

CBACC Newsletter

Brethren Assemblies' News from around the Caribbean and sometimes beyond

Volume 5 Issue I

March 2019

Special Mission Goals

- To facilitate spiritual and numerical growth among Brethren.
- To enable workers from across the region to seek the Lord together.
- To strengthen networking and fellowship.
- To raise awareness of the spiritual challenges of current trends and cultural developments.
- To assist in the coordination of disaster response activities.
- To encourage younger workers.

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Progress in Guyana and Brazil

"Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised ... "Psalm 48:1

I he year 2017 came to a close with the commissioning of two new Church buildings, one in the north and the other in the south Pakariamas way up on the mountains.

Ten students graduated after completing three years of Bible School at the Annual Bible Conference held at Lethem during the Easter weekend.

Many trips were made during the course of the year to various parts of the region including on coastal Guyana. Viz:

Weronie, Berbice River in June - July for five weeks of ministry. Twelve persons were baptized and a couple wedded. There were many issues, including drugs use, demonism, witchcraft and alcoholism.

The two new churches were registered, Viz. Crash Water and Taushida.

Three trips were made to Manaus the Amazon capital for a conference and to consult with a lawyer concerning the drafting of the constitution for the new church plant in the state of Roraima, Brazil. I also made three trips to Central Village, in the municipality of Canta, Roraima. Brazil, where the new church plant is located. A trustee board of nine persons was formed from among the brethren.

After the draft constitution was adopted and approved and verified by the lawyer, it was finally submitted to the Registry in Boa Vista, Roraima, Brazil on December 5, 2018. The notarized documents will be uplifted in two weeks. To God be the Glory. This would be the first Brethren Assembly to be legally registered in Brazil and the first for Guyana an outreach of the Christian Brethren Assemblies in Region # 09. The Name of the Church in Brazil: "IGREJA CRISTA DOS IRMAOS"



Two brothers holding the registration documents for the church in Brazil.

In my visits to the new location, central village, Canta, 12 persons were baptized having accepted Christ, and many are coming from as far as 30 miles away to the meetings. A plot of land was given to me where a building is to be constructed soon.

For the coming New Year the Lord has laid on my heart to go to do some leadership training at this new church plant to build its leadership equipping them for effective service.

Please continue to pray for us as we labor: Pray that the needs of the work are met which are great. Pray for our health as our bodies seems to be deteriorating, especially me. I still with the prostate condition. Pray that His will be done and that in it all we will be kept in the center of His will. Not our will but His will be done.

In our Master's Service, Ronald & Zita Charles.

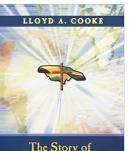
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Our missionaries need your <u>financial support</u> as well as your prayer support. Make a monetary pledge today to support a missionary near you.

Please pray for the Medical camp as it is another way that we can serve people and to show them the love of Christ.



The Story of Jamaican Missions How the Gospel Went from Jamaica to the World

<u>Click here to</u> <u>Buy Lloyd's books:</u> <u>Available on Amazon</u>



Who is this missionary?

- Who is a full time worker among the Brethren in Jamaica?
- Who is an Elder at Harbour View Gospel Chapel?
- Who is happily married to Claudia and father to little Caleb?
- Who is the current CEO of the Christian Brethren Assemblies Jamaica?
- Give up? The answer is . . .

Germaine Williams: <u>germzw@hotmail.com</u> He would value your financial support.

Coming from . . . St. Vincent

The Academic Support Program at Elim Community Church was restarted in January 2019, after a break of about two months. This program caters for children from Upper Queen's Drive and surrounding areas, many of whom are at risk for dropping out of school or just passing through the system without gaining the knowledge and skills necessary for productive living. An open space area on the middle floor of the building is being used to hold the classes.

So far, the maximum attendance has been fifteen, but we expect this number to grow. We are having a bit of a challenge because most of the medical students who used to help us have either gone back home or have moved to other locations. However, we can rejoice in the fact that one of our neighbours, a trained teacher, currently studying for her degree, has been assisting us since we restarted. She works mainly with the secondary school students. We also have on board a local retired teacher, who has shown himself to be vey committed to the program. Though our hands are full, we are very excited that the program is up and running again.

We believe that the program needs to be strengthened by the input of someone trained in literacy and remedial education, who can train our volunteers to help them become more effective in the delivery of the material. We have begun the process of securing the services of such a person and we are trusting the Lord that this will become a reality later this year.

