

Mount Olive Seventh-day Adventist Church



BEACON

WINTER ISSUE 2020

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



HIGHLIGHTS:

- *Milestone*
- *Inspiration*
- *Recipe*
- *Acknowledgements*
- *Church Events*

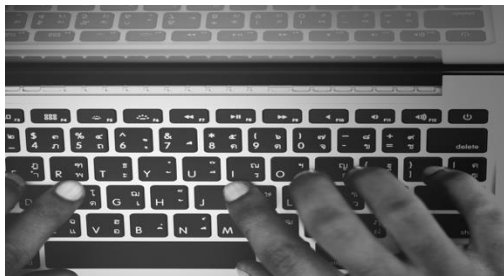


Jeremiah 33:8 "And I will cleanse thee from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me"

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Message from the Editor



We have come to the end of the year and the Communications Department is pleased to present the final issue of the Beacon. In this edition, we have highlighted a variety of events which occurred during this quarter. Even though it was a year of despairs and uncertainties we were not dismayed, knowing that with God's leading and the support of the church family we can face our challenges and accomplish our goals.

We give God the glory for what He has allowed us to accomplish. This year was a challenging year for everyone. Life as we know it has been changed. With the implementation of social

distancing which restrict mass gathering, the church had to adjust and get accustomed to the new way of virtual worshiping. In this changing world, Zoom became the primary platform through which to minister to the church, community, and the people around the globe.

One of the highlights of the quarter was the celebration of the church 30th anniversary. The church family got the opportunity to reflect on thirty years of service in the community. An uplifting and inspiring sermon was presented by Dr. Mansfield Edwards, president of the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventist Church, entitled "What's Next?" Dr. Mansfield reminded us that God's love, mercy and hope should be evident through His people, the church. He further indicated that the church ought to be the body of Christ in this world and he admonished the congregation to sometimes curtail the Sabbath Services in the sanctuary and present God's Word in the community.

Another highlight was the baptism of three precious souls. Pastor Frankie Lazarus commended the new converts for their decision to accept Jesus as their Saviour. He implored them to burn the bridges (worldly pleasures) behind them and focus on the newness of life with Jesus Christ and sin will not have dominion over them. He also assured them that if they are united together in the likeness of His death, they will certainly be with Him in His resurrection.

The church lost three of its dearly beloved members. Elder Doris Chin, Sister Kaamilha Stewart, and Brother Ralston Gunn. As their loved ones go through their challenging moments, we want to remind them that the Apostle Paul assures us that "The Lord shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first to meet the Lord the in the air will be with Him forever."

1Thes 4: 16-18

Special thanks to Sister Tracey McFarlane and her team for their concerted efforts in planning the reopening of the church. The committed members of the production team for ensuring that the livestreaming of the sermons and other programs are ready for presentations, despite the many challenges. The Personal Ministry Department for organizing the evangelistic series hosted by Evangelist Devron Thomas from the Cocoa Seventh-day Adventist Church, St. Lucia.

The Communications Department wishes to thank the pastoral team, church members and friends for their support, encouragement and constructive feedback. The continued commitment from the church membership to ensure that the prayer service, worship service, programs and other services were available through Zoom, despite the inability to worship in the sanctuary.

I would like to thank the Communications Secretaries, Sisters Grace Carless-Anderson, Precilla Hayles, Sandra Williams, Brothers Jerome Langley, Adin McFarlane and Shayne Anderson, Elders Karl Brown and Jamel Wilson for their support and dedication throughout the year. My sincere gratitude to Sisters Shenika Browne, Lisa Barrett, Michelle Bennett, Elders Richard Austin, Richard Barrett and Brother Charles Nunes for their immense support to the department. Also, to all the members and friends for their submissions to make the Beacon a true reflection of the vast diversity our congregation. Again, thank you.

As we approach the new year, may we continue to work to the honor and glory of God and best wishes.

V. Lyttle

Message from Pastor Lazarus

Christ The Hope of The World



“**T**he vaccine is coming, the vaccine is coming,” that is the clarion call of officials to the community at large at the time of the writing of this article.

You can hear the relief in their voices as they give interview after interview. The prognosis is that this is going to be a dark winter with the Covid-19 pandemic creating apocalyptic scenes of mass illness and death. Christmas is about to be “cancelled” and government restrictions on gatherings will rule the day. This was indeed a dark day and the news of the advent of the vaccine became the hope of the world.

In fact, one major political figure staked the success of his candidacy for President of the United States of America on the successful roll out of the vaccine. The vaccine is the hope of the world right now. It is true that we live in a dark world that desperately needs light and continues to be a very dark, dark place. It was approximately 2000 years ago that Jesus the Christ is born as a babe in the royal town of Bethlehem that brings the prophesied “Light” that brings hope to a world in despair. I would encourage you to read the account of the dedication of Jesus in the temple shortly after His birth (Luke 2:25-35).

