



*"And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bare him with sorrow. And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, Oh that thou wouldst bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldst keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested." Chronicles 4 9-10."*

# The Information

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## VISION STATEMENT

A Church - Transformed,  
United, Victorious in Christ

## MISSION STATEMENT

By the grace of God, we seek to be faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ; without distinction, we use all that we possess to call all peoples to the truth of the Gospel through worship, evangelism, discipleship and service

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## Cowards die many times before their deaths (Shakespeare)

July 7-11, 2008 was a watershed Retreat for our Ministerial Staff in the Eastern West Indies Province. As a Ministerial Staff, we journeyed to the centre of Jamaica to a place called Mandeville, to rekindle the Passion. It was an experience none of us would easily forget. In fact, I do not believe that that retreat would be forgotten by any member of staff. It was a time that we came together as never before. It was spiritually uplifting. It was joyous. It was celebratory. It was warm. It was biblically deep and refreshing. It was incisive and decisive. We sang. We prayed. We clapped. We laughed. We talked. We ate.

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Meditation by Rev. Dr. Derick Forrester

Presented at the Staff Retreat 2008, in

Mandeville, Jamaica

**The Intimations of an Inmate**

**Ephesians 4:1-3**

Brothers and sisters, the aforementioned verses instruct us to know that there existed at Ephesus a kind of crippling and threatening disunity.

In fact, the entire situation required urgent attention. St. Paul therefore, having been informed of same, decided to address the problem from inside his jail cell in Rome.

However, the interesting reality points toward the unique approach that Paul adopted – unique in that it brings to the fore the contents of the man's character.

In fact, it is with that thought in mind that I would want to suggest for your consideration or reflection the following two(2) truths.

Let us therefore consider firstly, The Perception of Paul (v.1)...

St. Paul, speaking concerning himself says,



**Rev. Dr. Derick Forrester**  
Pastor of the Montgomery and Black Rock Moravian Churches, Tobago

"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord."

The statement is not only thought provoking but it's quite telling in the sense that Paul saw himself as a prisoner not of Rome, but of the Lord Jesus Christ – "The Prisoner of the Lord."

Furthermore, the statement brings to the surface a new reality; it tells us (implicitly) that our self-perception is that which serves to rekindle our passion and our sense of vocation.

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## PEC NEWS

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In fact, the secret to survival, especially in the exercise of our respective ministries, has to do primarily with how we perceive ourselves. And therefore, it is not where we are serving in the Province, but who we are and whose we are...vocation, obligation and function.

St. Paul has been imprisoned and yet the only thing with which he is concerned is the disunity at Ephesus. How out of the ordinary?

However, I am not at all surprised because St. Paul had a thorough understanding of his mission and self-perception, hence his sense of vocation remained intact even when attacked...it is all about Christ.

### I THEREFORE THE PRISONER OF THE LORD"

Let us consider in the second place:

#### (II) The Admonition of Paul (v.1b)

"...Beseech you that you walk worthy of the vocation". The admonition constitutes a helpful and hopeful challenge and it's by nature revealing in that it calls into question our integrity, responsibility and above all our morality.

However, St. Paul being mindful of the fact that when it comes to us leading lives worthy of our calling that we do in fact need human and divine help.

The greater Apostle gives to us therefore, a few therapeutic suggestions (vv.2-3).

The salient point however, is that we must at all times seek to make ourselves pliable to the unifying influence of the Holy Spirit...

The undeniable truth is that many things serve to divide us and the Holy Spirit is the only one who has the power to unify us and to help us clarify our understanding of each other.

The challenge therefore, is for us to give understanding a chance... let us release it, surrender to it, and pursue it with unpretentious efforting.

Why understanding? Well not only

will it privilege us with a new opportunity to foster our unity and solidarity but it shall certainly assist us as we seek :

- ◆ To find our (ministerial) identity
- ◆ To fortify our integrity and
- ◆ To Fulfill our ministry

Conclusion:

St. Paul's intimation would suggest that we pursue understanding and that we do so with passionate intensity.

In fact, it is important that we venture in search of this noble ideal, because we usually "hurt" each other due to the absence of (understanding) same.

Furthermore, we shall always fail in our attempts to "flesh out" the kind of forgiveness that must be expressed if it is to be experienced... true unity is possible and St. Paul seeks to guide us in the direction of it.

May God help us therefore to:

Keep ourselves united in the Holy Spirit,

And to bind ourselves together in love

That is born of understanding.

