

eREACH

VOL 5 NO 2 JUNE 2024

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD – JAMAICA



**EXTENDING
HANDS,**

changing lives

**APEX COURTS
AND THE AWARE
CHURCH**

**DREAM
DELAYED BUT
NOT DENIED**

**GOD HAD A
DEGREE WITH
MY NAME ON IT**

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ABOUT US

eREACH is a quarterly newsletter published by the New Testament Church of God – Jamaica. The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the publisher, editor or partners.

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

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REFLECTIONS ON A YEAR OF GROWTH

SETTING THE TONE FOR 2024-2025

In a mere matter of months, we will be closing the chapter on the 2023-2024 church year, and will take the leap into the new period. Time seems to have elapsed at the drop of a hat, but we are grateful for all that we have been able to accomplish over the last 10 months.

As you may recall, we have been focusing on the theme, 'Forward Together – Building Wholesome Families'. Based on the many activities surrounding that theme that were implemented, we are convinced that the families of our denomination, and by extension the nation, are emerging more resilient, cohesive and determined to continue to influence, in a positive way, the next generation.

As Bishop Roy Notice indicated in one of his writings, although we will be adopting a new theme for the 2024-2025 church year, we continue to encourage churches and leaders to keep emphasising programmes aimed at strengthening this institution, which is the bedrock of society, and if we, as members of the body of Christ get it right in the home, society will be better as a result.

As we close out the church year, we are looking forward, with great anticipation, to the 99th iteration of our Annual National Convention that begins in another few days. We encourage pastors and other leaders to make arrangements for their members to attend the various sessions. Our annual conventions offer the unique opportunity for us to interact as a denomination, observe best practices and celebrate the successes of our brothers and sisters.

Meanwhile, in this 15th issue of the eREACH, we bring you stories of resilience, courage and the grace and mercy of God toward His people. We share with you the testimonies of two of our young

... We continue to encourage churches and leaders to keep emphasising programmes aimed at strengthening the family, which is the bedrock of society, and if we, as members of the body of Christ get it right in the home, society will be better as a result.

people, who epitomise what it means to swim against the tide of life and emerge stronger on the other side.

We delve into the life of one of the members of the Diaspora, who is having a tremendous impact on the nation with her annual treks to lesser-known churches each year, overseeing their Daily Vacation Bible School efforts and supplying them with books and other school necessities. We also bring you some alarming statistics on corporal punishment recently published by UNICEF.

On the inside pages, you will also find quite an informative article as one of our Christian attorneys gives an analysis of the implications for a decision regarding Jamaica's final appellate court.

Of course, there are the strategic updates, which we know many of you anticipate as it provides a good guide to how our churches are faring in terms of membership growth and other variables.

For the new church year, our 100th, we focus on the theme 'God's Gifted People ... Growing and Going with the Gospel'. We are excited as we anticipate all the activities and outreach programmes that will surround this theme. As usual, we will bring you the recommendations from the National Office each quarter.

We look forward to receiving the reports of success for the new quarter. You may reach us at communications.ntcogja@gmail.com.

Corinne Barnes

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



EXTENDING HANDS, CHANGING LIVES

When Patricia Myers packs her bags and heads to the Fort Lauderdale airport in Florida next month, accompanied by a party of 10 others, her destination will be the much-touted resort town of Negril in Westmoreland.

But, unlike many of the other passengers who she will likely encounter on the short flight, she will not be basking in the sun, sea and sand on arrival. Rather, she will be busy distributing bags, books, clothing and food items, in addition to overseeing one week of intense Bible-teaching classes referred to as

Daily Vacation Bible School

“It is only what is done for Christ will last,” she says in a matter-of-fact tone.

Myers has been making these annual trips to the country to do exactly the same thing, year after year, after wrapping up theological training and participating in that first mission in August 2015.

“After completing three years of Bible College, I felt the call of God to do mission work. So, I started with the seniors in my



Patricia Myers



Group baptised at Daily Vacation Bible School.

church, by asking some of the ladies from the support group that I was working with to assist me in doing prayer meetings. We went in groups of three on a designated Friday evening to homes and nursing homes.

“A few months later, I heard about a medical mission trip going to Jamaica, so, I decided to go. I took one week of my vacation, and I went and participated in that project. During that week, we served over 1,000 people in the Runaway Bay community. That was one of the most rewarding experiences I have had, and that led me to what I am doing today,” she says.

And what is she doing today?

For the past seven years, accompanied by sisters like Mary Stone, she has led missions to the Bombay, St. Ann’s Bay and Little London New Testament Churches; Moving Church of God in Runaway Bay, St. Ann; Stonehenge Mission in St. James, and the Fort William Assemblies of Holiness in Westmoreland. The mission was suspended in 2020 and 2021 as a result of the

‘Two things that keep me going: the joy I see on the children’s faces each year; and on decision day, when the children walk to the altar and say ‘yes’ to Jesus.’

COVID-19 pandemic.

On these trips, she ships five barrels each year with school bags, school supplies and food items for the children. In addition, children who are at different levels in the education system are given scholarships.

