

# THE LOGOS



“God With Us . . . Double Your Portion”

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## WHAT A PRIVILEGE TO BELONG TO THE CHURCH OF GOD!

From time to time, the church is evaluated on how well it is fulfilling its mission, function and purpose. To some members, it is viewed as having gone way off course while others think that it has yet to take off. Then, there are those who feel quite comfortable with the church. Notwithstanding your opinion, it would be good to take another look at the church -- "Who is the church?" "What are its role and purpose?" Answering these would lend to an objective assessment.



Pastor Leonard Johnson  
President, ATCU

### ***The Church - Who is the Church?***

It must be noted that the church is not the building located on a given street per se, but a group of believers. The Greek word for church refers to the "called out ones." So, essentially, the church is a group of individuals whom God has redeemed from the world to be part of His kingdom to represent Him. The Apostle Peter grasped this, for he declared, "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Pet. 2:9 NKJV)

### ***The Purpose of the Church***

According to Ellen White, "The church is God's appointed agency for the salvation of men. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world." In fact, she adds, "From the beginning it has been God's plan that through His church shall be reflected to the world His fullness and His sufficiency. The members of the church, those whom He has called out of darkness into His marvelous light, are to show forth His glory. The church is the repository of the riches of the grace of Christ; and through the church will eventually be made manifest, even to 'the principalities and powers in heavenly places,' the final and full display of the love of God" (Ephesians 3:10 --Acts of the Apostles p. 9).

Therefore, when the state of the church is questioned and examined, it is an evaluation of the people who make up the church. The questions, then, should be "How are we living?" "Do our lives comport with God's ideals and standards?" "Have we lost sight of our function and role?"

### ***Fulfilling its Purpose***

Of the church Jesus says that we are to let our light shine. That is a call to stand out in morals and principles and more so in love. And the darker it is, the brighter the light shines. Light was made to illuminate, and likewise, the child of God was made to reflect God's light.

The Christian lifestyle will make some persons uncomfortable, but Christians ought never to apologize for that. At the same time, the church is never to force its lifestyle and or principles upon others. Doing so is contrary to God's thinking. Instead, the church is to aggressively, but lovingly invite individuals to a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. Also, we must remember that folk have a right to say "no" to Christ's invitation.

What a privilege to belong to God's church! In response to this honour, our prayer should be "God help me to rightly represent your church, for by so doing we are representing you. If my witness is negative, then the church will be perceived likewise; but, if positive, then a right picture is presented."

Ellen White says of the church, "It is the theater of His grace, in which He delights to reveal His power to transform hearts . . . enfeebled and defective as it may appear, the church is the one object upon which God bestows in a special sense His supreme regard." (Acts of the Apostles p. 12) -Dr. Leonard A. Johnson, President-Atlantic Caribbean Union

### **YEAR OF THE LAITY - Rekindle the Passion, Fan the Flames, Share the Joy!**

February 8 - 9: Virtual counsel in Miami.

February 15 - 23: Personal Ministry Directors preaching at designated unions.

March 1-April 27: Layman's Evangelistic Deployment

April 28 - May 4: Celebration of Vision One Million -Pastor Paul Scavella, Revival & Reformation Coordinator

### **LAY PERSONS**

All persons interested in attending the Logos Bible Software Seminar are asked to sign up at the Conference Office or send an email to: lwilliams@sbcadventist.com

### **LAY EVANGELISTIC EFFORT**

In response to the president's 30-day challenge to "Double Your Portion", Evangelist Dave Williams will be conducting "Jesus is the Answer Bible Seminar" in Rolleville, Exuma on February 10 - 23, 2013. Bible workers and musicians who are interested in accompanying Bro. Williams in this evangelistic endeavour may contact him at 341-0200

or 357-9410. -Pastor Terry Tanis, District of Exuma

### **LAY CRUSADE BY WOMEN'S MINISTRIES**

The New Providence Women's Ministries Crusade will be held on March 2-9 under the theme: Women Abiding in the Vine. Come and bring a friend.

