

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, DPhD, DMin

Vol. XXVI, No. 16 *“Preaching the Doctrines of Grace...Practising the Grace of the Doctrines”* January 22, 2017

ENCOURAGE OUR PASTOR WITH FAITHFUL GRACIOUSNESS




Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.
—Hebrews 13:17

When we think of submission, we often think in terms of ruling and overruling, of conflict and wielded authority. I want to encourage you to think of obedience and submission differently in this context. Certainly, it does mean that when sin is evident, when you are in need of confession and repentance, you ought to obey your leaders' rebuke and submit to their biblical discipline. But assuming such a circumstance is not the case, think of obedience and submission this way: encouraging your leaders with faithful graciousness.

Faithful graciousness means consistently and diligently choosing to glorify Christ with your words and deeds rather than satisfying your own wants and needs. Faithful graciousness is a way of Christian living that contributes to the overall peace and harmony of a church body. It means not nitpicking. It means not complaining about personal preferences. Faithful graciousness is intentionally and quietly minding one's own business, having a productive presence rather than a critical spirit (1 Thess. 4:11). Faithful graciousness works toward being low-maintenance, not working at any of those puny-hearted and petty things that cause pastors to groan (1 Tim. 5:13).

From The Pulpit...



-  Rev. Dennis Bullock will preach at the 8:00 a.m. service at the Covenant Baptist Church (Friars Hill Road) and also at the 10:00 a.m. service at the Central Baptist Church (Radio Range) on the topic **“Our Great And Sympathetic High Priest”** based on Hebrews 4:14-16.
-  Pastor Rolando Lewis will preach at the 8:00 a.m. service at the Tyrells Baptist Church (Tyrells Main Road) on the topic **“The Impact of God's Presence”** based on Psalm 68:1-4.
-  Rev. Dennis Bullock returns to preach at the 6:00 p.m. joint service at the Tyrells Baptist Church (Tyrells Main Road) on the topic **“Enduring Through Remembrance”** based on 2 Timothy 2:8-13.

Certainly, the squeaky wheel gets the grease. But what we really want is grace. The way to align with God's will is through the humble encouragement of your pastor by faithful graciousness. The benefits are mutual.

Hebrews 13:17 reminds us that our leaders will have to give an account. Do we want them to have to bring to the Lord in prayer our selfish neediness, our unwilling submission, constant criticisms, and questions? Or do we want them to go to the Lord in great thanksgiving out of the joy of being our leaders? I want those in authority over me to be able to say, “Oh, Lord, thank you for the gift of Jared! What a great joy it is to lead him,” rather than “Oh, Lord, help me with this guy. He's so difficult.”

Continued on page 2...

...Continued from page 1

In the short term, disregarding commands like Hebrews 13:17 is a great way to get lots of attention and, perhaps, even lots of satisfaction. In the long run, however, it is spiritually dangerous. Giving your leaders cause for groaning is “no advantage to you.” In the end, obediently submitting to our leaders by living lives of faithful graciousness in the church is a commitment of faith in God because He has placed these leaders in your church. By submitting to God-appointed authorities, we submit to God. No, the pastor isn’t perfect. No, he doesn’t always get things right. Yes, he too is a sinner—just like you. But when we know this and submit anyway, we give God glory and our pastor grace. This is good for us. We may not be immediately interested in our leaders’ joy, but if we are interested in our own spiritual advantage, we will repent of our selfishness and seek our leaders’ joy.

Let it be a great joy to our pastors to have us as their sheep. Let us give them great cause to “boast of us” in Paul’s godly way (2 Cor. 8:24; 1 Thess. 2:19). And this is all the more reason why you should obey and submit to them, encouraging them tremendously with your commitment to faithful graciousness.

—www.ligonier.org [Edited]

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF YOU!