Apart from her personal funds and support from friends, she receives financial assistance from companies, such as F&M Plumbing LLC, Diosark Group Home, and York Group Home, all located in the United States, and her church – Central New Testament Church of God in Florida, where she also serves as Administrative Assistant.

And as she reflects on the churches she has been privileged to serve over the years, and the results she has seen, she declares, “Two things that keep me going: the joy I see on the children’s faces each year; and on decision day, when the children walk to the altar and say ‘yes’ to Jesus; that is the icing on the cake. Then I sing, *‘If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living will not be in vain.’*”

APEX COURTS AND THE AWARE CHURCH



By Sheldon C.G. Clarke

For decades, there has been much debate on the advantages and disadvantages of independent Caribbean countries retaining the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council ('the Privy Council') as an apex court. Such a court is the highest and final court within a country's justice system. This debate became quite a divisive issue when the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) was established, as there was now an alternative to the Privy Council.

Why should the Church care about apex courts?

We must be mindful of the long-term impact of our choice of apex court, as it will have the final say on legal matters brought before it. These include moral issues, such as abortion, same-sex marriage and sexual orientation.

If we are not vigilant, over time, factions within society will strategically impose their ungodly agenda through the courts. Thus, the Church, as salt of the earth, has a responsibility to protect our nation by preserving what morality is left, with exposure to discussions on topics such as this, being the starting point. In light of the foregoing, let us briefly examine a few points regarding the CCJ and Privy Council, and then glance at two possible alternatives.

THE CCJ

Less Privy Council workload: Privy Council members have been said to spend too much time on appeals from countries outside the United Kingdom, which leaves less time for their UK cases to be heard.

Complete independence: Support for the CCJ has been influenced by the desire to no longer rely on its former colonial master, when it comes to deciding court cases.

Competence of CCJ judges: The region is said to have enough judges who are of the same intellectual and professional calibre as Privy Council judges.

Greater access to justice locally: This would allow for those who lack the resources (especially

the visa) to enter the UK.

Cultural appreciation: Some think that local or regional judges are better placed than the law lords in London to understand the social, economic, and political realities of litigants.

THE PRIVY COUNCIL

Few participating countries: The CCJ is the final court for only five out of 15 Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member countries.

Virtual court hearings and online filing platforms: The Privy Council now offers hybrid (physical and virtual) hearings to allow local attorneys to advocate from their office. Also, provision is being made for an online portal to facilitate easier filing of legal documents.

Developing the law worldwide: The Privy Council has decided critical cases that have shaped the law of many Commonwealth countries.

The confidence factor: Some think that the CCJ needs to establish itself over time, and foreign investors may avoid Jamaica if they can no longer appeal to the proven Privy Council.

Influence via funding: There is concern about replacing a court of detached, independent, judges with the CCJ, which is funded by Caribbean governments and external organisations, which could use their financial muscle to influence the CCJ towards their ideologies.

POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES

The UK society is known for its liberal stance on the moral issues mentioned earlier. It is not far-fetched for the Privy Council to somehow interpret our laws in ways that reflect their society, or those of similar persuasion in Jamaica. However, moving to the CCJ does not guarantee protection from such thinking either. What other alternative could we possibly have?

A JAMAICAN FINAL COURT OF APPEAL

There has been mention for the Jamaican Court of Appeal to become our apex court. However, the

recent successful appeal of Shawn 'Shawn Storm' Campbell and Adidja 'Vybz Kartel' Palmer, et al, to the Privy Council, based on an avoidable error made by the Jamaican Court of Appeal, has done no favours for that suggestion to hold weight.

A BIT OF BOTH WORLDS

Another alternative mentioned involves adopting the CCJ for criminal appeals and allowing the Privy Council to hear civil appeals. The rationale is in order to attract and retain foreign investors who prefer the Privy Council. This straddling of the fence, however, seems to support confidence in the Privy Council than it does in the CCJ, and it still does not clarify which court would deal with the morally sensitive issues that greatly concern the Church.

WHAT DO WE DO?

We must pray that God's perfect will prevails in this divisive issue. We should also educate ourselves through town hall meetings and other engagements put on by the government. Additionally, we can organise presentations, seminars and panel discussions where Christian legal and other professionals may facilitate us exploring the issue.

We should also support Bible-believing interest groups that lobby on behalf of the Body of Christ in these and other matters. And, if a referendum were to be put to the public, we should let our voices be heard as informed and spiritually discerning participants, in a way that seems right to the Holy Spirit and us.

The debate on Jamaica's apex court will rage on for the foreseeable future. But, sooner or later, we must determine if we move to the CCJ, retain the Privy Council, or find another alternative. Whether this divisive issue should be put to a referendum remains to be seen. Regardless, the Church must become and remain aware of this matter in order to pray and use our voice and influence from an informed position.

■ *Sheldon C. G. Clarke is an Attorney and Author of the Good Law Devotional.*

NEARLY 400 MILLION YOUNG KIDS VIOLENTLY DISCIPLINED AT HOME: UNICEF

UNITED NATIONS, United States (AFP) :

Nearly 400 million children under the age of five – roughly 60 percent in that age group globally – experience violent physical or psychological discipline at home, from spanking to insults, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) said recently.