On February 16th, we were blessed by a visit from Bro. Anthony and Sister Joycelyn Roberts of Tobago. Sister Roberts, a retired remedial education teacher, led one of the groups. Her input was truly appreciated by the students.



Sister Roberts assisting two students.

"Thanks for the opportunity to share in your Academic Support Program at Elim.

The initiative is commendable since it can assist students to improve in their academic achievements.

The class space is very adequate. Some moveable partitions may be used to reduce distractions, since the age groups vary.

Additional tutors and concrete resources/ manipulative will greatly assist in providing individual attention to students.

The students I worked with seemed willing to learn." Joycelyn Roberts

St. Kitts Brethren Celebrating 82 years of Ministry

Highlights of the Celebrations

In October 2018, the Brethren Assemblies on St Kitts celebrated 82 years since the start of the work on the island. Many events were held during that month including an Island-wide Whistle-stop Gospel Outreach, Bible Week, and Family Fun Day. The main event, however, was the **Three (3) Day Youth Convention** under the theme **"Sex, Relationship** & Marriage God's Way" which took place during the final week of the month. Rodney Brown and family from Trinidad, affectionately dubbed "Team Cupcake and Brownies", were the guest facilitators for the convention.

At the **Anniversary Service** held Thursday, October 25. Guest Speaker Rodney made reference to the book of Nehemiah. He stressed the importance of praising God by highlighting the role of the singers in the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. Many will long remember the blowing of the whistle and the sharp command to rally for support- "action station, action station!" His teaching also reinforced the call to action for believers presented by Br Lewis Paul, earlier in the month, who also ministered from the book of Nehemiah during **Bible Week.**

On Friday October 26, a keenly contested Bible knowledge competition, attracted young participants from the various assemblies. At stake was a trophy, gift certificates, and first place ribbons for the winners. Each participant was awarded a certificate of participation.



Congrats to the Bethany Gospel Hall Representatives **Abigail** and **She'Recia**.

As shown in the above picture, Abigail O'Flaherty and She'Recia Phillip now have bragging rights as the winners of the first **Carlton Frank and Dr. Joseph Halliday Bible Knowledge Competition**. Plans are in place to make this competition an annual event to encourage the youth to study the Bible.

The following day, the youths were energized, engaged and educated about sex, relationships and marriage God's way. This **all day workshop** was conducted by Br. Rodney, with support from sisters Lydia (his wife) and Rae-Ann (his daughter) and was well attended by both the young and young in heart.



One of the groups presenting at the workshop.

After the **joint assemblies' Worship and Breaking of Bread** held on Sunday morning, October 28, Br. Rodney in his sermon, warned about selfishness and it being the root of most problems in our relationships. He challenged primarily the married couples to live the I Corinthians 13 lifestyle, and encouraged them to renew their commitment to each other.

On Sunday afternoon, it was food, fun and frolic as the saints gathered at a sporting ground to celebrate **Family Fun Day**. Many relaxed in the warm afternoon sun after partaking of a delicious lunch. Some cheered on the competitors on the field as they participated in the exciting games organized by "Team Cupcake and Brownies". The youths were very proud of their red, black and white T&T flags and bandanas which were awarded to the victors.

Last year's Anniversary celebrations will be fondly remembered by all, especially the young people.

Submitted by Avenelle Warde

Report from Grenada

A blessed and Spirit filled 2019 as we greet you once again in the peerless name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the one who alone is worthy.

We are grateful for His protecting hands upon us during another year that has passed. If it had not been for the Lord on our side we shudder to think what could have become of us. God has not only protected us but he has provided for all our needs. He is indeed our faithful protector and provider. Blessed be His marvelous and wonderful name.

We like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all you dear Saints whom the Lord has used to meet our varying needs during 2018. Thanks for your thoughtful and gracious financial support and for all your prayers. We do appreciate those of you who continue to assist us. God has promised to supply all our need and He continues to use you to do such. Thank you so very much.

We continue to praise the Lord for the opportunity to preach the Gospel over the **GBN Radio** on the Brethren Hour. With the improvement of technology the program is heard not only in Grenada but worldwide. We are humbled by the privilege afforded to be used in this way. As we meet people who tell us that they listen, we pray that they will receive the word and be saved.

Camp 2018 was a success. We usually return home exhausted but grateful that we could work with our many young ones especially teaching them the word of God and the gospel. Many made professions of faith. We consider this a labour of love. We are grateful for the Camp Committee and for the team of ladies who are there and have been at camp every year to ensure that the Campers are well fed. We are praying that the Lord will raise up young ladies who would be willing to take over the responsibility of the Cooks when the present group is no longer available to

help.