~22nd January - 28th January~

~23rd~

Carlton Jarvis—Central

~25th~

Joshua Joseph — Central

Sis. Shannakay Johnson— Covenant

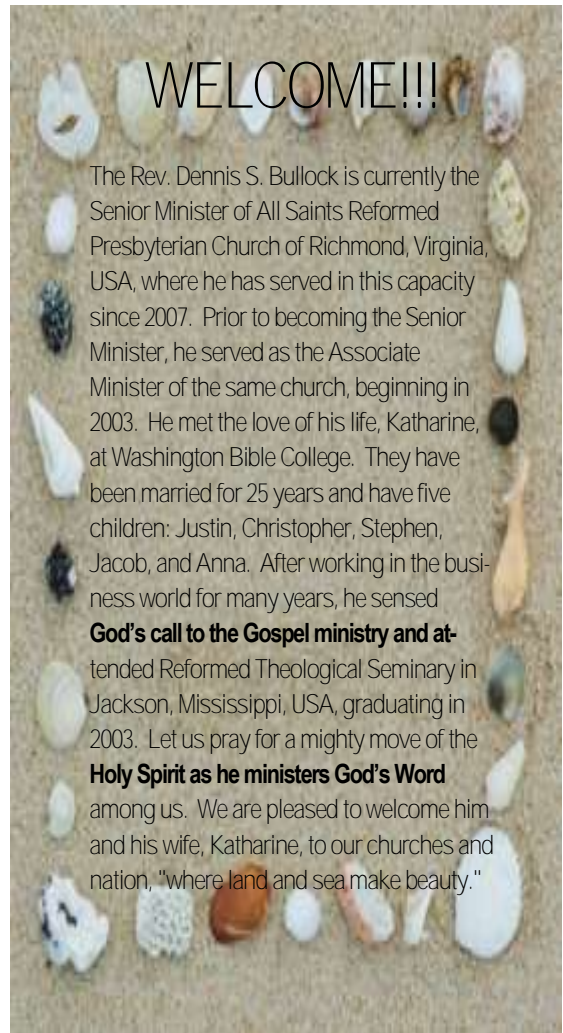
~26th~

Dea. Ian Blair — Central

~27th~

Sis. Moira DeCastro — Tyrells

Christine Powell—Central



WELCOME!!!

The Rev. Dennis S. Bullock is currently the Senior Minister of All Saints Reformed Presbyterian Church of Richmond, Virginia, USA, where he has served in this capacity since 2007. Prior to becoming the Senior Minister, he served as the Associate Minister of the same church, beginning in 2003. He met the love of his life, Katharine, at Washington Bible College. They have been married for 25 years and have five children: Justin, Christopher, Stephen, Jacob, and Anna. After working in the business world for many years, he sensed **God’s call to the Gospel ministry and attended Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi, USA, graduating in 2003.** Let us pray for a mighty move of the **Holy Spirit as he ministers God’s Word** among us. We are pleased to welcome him and his wife, Katharine, to our churches and nation, “where land and sea make beauty.”

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

SERIES: UNSTOPPABLE GOSPEL

Study #3 Unstoppable Opportunities

(Acts 3:1-10)

—Part 1 of 2

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



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS



1. PRESIDING ELDER'S ANNIVERSARY

This Sunday, we will take the time to honour the Presiding Elder in all three churches of the Circuit. The special appreciation service will be this evening's Joint Service at the Tyrells Baptist Church. Our special guest preacher will be Rev. Dennis Bullock of All Saints Reformed Presbyterian Church of Richmond, Virginia, USA.

2. JOINT FTI OPEN FORUM AT COVENANT

All church members of the Circuit are reminded of our Joint Family Training Institute (FTI) Open Forum this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Covenant Baptist Church (Friars Hill Road). Be sure to avail yourself to this means of grace.

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. on the BAA grounds. BLAST Boys Club will meet from 6:30 p.m. — 8:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Do not miss this time of fun, food and great fellowship!

4. WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

All women of the Circuit are expected to be at the Women's Prayer Breakfast this Saturday, 28th January, 2017 at 7:00 a.m. at the Baptist Retreat Centre at Pares Village. The Men's Ministry is reminded that it is responsible for the food preparation. Bring your Bibles as we go before the Lord in prayer, study His Word and fellowship together. Please avail yourself to this means of grace.



Funeral Service

All members of the ECBM Circuit of Baptist Churches are encouraged to support Sister Jo-Ann Paige and her family in their bereavement due to the death of her grandfather, Mr. Desmond Spencer. The funeral will be on **Monday, January 23, 2017**, at the **Grace Hill Moravian Church at 2:00 p.m.** "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep" (Romans 12:15).

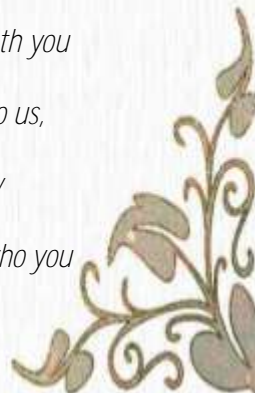
Congratulations



Congratulations, Dr. Hensworth W. C. Jonas, on completing 31 years of full-time pastoral ministry. Your dedication to the Word of God and the people of God is worthy of emulation. We give God thanks for you.