The new UNICEF estimates reflect data from 100 countries collected from 2010 to 2023, and covers both “physical punishment” and “psychological aggression”.

For UNICEF, psychological abuse can include screaming at a child, or calling them “stupid” or “lazy”, while physical abuse includes shaking, hitting or spanking a child, or any action intended to cause physical pain or discomfort, without injury.

Of those nearly 400 million children, about 330 million of them experience physical punishment, the UN agency said.

And even if more and more countries are banning

corporal punishment of children, nearly 500 million children under the age of five are not legally protected against such practices.

More than one mother or responsible adult in four believes that physical punishments are necessary to properly educate their children, according to UNICEF.

“When children are subjected to physical or verbal abuse at home, or when they are deprived of social and emotional care from their loved ones, it can undermine their sense of self-worth and development,” UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell said in a statement.

“Nurturing and playful parenting can bring joy and also help children feel safe, learn, build skills, and navigate the world around them.”

For the first time, UNICEF published findings on the access children have to being able to play, to mark the first-ever International Day

of Play on June 11.

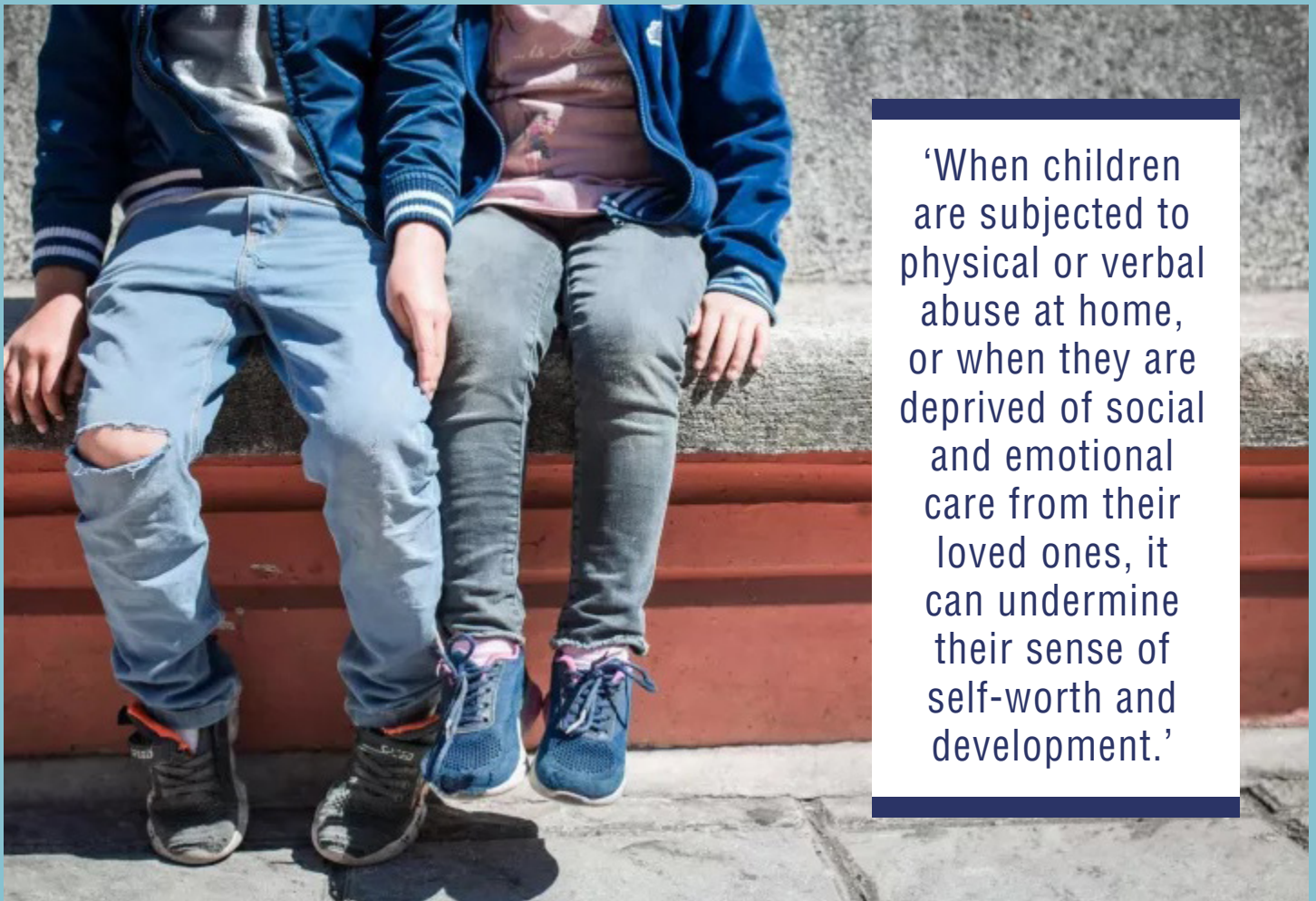
According to data from 85 countries, one out of every two children at age four cannot play with the person who takes care of them at home, and about one in eight children under the age of five does not have any toys at all.

About 40 percent of children aged two to four do not get enough stimulation or meaningful interaction at home.