The **school ministry** is continuing to be a blessing. We have experienced minor disruptions because of the present industrial impasse. We consider this a great ministry and pray that it will bear much fruit and impact the lives of many for eternity.

We continue to be encouraged as we travel around **the Assemblies** week after week ministering to the Saints and preaching the gospel. Our desire is to see believers develop a greater appreciation for the word of God. Not only to know it but to do it. We get many opportunities to preach the gospel at **funerals** and **other evangelical churches.**

Praise the Lord for the opportunity to speak at a **Crusade** held at the Bronx in NY, USA this past summer. The word of God went out and it is only eternity would reveal the work that was done in the hearts of the saints and all who listened.

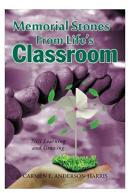
Do continue to pray for our family and for our ministry:

- For Joshua who has returned to College this past year. Pray that he will be successful in his studies.
- For liberty in upcoming Crusades and opening air meetings.
- For provision as we consider changing our roof and other house repairs.
- For our proposed trip to USA and Brethren Conference in Italy in June 2019.
- That we remain in good health physically and spiritually.
- That our focus will be on the Lord and the Ministry to which he has called us.

Thanks again for your prayers and for your financial support.

Because of Calvary, Daniel & Sherma Ross

We are praying that the Lord will raise up young ladies who would be willing to take over the responsibility of the cooks when the present group is no longer available to help.



Click here to Buy Carmen's books: Available on Amazon

Report from Antigua

As a carry-over from late 2017 our focus on youth saw growth in attendances at Youth Fellowship as well as in our **Sunday School** in the first half of 2018. The radio program continued (and still continues) to impact lives - evidenced mostly by calls and WhatsApp messages. But then there came developments that brought about changes in circumstances and turn around in events.

I was greatly assisted in the Youth work by my

daughter Adele and her husband Kedane. In the meanwhile, the church responded to Kedane and Adele's request for prayer that children would come into their lives and very early in the year they announced that they were expecting twins. You can imagine the joy that this answer to prayers brought.

As the months progressed, bed rest was prescribed for Adele, and so Kedane had to attend to her more closely. I was then without my assistants for the Youth Fellowship and the children's program. I soldiered on alone for a few months but then thought that it was becoming awkward for me to carry on alone with a night meeting consisting of mostly teenaged girls. Sadly, I had to make the decision to terminate the Friday night Youth Fellowship.

Our Sunday School was doing very well during most of the year and we were greatly encouraged. Other developments changed things. Because Sister Adele was unable to attend Sunday services she could no longer teach her class. Bro. Kedane held on with the class for a while but soon his duties at home meant that he too could not be out on a regular basis.

My sister in law, Sister Pamela Browman, a twice retired school teacher, held the fort for a few weeks but was soon after diagnosed with a serious As I write this report in January 2019 my ministry been living alone before but, as a result of her like them to be. Praise be to God and thanks for condition, moved in with us so that my wife, her sister, could better attend to her. This did not

only curtail her ability to assist at Sunday School, but also meant that my wife was no longer available to deal with her class as well.

Sister Clare Nanton tried for a while to do the near impossible - teach what used to be Sister Adele's class while still handling her class of teenagers. But then her mother took ill and required attention 24/7. Sister Clare was no longer available. I was the only teacher left standing and we have been having open Sundays in which I teach from the adults right down to the toddlers as one class.

After surgery, Sister Pam was diagnosed with an even more serious condition and is now requiring closer attention at my home. For the next six months or so she would not be able to visit public places while receiving treatment. The Lord has been hearing our prayers and I am happy to report that she has always been in very cheerful spirit and no longer complains about the pains that led to the earlier diagnosis. Her faith in the Lord remains strong.

Intense prayers were offered for Sister Adele after life threatening conditions had occurred during her pregnancy. Thanks be to our God, on the third of August (my birthday) she gave birth by C-section to two lovely baby boys. The boys are doing well. Sister Adele's pressure is slowly returning to normalcy with prescribed meds. After spending a long recuperation period at my home, the family is now back in their home.

From July to December, loving relatives from overseas took turns to visit at my home to attend to Sister Pam, Sister Adele and the twins. All these events meant unscheduled and unintended changes

to my routine for a great part of 2018.

condition that required major surgery. She had activities are getting back to where we would all your prayers.