### **PRAY UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS (PUSH)**

We join other territories of ATCU and pray fervently for our national, religious and civic leaders during the week of February 10-16. -Pastor Peter Joseph, Prayer Coordinator

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**

#### **Pastors' Conclave**

Pastors' Conclave will be held on Sunday, February 10, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the South Bahamas Conference office. Pastor Sanchez of I.A.D. will be the guest presenter.

#### **Be Healthy Be Happy Exercise Club**

The Be Healthy Be Happy Exercise Club will begin operation at the GMCI grounds on Sunday, February 17, 2013 from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. Come and hear the plans to make you healthy and Happy. Remember health comes with a cost!

#### **Evangelistic Projects**

Remember to register your "Double Portion Evangelistic Project" during the month of February. One of our goals is to have one hundred lay evangelistic activities in our Conference during this Year of the Laity 2013. Register today. For further details contact your pastor.

#### **Pastor Nelson Visits The Bahamas**

Pastor Dwight Nelson, speaker of Perceptions and senior pastor of Andrews University Church will visit The Bahamas on March 15-17, 2013. The first fruits of lay campaigns will be conducted during that weekend.

#### **Baptisms**

We give God thanks for 60 precious souls that were baptized during the month of January 2013. Let us remember to pray for these newly baptized brethren as we work towards bringing others into the fold. In this "Double Your Portion" year, God can bless us with a 1,200 soul-goal once we are fully surrendered.

#### **Harvest Ingathering**

Remember to visit the homepage of our website and view your church's progress. If you are still working on your goal continue to

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persevere. The Lord blesses your efforts.

### **Samaritan's Purse & Adventure in Faith**

Remember the Samaritan's Purse and Adventure in Faith offerings as you give each week/month. Your faithful and consistent giving is encouraged in God's cause.

### **Online Giving**

You will be pleased to note that we have made provision for you to make donations to our special projects online. Simply go to the conference's website and click on "Online Giving". Follow the instructions and your funds will be received safely. Your faithful support is a blessing!

### **Volunteer Bahamas Adventist**

God wants to use many members in the army of VBA to advance the capital projects of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The months of January and February are designated VBA Revitalization months. -*Pastor Paul A. Scavella, President*

### **CONDOLENCES**

The South Bahamas Conference expresses deep sympathy to our workers and members who have lost loved ones. To Mrs. Elmore Jacques and Ms. Beryl Little - workers of our conference; The Moncur Family, Mrs. Christine Kelson, and family of the Late Mrs. Essie Hall we pray that the comforting arms of Jesus will grant you peace in this time of great sorrow. -*Administration*

### **CAMP KULAQUA ADVENTIST MEN'S RETREAT**

This year's meetings will be held on March 8-10, 2013 under the theme, "Walking with God". You may pre-register on the website or contact your "Adventist Men" leader at your local church. -*Pastor Leonardo Rahming, Adventist Men Coordinator*

### **CHURCH CLERKS TO MEET**

All church clerks are asked to attend an important meeting at the conference office on Sunday, February 10 at 9:00 a.m. -*Pastor Peter Joseph, Secretariat*

### **ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT & CIVIL SERVANTS' SERVICE**

The annual Law Enforcement and Civil Servants' Service will be held February 23, 2013 at the Grant's Town Church. All officers of the Royal Bahamas Police Force, The Royal Bahamas Defence Force and Civil Servants are invited to attend (in their ceremonial dress) this service as we seek God's guidance and protection for them. -*Elder Teddy McDonald*

### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES**

Combined children's crusade choir practice will be held at Hillview Church, Sunday, February 17 from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. All children are asked to be present.

\* Child Preacher's Workshop - Friday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m. and Sabbath, March 2 at 4:00 p.m. at the Good News Church, in Flamingo Gardens.

\* Children's Crusade - March 31 to April 6

nightly from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Berea Church, Blue Hill Road South.

\* Children's Ministries Certification graduation will be Saturday, April 6 at Berea Church at 4:30 p.m.

\*Children's Ministries Summer camp - June 26 - 29, 2013. -*Mrs. Diane Jones, Children's Ministries Director*

### **WOMEN'S MINISTRIES**

\* The Adventist Women Empowerment Group will host a One Day Invitational GEF Grant Writing Training Workshop on February 10th at Better Living Health Center, Balfour Avenue.