And one out of 10 does not have access to activities “critical to promoting cognitive, social, and emotional development, like reading, storytelling, singing, and drawing,” UNICEF said.

“On the first International Day of Play, we must unite and recommit to ending violence against children and promoting positive, nurturing, and playful caregiving,” Russell said.

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‘When children are subjected to physical or verbal abuse at home, or when they are deprived of social and emotional care from their loved ones, it can undermine their sense of self-worth and development.’

DREAM DELAYED BUT NOT DENIED

By Rhoni-Ann Parkins

My journey at The University of Technology (UTech) started in 2016, when I began reading for a Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology.

I was excited to be attending university. However, my joy was shortlived as the assessments for the various courses came in thick and fast, and so too did the failures.

As the failures began to mount, I recognised that I had to do extra time if I were to keep abreast of the classes, so I began taking courses in the summer. I was attending classes during the regular semesters, as well as the summer semesters every year during my first three years. However, the extra effort did not seem to be paying off as I continued to fail.

Toward the end of my second year, the university's administration informed me that I had been placed on academic probation because my Grade Point Average (GPA) stood at 1.71. This was below the minimum requirement of 2.0, if a student were to continue in his or her programme. I was advised that I would need to improve my GPA within two semesters or face the real possibility of being asked to discontinue my studies.

Needless to say, I was disappointed and distressed at this news. I somehow mustered up the strength to pick myself up out of the doldrums and push ahead. With every study session, every class, every all-nighter, I was confident that I was doing enough to register a passing grade in the courses, and change the trajectory of my life.

Alas, that was not to be. I remember the day clearly. It was August 22, 2019, in the afternoon, when I called the university to obtain clarity on why the student portal was not allowing me to select my courses for the upcoming semester.

"There is a 'discontinued status' on your portal. You won't be able to continue your programme of study," said the voice on the other end of the telephone line.

I was crushed. It was a devastating blow, and it seemed as if the plans for my future just came crashing around me.

How would God have made the way for me to start my tertiary education and allow it to come to this? I wondered. I began thinking of how hard I had tried to improve my grades, but to no avail.

I remember calling my parents and breaking the news to them. I was in despair, not knowing what to do. I felt like a failure. I began questioning my faithfulness to God throughout the years. I felt helpless.

I recall calling a member of staff at the institution to inquire about my options. Her response: "Maybe this is not for you. I don't think medical technology is for you ..."

But I thank God for parents who did not give up on me, but remained supportive throughout the entire ordeal. The day after the news, my father accompanied me to UTech in an effort to get further clarity on the situation. I was told I could either mount an appeal or switch programmes. I already knew deep down that medical technology was what I really wanted to pursue as a career, so switching was not an option. I eventually appealed and sent in the documents after praying over them, even though my faith had been shaken. I remember my prayer warrior Mom saying to me, "Delayed but not denied".

I waited anxiously as the days went by. I was finally told that a meeting was being convened to consider my appeal. I began to feel hopeful.

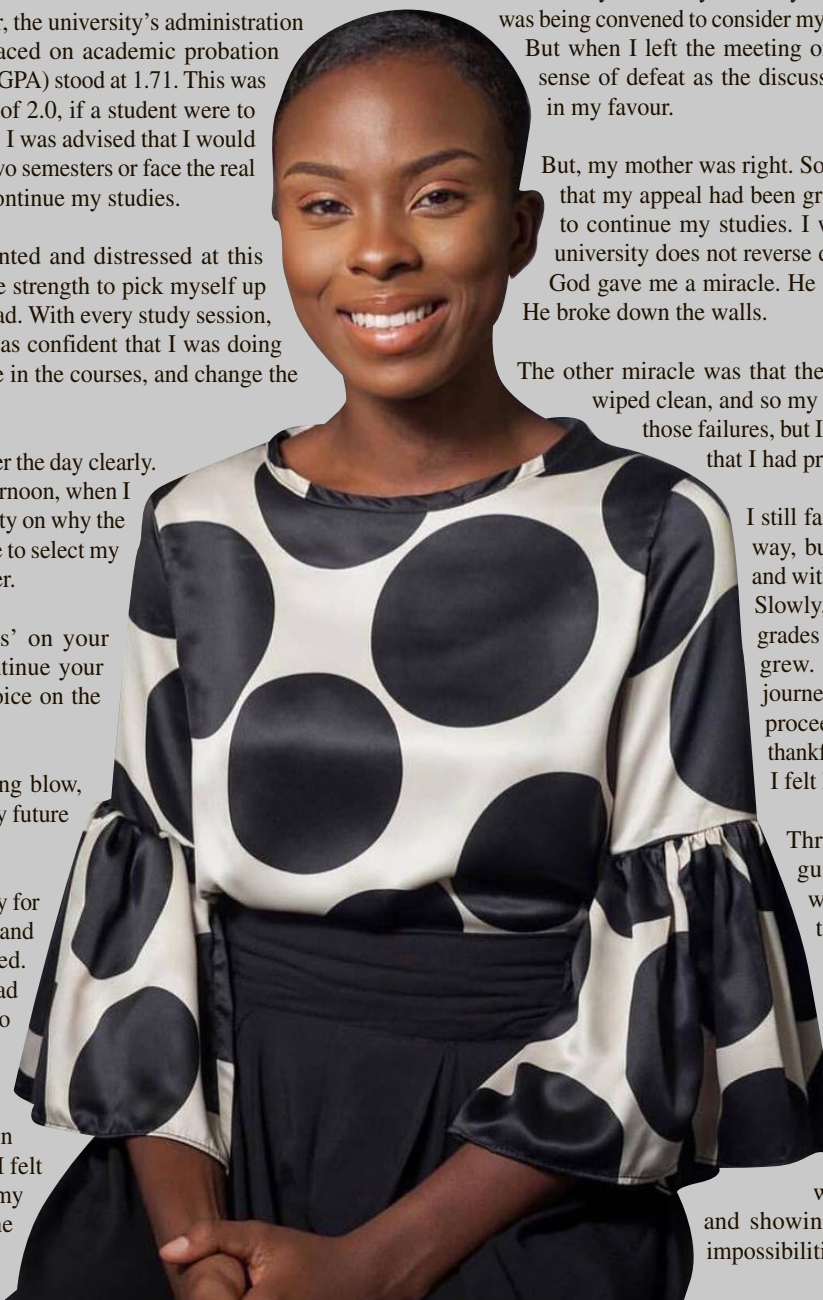
But when I left the meeting on the day in question, I felt a sense of defeat as the discussion did not seem to be going in my favour.