Simeon was led by the Spirit to recognize the baby Jesus as the fulfillment of His request to delay his death until his eyes had seen “God’s salvation...a light to lighten Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.” vs. 30, 32. And what we read is that with the eye of faith Simeon saw in his arms the Light of the world, born to bring hope to all peoples and with that same eye of faith we can see him today so that we like Simeon can see Jesus as the hope of the world. The vaccine might be able to “cure” the

Covid-19 plague but only Jesus can cure the plague of sin which kills millions on a daily basis. No-one can be neutral about Jesus no matter how hard they try. And though the world has commercialized and wrapped the birth of Jesus in pagan clothing so much so that it is quite popular to talk about Jesus; you cannot be neutral about Him. Jesus Himself draws a line in the sand and demands that you take a side – acknowledge Him as the Hope of the world and submit yourself to His lordship or chose to do it your way and remain in darkness. You must decide. I encourage you to follow the example of Simeon and live a life that will allow you to see Christ even when others around may not be able to see Him. Let the Holy Spirit live in you so that you will see the light of Christ in this dark, dark world. Choose to be a sincere disciple of Christ so that YOUR light can shine in this dark world as His representative, leading others to the Hope of the World.

During World War II, six pilots took off from an aircraft carrier in the North Atlantic to scout some enemy submarines. While they were gone, the captain of the carrier was forced to issue a blackout alarm. The ship went totally dark.

When the pilots tried to return, they could not find the ship. They radioed, "Give us some light, we're coming home." The ship's radio operator replied, "Order: blackout. I cannot give you light." In turn, each pilot desperately radioed the same message: "Just give me some light and I'll make it." Each time, the operator had to radio back, "No light—blackout!" Because there was no light on that ship, six young pilots went to their graves in the icy North Atlantic (adapted from, Paul Tan, *Encyclopedia of 7,700 Illustrations* [Assurance Publishers], # 5366). We celebrate Jesus as the Hope of the world that can lead us out of this despair into His marvelous light.

INSPIRATION

Forgiveness

Brother, sister, mother, father, husband, wife, son, daughter, friend, colleague, neighbor.... our relationships contain many people with the potential to hurt us, very often in small ongoing ways. Sometimes in trying to be good people, we brush these hurts aside, thinking "I am not a vindictive or overly sensitive person, these things shouldn't bother me." But they do. They do because our egos are like magnets, and resentments are attracted to them. What is the impact of holding onto these resentments? Do we hold back in our lives? Do we argue with people? Do we gossip? What does the Bible teach about this?

Jesus taught the art of forgiveness. "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times" (Matthew 18:21-22.) Does this mean we are to forgive 539 times exactly? Yes. And more. The writings of Emanuel Swedenborg explore depth in the biblical message and say that "By this [Matthew 18:21-22] He meant that they were to forgive as often as he sinned. Their forgiveness was to know no limits, that is, was to be eternal and timeless, which is holy" (Secrets of Heaven 433).

Patience with the process

The Lord promises that forgiveness is possible. Even when hurt seems too great to repair, God tells us "I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh" (Ezekiel 11:19). We experience a heart of stone when we are too angry, too selfish, or too frozen by the pain others have caused us. A heart of flesh, while it may be vulnerable, it is compassionate. A heart of flesh sees that while we are feeling

pain, the other person may also be hurting for that pain they caused us. We can get so caught

up in ourselves that we do not even notice another is struggling from the offense. It is true that people need to be held accountable for their actions. But these people also need patience from us. As it was said: "Be patient with me" (Matthew 18:26). Practicing patience with another, holding onto the hope and vision for our relationship with them, is a true act of compassion. We need to invite the Lord into the journey and ask for the courage it takes for us to be patient with another and the understanding needed to see that they too are working through the pain that needs forgiveness.

Elder Keith Williams

HEALTH CORNER

Physical Activity Tips for Children

(5-11 years)

Tips to Get Active

Information and tips for parents, teachers and caregivers of children (5-11 years)

Help kids enjoy their way to a healthier lifestyle! One hour of physical activity every day: at home, at school, at play. Every step counts!

1. Physical activity plays an important role in the health, well-being and quality of life of all Canadians, and it is particularly important for children and

youth. **Habits formed early can last a lifetime.**

2. **How much physical activity do children need?** Children aged 5-11 should accumulate at least **One hour of moderate to vigorous-intensity physical activity daily.** But more is even better!
3. **To make the most of their physical activity, try to include:** Vigorous-intensity activities at least **three days per week.** Activities that strengthen muscle and bone at least three days per week.

Tips to help kids get active

- Encourage walking to school and getting active as a family
- Get them to skateboard, bike or run instead of getting a ride
- Ask them to walk the dog with you
- Have them rake the leaves, shovel snow or carry the groceries
- Encourage them to dance to their favourite music
- Replace computer and TV time with something active
- Build active opportunities into daily classroom routines and encourage students to join a school sport team
- Take kids to the playground or to the park to play
- Reduce screen time

Be more active in the after-school time period. Every step counts!

Health Benefits

- Opportunities for socializing
- Improve fitness
- Increased concentration

- Better academic scores
- Stronger heart, bones and healthier muscles
- Healthy growth and development
- Improved self-esteem
- Better posture and balance
- Lower stress

More physical activity provides health benefits. Encourage children to move more as part of a healthy lifestyle.



cyclingweekly.com

What is moderate aerobic activity?

Moderate-intensity aerobic activity makes you breathe harder and your heart beat faster. You should be able to talk, but not sing.

- Examples of moderate-intensity physical activity include walking quickly, skating, bike riding and skateboarding.

What is vigorous aerobic activity?

With vigorous-intensity aerobic activity, your heart rate will increase even more and you will not be able to say more than a few words without catching a breath.

- Examples of vigorous activity include running, playing basketball, soccer and cross-country skiing.

