

# eREACH

VOL 5 NO 1 MAR 2024

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD – JAMAICA

**YOUTH  
EMPOWERMENT  
IN ACTION**

**'I'M WALKING  
ON MY GRAVE'**

**A KINGDOM RESPONSE  
TO THE CULTURE OF**

*revenge*

**HEADING TO  
A NEW TERM**

**FOLLOWING  
FATHERS**

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# eREACH

VOL 5 NO 1

MAR 2024

## 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.

## EDITORIAL TEAM

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

Corinne Barnes

**DESIGNER**

Andewale McLaughlin

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Please email articles, photos, letters, suggestions and feedback to [communications.ntcogja@gmail.com](mailto:communications.ntcogja@gmail.com)

## CONTACT US

**THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD – JAMAICA ISLAND OFFICE**

Rodon's Pen

Old Harbour

St Catherine

Tel: (876) 876-927-3712,  
876-978-4193, 876-978-8341

[www.ntcogjamaica.org](http://www.ntcogjamaica.org)

# HOPE STORM

*in the*

## FAITH PROVIDING RESPITE IN A TROUBLED WORLD

**T**here is no denying that we are living in a troubled world. Our neighbour, Haiti, is now being labelled a failed state ruled by vicious and merciless gangs. The conflict and humanitarian crisis in Gaza seem to be unending. The now-long-running war in Ukraine has displaced thousands of people, and the suffering continues unabated even as countries in Europe, Africa and Latin America grapple with their own political, social and economic problems.

Here in Jamaica, we, too, have our challenges. In fact, there are more and more people who are opting to tune out of the news cycle as they seek to protect their mental health. There is no denying that there is a high level of anxiety and unease among our citizens.

But, it is in this kind of tumult and turmoil that we bring you some respite as we celebrate our churches that are providing an oasis for thousands of people who are looking for an escape from the seemingly unending conflicts that are now defining the space in which we currently exist.

We feel refreshed and rejuvenated as we reflect on the number of churches that held crusades during the month of February, and the number of souls who came to the Lord. You just need to look at the updates on the inside pages of this publication to break out in rejoicing.

Of note to us, too, were the large numbers of churches that streamed their crusades, and the thousands of views they have garnered. It is also not lost on us that those were not just churches that are situated in the urban centres, but several of our churches in rural areas are now

taking advantage of the technology to reach larger audiences globally.

We are thankful for this important development that allows those for whom it is impossible to attend our services physically, to have access, in a permanent form, to our worship services.

As we transition to the new quarter, we are looking forward to the Middlesex and Surrey Women's Gatherings; the 25th iteration of the Youth Congress; the leadership seminar; as well as Child Month in May as we celebrate our children; and of course June, when we recognise and celebrate the family unit, that very important agent of socialisation.

So we are happy that amid the wars and rumours of wars, we have hope, both in this life and the life to come. We have numerous opportunities to make an impact on this world, and we encourage you to embrace all those activities and get involved in their execution.

In this issue, we begin a new series featuring children of pastors who are themselves in ministry.

We look forward to receiving the reports of success for the new quarter. You may reach us at [communications.ntcogja@gmail.com](mailto:communications.ntcogja@gmail.com).

*Corinne Barnes*

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



# A KINGDOM RESPONSE TO THE CULTURE OF *revenge*



**T**HE JAMAICA Observer’s headline of January 13, 2021, sent a chilling feeling down the spines of many Jamaicans: ‘Marked for death – Deadly Trench Town conflict won’t end as sons vow vengeance if their mothers are killed’. Another mother, who said her name is reported to head the list of targetted individuals, speculated that the conflict would not end since her male relatives have vowed to take revenge if she is killed. In her own words, “My name deh a di top a di list fi dead. Mi tell di police dem say if mi dead, mi have nephew and son who say dem a go murder dem back,” she said.

The desire to get even is deeply embedded in the human soul. Vindictiveness and retaliation are not unfamiliar words to us. We often want to see those who have hurt us suffer. Even though this tendency to payback, to hold grudges and

to seek revenge seems so natural and is so commonplace, the Kingdom of God calls all believers to a better and higher standard of living. Life in the Kingdom of God is about grace and forgiveness.