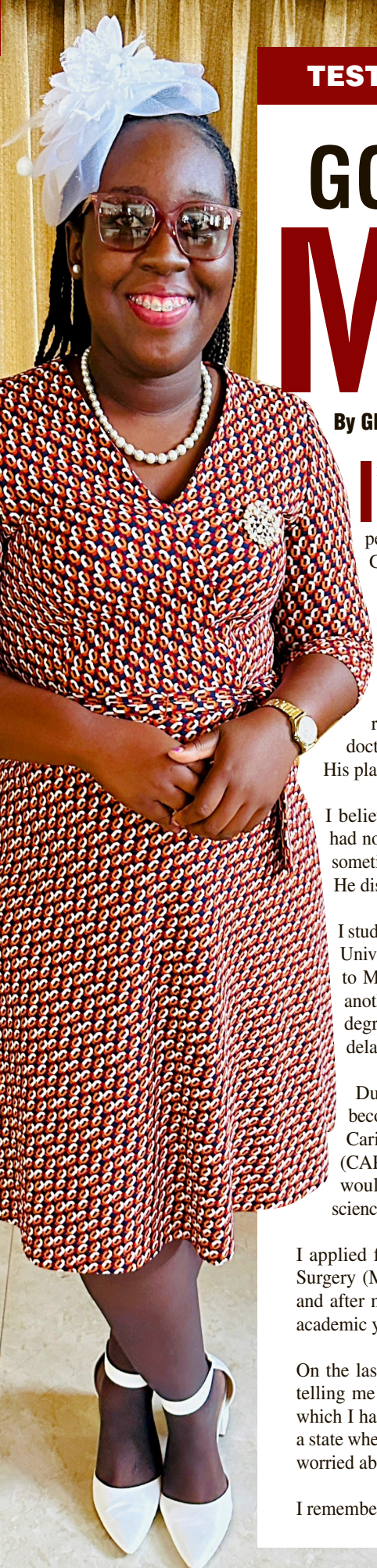
But, my mother was right. Soon the call came to inform me that my appeal had been granted, and I would be allowed to continue my studies. I was astounded. Normally, the university does not reverse decisions in those matters. But God gave me a miracle. He made the impossible possible. He broke down the walls.

The other miracle was that the failures on my records were wiped clean, and so my GPA would not be affected by those failures, but I was credited with the modules that I had previously passed. What a God!

I still failed again and again along the way, but with God, I never gave up, and with each step, I was doing better. Slowly, I began to see progress. My grades improved and my confidence grew. I have now completed my journey and I am currently about to proceed on my internship. I am so thankful to God for carrying me when I felt helpless and hopeless.

Through it all, God was there, guiding me every step of the way. He brought me through the darkest moments, and showed me that with faith and perseverance, anything is possible. It took me eight years instead of the required four years to complete my programme. I was delayed, but definitely not denied. What I thought was the end was God creating a miracle and showing me that He is the God of impossibilities. Purpose cannot die.





TESTIMONIAL

GOD HAD A DEGREE WITH MY NAME ON IT

By Glacia Richardson

I remember how ill I became when I started sixth form, to the point where I barely attended school. My lack of attendance affected my performance in the external examinations, but God was faithful and I passed them all.

However, my grades were not up to the standard to get accepted into the Faculty of Medical Sciences, but I entered university in 2017, intending to switch faculties to pursue my true passion – medicine. As far as I can remember, I have always wanted to become a doctor, although I had not consulted God about His plans for my life.

I believed wholeheartedly that my career choice had nothing to do with God. Little did I know that sometimes, God allows us to go our own way, before He disrupts and redirects our lives.

I studied for one year in another programme at The University of the West Indies, hoping to re-apply to Medical Sciences. But then, I was faced with another obstacle, how would I fund the medical degree? The cost was prohibitive. I decided to delay my tertiary studies.