What are strengthening activities?

Muscle-strengthening activities build up your muscles. With bone-strengthening activities, muscles push and pull against bones helping make them stronger.

- For children, climbing and swinging on playground equipment is an example of a muscle strengthening activities.
- Examples of bone-strengthening activities include running, walking, and jump rope.

Combine aerobic and strengthening activities

To achieve health benefits, children need to do both aerobic and strengthening activities. Aerobic activities result in faster breathing, a warmer feeling, and an increased heart rate. Strengthening activities build muscles and bones.

Get them active after school

After school is a great time to be physically active. Suggest activities other than TV/computer. Sign up for active programs, and if possible find active ways to get home from school. Make time to be active every day.

[Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines](#) were developed by the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology.

Paula Hamilton Williams

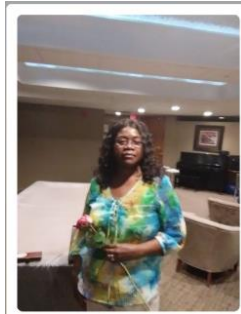
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/healthy-living/physical-activity-tips-children-5-11-years.html>

MEMBER PROFILE

Gracie Beckles

Tell me about yourself?

I was born in Trinidad, I am the seventh of eight children, I have 3 sisters and 4 brothers. I love cooking, swimming, spending quite time with my family. I like outdoors, helping people and putting smile on their faces. I also love children and I have a passion for young people and their wellbeing. Upon my arrival in Canada I attended the Montreal Seventh-day Adventist Church.



When I moved to Toronto, I started attending the Mount Olive Seventh-day Adventist Church, where I am a part of the Mount Olive Pathfinder youth group. I am currently working with the club to complete my master guide certification. I also spend my weekdays working with the church Community Services team, handing out goods to those in need within the community. I enjoy being a part of this service as it enables me to make a difference in my community. Not only do I hand out goods for those in the community, but I also help cook for the volunteers that spend countless hours bagging and handing out goods. With the state of the world currently it makes me happy to be able to help those in need.

As an immigrant I know what it is like to be without. So, whenever I have the chance to help out others who are in need, I am always eager to lend a helping hand.

I plan on continuing my work in the church and graduating from the Master Guide program in the future. As well, I want to continue to grow my walk with God on a daily basis.

How has Christianity influenced your life?

Because of Christianity my life is influenced by the love of God for humanity. When I think about my life and see how God has led me through all my ups and downs, without that Christians influence I don't know where I would be.

How have you been witnessing for the Lord?

I witness by my lifestyle as a Christian. The life one lives and the things one says are more than telling someone about God. If you profess to be a Christian you have to be Christ-like. Yes, I tell people of the love of God wherever I go by a smile, a kind word, and I lend a helpful hand. If my life is not in line with Christ, all is just for a show.

Tell me a time when you experience God's miraculous power?

A couple years ago, when I owned my home in Mississauga, I had received a phone call from the bank stating that I owed a large sum of money. At the time I had just paid my mortgage for the month and this additional cost was not something that I could afford at that time.

I got on my knees and prayed to God that morning, pouring my concerns and burdens out to Him. I literally did not know where I was going to get the money from to pay the fee. It's so important that when you pray that you leave all your burdens to God when you pray and ask for His help.

Anyways, after praying and pouring my concerns to Him, a couple hours after, I received another call from the bank letting me know that the sum of money I owed had been written off. It had been due to a clause in my

mortgage that covered the additional fee they had called about earlier in the day.

I was so overjoyed and relieved after that phone call. That day really showed me how miraculous God's mercy and grace are. I praise Him every day for his blessings because without Him I wouldn't be the person that I am today.

What is your greatest challenge and how did you overcome this challenge?

My greatest challenge is living every day for Christ with so many distractions. It is hard to focus on reading my Bible sometimes life get in my way. Another challenge is trying to have the answers for the people who don't share the same faith with me. How do I overcome? Constant praying and asking God to guide my thoughts. Take all the questions that you have been asked to God and believe in His promises. He has all the answers for all my challenges.

What are some of the programs you would like to see implemented in our church?

I would like to focus on the age group from 10 to 15. That is the age of the pathfinders. Without pathfinders of that age group, we would have nothing. I would also like to see some art and crafts for our seniors. Making and decorating head ties for the cancer society to give to people who lost their hair because of cancer would be great.

What advice would you give to the young people in our church?

To my young friends, make your parents your best friends because they will never lead you astray. They have your best interests at heart. You may not see it because of all the things that you are going through in school or hear from your friends on social media. Parents are there to guide you. As parents we mess up at times. We may be stern at times, but it's only because we love you so much. When you have a

problem, before you go to a friend take it to the Lord and then discuss it with your parents. You may not get the answers that you want but once you both pray about it you will get the best answer.

Interview by: V. Lyttle

CHURCH EVENTS



Milestone

Thirty Years Journey



It was a special day! The air was perfumed with joy as members, friends, and well-wishers took their virtual seats to join in the thanksgiving celebration that was thirty years in the making. We had eight months to accept that our expectations of an unforgettable worship experience in the structure we call home would have to wait for a more convenient time. Nevertheless, by grace through faith in God, on Sabbath, October 23, 2020, the Mt. Olive congregation created new and lasting memories as we worshipped He who had brought us thus far. Under the theme, 'We Have

Come This Far By Faith,' we began with an early morning prayer service. This was followed by Sabbath School and culminated with the Divine Service.