## THE PIERCING PARABLE

In St Matthew 18:21-35, Peter engages Jesus in a riveting conversation that begins with a loaded question. “*Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, ‘Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?’ Jesus answered, ‘I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.’*” (NIV)

We thank Peter for being Peter, always bold enough to ask what we are thinking. The question was informed by the social and religious trends of the day. According to James Davis in his exposition on this text, in the ancient world, cruel treatment was practised against debtors, often without regard to the debtor’s ability or intention to repay.





Popular rabbinical teachings posited that a man must forgive his brother three times (John Lightfoot). Coupled with this, the Jewish teachers encouraged personal payback by a faulty application of the “eye for an eye” precept. Although this principle was originally intended to control excessive vengeance, it had become a convenient platform to stand on when one wanted to avenge his hurts apart from due process of law.

Peter was born and raised in an environment where cruelty to debtors, desire for vengeance, and erroneous religious teaching thrived. I am sure Peter thought he was being super righteous when he asked and answered his question about how many times to forgive.

Jesus responds with a parable that introduces a radical new way of living and relating. A servant forgiven of an enormous debt by his master in turn refuses to forgive his fellow servant a much smaller debt. He collars his servant and demands that payment be made. He did not listen to the man’s plea. The recipient of full forgiveness failed in extending that forgiveness.

The way the story ends is striking: *“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I cancelled all your debts because you begged me to. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ In anger, his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”*

In this parable, Jesus posits a radical approach that counters the culture of revenge. He preaches forgiveness as one of the essential laws of His kingdom. He removes the limitations on forgiveness. God will forgive us our many sins, but our own lack of forgiveness of others blocks His grace from flowing through us.

### SEEK FORGIVENESS FROM GOD

Seeking forgiveness is a clear acknowledgment that we have sinned. To seek forgiveness is to recognise that we are offenders, we are imperfect, we are at fault, and we need the loving response of others. Forgiveness cannot be genuinely sought if there is no confession of wrong. Confession of sin is the admission of what we did and the agreement with God that our actions or words were wrong.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9) When we confess our sins before God, He will forgive. God’s mercies far outweigh our sins. His mercies are everlasting. Experiencing forgiveness from God requires penitence and faith in a merciful God. Therefore, confess to God and receive forgiveness. Some people do not accept forgiveness because of the sense that their sin is bigger than God’s



grace. Name the sin and put God’s grace on it – forgiveness will result, and joy will return. In Psalm 32, the writer speaks of the blessings of being forgiven: *“Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.”*

The people of God are not one-time recipients of grace; we depend on grace. We feed on God’s forgiveness.

### SEEK THE FORGIVENESS OF OTHERS

We may have caused deep hurt and pain in others. When we have wronged someone, it is appropriate to confess our wrongdoing to that person and seek forgiveness. When we are seeking forgiveness from others, we cannot rush them, neither can we minimise or trivialise their pain. Seeking forgiveness from others must be done genuinely and wholeheartedly.

It cannot be – ‘if you say I have offended you, ... please forgive’. It’s not just saying, ‘Forgive me if you think I happened to have done something wrong’. We must acknowledge the PAIN we have caused and accept responsibility for it. Seeking forgiveness must be authentic. Asking someone to forgive you requires a broken heart and a willingness to repair the damage you have done. When we seek forgiveness from others, it is a big ask. We are asking the person to release us from punishment and judgement. To seek forgiveness is to ask the other to give up revenge.

When we seek forgiveness from others, we cannot dictate the pace; we have to be patient. We cannot determine the person’s attitude and response; we have to be humble. When we seek forgiveness from others, we cannot at the same time hold up before them their own wrong.

Seek forgiveness from others and open the door for renewed human relationships. As a church community, we need to seek the forgiveness of people we have hurt, accused wrongfully,

excluded from our fellowship without just cause. You may have wronged your spouse and this may have created a wedge between you. Why not seek forgiveness? Some parents who have wronged their children should also seek their forgiveness. When we seek forgiveness, it opens the door for reconciliation. The offender must be the seeker.