Nestor P Campbell

Midland Bible Institute needs Financial Help

https://www.gofundme.com/mbifinance-yahoo-

Gary N Joanne Akehurst II

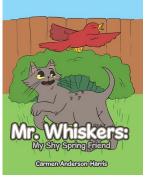
Here's a website we run with over 7,200 Bible teaching recordings from 900 speakers.



http://www.blessedassurancepromisebox.com/downloads.html

Christian Brethren Women of Bermuda Celebrate Love

"The Caribbean Brethren Assemblies Conference Continuation Committee (CBACC) was established at the end of the conference held in St. Kitts from July 13th to 17th, 2014"



<u>Click here to</u> <u>Buy Carmen's books:</u> <u>Available on Amazon</u> Valentine's Day is a day for sending cards, flowers or gifts to that special someone. With that in mind, the Christian Brethren Women Bright Hour took the opportunity to celebrate "love", the agape love our Lord and Saviour Jesus teaches us about. On Saturday, February 16, 2019 we held our now Annual Fellowship Tea. It was a truly delightful Saturday afternoon where ladies of different churches, ages and stages of life came together in comm-UNITY around a cup of tea. The captivating location, Crawl Church which overlooks Bermuda's beautiful turguoise waters, set the mood to dissipate an otherwise bleak winter's day. The exquisite décor inside, the red and white so artfully set out gave an ambience fit for royalty... and yes, queens and princesses, heiresses of the King of Kings were there in grand style.



It was heartwarming to see one hundred and forty ladies serenaded by intermittent talents not only enjoying sumptuous, mouthwatering, lip-smacking sandwiches, cakes, tartlets, etc and a cup of tea but also to hear the intermingling of conversations punctuated with laughter among old friends, and now new friends which generated a sense of "I am not alone", "someone is listening to me". Around the table, each lady had the opportunity to share her favorite things. One "favourite thing" was very evident. To prompt conversation, each lady was required to bring her favourite teacup to the event. There were teacups of all colours, sizes, shapes, conversation pieces, all

showing off as steam emanates, spiraling upwards. Well, some choose to bring their favourite mugs... and that was OK. And... some forgot to or choose not to bring a teacup. With a heart of love they were graciously provided with extra cups kept on site or paper cups. Lesson: How do you prepare to come to church? What do you bring? Do you come to get or to give? Is your cup full and over flowing so that it runs into the saucer?



The theme LOVE: I Corinthians 13: 4-8 was well expounded by young Sister Monique Lister. Monique, as led by the Holy Spirit, used a conversational approach to speak with the ladies about the glory and the pain of "Love". While illustrating aspects of love as mentioned in I Corinthians, she referenced examples of several ladies throughout Scriptures who, because of love, unconditional love, found themselves in varying circumstances. Yet in the end "Love Conquered All". Monique was definitely used by God. The response of Christians and the unsaved to the word showed the Holy Spirit was at work.

We give God the honour, praise and glory for a very successful event. Our goal is to support and encourage each other as Christian women by sharing our stories; create avenues to "just stop" and enjoy sweet fellowship with one another and provide opportunities to introduce other women to Christ, especially women who would not normally come to church.

Submitted by Evie Richardson

Visit : The Brethren Training Network BTN (www.brethrentraining.org)

Chairman's Message 2019

Another year has rolled by, all too swiftly. The new year seems to be going just as fast, if not faster. It is hard to believe that we are already into March 2019! Let me invite us to pause and look back at 2018 and then look forward at what is ahead of us for 2019.

2018 was a relatively quiet year for us in the Caribbean, as far as being impacted by natural hazards was concerned – a welcome relief, given what we went through in 2017. However, the year was not without incident. For example, we did have severe flooding in Trinidad and Tobago in October. It was heartening to see the brethren rise to the occasion and reach out to those who suffered loss as a result of the flooding. The brethren at La Horquetta made their church building available as a shelter. Brethren from other assemblies chipped in and helped to minister to those impacted by the floods by providing meals, clothing, etc., as well as

spiritual and emotional support. To God be the glory! In the area of youth ministry, the first steps were taken towards the holding of a regional youth camp. This was an attempt to follow through on a recommendation that was made at the conference in St. Kitts in 2014. A committee was established, with Bro. Kenneth Millar of Barbados as chairman. We look forward to seeing fruit from this initiative. On a personal note, on a visit to Barbados for Easter 2018, I was privileged to speak at a baptism at Dayrell's Road, at which the candidates were all young people. While this is encouraging, it is also a challenge in that we need to ensure that we have mechanisms in place to facilitate the spiritual development of our young people. A regional youth camp can be one such mechanism.