Our first elder, Kenneth Gayle, led out in the early morning prayer service. Members expressed thanks to God for His faithfulness throughout the many years and looked forward to continuing the journey as He leads.

We transitioned into Sabbath School still riding high on wings of faith. The lead Superintendent, Sister Janet Johnson, wanted to ensure that the voices heard were representative of the congregation and its continuing struggles. Brother Vereton Brown (a founding member), Sister Shaa Wilson (a relatively new member and our Women's Ministry leader), Sister Kalai-Ann Simpson and Brother Tevin Wellington (both young undergraduates) each shared experiences and challenges of being a Christian in the 21st century as well as offered words of encouragement for continuing the journey. The importance of focusing on Jesus, having a personal relationship with God, studying the Word, and getting up and continuing the fight when one falls were reinforced.

Pastor Jacqueline Peart led out in a vibrant and engaging Sabbath School lesson study on 'The Eyes Of The Lord, The Biblical Worldview.' The emphasis was on personal application. "The true object of education is to restore then image of God in the soul," - Ellen G White, Patriarchs and Prophets, page 595. As ambassadors of Christ we are His representatives and should clearly reflect this as we walk in humility.

Higher and still higher we climbed into the very presence of the Almighty. The Divine Service was like a table well spread with very lovely things. Former Pastors, Ledford Morris, Joseph Amankwah, Stanley McFarlane, Kenneth Campbell, and David Rogers each offered a congratulatory message and personal

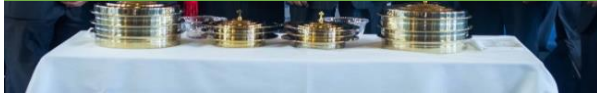
reflections on the journey to this milestone. Sister Velma Campbell shared a beautiful children story of Jesus the Saviour who became a casualty of His message to save us.

Pastor Mansfield Edwards, President of the Ontario Conference, was our speaker for the midday service. Using the sermon title 'What's Next?' and base scripture of Matthew 27:45-51, he invoked deep thoughts of the journey forward and underscored how vital is for the Church (you and me) to be watching, waiting and working as illustrated in the parables in Matthew 24 and 25. "The Church ought to be the body of Christ in the world. ...gather for worship, scatter for service." He implored us to let 'the next 30 years begin today' by making Micah 6:8 and James 1:27 practical and going beyond right doctrines and rituals.

We have indeed come this far by faith in God. We have arrived at turbulent times. Our Lord forewarned that perilous times would come but He has also promised to be with us always even until the end. God is faithful to His promise. So the question is will His church continue to trust Him on the journey? There are still needs to be met so the church must continue to serve. The fields are ready for harvest. May God pour out the latter rain on the willing so the work can go on for thirty more years and even beyond should time permit. While we wait, let us watch, pray, and work. 'Let us never get weary in well doing for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.' Galatians 6:9

Sandra Williams

COMMUNION SERVICE



Friday November 13th 2020. For most, this day (Friday the 13th) would normally be considered a day filled with “bad luck” and or “evil occurrences”. But for the members of Mount Olive Seventh-day Adventist Church, this day, in particular, was very special. Yes, it was preparation day but there was something more; our quarterly Communion Service was to take place 7:00 pm, that Sabbath evening.

Feelings of anxiety and uncertainty filled the minds of most members as the order of the service was unusual or unconventional, due to Corona virus. What was about to take place was a virtual Communion Service. And that in itself is like an oxymoron, as communing usually involves physically being in the presence of others. Nevertheless, we did our best to make it feel as though we were together, despite the circumstances.

Pastor Lazarus opened our service for us, which brought us a sense of comfort as we eased into the service. He shared with us the following: V.U.C.A a military acronym, which means – Volatile, Unpredictable, Complex and Adaptable. The first three sums up what we have been going through since March. It has been mentally, emotionally and physically stressful. But like the disciples of old, we have to adapt and carry the mission forward; we have to adjust, without compromising the principles that we stand for, in order to do God’s will.

He continued to say that the week of prayer and fasting leading up to this communion service, was perfectly planned. It established

the right atmosphere for a service which brings the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ to the forefront of our minds, especially in this time of uncertainty. Let us hold firm to the promise given to us in John 14:1-3: “Let not your heart be troubled...I go to prepare a place for you...that where I am, there ye may be also...” He ended his opening remarks with this charge: We are determined to make it to the Promised Land. Let us share together as we join together in this Sabbath evening.

Psalm 139:1-6 and 14 was the scripture reading for the evening’s service, and was done by Sis. K Simpson and Sis. Keisha Goodman. This was then followed by the opening song, hymn number 475 – There is a balm in Gilead.

The message was then given by Sis. Sandra Wedderburn – [Life Changing Encounters; Christian Lifestyle and Media.](#)

Sister Wedderburn shed light on the story of Jacob and the mistake he had made. She went on to say that this story of Jacob’s mistake was left in the scriptures for a reason. That vulnerable moment for Jacob then, would turn out to be a blessing for many generations after.