### OFFER FORGIVENESS TO OTHERS

Those who experience the blessings of sins forgiven must extend the same grace to others. It is so easy to forget our deep need of mercy and forgiveness and to become harsh and unforgiving to others

Forgiveness is not an option in the Bible, it is a repeated command:

- Ephesians 4:32: *“Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”*
- Mark 11:25: *“And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.”*
- Matthew 6:15: *“But if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”*

An endless cycle of resentment and retaliation will characterise our lives when we do not practise forgiveness. “Forgiveness doesn’t excuse the behaviour of the offender; it simply prevents their behaviour from destroying our heart.” (Trisha Davis)

The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong. (Mahatma Gandhi)

Let us, therefore, change the headline in the **Jamaica Observer** from ‘Marked for death’ to ‘Meant to live’.

*Bishop Dr. Roy Notice*  
ADMINISTRATIVE BISHOP

# FOLLOWING FATHERS

A cursory glance at young people who are actively serving in ministry or are in training to enter full-time ministry, will show that there are several who are children of pastors. In this edition of eREACH, we feature two young people who may be considered to be following in their parents' footsteps.

## REVEREND ORANE WILLIAMS

### FROM PHYSIOTHERAPY TO PULPIT: A JOURNEY OF FAITH



“While growing up, observing my father in ministry motivated me to become ‘a real man’. So much so that I would often declare my desire to change my name from Orane to Robert.

“His commitment to ministry led me to the altar of salvation as a boy at nine and I became involved in youth ministry during my teenage years,” declared Reverend Orane Williams, as he reflected on his call to ministry.

But the journey of the son of the Reverend Robert Williams, a former high school teacher, and Jasmin Williams, a nurse, was not as straightforward as it seems, he says, as for a short while, he tried different ways of evading the Lord’s nudge to pursue the path that he is currently walking.

“Even after attempting to run and hide, the call was evident because of the passion and satisfaction that came with service in ministry. That was not only from my own personal relationship with God, but has to be credited to what was embodied around me by my father.

“The nature and nurture of my development

synchronously paved the path to a clear direction into ministry, and anything outside of that path would prove futile and most miserable,” says Reverend Orane Williams.

So, although he entered the field of physiotherapy, Reverend Orane Williams says he felt that his heart would only beat when he discarded the stethoscope, donned a tie, and was on his way to church.

“I now find myself joyfully immersed in full-time pastoral ministry because that’s the only thing that brings true and complete joy.”

“I now find myself joyfully immersed in full-time pastoral ministry because that’s the only thing that brings true and complete joy,” he says.

He now serves as Associate Pastor of the Portmore Church in St. Catherine, and is an active member of the National Youth and Discipleship Board.

He is also currently pursuing a Master of Divinity Degree at the Pentecostal Theological Seminary in Cleveland, Tennessee.

“This [ministry] is because of my heritage. I am a reflection of my community, and a massive part of my community is the priest of my boyhood home, my father, Bishop Robert Williams,” says the younger Reverend Williams.



# FOLLOWING FATHERS



## REVEREND ODEAN BENNETT

### NURTURED IN FAITH, ANSWERING THE LORD'S CALL

Growing up in the small community known as St. Vincent in the parish of Trelawny, Reverend Odean Bennett was no stranger to the life of a pastor as he watched his parents, Reverend Erdly Bennett and Rosalin Bennett, labour in God's vineyard.

"My parents were dedicated to God their church and to prayer. They prayed over us as children and I believe that God answered their prayer. I got converted and baptised at the age of 12," says Reverend Odean Bennett.

Twelve years ago, he says, he sensed the call of God to ministry, and three years later, he was on his way to Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean – Jamaica. In 2019, he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theology and has been serving in ministry since then.

Shortly after graduation, he was assigned to the Islington Church in St. Mary, where he remained for two years, before being transferred to the

Port Antonio Church in Portland, where he served as Associate Pastor. For the past nine months, he has been leading the flock at the St. Margaret's Bay and Spring Bank churches in Portland.

