

# FAMILY NEWS

ECBM Circuit of Baptist Churches  
P.O. Box 2678 • St. John's • Antigua & Barbuda  
E-mail: admin@baptistantigua.org • Website: www.baptistantigua.org

**Presiding Elder: Rev. Dr. Hensworth W. C. Jonas, GCH, BA, MA, DPh, DMin**

Vol. 27, No. 11 **"Preaching the Doctrines of Grace...Practising the Grace of the Doctrines"** Dec. 10, 2017

## FIGHT FOR HOLINESS

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied*  
Matthew 5:6


**M**ake it your great business to be more holy every day. It is desire that opens the heart, and the stronger the desire is, the wider it is opened. The soul is wide open when it pants and breathes after God. Too often, we come to devotion like the Egyptian dog that laps a little as she runs by the side of the Nile, but does not stay to drink.


Christ invites us to eat and drink abundantly. Be much in meditation if you desire the effect of your devotions to linger. The heart takes fire while the mind is musing. The sparks that fall from heaven upon your heart during preaching or praying will die unless you blow on them with meditation. Repeated acts beget a habit and will stay by you. The action of a Christian is expressed by **'striving', and 'wrestling'**. **We must put forth all of our strength so we will not be worsted.**


Our way to heaven is uphill, but the natural bent of our hearts is downwards. When our hearts are effectually touched, there is no keeping them in a lively frame without striving and struggling! Look up to God to continue this lively frame.

## *From The Pulpit...*



 **Dr. H. W. C. Jonas** will preach at the **8:00 a.m.** service at the **Tyrells Baptist Church** (Tyrells Main Road) on the topic **"Follow The Money"** based on **I Chronicles 29:6-20**.

 **Pastor. Ivor Walker** will preach at the **8:00 a.m.** service at the **Covenant Baptist Church** (Friars Hill Road) on the topic **"Advancing Your Spiritual Responsibility"** based on **I Timothy 6:11-13**.

 **Pastor Rolando Lewis** will preach at the **10:00 a.m.** service **Central Baptist Church** (Radio Range) on the topic **"A Prodigal's Return"** based on **Luke 15:17-24**.

Pray in faith. Seek Him, and depend on Him. He will be found by those who seek Him (Matthew 7:7). Faith is the main strength of prayer, and the great supports of faith are these: He is able, and willing! That which one is both able and willing to do, shall be done! Pray then, with believing, because whatsoever you ask according to His will, believing, it shall be done (Matthew 21:22). Do not meddle with the world more than needs be. Carry yourself in worldly employments as among cheats and thieves. They have the heart to pick your hearts silly! Nothing quenches divine influence more than this puddle. The cares and delights of the world can choke the word (Matthew 13:22). When your hearts are warmed in holy duties, be cautious how you venture into the world!

—David Clarkson



## MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS



### 1. NO NOONDAY PRAYER

All members of the Circuit are advised that there will be no noonday prayer time on **Hero's Day (December, 11, 2017)**.

### 2. EVENTS PREP, USHERS & GUEST SERVICES MEETING

All members of the Events Preparation, Ushers and Guest Services Ministries are advised of a meeting on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 at 5:00p.m., at the Central Baptist Church. Please be on time.

### 3. BLAST YOUTH MINISTRY

All teenage boys and girls are reminded of B.L.A.S.T. (Building Lives Around Scriptural Truth) this Friday. The BLAST Girls Club will meet from 6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m. in the Conference Room and the BLAST Boys Club will meet from 6:30 p.m. — 8:00 p.m. on the BAA Grounds. Be sure to bring your Bible, pen and notepad. Do not miss this time of great fellowship! All parents and guardians are kindly reminded that they need to pick up their children by 8:15 p.m. sharp.

### 4. CHOIR REHEARSAL

All members of the Voices of Victory and the New Creation Singers are advised of a choir rehearsal on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. Please be punctual.

### 5. ECBM DISASTER RELIEF FUND

All members of the Circuit are encouraged to support the ECBM Disaster Relief Fund. This fund will assist our brethren in Barbuda, Dominica, Tortola and Haiti who have faced disasters. Any envelope labelled with these territories will go to the ECBM Disaster Relief Fund. **Let us remember, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith" Galatians 6:10.**

### 6. CHURCH ATTENDANCE

All members of the Circuit are reminded of their Covenant Responsibility to attend all the stated meetings of the church unless providentially hindered by illness, unusual working conditions **that do not violate the Lord's Day, and other such circumstances** (Heb. 10:24, 25). The stated meetings of the church **are as follows: All services on the Lord's Day (Sunday School, morning and evening worship), Midweek Prayer Services; Church Stewardship (business) Meetings; and any special meetings that the elders shall deem necessary.** Please be reminded that you are expected to advise the elder who is resident at your congregation of any providential hindrances.