She continued to say, that as Christians, we try to paint a perfect picture for the world to see. But this form of Godliness tends to take over and then we lose sight of who we are. We put on a show and not only do we, like Jacob, deceive others but we deceive ourselves as well. We justify this by saying that our short comings will push people away. But faith is more than appearance, it is about honest experiences and downfalls. People are attracted to vulnerability and honesty. Let us remember that in God we find perfection and life; in Him we have a Saviour. God saves us in spite of who we are. Jacob was saved because of who God is.

She ended on this note, Faith requires that we share the good and the bad, success and failures, love and brokenness. Honesty and

being genuine in your love for souls, is the most effective way of winning them.

After this heart stirring message, we proceeded to the ceremony.

The scripture for the bread was read by Elder Keith Williams (1 Cor 11:23-24) and prayer done by Elder Nembhard. The eating of the bread (unleavened bread) followed.

The scripture for the wine was read by Elder Kenneth Gayle and prayer followed by Elder Bernard Brown. We then proceeded to drink the wine (unfermented grape juice).

The hearts of the Mt. Olive members were filled and it came through with songs and testimonies of thanksgiving. The closing remarks were done by Elder Gayle, who encouraged us in the Lord. He reminded us of God's faithfulness and love towards us. The road ahead of us is rocky and we are in the final stretch, however he encouraged us to stay faithful to God and Share His love with a dying world as we do our part in this work that God has called us to do.

All anxiety and uncertainty were swept away with such a wonderful service. God was truly there with us and gave us a blessing that evening. We closed off with a most appropriate hymn "We have this hope" and Pastor Lazarus closed the service with prayer.

Precilla Hayles.

HUMMINGBIRD DRUM CORP

It was in 2018, when two of our pathfinders who had a passion to see that our club got its own drums, did their research and came to present it at the board level as to why our club should have its own drum corp.

Their presentation was well received and supported that they got the boards' approval to go ahead.

In a nine-month period the drums were purchased, and the club had its very own drums.

The children in the club were incredibly happy to have their own drums and to play at club functions. We enlisted the help of the Toronto West pathfinder club to help train our children to play the instruments.

We were all excited to have them play for our Investiture Service with the help of the T-west team.

Today, our very own Mount Olive Hummingbird Pathfinder Drum Corp team which is comprised of Adin and Aijah McFarlane, Rodney Sainvil, Zamyra Hamilton and Tajae Henry are all part of The Ontario Conference Drum Corp. We are extremely proud of them. Our aim is that they will teach others in the club as we move forward.

Let us continue to pray for our young People to strive for the Mastery.

Bridget Phillip, Director

POETRY

You Are My Strength

You are my strength, strength like no other, only in you can a new life be discovered, under your wings I am safely abiding, Lord I ask you to please help me from ever backsliding.

This is a cry, a cry for deliverance
Save me from this world
There needs to be a severance
I can't love the world and I can't love you it feels like I'm torn apart, it feels like I'm split in two, I can't be on the river and then
On the bank, otherwise I'll end up in sinking sand

I miss you Lord, but not because you ever left me,
But because I found the world and got entangled with the enemy
I don't want to gain the world and then lose my soul,
I don't want the devil to ever take control

Again, this is a cry, a cry for deliverance, I can't love the world and love God, there can't be an equivalence

Deliver me from when I indulge in sin, and then I go left and then I go backwards and allow the enemy to win

I want a revival, a revival deep down in my soul, so that I won't be playing both sides and can't ever go back to the old

Take the shackles off my feet so I can stand, I want to move forward, on to the promised land

I want to be mounted up, mounted up with Wing as eagles, so when the devil tries to attack me, there won't

be a sequel, a sequel to the life I was living, full of sin, that sometimes people even called me Satan's twin, because I walked, talked and looked like him

and sometimes you could even smell the stench of sin

Again, this is a cry, a cry for deliverance, I can't ever allow myself to live on in ignorance, I want to be wrapped up, tied up and tangled up in God, walking a straight and narrow path because that is the only way to trod

Lord, transform me, renew me so that I'll be just like you, now I'm refreshed and I'm starting anew.

Kallai-Ann Simpson

CHILDREN'S CORNER



**Olivia
Barrett**

I am 9 years old. I started attending Mt. Olive church as a baby where I was blessed to be christened into the church family. I have always been in the Adventurer's club and continue to serve God in the program

today. I'm hoping to transition to Pathfinder soon.

Aside from attending church and being with my friends, I love to sing, write stories, do art and read. I've read so many books, my favourite writers are Robert Munsch, Rachel Renee Russell and Jim Benton.

In my spare time, I love helping my mom in the kitchen. My job is always to cut the vegetables and I've already learned to make macaroni and cheese and other simple dishes. When I grow up I would love to be a beacon for Christ by doing my best and teaching boys and girls about His goodness.

SPOTLIGHTS

Mt. Olive Doves

I started the Adventurer club at (Mt. Olive Branches & Jaguar) and now called Dove club from the little lamb class. I had fun and learn a lot about Jesus. And in learning about Jesus, I been obedient, pure, true, kind, respectful, attentive, helpful, cheerful,



thoughtful, reverent as best that I can. My teachers were helpful and loving, they taught me about the many Miracle that Jesus done and my body, how wonderfully made by God.

They feed us with God's words but also with food and snack for our stomach. I Enjoyed the field trips. They always have games and prizes to win. We play games in the club. My favourite one is finding the books of the Bible with a timer, which held me with Memorizing the book of the Old Testament. I am thankful for having a chance to preach. I was nervous at first when they ask me, but as I study my sermon I started to feel positive. I said to myself, I can do it.