“

My parents were dedicated to God their church and to prayer. They prayed over us as children and I believe that God answered their prayer.

”

A short conversation with Reverend Odean Bennett will reveal the high regard in which he holds his father.

"I watched my father serve over the years with humility as a lay leader in his local church and I saw how God elevated him to now being a Bishop in the NTCOG [New Testament Church of God]," he says.

The senior Reverend Bennett has been in ministry for over 48 years.

"My father studies the Word of God with fervour and applies these Scriptures in all areas of his life. My father also has a very active and consistent prayer life. I admire these traits, which I emulate in my ministry," says Reverend Odean Bennett.



# FOLLOWING FATHERS



## NATHAN KNIGHT

### INSPIRED TO CONTINUE DAD'S LEGACY TOUCHING LIVES

THOSE WHO have watched Nathan Knight progressing through the various phases of his life may easily say that he was “born for this” whenever they hear of his future plans. The younger son of Reverend Dr. Donovan Knight and Sophia Knight, Nathan is currently reading for a Bachelor of Theology degree at Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean – Jamaica.

“As a pastor’s kid, growing up in the church provided a unique perspective on the impact of ministry. Witnessing firsthand the ways in which faith transforms lives and brings hope to communities inspired me to pursue ministry myself.

“I’m motivated by the opportunity to serve others and share the message of love and compassion through the gospel. I’ve had the privilege of seeing my father’s dedication to serving others through ministry. His example of selflessness, compassion, and faithfulness has deeply



influenced my decision to follow in his footsteps. I’m inspired to continue his legacy of making a difference in people’s lives through ministry,” says Nathan.

Rev. Dr. Knight has been in ministry for the past 26 years and Sister Knight has been by his side for 24 of those years. They have served at Dykes Hill and Tweedside, Eastwood Park Road, Sterling Castle, Spalding, and are currently at the Old Harbour Church.

“Yes, I saw Nathan going in that direction [ministry] when he was younger. He always mentioned being a pastor and a lawyer. Since recent years, he tends to be focussing on full-time ministry.

“I am supportive of his choice. He seems quite passionate about his call to ministry. I’m convinced he will excel in this field and I’ll always

be an integral part of his support system,” says his mother, Sophia Knight.

Nathan’s plans are to complete studies up to the doctoral level and to enter full-time ministry.

“As a pastor’s kid, growing up in the church provided a unique perspective on the impact of ministry. Witnessing firsthand the ways in which faith transforms lives and brings hope to communities inspired me to pursue ministry myself.”

