In fact, as I write this article, I am here in Antigua to attend the funeral service for the mother of Pastor Peter Joseph. We (Denise, my wife, Drs. Leon and Alvira Higgs, Vernal Rolle and Tony Curtis) who are here representing you have witnessed a remarkable faith and assurance of God's presence in Pastor Joseph.

To Pray More

This New Year allows for another chance to correct some stuff and renew commitments to God, spouse, children and to personal objectives. I point out the need to pray more in 2006. While listening to a special television broadcast on Friday, December 30, 2005, on 3ABN, I was startled by some statistics released regarding the prayer life of Adventists. Having Pastor Brennen check out the information, I confirmed that we as a denomination have not given enough attention to prayer in comparison to other protestant churches. Could it be that we do not sense the need to pray because we may possess a false sense of pride, for we believe that we have Athe truth@ and as such do not need to agonize? Be it as it may, the research by George Barna, noted church researcher, does indicate our need to pray more. In fact, it was only on Wednesday that pastors met for prayer and fasting throughout our Union. Dr. Allen and his officers are to be commended for this focus. After all, Ellen White says, a revival of true godliness among us as a people is the most urgent of all needs. To seek this should

be our first work. Dr. Allen adds that this work does not begin with the members of the Church; this purifying work must begin with the ministers. Therefore, I urge our pastors and elders to ensure that we utilize the Prayer and Praise service for what it was intended. Also, that we encourage more prayer focus as this will auger well for God's people in every way.

To Contribute More

I would imagine that you have been blessed and inspired by Convention 2006 thus far. This afternoon our youth will conduct their installation service, and on Sunday, we conclude our extended weekend with Praise and Reunion, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Hillview Church. Those of us who missed the opening of Convention may wish to tune into that service when it is aired/rebroadcast on TV-13 from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. Invite a friend or neighbor to tune in. Also, those of you who may be interested in the work in the Family islands are welcome to attend the Family Islands Conventions. You may make your own arrangements to attend the convention on the island of your choice. Please note the following schedule of Family Islands Conventions and Speakers:

January 13 to 15

Eleuthera Dr. C. Rolle and Mrs. M. Knowles

Long Island Pastor and Mrs. P. A. Scavella
Inagua Pastor and Mrs. L. C. Rolle

January 20 to 22

San Salvador Dr. and Mrs. L. A. Johnson
Pastor and Mrs. B. H. Brennen
Exuma Elder and Mrs. C. M. Lewis
Dr. and Mrs. J. Carey

January 27 to 29

Cat Island Pastor and Mrs. A. Burrows
Dr. and Mrs. M. D. Toote
Crooked Island and Acklins
Pastor and Mrs. E. D. Clarke
North Andros Pastor and Mrs. M. A. Smith
South Andros Elder and Mrs. C. M. Lewis
Pastor and Mrs. T. B. Sturupp

In addition to requesting you to give some of your time to the work in the Family Islands, I remind you to give a special offering to assist with the ongoing construction for the new Bahamas Academy on Marshall Road. You should have received a handout from the VBA president, Bro.

Winston Ash. Support this project throughout the year with your financial contributions as well as your voluntary labour, or with donation of building materials.

With our major Evangelistic outreach slated for February 18, I ask that you continue to support the School of Evangelism which resumes next week following convention. I still believe that the best evangelistic experiences and results are yet to be seen and felt within this Conference. Pray much and prepare much for the same.

Again, I wish for you and yours God's blessings and a very Happy New Year. -Dr. Leonard A. Johnson

Relocation of Bethel SDA Church

The Bethel SDA Church will now hold services at its new site on Spikenard and Unison Roads. The members of Bethel credit and thank Brothers Philip Young, Alfred Brennen, Dale Davis and Kenneth Williams for their assistance in relocating. Plans for a revival at the new site will begin on Sunday, January 15, 2006, for more information please call Pastor St. Fleur at 361-2031 to be of further assistance to the Francophone district.

Bahamas Conference Pastors Meet to Pray

On Wednesday, January 4, 2006, the pastors of the Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists joined the other pastors of West Indies Union who met at various locations throughout the Union for a time of prayer and meditation. This special prayer time was designated because administrators and pastors recognize that prayer is a powerful weapon in the fight against the forces of evil, and as spiritual leaders, they need to be equipped to lead the people into a revival of true godliness. As they gathered at the New Englerston Church, the pastors prayed for a spiritual cleansing and the infilling of the Holy Spirit.@

Representing the leadership of West Indies Union, Dr. W. R. McMillan, Field Secretary and Stewardship director of the Union, led out in the meditation. He emphasized that pastors need to give more attention to prayer and the ministry of the Word. He made reference to Acts 6:4 as support of his admonition. (See p. 2)

Bahamas Conference Pastors Meet to Pray (Continued from p. 1)

The twelve disciples, the spiritual leaders of the early church, left the support ministries for others to do. They said: "But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and the ministry of the word."

Ellen White, also, emphasized the importance of prayer. What she says in Testimonies for The Church, Vol. 5. Pages 112 and 113 is very instructive:

"Those who will put on the whole armour of God and devote some time every day to dedication and prayer and to the study of the Scriptures will be connected with heaven and will have a saving, transforming influence upon those around them. Great thoughts, noble aspirations, clear perceptions of truth and duty to God, will be theirs. They will be yearning for purity, for light, for love, for all the graces of heavenly birth. Their earnest prayer will enter into that within the veil. The class will have a sanctified boldness to come into the present of the Infinite One. They will feel that heaven's light and glories are for them, and the will become refined, elevated, ennobled by intimate acquaintance with God. Such is the privilege of the true Christians."