During that year, I still had my mind set on becoming a doctor, and so I decided to re-sit the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE), with the hope of obtaining grades that would be acceptable for admission to medical sciences

I applied for the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), nursing and physiotherapy degrees, and after months of waiting, to the point that the new academic year started, I received no response.

On the last day of September, I received three letters telling me that I had been rejected for everything for which I had applied. I was utterly devastated. I entered a state where I was so depressed that my family became worried about my mental health.

I remember when I was at my lowest, the Lord gave me

a song that kept my mind together and I did that which I should have done in the first place, I began earnestly seeking God regarding my career path. My answer did not come immediately, but He provided a job for me during the second year of breaking from university and that is where my redirection began.

God would allow me to have an interaction with someone who turned on the light bulb that would guide my path. I was asked, why not engineering? At the time, it was late in the year and applicants to universities would have begun receiving offers, but I decided to apply to the Faculty of Engineering. Within one week of submission, I received an acceptance letter to pursue a degree in the Faculty of Engineering. But God did not stop there.

The cost to pursue engineering was USD\$10,000 per year, and my family would not be able to afford that amount, as I was raised by an extended family with my mother being the main earner.

My mother said I should try another, more affordable programme. But when you are walking according to God's will, He will make a way. I found out about a scholarship that would cover my tuition, but with the many rejections I had received earlier, I was hesitant, and waited until a few hours before the deadline to submit my application.

A few months later, I received an email that I was shortlisted for an interview.

That year, I received two scholarships, but had to decline one, as one of them covered my tuition and all my expenses.

These past few years of studying engineering were never the easiest. I have had some moments where I wanted to give up. I was drained physically, emotionally and spiritually, but in those moments, I was reminded that God had started a good work in me and it would be completed.

Seven years after first entering university, I will be walking across that stage to collect that degree that God had written down with my name on. It took me seven years, but I believe that in those years, God allowed me to learn that in everything that I do, I should seek His will. Trusting in God's perfect will is hard, but it makes your life better.



Building the family, lifting the nation

Some 130 men from all over the island descended on the campsite in St. Ann from May 17 to 19, as they sought to reflect on their role in the family and the nation.

The occasion? The LifeBuilders Men's retreat that many of the male members of the denomination had highly anticipated.

The retreat featured, for the first time, an all-men street meeting. Some 120 men met in Golden Grove Square, sharing Christ with the community.

"It was an impactful service, at the end of which, five souls were born into the Kingdom of God. We thank God for his presence with us, and the lives that were impacted for His glory," said the national director of that arm of the church, Reverend Nigel Martin.

Focusing on the overall theme of 'Anchored in Christ: Building our Families ... Lifting our Nation', the two-day event also saw presenters focusing on matters to do with the role of men in building strong families, confronting and dealing with family hurt, and building strong and resilient relationships.

Presenters were Reverend Robin Williams, Dr. Calvin Isaacs, Reverend Dr. Ajilon Ferdinand and Reverend Dr. Donald Roberts.

"We were also blessed with anointed preaching from Reverend Dermaine Rose, who shared on 'Grace', and Reverend Dr. Rohan Ambersley, who spoke on, 'Anchored in Christ: Building our Families ... Lifting our Nation'.

"We are thankful to God for the five men who surrendered their lives to the Lordship of Jesus Christ," said Reverend Martin.





CONVENTION CENTRE FACILITIES MOVING APACE

Planning to attend Convention 2024? If your answer is “no”, then you would be missing out on enjoying the upgraded facilities.

“We give the Lord thanks for the progress made at our National Convention Centre. It must be noted that windows are being installed, made possible through the generous contributions of

District pastors and their congregations,” says Administrative Bishop, Dr. Roy Notice.

The most significant development is the push to complete the Multipurpose Hall before the close of the church year.

“In the upcoming church year, detailed plans

for the Centre’s completion will be presented, underpinned by our unwavering trust in God’s provision.

“May His favour continue to shine upon us, as we move forward in faith, knowing that with God, all things are possible,” says Bishop Notice.





25



and going strong!



Fignite Congress 25: 'Keeping Wholesome families Alive' was the theme that marked the 25th anniversary of this seminal event on the calendar of the Youth and Discipleship Department of the New Testament Church of God in Jamaica.

Some 6,000 young people descended on the Convention Centre in Old Harbour, St. Catherine, from April 5 to 6, and from talent showcase competitions to street meeting, plenary sessions, ministry and life management workshops, a fun zone for children, a dedicated

teens' village, District and Local Directors luncheon, to the Ignite Gospel fest/concert, the celebrations were non-stop.

“Congress is a testimony to our commitment to holistic youth development. Congress is not only educational and family-oriented but also a platform for high-energy and wholesome entertainment,” says Reverend Dr. Kevin Page, National Director of Youth and Discipleship.



Overseas delegates included Bishop Bob Bailey, International Director of Youth and Discipleship; Bishop Brian Yaun, Assistant International Director of Youth and Discipleship from Cleveland, Tennessee; as well as Bishop Kayvon Wyles, New Jersey State Director; Bishop Marlon Green, Southern New England State Director; and Jasmine Powell, National Director from the Cayman Islands.