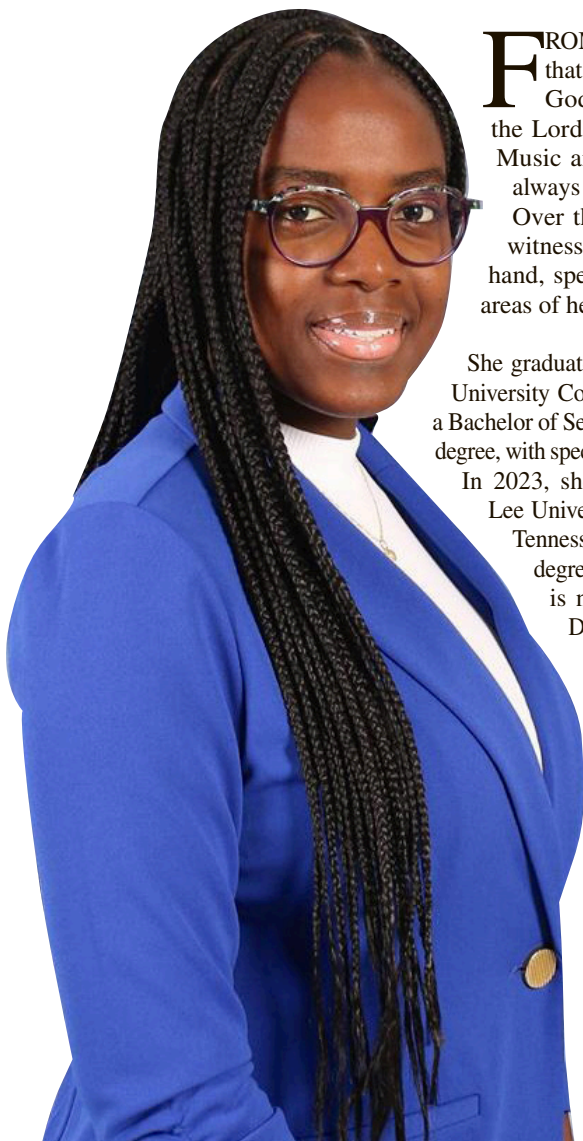


# FOLLOWING FATHERS



JOELLE NOTICE

## HARMONY IN FAITH: A JOURNEY FROM PASSION TO PURPOSE



**F**ROM AN early age, Joelle discovered that her voice could be used to glorify God. She surrendered her life to the Lord when she was eight years old. Music and teaching have always been her passions. Over the years, she has witnessed God's guiding hand, specifically in those areas of her life.

She graduated from The Mico University College in 2021 with a Bachelor of Secondary Education degree, with specialisation in Music. In 2023, she graduated from Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee, with a Master's degree in Music and she is now reading for a Doctorate in Worship Studies at the Robert Webber Institute for Worship Studies.

She serves as coordinator for the National Music and Worship Ministry; lecturer at Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean – Jamaica; summer Camp counsellor; and mentee to teenage girls.

“The first time I sensed the Lord

speaking to me was in my early teen years. As I became more aware of how God communicated with me, I realised I never wanted to make any decisions without His approval because my way of doing things rarely went well.



I have no clue what my life will look like in the near or far future, but I am learning day by day to let God's desires for my life become my own, and He knows me, so what He has called me to do, I am loving it.



“Over time, I knew the Lord was calling me into ministry, but I kept running from it because growing up in a ministry family, I just did not want that to be my life. I tried other paths that made me miserable, and when I started my Master's in Music and Worship, a sense of peace and assurance that I was in the right place washed over me. That's when I fully submitted to the plans God had for me in ministry.

“I have no clue what my life will look like in the near or far future, but I am learning day by day to let God's desires for my life become my own, and He knows me, so what He has called me to do, I am loving it,” says Joelle.

She is the younger daughter of the Administrative Bishop, Dr. Roy Notice and Dr. Vinette Notice, who have been in ministry for the past 30 years,

“I am so proud of Joelle. She is following in her father's footsteps. When we had daughters, we thought that would not be the case, but Joelle thought otherwise and we are so proud,” says Joelle's mother, Dr. Vinette Notice.



# HEADING TO A NEW TERM

**T**HE PREFERENTIAL ballot for Administrative Bishop of the New Testament Church of God – Jamaica was held on February 29 at the May Pen Church. Bishop Ishmael Charles, Caribbean Field Director, presided over the conference and the vote was conducted by the Electoral Office of Jamaica (EOJ).

A total of 283 ministers participated in the process with 76% casting their votes for the incumbent, Bishop Dr. Roy Notice, to continue in the position for another four years. His new tenure will begin on September 1, 2024 and end on August 31, 2028.

Credentialed ministers at all levels of the denomination are eligible to participate in the process to select the Administrative Bishop every four years. We pray that God will bless Bishop Notice with wisdom and courage as he continues to lead God’s people.



SEMINAR VENUE

**A HIT**  
WITH ATTENDEES

**F**OR MANY of the District Pastors who attended the capacity-building seminar at the New Testament Church of God’s National Campsite in St. Ann, it was an unforgettable experience.





The event was planned to give the leaders a first-hand look at the renovations that have taken place at the site over the past 12 months, as the leadership increases its effort to market the site as a place of choice for retreats, conferences, business meetings and other activities.

Dr. Stevenson Samuels' presentation on 'Leading a United District' resonated with the attendees and was met with great enthusiasm, some participants said.