### 7. PROVE THE TITHE

All church members are encouraged to be faithful with the giving of their tithes (10% of gross income) in accordance with the teaching of Malachi 3:8-10, as well as the Missions Offering as the Lord blesses you. The former supports our local church programmes and the latter our outreach beyond the walls of our churches. Let us give cheerfully, in obedience to Christ, and keep the work of the ministry strong and efficient.



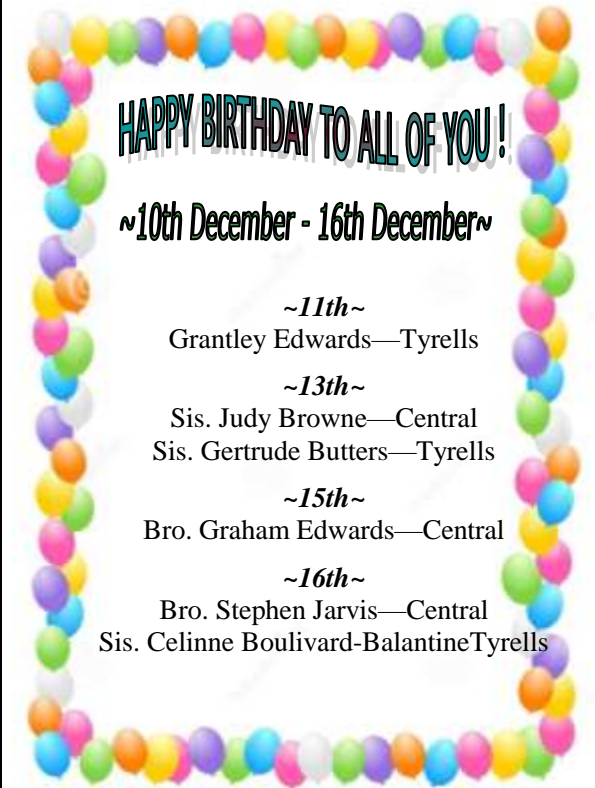
## HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

~ Today ~

*Deacon Ian Blair & Sis. Bronwen Blair*

~ 15th December ~

*Pastor Rolando Lewis & Sis. Stephanie Lewis*



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF YOU!

~10th December - 16th December~

~11th~

Grantley Edwards—Tyrells

~13th~

Sis. Judy Browne—Central  
Sis. Gertrude Butters—Tyrells

~15th~

Bro. Graham Edwards—Central

~16th~

Bro. Stephen Jarvis—Central  
Sis. Celine Boulivard-Balantine Tyrells



**THINK IT THROUGH...**

*"With thee is the fountain of life."  
Psalm 36:9*

**T**here are times in our spiritual experience when human counsel or sympathy, or religious ordinances, fail to comfort or help us. Why does our gracious God permit this? Perhaps it is because we have been living too much without Him, and he therefore takes away everything upon which we have been in the habit of depending, that He may drive us to Himself. It is a blessed thing to live at the fountain head. While our skin- bottles are full, we are content, like Hagar and Ishmael, to go into the wilderness; but when those are dry, nothing will serve us but "Thou God seest me."

We are like the prodigal, we love the swine-troughs and forget our Father's house. Remember, we can make swine-troughs and husks even out of the forms of religion; they are blessed things, but we may put them in God's place, and then they are of no value. Anything becomes an idol when it keeps us away from God: even the brazen serpent is to be despised as "Nehushtan," if we worship it instead of God. The prodigal was never safer than when he was driven to his father's bosom, because he could find sustenance nowhere else. Our Lord favours us with a famine in the land that it may make us seek after Himself the more. The best position for a Christian is living wholly and directly on God's grace--still abiding where He stood at first--"Having nothing, and yet possessing all things." Let us never for a moment think that our standing is in our sanctification, our mortification, our graces, or our feelings, but know that because Christ offered a full atonement, therefore we are saved; for we are complete in Him. Having nothing of our own to trust to, but resting upon the merits of Jesus--His passion and holy life furnish us with the only sure ground of confidence. Beloved, when we are brought to a thirsting condition, we are sure to turn to the Fountain of Life with eagerness.

—Charles H. Spurgeon

**READING THE NEW TESTAMENT  
IN A YEAR...**

- Today, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>– Revelation 1
- Monday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>– Revelation 2
- Tuesday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>– Revelation 3
- Wednesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>– Revelation 4
- Thursday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>– Revelation 5
- Friday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>– Revelation 6
- Saturday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>– Revelation 7
- Sunday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>– Revelation 8



**E.C.B.M. MISSIONS OFFERING**



Where does your mission offering go?