AMEN.

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### **Cowards die many times .....**

We embraced. We stood with each other. We Emmaus walked with each other. We spoke a word of hope and encouragement into each others lives. Did they know we are Christians by our love? They certainly did. It was not only seen, but it was felt in a mighty and powerful way. The anointing of the Holy Spirit filled the atmosphere and enveloped us. This was a far cry from some of the expressions we heard before the retreat.

The words of William Shakespeare in Julius Caesar could aptly describe the mood of some Staff before the retreat:

*"Cowards die many times before their deaths; the valiant never taste of death but once.*

*Of all the wonders that I yet have heard, it seems to me most strange that men should fear;*

*Seeing that death, a necessary end, will come when it will come". Julius Caesar Quote (Act II, Scene II).*

There were some who were skeptical; some who were suspicious; some who thought of just taking the flight to Jamaica, not expecting anything. We were all blessed and inspired at how God used the moment to glorify His name and to draw us closer together. God used our facilitator Dr. Marva Dawn, a woman who confessed of her "physically broken wings" to fly and to soar high, for us to reaffirm and rekindle our Passion for God, for Ministry, for the Church, for our spouses (best friend), for souls being saved, for righteousness and holiness amongst us. Dr. Dawn spoke from the heart and caused us to rekindle our trust and confidence in each other. Indeed, our love and deep passion for God and one another has been rekindled. Passion energizes us and redirects us to focus in the right direction and depend totally upon God.

May God be praised, for many as Shakespeare says would have died many times before their death.

## *Pec Meeting*

The PEC will meet in the Antigua Conference from September 26—28, 2008. This will be the budget meeting for 2009.

Please remember the PEC in prayer as they meet at such a time as this.

They die from fear, from suspicion, from skepticism, from doubt, from a lack of belief that anything good could happen, but God can raise up and breathe life into that which seems dead, inanimate and lifeless. Thank God that no one died from fear, doubt, suspicion, skepticism or lack of belief. John Maxwell says, belief in your mission will do three things: It will empower you, encourage you and enlarge you.

We thank God for Dr. Dawn who led us through our retreat. We thank God for her husband who accompanied her. We thank God for all Staff members who must be highly commended for making the retreat a most rewarding and uplifting experience. All our other facilitators in Jamaica, Bishop Stanley Clarke, Rev. Robert Patmore, Rev Dr. Paul Gardner, Bro. Nana Moses, Rev. Oliver Daley, the management and Staff of the Golf View Hotel, we say thank you. God positioned you to bless us and to help us to rekindle the passion. A special word of thanks to the Secretary of PEC, Rev. Mikie Roberts who had lead responsibility for the retreat.

## Youth Internship Programme Youth Internship Programme

### An ecumenical experience for young people.

The World Council of Churches welcomes five young people (aged 18-30 years) to serve as interns in its Geneva offices. We look for Interns who are committed to the ideals of the ecumenical movement, to bring their energy, commitment and fresh vision to a specific work assignment. For the WCC, interns represent the potential of the ecumenical movement, and its search for a renewed vocation. Interns bring valuable experiences to the WCC at the

same time as they go through several modules of ecumenical learning. The WCC Internships Programme prepares young people to continue their ecumenical involvement beyond the internship.

The WCC Youth Internship period is for 12 months from February 2009 to January 2010. In Geneva, the interns are assigned a task within one of the WCC working areas. They carry out their tasks in co-operation with programme staff, one of whom will supervise each intern. Each intern is then expected to plan an ecumenical project during their stay in Geneva and then implement this project starting from February 2010 in their home context. The local ecumenical project is a critical aspect of the WCC internship program to ensure that the intern can share his/her ecumenical experience and expertise with their church and community. Intern applicants must send along with their application, an application from their sending organization, church or Christian youth network to ensure accountability that the ecumenical project will be carried out with support from the local, national or regional contacts.

### General Qualifications for interns:

- Between 18 to 30 years of age at the time the Internship begins.
- Have strong links to their local Christian community and strong involvement in ecumenical movement at the national and/or regional level, and be prepared to return to that involvement after the internship.
- Be able to work in English.

Knowledge of one of the other WCC's working languages (French, Spanish or German) is desirable.

- Be able to work with flexibility and an open mind in a multicultural environment.
- Have the capacity and willingness to handle administrative tasks.
- Have computer skills.
- Have communication skills (spoken, but also written).