As regards the sharing of gifts and expertise throughout the region, it was encouraging to get requests from brethren in different territories for contact information for speakers/facilitators from CBAC 2017. I am pretty sure that those translated into invitations to minister at various events throughout the region. This is something to be celebrated. Also worthy of celebration is the establishment of a new Christian Brethren church in Brazil. This church arose out of the ministry of Ronald and Zita Charles of Guyana. I had several conversations with Bro. Charles, in which we spoke about the legal difficulties he was facing in trying to get the church registered. It was encouraging to read in his end of year newsletter that all the requirements for registration had been met.

As we move further forward into 2019, we would like to see a strengthening of disaster response mechanisms throughout the region. It is imperative that we have standing disaster response committees in all our territories. The recent move by the brethren in Trinidad and Tobago to make the ad hoc Dominica Relief Committee into the more general Disaster Response Committee is a step in the right direction. We want to encourage all territories which do not have standing disaster response committees to make every effort to have these in place for 2019. We are too vulnerable as a region to take disaster preparedness lightly.

Looking beyond the region, we want to highlight a significant event which is scheduled to take place in Rome, in June of this year, the International Brethren Conference on Mission 7 (IBCM7). This conference provides an opportunity to interact with, and learn from, brethren from all over the world. It also provides an opportunity for us, as Caribbean people, to sit together and discuss matters of mutual interest. We had a good contingent at IBCM6. We are expecting the same, or even better, for IBCM7.

Finally, it is not too early to begin talking about the next Caribbean Brethren Assemblies Conference, which is scheduled for 2021. Our brethren in Jamaica have offered to host the event. More details will be given as the planning unfolds. In the meantime, let us continue to pray for the Lord's hand of blessing to be on us as we seek to **move forward together**.

Hadyn Marshall



Brethren Camping Facility (..."for great is our God above all gods" -2 Chron. 2:5) Estimated cost: USD\$300,000.00

Your cash donations and prayer fellowship are greatly appreciated.

Contact Brother Anthony Roberts: I (868) 688 1843 or 283 2222; Email : <u>afrob64@gmail.com</u>



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Please Pray for the People of the Caribbean

cbacnews@groupmail.com

Strengthening the things that remain.

Excerpt from Edward Richardson's 2018 Newsletter.

We give thanks to God for another year, a year that presented challenges while being crowned with blessings.

Christian Perspective Radio program continues to air on Inspire 105 each Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Thankfully, the quality of the broadcast has improved and many listeners report that they are blessed or encouraged each week.

Ministry at our home assembly continues and the opportunity to fellowship and minister at Harrington Sound Gospel Chapel, Paget Gospel Chapel, Crawl Church and First Baptist Church was mutually rewarding.

Our home assembly continues to reach out to the community. The weekend of 18th/19th August was our Annual Community outreach. The Saturday saw many young and old come out to enjoy good music, games, food and the word of God. Several attended the Family Bible Hour on the Sunday. Vincentians living in Bermuda have in recent years celebrated the independence of St Vincent and the Grenadines This year, on 21st October, the celebrations begun with a service at Cobbs Hill Gospel Chapel.

On Sunday 18th November, we hosted Foster Parents and their families at our Annual Thanksgiving Service. This was followed by a free lunch and fellowship.

We are pleased to serve in the above activities as we not only get acquainted with the community, we get to share the gospel.



Some Vincentians @ Cobbs Hill



Conference fees

€ 340 from 1 Jan 2019.

Seventh International Brethren Conference on Mission

The International Brethren Conference on Mission (IBCM) brings together every four years national leaders and others who work within the Brethren movement across the world. The aims are biblical reflection, mutual encouragement and insight, fellowship, strategic thinking, and, we pray, renewed guidance

You shall be my witnesses

Monday 24 June - Friday 28 June 2019 Hotel Selene, Pomezia, Rome, Italy



The Caribbean Brethren Assemblies Conference Committee (CBACC) headed by Dr. Hadyn Marshall of St Vincent was born out of the need to unite brethren in the Caribbean and to prepare for future Brethren conferences. This Newsletter is the committee's way of linking Brethren in the Caribbean and beyond.

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<u>To be included</u>: send in your story to inform us of your outreach in your territory and we can include it in our upcoming issues.