My teachers, my nana, and my mom kept me studying every day. Most of all Jesus had confidence in me. I have made many friends in the club and some are friends for life. This is a great club to join, so if your age is between 4-9 come and join. You will learn of God's love and love for one another. I am out of the Pathfinder club now. Thank you to everyone, especially my teachers for making my experience in the Adventurer club a Great One.

Please keep me in prayer as I walk this journey with Jesus.

Malachi Douglas

I started the Mt. Olive Adventures Club at the age of 3 years. I was able to start early because I was turning four in December. I was happy to join because my best friend



Zachia was already in the club. She had told me about how much fun she was having and we would be able to do things together.

Adventures was a lot of fun and learning about God. I quickly learned the Adventures' Song and the Pledge. I am able to apply the Pledge "Because Jesus loves me I will always do my best" in everything that I do. It took me a while to learn the Law but because of all the programs we took part in, I finally learned it. I was given a different part to say every time and then explained what it meant to me each time.

I enjoyed the time when the club went on a trip to the games arcade and the Ontario Adventurer Fun day. I also had fun coloring and working on my honors. I enjoyed singing with Naima and Olivia. We learned a lot of things together. The leaders recognized everyone's birthday and made us feel special.

I have completed this journey as an Adventurer and I wish to thank Aunty Michelle and Aunty Karene for being great leaders. I would also like to thank Aunty Kim, Aunty Lisa and all the other councilors for their help in guiding me along the way. Because of my faith in God I know I do not have to worry about anything. I thank you all for helping me to know who God is.

Kaycee Williams

Deandre was born on September 18, 2010 on a Saturday morning on the beautiful island of Jamaica. Deandre entered this world to us as

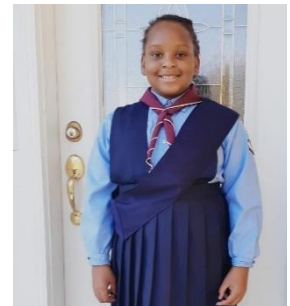


a bundle of joy. He's a caring and loving person. He loves his family and friends very much especially his nephew Aaden. Deandre joined the Adventure club in the month of October 2018, while being in the club he learned how to be attentive, responsible and respectful. Being in the Adventure Club has taught Deandre so much. Now, he's leaving his peers and teachers who he will miss and they will miss him a lot because they are all apart of keeping him in one peace. Thank you to everyone in the Adventure club.

Deandre Banton

Tamara had a lot of fun being a part

of the Adventures club. She met new friends and enjoyed doing activities and learning with them. She also like



working on her booklets that help her to learn more about Jesus and helping one another.

Tamara Philips

Syrianna was born on December 11, 2010 on the beautiful island of Jamaica and is looking forward with great excitement to celebrate her 10th birthday this coming



December. Since making her entry into the world, Syrianna has become the pride and joy of her mother and father, and her many other family members, and friends. Her beautiful smile, charming personality and her caring attitude have endeared her to all that she has come in contact with. Syrianna gave her life to God and was baptized in September 2019.

The year 2020 has resulted in significant changes in the life of Syrianna, she had to adjust to attending school online and she has been unable to attend the Adventurer Club at her local church since March 2020. Therefore, she was so happy when Aunt Petrina extended the invitation for her to join the Mount Olive Adventurer Club online. Syrianna is grateful for the experience of sharing with the other boys and girls from the Adventurer Club at Mount Olive and the opportunity that it provides for her to continue to learn about Jesus. Aunt Lisa showed so much love to Syrianna, she made her feel comfortable and she was always excited to attend each class, she felt like she belonged with the group. Syrianna hope to continue to be a member of the Mount Olive Adventurer Club even after the pandemic and is also hoping to visit Mount Olive at some point in the future.

Syrianna Cummings

Children's Activities

How TO PRAY for Kids

- 1** **Question:** What can I pray about?
Answer: ANYTHING! God wants you to talk to Him about everything in your life. Nothing is too big or too small to talk to God about.
- 2** **Question:** When and where should I pray?
Answer: ANYTIME and ANYWHERE! It doesn't matter where you are; you can always talk to God. He is always with you.
- 3** **Question:** How long should my prayer last?
Answer: You can pray for one second or for hours. God is always listening! He loves for you to talk to Him.
- 4** **Question:** Can I pray with my friends?
Answer: ABSOLUTELY! Praying with your friends will make your faith and your friendships stronger.
- 5** **Question:** Should I always fold my hands?
Answer: Folding your hands and closing your eyes may help you to concentrate on your prayer, but you don't have to. You can talk to God while riding your bike or just sitting quietly.
- 6** **Question:** Should I pray out loud?
Answer: God hears you whether you pray out loud or silently. Sometimes praying out loud helps you to stay focused on your prayer. Praying silently can be done wherever you are. God hears your prayers no matter how you say them!

Search for Jesus' 12 Disciples



C	M	T	P	H	I	L	I	P	A	G
M	T	I	E	E	O	Y	N	J	D	L
B	A	R	T	H	O	L	O	M	E	W
J	Z	Q	E	A	Y	S	C	A	K	V
A	N	D	R	E	W	Z	T	T	D	R
M	B	W	P	S	J	R	H	T	E	H
E	J	A	E	N	C	J	O	H	N	N
S	A	D	U	J	G	O	M	E	U	O
W	M	H	B	Q	X	D	A	W	V	M
F	E	B	P	L	U	K	S	X	F	I
I	S	T	H	A	D	D	A	E	U	S

Can you find the names of the twelve disciples from the word box below?