Women's Ministries nominees for awards



MOST IMPROVED YOUNG WOMEN'S MINISTRY BY CHURCH

| COUNTIES | NOMINEES |
|-----------|--|
| Cornwall | 1. Montego Bay 2. Warminster |
| Middlesex | 1. Brown's Town 2. Salem 3. Runaway Bay |
| Surrey | 1. Duhaney Park 2. Eastwood Park Road 3. Franklyn Town 4. Gregory Park 5. Temple Hall 6. Parks Road |

CONSISTENT REPORTING IN WOMEN'S MINISTRIES BY DISTRICT

| COUNTIES | NOMINEES |
|-----------|---|
| Cornwall | 1. Cambridge 2. Dutch Hill 3. Duanvale 4. Falmouth 5. Flagstaff 6. Glendevon 7. Brighton 8. Sandy Bay 9. Santa Cruz 10. Riverside 11. Savanna- la-Mar |
| Middlesex | 1. Cobbla 2. Georges Valley 3. May Pen 4. Mile Gully 5. McNie 6. Porus 7. Rocky Settlement 8. Sanguinetti 9. Old Harbour |

CONSISTENT CONTRIBUTION TO YADEL BY DISTRICT

| COUNTIES | NOMINEES |
|-----------|---|
| Cornwall | 1. Clark's Town 2. Montego Bay 3. Santa Cruz 4. Falmouth 5. Brighton |
| Middlesex | 1. Cobbla 2. Mineral Heights 3. Old Harbour 4. Rocky Settlement 5. Spaulding 6. Porus 7. Mandeville |

| | |
|--------|--|
| Surrey | 1. Clifton 2. Eastwood Park Road 3. Jeffrey Town 4. Linstead 5. McDonald Lane 6. Portmore 7. Spanish Town 8. Highgate |
|--------|--|

OTHER AWARDS

Other awards that will be presented during the Annual National Convention are: Most Outstanding President; Rookie of the Year Local President; Most Outstanding District President; Rookie of the Year District President; Contribution to Yadel; Participation in Women's Week; Consistent Reporting (offering and fund-raising); Consistent Reporting (scholarships); Overall Consistent Reporting; Young Women's Ministry, and Most Outstanding Region.

STRATEGIC UPDATES

TOP 10 CHURCHES IN TITHES PER CAPITA

| CHURCH | PASTOR | MEMBERSHIP |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 1. OLD HARBOUR | Donovan Knight | 256 |
| 2. MANLEY MEADOWS | Clive Abrahams | 55 |
| 3. TRENCH TOWN | Mario Samuels | 155 |
| 4. SCARLETT HALL | Dexton Samuels | 62 |
| 5. MOUNTAIN VIEW | Courtney Beason | 277 |
| 6. EWARTON | Errol Bailey | 38 |
| 7. NEWPORT | Vernon Morrison | 97 |
| 8. RUNAWAY BAY | Deloris Trowers-Huntley | 162 |
| 9. COMFORT | Kirk Logan | 72 |
| 10. ELEVEN MILES | Mario Samuels | 95 |

(Per capita refers to the average amount (tithes or offerings) contributed per person over the quarter. This number is based on the church's report of its total membership as at the quarter's end.)

TOP 10 CHURCHES IN OFFERINGS PER CAPITA

| CHURCH | PASTOR | MEMBERSHIP |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| 1. MT PROVIDENCE | Shaunakay Douglas | 50 |
| 2. MALVERN | Joseph Caine | 26 |
| 3. OLD HARBOUR | Donovan Knight | 256 |
| 4. HINDS TOWN | Terrence Gayle | 11 |
| 5. MANLEY MEADOWS | Clive Abrahams | 55 |
| 6. NORWOOD | Trevan Hyatt | 41 |
| 7. RICHMOND VALE | Harvil Holding | 10 |
| 8. FLINT RIVER | Wilbert Vassell | 79 |
| 9. NEWELL | George Riley | 50 |
| 10. PERTH TOWN | O'Niel Haughton | 12 |

(Per capita refers to the average amount (tithes or offerings) contributed per person over the quarter. This number is based on the church's report of its total membership as at the quarter's end.)

TOP 10 IN NUMBER OF PEOPLE BAPTISED IN WATER

| CHURCH | PASTOR | WATER BAPTISED |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1. PORTMORE | Cornel Shaw | 38 |
| 2. MONTEGO BAY | Ruel Robinson | 22 |
| 3. PORT ANTONIO | Desmond Green | 17 |
| 4. NEGRIL | Gregory Haughton | 15 |
| 5. BOMBAY | Percival Tulloch | 13 |
| 6. MOUNTAIN VIEW | Courtney Beason | 13 |
| 7. BULL BAY | Roy Warren | 12 |
| 8. EASTWOOD PARK | Clement Clarke | 12 |
| 9. LINSTEAD | Jephitha Reid | 12 |
| 10. HIGHGATE | Garnet Richards | 11 |