*We pray God's blessings be with you
In abundance even more,
For you have been so special to us,
A blessing from the Lord
We just want for you to know
How much you mean to us,
For all you've done, and for who you
are. We appreciate so much.*

M.S. Lowndes



READING THE NEW TESTAMENT IN A YEAR...

- Today, Jan. 22nd— **Matthew 14:22-36**
- Monday, Jan. 23rd— **Matthew 15:1-20**
- Tuesday, Jan. 24th— **Matthew 15:21-39**
- Wednesday, Jan. 25th— **Matthew 16**
- Thursday, Jan. 26th— **Matthew 17**
- Friday, Jan. 27th— **Matthew 18:1-20**
- Saturday, Jan. 28th— **Matthew 18:21-35**
- Sunday, Jan. 29th— **Matthew 19**



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: Sis. Veronica Roberts, Sis. Louise Pilgrim, Sis. Enid Matthew, Sis. Jean Edwards, Dr. Hensworth W. C. Jonas, Bro. Nigel Pilgrim, Sis. Rosalind Ferris, Sis. Paula Skerritt, Sis. Cassilda Williams, Sis. Monica Gardener, Sis. Pamela Walcott, Sis. Juliette Smith, Sis. Joycelyn Henry, Sis. Curline Joseph, Sis. Magella Selwood

PRIVATE CONCERNS: Bro. Ephraim Gomes, Sis. Yvonne Lee, Sis. Nadine Smith, Bro. Shaquille & Sis. Gilisa Carty, Dea. Ian & Sis. Bronwen Blair

THANKSGIVING: Sis. Juliette Dorsette, Sis. Abiola Anthony, Bro. Ivan & Sis. Maria Hurst

NEW MEMBERS: Sis. Kerrie-Faun Nathan, Sis. Serena Richards, Sis. Michelle Paige, Sis. Helena Williams, Bro. Corly Francis, Sis. Eulyn Williams, Sis. Alesha Joseph, Bro. Kyle Abraham, Bro. Enrico St. Jean, Sis. Ashika Davis, Sis. Celinne Bolivard, Sis. Telesha Choy, Sis. Charissa Watkins, Bro. Ken Murray, Sis. Gloria Herrera-Panpoja, Bro. Kareem Michael, Sis. Clytie Francis, Bro. Shane Cory, Sis. Victoria Charlton, Sis. Eliena Louisa, Bro. Xavier Joseph, Bro. Zakeem Michael, Sis. Esther René

WATCH CARE: Sis. Irene Jonas, Bro. Charles Richards, Sis. Enid Matthew

SHUT IN: Sis. Edith McCoy

OTHER CONCERNS

SAVING GRACE: Elroy Nedd, Denise Nedd, Sherlock Lawson, Jessica Josweph, Brian Griffith, Motilall Jaipaul, Theo Blair, Christophe Marcellus, Clairfoster Lewis, Deondre Mason, Clyna Lewis, Gabriella Thomas, Andy Josiah, Patrice Josiah, Edric Tonge Sr., Edric Tonge Jr., Halle Johnson

NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS: Tijorn Burton (Central), Mowava Robinson (Covenant), Fabian Bertrand (Central), **Je’vivre Benjamin (Central), Leyann Lam (Central)**

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
 10:00 a.m. Worship: Central
 06:00 p.m. **Presiding Elder’s Anniversary Service:** Tyrells

Monday

12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting

Tuesday

12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting

Wednesday

12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting
 07:00 p.m. Joint FTI Forum: Covenant

Thursday

12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting

Friday

12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting
 06:30 p.m. BLAST Girls: Central (BAA Grounds)
 06:30 p.m. BLAST Boys: Central (Conference Room)

Saturday

07:00 a.m. **Women’s Prayer Breakfast:** BRC—Pares
 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting

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 |
| Ivor J. Walker (Associate) | 464-1644 |
| Orvin D. E. Paige (Associate) | 464-1014 |
| Joshua M. Jonas (Staff Associate) | 726-9662 |
| Rolando A. Lewis (Staff Associate) | 784-6147 |

Diaconate

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| David S. Jarvis (Chairman) | 464-7477 |
| Earl W. F. Skerritt | 722-4313 |
| Ian J. Blair | 773-1061 |
| John Patrick Tomlinson | 786-7957 |

Pray without ceasing. | Thessalonians 5:17

Memory Verses For Next Week



Pre-school — Romans 3:23
 Elementary — Psalm 119:11,105
 Secondary & Adults — Exodus 20:3-5