Many of the pastors say they were impressed

with the serene atmosphere, complemented by picturesque scenery. The fellowship was rich, and the discussion session with the Administrative Bishop and other national leaders proved to be highly engaging, fostering meaningful exchanges and insights, the reports indicate.







# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TRAINING IN ACTION

– HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NATIONAL YOUTH AND DISCIPLESHIP DEPARTMENT –



Since the start of the calendar year, the National Youth and Discipleship Department has seen a flurry of activities with no sign of slowing down any time soon.

The month of January saw the observation of Teens' Week – January 9-14 – as churches across the island held various activities that kept the teens engaged and fired up. Those activities culminated in Teens' Rally at the Convention Centre in Old Harbour, St. Catherine, on January 14. Some 1,500 teens descended on the venue, and from all appearances, they had a great time of worship and fellowship.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SEMINAR 2024

Enter the 10th day of February and 850 Sunday School teachers and other workers assembled at the Old Harbour Church in St. Catherine, under the theme 'Sunday School: Empowering Generations, Enriching Lives'.

Those who attended the one-day event benefited from sessions such as 'Bridging the Divide: Generational Gap and Evangelism', 'Making Teaching Generationally Appropriate and Evangelism Effective', and 'The Teacher as an Evangelist'.

## REGIONAL TALENT SHOW

Some other exciting activities of the Department were the regional talent show and Bible quiz competitions. The winners





of those competitions will go on to the National Finals at the National Youth Congress scheduled for April 5 to 6 at the Convention Centre, where some 10,000 young people are expected to participate.

Other activities planned for Congress include a street meeting at the Old Bus Park in Old Harbour, St. Catherine, on Friday, April 5. The speaker will be Reverend Steve Hepburn. The pastors from the Old Harbour Fraternal will be joining in that evangelistic thrust.

On Saturday, there will be activities such as Saturday in Berea, ministry and life-management workshops, worship sessions, teens and children’s villages, and the Ignite Worship Fest.

Overseas guests will include the International Director of Youth and Discipleship, Bishop Dr. Rob Bailey; his Assistant, Bishop Brian Yaun; the Caribbean Youth and Discipleship Director, Bishop Ashram Ramnarine; Bishop Wayne Vernon; and other State youth directors.

For further information on this event, please call the National Office at 876-927-7767; 876-927-3712.





# NYAM HOSPITAL VISIT



The National Young Adults Ministry's trip to the St Ann's Bay Regional Hospital on March 23, 2024.  
One patient indicated the need for salvation.



Don't miss the  
**25th NATIONAL YOUTH CONGRESS**  
April 5-6







**MINIS** **RIES**  
*in* **AC** **ION**

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**The National Young Adult  
Ministry's outreach in  
Green Island,  
Hanover**







**MINIS**TRIES  
*in* **AC**TION

**Tertiary Students Retreat**  
March 15-17, 2024 at the Campsite  
Attended: 154 students











# ‘I AM walking ON MY GRAVE’

**By Annmarie Trowers Smith**

**D**ecember 24, 2021 started out for me as any other day. I left work at 1:00 p.m., ran some errands, and then headed home.

I was looking forward to an afternoon of relaxation. I had no idea that my plans were about to be changed in an instant.

As I drove home, I was listening to Bishop Delford Davis of Power of Faith Ministries on a radio programme. As I approached my gate, I have no idea what happened, but the only thing I knew was that I heard a loud crashing sound, which was my car hitting my gate. I had no idea what happened. It was as if I had briefly lost consciousness. The car went through the gate at lightning speed, and was headed straight toward the front of my apartment building. My foot was fully on the gas pedal. I have no recollection of how it got there. In a split second, it was as if someone nudged me and said, ‘Foot on brake!’. I lifted my foot, which felt so heavy, and I slowly touched the brakes, the car came to a slow halt just seconds before I would have crashed into the building.

It was the most horrific experience I have ever had. My spirit separated from my body as I saw myself in the room where I would have landed, although my body was still in the car.