The pastors were motivated and inspired by participating in the prayer and meditation time, and they felt that this should be a regularly schedule event for the pastors.

Youth Convention

A special Sabbath School and Divine Hour program is planned for our teenagers ages 12 to 17 only at the Philadelphia SDA Church, Elizabeth Estate from 9:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Parents are asked to drop off and pick up their children by 1:00 p.m.- *Pastor A. Burrows*

Support Bahamas Academy

Friends, supporters and interested persons are requested to give a good donation to the New Bahamas Academy project during Convention 2006 today. Special envelopes are available from ushers.

Children's Ministries Convention

On Convention Sabbath Children's church for children aged 5 to 12 years will be held at the Maranatha church from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Parents are asked to drop off and pick up their children on time. -*Dr. Cheryl Rolle, CM Director*

A.Y. Service for Convention afternoon

All A.Y., Pathfinder, Adventurer, leaders, assistants, counselors, instructors, Pathfinder band officers and members, Listen Up team members, and other persons working with our young people next year are required to attend the Youth Dedication And Commitment Service on the Sabbath afternoon, January 7th, during the Bahamas Conference Convention at the Hillview Church.

Youth Announcements

Masterguide Training Class of 2006

The Masterguide Training Class of 2006 will commence on Sunday morning, January 8th. Mr. Rohan Creighton, Masterguide Training Instructor for next year requests all Masterguides in training, and Masterguides who need to do refresher courses to register with the Youth Department at the Conference Office within the next two weeks.

School of Evangelism

The School of Evangelism Classes will resume following Convention 2006, on Sunday, January 15, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. No new students will be accepted for Evangelism School Phase I, however, persons interested in registering for the next session in August 2006 are invited to sign up with Mrs. Deena McPhee at the Conference Office. -*Pastor Peter Joseph, Coordinator, Family Life Crusade 2006*

Eastern Standard Hours for Adventist Book & Bible Centre

You are invited to come by the ABNC for your Vegan foods, books and Bibles. New store hours during Eastern Standard Time are: Monday to Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday and Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

A variety of 2006 Devotional books are available. Come check us out for your holiday gifts. -*K. V. Deveaux, ABNC Manager*

NCU Offers Graduate Studies

Northern Caribbean University (NCU) is inviting persons interested in studying for a Master's and or the PhD in Education to contact Mrs. Celestine Creighton at #393-3381. NCU is prepared to accommodate a group of 15 persons with 2 sessions in Nassau and 1 in Jamaica. A group of 25 persons will be able to complete the entire program in Nassau.

Trade Show 2006

Plans are being made for the Bahamas Conference Trade Show scheduled for February 5, 2006. All participants are invited to stop by the Conference Office to sign up (Mon. B Fri., during office hours).

Adventist Business Directory

The 2006 Adventist Business Directory is ready for distribution. Extra copies are available at the ABNC for a small donation. Persons who would like to register for the second edition can complete an application for and leave it at the ABNC. - *Pastor N. E. Scavella*

New Phonelines for ELC

New Telephone Numbers for the Bahamas Academy Early Learning Center are: 394-8838 or 394-8839. -*Hermia Brown, Coordinator, ELC*

Nova Southeastern University Nassau Campus

Nova Southeastern University is currently registering students for the following

programmes, scheduled to begin in March 2006 in Nassau: Master's in Business Administration, Master's in Human Resources Management, Bachelor Degree in Business Administration, and Master's Degree in Education. All students who are interested in enrolling in these programmes are urged to fill in an official application at the campus on Yamacraw Road as soon as possible. Classes are scheduled for Saturday Nights and Sundays. For more information, please call 364-6766 ext. 25 or e-mail the university at nsu-bahamas@nsu.nova.edu. - *Dr. Leon Higgs*

Health Ministries Orlando Summit

Persons traveling to Orlando for the Health summit are asked to meet with Pastor Paul Scavella Sunday, Jan. 1, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at the Living Faith Church.

All Health Professionals and Health Directors for the year 2006 are asked to meet at Living Faith Church at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 1st with Pastor Scavella.

Clean-up Day at Campsite

All Pathfinders, Masterguides, PF Band members, Listen-up members are asked to meet at the Campsite, Marshall Road, on January 29, 2006, for a clean-up session from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You are asked to bring cleaning tools such as cutlass, lawn mower, rakes and shovels. -*Marilyn Bonamy*

Bethany Pathfinder Club to Host Mega Garage Sale

On Sunday, January 8, 2006, at 7:30 a.m. the Bethany Pathfinder Club will have a blow-out garage sale on the Church grounds at West Ridge. Proceeds are in aid of church bus. For information or directions call 394-4017. -*R. Bain*

Seminar for Literature Evangelists

There will be a seminar on Sunday, January 29, 2006, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, for persons interested in becoming literature evangelists. This is an opportunity to give the message of hope through our publications to the community. Contact Pastor John Carey at the Conference Office (341-4021/2) to register your interest. The place where the seminar will be held will be announced later.

Meeting for Communication Secretaries

All Communication Secretaries of the New Providence Churches are invited to a meeting that will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2006, at 6:00 p.m. The venue will be announced later. Please call 341-4021 to register your attendance.

Sun sets today at 5:35p.m.

Sun sets next Sabbath at 5:40 p.m.

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