\* All Andros Women's Ministries Retreat captioned "Women: Led by The Spirit" will be held at Sunrise Inn, Kemp's Bay, South Andros, 15-17 March, 2013. Registration fee is due by February 11, 2013. Contact Sister Curline Forbes at South Bahamas Conference for additional information (Ph. 341-4021).

\*The 2nd Annual WM Tea Party is scheduled for the month of April. All Leaders are asked to start making plans for their church delegation to attend.

\*IAD's Women in Evangelism and Leadership Convention will be held August 29 to September 1, 2013, Miami Florida. Registration fee is due by April 22, 2013. For cost, women wishing to attend are asked to contact Donnalee Bowe at telephone 455-5373 or email to donnalee.bowe@yahoo.com or Curline Forbes at South Bahamas Conference. -*Sister Donnalee Bowe, WM Director*

### **HOUR OF PRAISE AT MARY**

### **INGRAHAM HOME**

Today at 4:30 p.m., the Breath of Life Church will share with the residents. Next Sabbath, February 16, the Centreville Church will be there. -*Elder Admiral Forbes*

### **ADVENTIST BOOK AND NUTRITION CENTRE**

All superintendents who need to make adjustments to their Sabbath School orders are asked to inform us as soon as possible so that we can accommodate the changes for second quarter. -*Mrs. Cherry Blackmore, Manager*

### **8 WEEKS TO WELLNESS 2013**

Screening and registration begin Sunday, February 17 and 24, 2013 from 3:00 -5:00 p.m. and Thursday 21 from 5:00 -7:00 p.m. at the Living Faith Church. Program starts on Monday, February 25 at Bahamas Academy Gym Wulff Road. Space is limited.

### **IMPORTANT HEALTH MINISTRIES MEETING**

All Health professionals are asked to attend a very important meeting on Tuesday, Feb 12 at 6:00 p.m. at the New Englerston Church. We need to train 40 volunteers to serve as coaches in the upcoming 8 Weeks to Wellness Program. We will teach you what you need to know. You are also invited to attend this

meeting.

### **AHPA WELLNESS AND**

### **PREVENTATIVE TRAINING**

The Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church offers training in wellness and prevention every Wednesday from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. during the year. Certificates will be issued after each module. All are welcomed! For more details contact Nathelyn LaCroix at Nathelyn@gmail.com or 323-0610.

### **FAMILY LIFE RADIO SHOW**

The SBC Family Life Department is seeking interested persons to host a new radio show that will highlight Christian singles and issues that accompany their daily lives. We are looking for an energetic, dynamic Christian male and female duo, in good and regular standing in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Please contact Elder Kenny Deveaux at telephone: 341-4022 or k\_Deveaux@yahoo.com or Alicia Ferguson at telephone: 392-5404 or alferguson1@hotmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you. -*Elder Kenny Deveaux*

### **HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY**

Members are reminded to fill in their church affiliation when they register for admission at the hospitals. Also, ask family members to inform their pastors of their admission. In doing this, one of our hospital chaplains will visit the member. -*Pastor Leonardo Rahming, Hospital Chaplaincy Programme*

### **EMMN CHOIR TO MEET**

Eagle Ministries invites members and those wanting to join the EMMN Chorale to meet Sunday, February 10, 2013 at New Englerston SDA, at 4:00 p.m. -*Rowena Smith/Voneil Smith*

### **YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*Youth Bible Study every Sunday at Message of Hope Church at 6:00 p.m.

\*Coming soon Monthly Conference wide Youth Forum.

\*Masterguide classes to begin in the East & West February 24, 2013

Upcoming events:

Feb 8-10 Youth Weekend

8th Youth Officers' Consecration

9th a.m. - Master Guide Graduation

9th p.m. - Youth Awards Banquet

March 16th - Global Youth Day

**SUN SETS TODAY AT 5:59 P.M.**

**SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH**

**FEBRUARY 16, 2013 AT 6:04 P.M.**