My neighbours rushed out to my rescue because they heard the impact on the gate. One of the women was a nervous wreck and was shaking like a leaf in a ferocious storm. Their take on the incident was, they thought I was being chased by a gunman, given the speed at which I entered the yard. They also explained that even when I went into the yard, I accelerated again.

I recall coming out of that car quite shaken up. When I looked around, there was not much damage to the car, except for the front licence plate that fell off, and a bit of a scratch on the front bumper.

The other miracle is that one of the neighbours’ cars that would normally be parked in the same spot when the gate opened – and which I would have inevitably hit hard – was not there that day.

I was truly traumatised from this accident and that fear created a breeding ground for the enemy to sow the seed of torment. I remember trying to drive my car and it felt like I had no control over what I was doing. At other times, I would have my friends drive my car or I would park it and take a cab to go about my business. I was living in fear.

As I look back on that fateful day, I am also reminded that just days prior to the accident, one of my church sisters and a brother had called me separately to pray for me as, clearly, the Lord had revealed to them that danger was lurking. I remember the brother saying to me that there was an “evil assignment” at my gate. That is exactly where the accident took place.

I thank God that He is always one step ahead of the enemy, and I am grateful for brothers and sisters in the Lord who watch over each other. I feel so blessed to be a part of a caring community of believers. Surely, on that day, God spoiled principalities and made an open show of them.

Prayer, indeed, saves lives. It saved mine.

■ *Annmarie Trowers Smith is a member of the Eastwood Park Road New Testament Church of God in St Andrew.*



# STRATEGIC UPDATES

– QUARTER ENDING FEBRUARY 2024 –

## TOP 10 CHURCHES IN TITHES PER CAPITA

CHURCH	PASTOR	MEMBERSHIP
1. OLD HARBOUR	Donovan Knight	256
2. NEWPORT	Vernon Morrison	97
3. MALVERN	Joseph Caine	26
4. OLD HARBOUR BAY	Robin Williams	26
5. RUNAWAY BAY	Deloris Trowers-Huntley	157
6. EWARTON	Errol Bailey	38
7. MANLEY MEADOWS	Clive Abrahams	58
8. SCARLETT HALL	Dexton Samuels	62
9. HILLSIDE	Denise Johnson-Knight	26
10. BELFIELD	Ralston Johnson	44

(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. OLD HARBOUR	Donovan Knight	256
2. HINDS TOWN	Terrence Gayle	11
3. FLINT RIVER	Wilbert Vassell	78
4. OLD HARBOUR BAY	Robin Williams	26
5. MALVERN	Joseph Caine	26
6. EWARTON	Errol Bailey	38
7. NEWELL	George Riley	50
8. RUNAWAY BAY	Deloris Trowers-Huntley	157
9. PRATVILLE	Randy Collins	12
10. DUNCANS	Kirk McFarlane	71

(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	W/BAP
1. OLD HARBOUR	Donovan Knight	26
2. RECKFORD	Denoi Miller	18
3. NEGRIL	Gregory Haughton	14
4. BEESTON STREET	Cleo Ellis	12
5. HEARTEASE	Harvil Holding	11
6. RICHMOND	Leonie Samuels	11
7. ST. ANN'S BAY	Winston Foster	11
8. NEWPORT	Vernon Morrison	10
9. FALMOUTH	Lloyd Lawrence	9
10. NEWELL	George Riley	9

## TOP 10 CHURCHES IN TITHES FOR THE QUARTER

CHURCH	PASTOR
1. PORTMORE	Cornel Shaw
2. WALTHAM PARK	Stevenson Samuels
3. OLD HARBOUR	Donovan Knight
4. MANDEVILLE	Donald Roberts
5. CLIFTON	Monroe Wisdom
6. ESCARPMENT ROAD	Leslie Pinnock
7. ST. ANN'S BAY	Winston Foster
8. SPANISH TOWN	Osbourne Fisher
9. PORT ANTONIO	Desmond Green
10. EASTWOOD PARK	Clement Clarke