The WCC is responsible for the following benefits:

- Interns are paid a living allowance comparable with a student allowance, and in keeping with general practice amongst international organisations in Geneva.
- Economy travel to Geneva and return home.
- All costs associated with visas and work permit.
- Cost of bringing a reasonable amount of personal items and effects that are not included in airline allowances.

### Applications

Please fill in the attached application form and send it to the WCC office along with the following documents:

- Short Curriculum Vitae (maximum of 2 pages) describing both your educational/professional experience and your ecumenical/church involvement.
- Copy of a letter of recommendation from your church/ecumenical organisation.
- Motivation letter

For further information visit

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

Closing date for receiving applications for WCC internships is **15<sup>th</sup> September 2008**.

# Provincial Youth Leadership Conference

The Provincial Youth Leadership Conference will be held at the Blue Waters Bible College, St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. from August 6–14, 2008, for persons between the ages of 18–35. The theme is "Blessed to Bless" with the thematic focus being "A posture of faithfulness and fruitfulness. It is expected that at least one (1) youth will come from each congregation throughout the province.

The Provincial Youth Leadership Conference takes place at a time when leadership is in crisis in our communities, in Government, in our schools, colleges and universities in our home and all of places the church.

As a Province therefore, we are embarking on this Youth Leadership Conference in August, to prepare and empower our young people for the task ahead. Let us be in prayer for this Conference.



Windows on Womanhood, the Provincial Women's Conference which was held on the St. Augustine Campus of the University of the West Indies in Trinidad, concluded on Sunday July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The Conference brought over one hundred women together from throughout the EWIP and beyond. The reaction of those who attended suggest that it was a most wonderful experience. The main presenters were, Evangelist Victoria Regina Lockhart from the USA, and the Rev. Angela Williams from Trinidad. Below you will find a sampling of the topics presented and the presenters.

- ◆ My Self; My Life; My Witness for my God – Rev. Winelle Kirton -

Roberts (Challenging women to evaluate their selves their lives and their witness for God)

- ◆ Finding Peace in God–Rev. Lilette I. George (Helping women to "exhale" spiritually)
- ◆ Following faithfully -Rev Eulencine Christopher (In spite of challenges, women are encouraged to keep focused)
- ◆ Mentoring – Rev Esther Moore-Roberts (Women teaching women to live pure and practical Christian lives)
- ◆ Keeping your Balance – Rev Julie Joefield-Parris (Managing the many facets of life)

### Evangelist Victoria Regina Lockhart

- Conquering self- doubt & Discouragement, Gaining Confidence in Christ"
- "Overcoming Struggles"
- WORSHIP
- Finding Victory over Temptation"

### Rev Angela Williams

- ◇ Celebration of womanhood:"Woman: who am I?"
- ◇ "A Sweet Smelling Savour" Relationships: Putting on the Pot.
- ◇ "A Sweet Smelling Savour" Relationships: Making the Gravy.



On behalf of the Province we say thanks to the Trinidad Conference for hosting the Conference and making it a wonderful experience for both the Presenters and the Participants.



The Eastern West Indies Province Extends sincere welcome to our two new Pastors and their families from Tanzania.

The Rev. Sylvester Katikaza, his wife

Ruth Mbwambo and daughter Glory, will work in the Trinidad Conference.

The Rev. Oscar Fallanga, his wife Joyce Mwandembo and children Yani, Festina and Aderin will work in the Tobago Conference.

**3 NEW STUDENTS**

U.T.C.W.I. here we come.

Camille James from Tobago and Karen Samuel from Antigua will begin their formal training for the Ministry of our Church in August 2008. In addition, Martin Taylor from Barbados will enter Codrington College, Barbados to begin his preparation for the Ministry of our Church. Our prayers and best wishes go with them as they journey to maturity and perfection.




### Birthday Greetings for the month of August is extended to the following:

Sis. Joyce Mwandembo	01
Bro. Romeo Challenger	12
Sis. Winelle Kirton-Roberts	20
Bro. Reuben Vessup	22
Sis. Anique Elmes-Matthew	22
Bro Conrad Spencer	29
Sis. Angela Frederick	30



### Anniversary Greetings for the month of August is extended to the following:

Bro. Winston & Sis. Bernadine Chase	12
Bro. Matthew & Sis. Jasmin Crooks	13
Bro. Selvin & Sis. June McMillan	20
Bro. Leon & Sis. Mabel Matthias	28
Bro. Dion & Sis. Eulencine Christopher	29