– QUARTER ENDING MAY 2024 –

TOP 10 CHURCHES IN TITHES FOR THE QUARTER

| CHURCH | PASTOR |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. PORTMORE | Cornel Shaw |
| 2. WALTHAM PARK | Stevenson Samuels |
| 3. MONTEGO BAY | Ruel Robinson |
| 4. EASTWOOD PARK | Clement Clarke |
| 5. ESCARPMENT ROAD | Leslie Pinnock |
| 6. ST. ANN'S BAY | Winston Foster |
| 7. SPANISH TOWN | Osbourne Fisher |
| 8. OLD HARBOUR | Donovan Knight |
| 9. PORT ANTONIO | Desmond Green |
| 10. LINSTEAD | Jephitha Reid |

TOP 10 CHURCHES IN OFFERINGS FOR THE QUARTER

| CHURCH | PASTOR |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. PORTMORE | Cornel Shaw |
| 2. MONTEGO BAY | Ruel Robinson |
| 3. EASTWOOD PARK | Clement Clarke |
| 4. WALTHAM PARK | Stevenson Samuels |
| 5. OLD HARBOUR | Donovan Knight |
| 6. ESCARPMENT ROAD | Leslie Pinnock |
| 7. MAY PEN | James Small |
| 8. MANDEVILLE | Donald Roberts |
| 9. SPANISH TOWN | Osborne Fisher |
| 10. CLIFTON | Monroe Wisdom |

TOP 10 CHURCHES IN GROWTH IN MEMBERSHIP

| CHURCH | PASTOR | ADDED |
|------------------|------------------------|-------|
| 1. WALTHAM PARK | Stevenson Samuels | 25 |
| 2. SPRINGFIELD | Glennese Dunkley Baker | 22 |
| 3. BAMBOO | Mark McLean | 21 |
| 4. JOHN'S HALL | Hopeton Jarrett | 15 |
| 5. PORT MARIA | Kori Morris | 14 |
| 6. BULL BAY | Roy Warren | 13 |
| 7. MAY PEN | James Small | 13 |
| 8. MONTEGO BAY | Ruel Robinson | 13 |
| 9. PORT ANTONIO | Desmond Green | 13 |
| 10. BROWN'S TOWN | Stenneth Davis | 12 |

TOP CHURCHES IN NUMBER OF PEOPLE BAPTISED IN THE HOLY GHOST

| CHURCH | PASTOR | HOLY GHOST FILLED |
|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. BROWN'S TOWN | Stenneth Davis | 13 |
| 2. RICHMOND | Leonie Samuels | 8 |
| 3. SPALDING | Steve Hepburn | 7 |
| 4. FRANKFIELD | Hopeton Jarrett | 5 |
| 5. JOHN'S HALL | Hopeton Jarrett | 5 |
| 6. MOUNT PELIER | Orville Anderson | 5 |
| 7. SPRINGFIELD | Glennese Dunkley-Baker | 4 |
| 8. LITTLE LONDON | Denvon Fullwood | 3 |
| 9. PORT ANTONIO | Desmond Green | 3 |
| 10. ROCKY SETTLEMENT | Coleridge Minto | 3 |



2024 CALENDAR

JULY 2024

YOUTH DEFENDING THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY

KEY VERSE: ISAIAH 1:17

Young people, while being encouraged to have a great summer of fun and excitement, are also being challenged to stand and defend Christian family values. This is a good season to deal with identity crisis, definition of family and the attempts to dismantle Christian family values.

| DATE | ACTIVITIES/EVENTS | LOCATION |
|-------|--|-------------------|
| 5-7 | Annual National Convention | Convention Centre |
| 6 | Women's Ministries Annual Prayer Breakfast | Convention Centre |
| 8-12 | International General Assembly | Indianapolis, USA |
| 9-13 | National Children's Camp | National Campsite |
| 15-19 | National Teens Camp Week 1 | National Campsite |
| 22-26 | National Teens Camp Week 2 | National Campsite |

AUGUST 2024

READY TO SERVE

KEY VERSES: ISAIAH 50:4-7

All of God's children are called to serve and make a difference. We serve in and beyond the four walls of the church. Let us use the month of August to train and prepare for service. Character and competence training are always needed if we are to give of our best selves to the service of the Lord.

This is a good time to volunteer and to recruit. Seek out those who lack confidence, have a sign up Sunday and enlist volunteers for the service of the Lord.

| DATE | ACTIVITIES/EVENTS | LOCATION |
|------|--|-------------------|
| 1 | Emancipation Day | |
| 6 | Independence Day | |
| 1-3 | Young Adult Retreat | National Campsite |
| 24 | Music and Worship Workshop | |
| 30 | Women's Ministries All Night Prayer Conference | Virtual |

THEME FOR 2024-2025:

God's Gifted People ... Growing and Going with the Gospel

TAGLINE: THE 5G CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2024

GOD'S GIFTED PEOPLE ... GROWING AND GOING WITH THE GOSPEL

KEY VERSES: EPHESIANS 4:7-8

| DATE | ACTIVITIES/EVENTS | LOCATION |
|-------|--|-------------------|
| 1 | Start of the new church year | |
| 7 | OASIS – Prayer and Communion with Pastors and their families | Virtual |
| 20-21 | YD -District Directors' Retreat | National Campsite |
| 29 | Retirement Service – Charles Clarke | |