## TOP 10 CHURCHES IN OFFERINGS FOR THE QUARTER

CHURCH	PASTOR
1. OLD HARBOUR	Donovan Knight
2. PORTMORE	Cornel Shaw
3. WALTHAM PARK	Stevenson Samuels
4. MANDEVILLE	Donald Roberts
5. CLIFTON	Monroe Wisdom
6. ESCARPMENT ROAD	Leslie Pinnock
7. SPANISH TOWN	Osborne Fisher
8. NEGRIL	Gregory Haughton
9. EASTWOOD PARK	Clement Clarke
10. LINSTEAD	Jephitha Reid

## TOP 10 CHURCHES IN GROWTH IN NEW MEMBERS

CHURCH	PASTOR	ADDED
1. ORACABESSA	Wesley Daley	36
2. MORANT BAY	Brian Campbell	22
3. BAMBOO	Mark McLean	21
4. CORNWALL COURTS	McKenhum Prendegast	13
5. RICHMOND	Leonie Samuels	13
6. ANNOTTO BAY	Carla Service-White	11
7. SPANISH TOWN	Osborne Fisher	11
8. ST. ANN'S BAY	Winston Foster	11
9. BURNT SAVANNAH	Cadian Kerr	10
10. NEWELL	George Riley	10

## TOP CHURCHES IN NUMBER OF PEOPLE BAPTISED IN THE HOLY GHOST

CHURCH	PASTOR	HOLY GHOST FILLED
1. CAMBRIDGE	Oneil Brown	8
2. OLD HARBOUR	Donovan Knight	7
3. BULL BAY	Roy Warren	5
4. LILLIPUT	Howard Nelson	5
5. PORT ANTONIO	Desmond Green	5
6. RAMBLE	Megan Calbert-Crowl	3
7. RICHMOND	Leonie Samuels	3
8. ANNOTTO BAY	Carla Service-White	3
9. SALEM	Martin Murphy	3
10. RUNAWAY BAY	Deloris Trowers-Huntley	3



*Congrats to all our top churches!*

# 2024 CALENDAR

## APRIL 2024

### DISCIPLESHIP MONTH

#### KEY VERSE: MATTHEW 28:19-20

During this month, churches are encouraged to critically examine their efforts to reach and nurture people for Christ. Give special attention to equipping members to disciple unsaved family members.

Evaluate and strengthen your Sunday schools, review the church's Bible study programme, and all its different ministries. Encourage every member of the congregation to focus on consistently practising at least three spiritual disciplines this month. Eg. prayer, fasting, Bible study, times of solitude, and giving.

DATE	ACTIVITIES/EVENTS	LOCATION
1	Middlesex Women's Gathering	Old Harbour
3	Leadership Impact Conference	Old Harbour
5-6	National Youth Congress	Convention Centre



## MAY 2024

### CHILD MONTH

#### CHILDREN OF EXCELLENCE SHINING FOR CHRIST

We encourage our children to be bold and confident as they use their intellect, their gifts and their talents to make a difference for God. We are living in an age of mediocrity. During this month let us help children and their families to understand what excellence means, and how striving for excellence will bring personal progress for the one who excels and glory to our God who enables.

Create opportunities for children to serve, to use their talents and gifts. Host competitions that will bring out the best in them.

DATE	ACTIVITIES/EVENTS	LOCATION
4	Surrey Regional Music Workshop	Bull Bay Church
12	Mother's Day	National
18	Women's Gathering -Surrey Region	Portmore
19	Pentecost Sunday	Local Churches
23	Labour Day	National
26	National Children's Service	Escarpment Road Church



## JUNE 2024

### FAMILY ENRICHMENT MONTH

During this month, we celebrate the sanctity of marriage, the value of family and the different types of family units. Through seminars, discussion sessions, and special Sunday school classes, the church can explore some of the challenges families face and offer solutions. Host a family seminar, a family Sunday, renewal of vows, recognise a family each Sunday, prepare sermons and Bible studies that relate to family development.

DATE	ACTIVITIES/EVENTS	LOCATION
4- 7	National Family Week	Local Church
16	Father's Day	National
22	My Home, My Family (LifeBuilders)	TBA
27	Ministers' Conference	TBA