- Barbados: Covenant Reformed Baptist Church—Church Plant Initiative
- Haiti: Baptist Haiti Mission—Christian schools, churches, hospital, child services
- USA: Covenant Baptist Theological Seminary—Pastoral Training
- Antigua & Barbuda: ECBM Media Ministries
- *Your tithe supports the budget of your local church. Give generously above your tithes for missions!*

*Sunday School Adult & Youth Reading  
**Prepare for next week...***

Life Transforming Truths  
Chapter 2 (Rejoicing In Election)

*"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth."*

—II Timothy 2:15

# BE FERVENT IN PRAYER

## GENERAL MINISTRY NEEDS

Elders, Deacons, and their families  
 Baptist Academy of Antigua  
 E.C.B.M. Ministries & Staff  
 Evangelistic Ministries

**“Sovereign Grace Hour”** (ABS TV)



## CHURCH FAMILY

**HEALTH:** Dr. Hensworth W. C. Jonas, Pas. Ivor Walker, Sis. Nicole Parker, Sis. Veronica Roberts, Sis. Louise Pilgrim, Sis. Enid Matthew, Sis. Jean Edwards, Bro. Nigel Pilgrim, Sis. Rosalind Ferris, Sis. Paula Skerritt, Sis. Cassilda Williams, Sis. Monica Gardener, Sis. Juliette Smith, Sis. Joycelyn Henry, Sis. Magella Selwood

**PRIVATE CONCERNS:** Sis. Magella Selwood, Sis. Muriel Martin, Sis. Nadine Smith, Bro. Shaquille & Sis. Gillisa Carty

**THANKSGIVING:** Sis. Judy Browne, Bro. Ceon & Sis. Annstacia Barlow, Sis. Diane Joseph, Sis. Genevieve Jervis, Sis. Sarah Maina, Sis. Magella Selwood

**NEW MEMBERS:** Sis. Rosgue Joseph, Bro. Ronald Jean, Sis. Mowava Robinson, Sis. Leyann Lam, Bro. Tijorn Burton, **Bro. Je'vivre Benjamin, Sis. Kerrie-Faun Nathan, Sis. Serena Richards, Sis. Michelle Paige, Bro. Corly Francis, Sis. Eulyn Williams, Bro. Kyle Abraham**

**WATCH CARE:** Sis. Irene Jonas, Sis. Enid Matthew, Sis. Jean Edwards

**SHUT-IN:** Bro. Charles Richards

## OTHER CONCERNS

**SAVING GRACE:** Edric Tonge Sr., Edric Tonge Jr., Genevieve Simon, Diane Lake, Gary Morian, Leslie Hutson, Travis Mingo, Otis Brisport, Colin Baker, Hamadi Browne, George Browne, Khalid Browne, Chelsea Barlow, Chikaede Barlow, Annabelle Maina, Clyde Walton, David Toussaint, Grantley Edwards, Martina Edwards, Roderick Williams, Dawn Williams, Joshua Sheridan, Dale Jones, Andrea Jeremiah

**NEW MEMBER APPLICANT:** Athalia Andrew

*Pray without ceasing. I Thessalonians 5:17*

## Memory Verses For Next Week



Pre-school — Matthew 6:33

Elementary — Psalm 1:1-2

Secondary & Adults — James 1:22

# THIS WEEK

## Sunday

08:00 a.m. Sovereign Grace Hour (ABS TV)

08:00 a.m. Worship: Tyrells & Covenant

09:00 a.m. Sunday School: Central

09:45 a.m. Sunday School: Tyrells & Covenant

06:00 p.m. Worship: All Churches

07:00 p.m. Sunday School: All Churches

## Tuesday

12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting

05:30 p.m. Events Prep, Ushers & Guest Services Meeting

06:30 p.m. **Elders' Meeting: Central**

## Wednesday

12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting

07:00 p.m. Prayer Service & Fellowship Groups: All Churches

## Thursday

12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting

## Friday

12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting

06:30 p.m. BLAST Girls: Central (Conference Room)

06:30 p.m. BLAST Boys: Central (BAA Grounds)

## Saturday

12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting

05:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal: VOV & NCS

## ECBM DIRECTORY

Central Baptist Church 462-2894

Tyrells Baptist Church 460-3557

Covenant Baptist Church 561-4022

Baptist Academy 462-2894

Baptist Retreat Centre 463-8801



## Eldership

Hensworth W. C. Jonas (Presiding) 771-4888

Joshua M. Jonas (Staff Associate) 726-9662

Rolando A. Lewis (Staff Associate) 784-6147

Ivor J. Walker (Associate) 464-1644

Orvin D. E. Paige (Associate) 464-5395

## Diaconate

David S. Jarvis (Chairman) 464-7477

Earl W. F. Skerritt (Vice Chairman) 722-4313

Ian J. Blair 773-1061

J. Patrick Tomlinson 786-7957