ANDREW	JOHN	PHILIP
BARTHOLOMEW	JUDAS	SIMON
JAMES	MATTHEW	THADDAEUS
JAMES	PETER	THOMAS

Grace Carless-Anderson

SENIORS CORNER

The Reward of Giving



On November 13, 2020 I received a letter from Scott Mission, a charitable organization that I supported. I had stopped supporting them for a while because I was helping some people in Jamaica. They were asking me to sponsor three persons for Christmas dinner. After discussing it with my family we trust God's Word and we decided that we would not only help three persons but ten.

I responded and let them know that I will be sponsoring ten persons. I wrote a cheque and asked my husband to put it in the mail. One week after on a Friday, I was checking my account and realized that the money was taken out. The following Monday I had to pay some bills so I went to bank and to my surprised I saw an undisclosed sum of money was deposited in my account and I was very excited. I learned from an early age that when you willing give from your heart God will bless and reward you.

Although my husband is retired and I am off from June because I cannot wear masks, we are still able to pay our tithes and free will offerings and still help those who call upon us for help. The Bible says if we are faithful to God He will be faithful to us. I am blessed and highly favored.

Sonia Green Salmon

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Hummingbird Pathfinder Club

God has brought the Hummingbird Pathfinder club though another year safely.

This year 2020 has turned out to be one of a difference to say the least. As we begun back in January to go on God's errands with our



pathfinders and staff, we never anticipated that it would turn out the way it did.

As our Theme was Mission Driven Excellence and working together as one body for Christ, our aim was to go tell it to the world. One of our early plans was to take our children out to spread the love of God in another city. We also had plans to take them to educational sites to learn more about our rich heritage. Our aim is to help each child come to a saving knowledge of Jesus.

In the pathfinder club we also focus on helping our young people ages 10-15 be the best that they can be Physically, mentally, and spiritually. Also, to help them face the different challenges that life brings. We were also embarking on a few projects to help grow our club.

Then the month of March came along, and everything changed due to the corona virus pandemic. The plans we had for outdoor activities were replaced by no outdoor activities. Not being able to come together, we had to social distance. Life as we know it was changing right before our eyes. We had to move to a new way of doing things "The New Normal." Our meetings had to be done online

via zoom. We now had to refocus and plan differently to adjust to our new situation. Despite everything we still managed to accomplish some things. To God be the glory.

In conclusion, as a club we will continue to allow the Holy Spirit to lead, guide and empower us to help our pathfinders come to a saving knowledge of Christ. We ask that the church continue to lift our children up in prayer.

Thanks, to our team of hard-working volunteers for their dedication and love for working with our children. To our parents for entrusting us to work with them in this part of the vineyard.

May the God of heaven and earth continue to bless us all as we continue to give our best to his service. Also, to make our club a vehicle for saving our young people.

Bridget Phillip

biblical principle of putting God first in all that we do. Although we did not anticipate the challenges the current global pandemic would bring, we made it our mission to encourage the church family to remain faithful to God in all situations. Regular stewardship sermons by the church leaders, annual stewardship emphasis day, a financial seminar, as well as weekly video presentations and quarterly messages aimed at the millennials were some of the activities intended to energize the church to live faithfully.

Despite the limitations for physical gathering inside the church, God made it possible for our dedicated church leaders to swiftly organize the Zoom platform as a creative means to continue our fellowship. With this new online platform, the Stewardship Department was committed to deliver pertinent messages to the congregation about the importance of returning a portion of our resources to God even during times of uncertainty. Whenever possible, the team shared the two-minute clips from the 'God First' video series during the Personal Ministries segment of the program. Each month, a team member would take a turn presenting on the importance of being good stewards with our time, talents, treasures, and things to strengthen our walk with Christ. In preparation for the annual Stewardship Day on December 12, 2020, the team circulated an electronic copy of the "Seeking the Kingdom of God" revival readings authored by Pastor Joan Tatar to the church to promote personal devotion and reflection on principles of faithfulness. This well written resource filled with an eight-day compilation of bible stories reminded us of how such characters like Daniel, Jacob, Ruth, and Mary to name a few remained faithful by putting God first. The author also shared stimulating children stories with each daily reading to foster key learning to the younger generation on the importance of being faithful to God in our youth. On December 12, 2020,

Stewardship Ministries

Genesis 28: 20-21 reminds us of the promise

Jacob made to God when he said, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father's house in peace.....of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you." The Mt. Olive Stewardship Department was mindful of Jacob's promise to God when planning the 2020/21 theme titled 'Living faithfully according to God's word'. For 2020, our main mission was to foster spiritual empowerment in each member by encouraging faithful living according to the



Pastor Gerry Pasikatan,
Stewardship Ministries Director

the congregation was blessed by the time sensitive sermon by Pastor Gerry Pasikatan-the local conference Stewardship Leader titled “Stewardship in Challenging Times”. The Stewardship team is grateful to all those who participated in the program as they certainly made the program extra special. As children of God, we can expect to live a holistic life when we are faithful to God.

Similar to the story of Jacob and other characters in the bible, our path in this life will include joyous occasions, as well as challenging times like the global pandemic we are currently facing in our lifetime. How we respond in these circumstances is a direct reflection of our personal walk with God. As we approach a new year, the Stewardship Department would like to encourage each one of us to keep our eyes on Jesus and remain faithful in all circumstances because God is ever faithful to us.

Jolean Lloyd



Recipe

Vegan Brownies



Ingredients

1 cup Flour
1/4 cup Cocoa Powder
3/4 cup Sugar use half brown sugar and half cane sugar
1/2 cup Vegan Butter
1 tsp Vanilla
1/2 cup Vegan Chocolate Chips melted, plus more to top
1/4 cup Water
1/2 tsp Baking Soda
1/2 tsp Salt

Chia Eggs

2 tbsp. Chia Seeds
6 tbsp. Water

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

For the chia egg, mix both ingredients and set aside until gelatinized.

Combine sugar and vegan butter (room temperature or slightly heated) in a bowl and mix well. Add vanilla, chia eggs, water, and melted vegan chocolate and mix well.

Sift in flour, cocoa powder salt and baking powder and mix well.

Pour mixture into an 8x8 pan covered with parchment paper. Add chocolate chips to top.

Bake for 35-38 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center of the brownies comes out clean. Enjoy!

Benefits

These are just a few of the nutritional benefits of this yummy treat, check this out:

Riboflavin, Niacin, Folate, Vitamin B6, Thiamin, Vitamin K, Pantothenic Acid and Vitamin E.

Precillia Hayles

<https://www.nutritionadvance.com/cocoa-powder-nutrition/>
<https://plantd.co/best-ever-vegan-brownies/>

donated his mouthwatering Duckunoos (tie leaf) and participated in our activities.

“Behold, I shew you a mystery: We shall not all sleep but we shall be changed. In a moment in the twinkle of an eye, at the last trump: or the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruptible and this mortal must put on immortality.....Death is swallowed up in victory.” 1 Corinthians 15, 50-54

May his soul rest in peace.

V.Lyttle

Acknowledgements

Merci Beaucoup!!!

First Responders and Front-Line Workers,
You are the most hardworking heroes during these troubled times

Regardless of what you are called to do, you don't hesitate or decline
Even though you are tired and weak, you still find a way to make us smile

First Responders and Front-Line Workers,
You even take double shifts and go the extra mile

It is noted that you work tirelessly day in and out

And you do it, even without a pout

We thank GOD for you and all you do

Tribute



Brother Ralston Gunn was a member of Mount Olive church for many years and he dutifully served in Community Services, Pathfinder, Seniors, Deacons and Deaconesses Departments. In the Seniors Ministry he was an active member. At our quarterly seniors' nights, Brother Gunn gladly

We ask God to mediate and keep you safe while he sees you thru and thru

Adin McFarlane

Thank You Front-Line Workers!!!

T - Time You Spent, taking care of us

H - Helping others

A - Accommodating the most in need

N - Nurturing, notwithstanding its part of your job but

K - Knowingly putting yourself at risk without throwing a fit cause –we know some who had quit

Y - You are appreciated

O - Oh we could not survive without your open love, and selfless care

U - Understanding that without your selfless act our lives would not be the same

Aijah McFarlane



<https://www.bing.com/images/>

Biblical Humor

A man bought a donkey from a preacher

The preacher told the man that this donkey had been trained in a very unique way (being the donkey of a preacher). The only way to make the donkey go, is to say, "Hallelujah!"

The only way to make the donkey stop, is to say, "Amen!"

The man was pleased with his purchase and immediately got on the animal to try out the preacher's instructions.

"Hallelujah!" shouted the man. The donkey began to trot.

"Amen!" shouted the man. The donkey stopped immediately.

"This is great!" said the man.

With a "Hallelujah" he rode off, very proud of his new purchase.

The man traveled for a long time through the mountains. As he headed towards a cliff, he tried to remember the word to make the donkey stop.

"Stop," said the man. "Halt!" he cried. The donkey just kept going.

"Oh, no!"

"Bible...Church!...Please! Stop!!", shouted the man. The donkey just began to trot faster. He was getting closer and closer to the edge of the cliff.

Finally, in desperation, the man said a prayer..."Please, dear Lord. Please make this donkey stop before I go off the end of this mountain, In Jesus name, AMEN."

The donkey came to an abrupt stop just one step from the edge of the cliff.

"HALLELUJAH!" shouted the man.

An Elderly Woman and A Thief

An elderly woman had just returned home from an evening church service when she realized there was an intruder in her home. Seeing that he was in the act of robbing her home of its valuables, the lady yelled "Stop! Acts 2:38!" Hearing her, the burglar stopped dead in his tracks and stood motionless. The woman calmly called the police and explained what was going on.

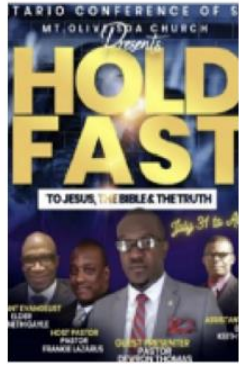
As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, "Why did you just stand there? All the lady did was yell a Bible verse at you."

"Bible verse?" asked the burglar, "She said she had an axe and two 38's!"

V. Lyttle

Jokes.com

2020 Highlights







Rest In Peace

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