

Mount Olive Seventh-day Adventist Church

BEACON

Winter Issue 2021

Year In Review

Highlights

Messages

Recipes

Inspiration

Departmental Reports

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Editor	Page 1
Message from Pastor	Page 2
Inspiration	Page 4
Member's Profile	Page 5
Health Corner	Page 6
Member's Profile cnt'd	Page 8
Church Events	Page 9
Memorials	Page 10
Poetry_	Page 14
Children's Activities	Page 15
Departmental Reports	Page 16
Recipes	Page 18
Biblical Humour	Page 19
Pictorial Highlights	Page 21

Message from the Editor



The Communications Department is pleased to present the final issue of the Beacon for 2021. It was another challenging year that was filled with mixed emotions and endless possibilities. We have

witnessed God's goodness towards us throughout the year. As a church, we have come this far by faith, and we are extremely thankful for all what we have accomplished.

Our church doors were once again opened for worship. A true testament to what can be accomplished through fervent prayer and fasting. The Holy Spirit has been our faithful guide and we know that God answers prayers in His own time. While we continue to put God first, safety protocols must be maintained in accordance with the Ministry of Health's practices and procedures. Evidence of return to in-person normal services included: Communion Service, baby dedications, weddings, funerals, and other worship activities.

The leadership through regular announcements continued to encourage parents to take advantage of the many programs that are available in the church for our children and youth to aid in their wholistic development. To the happy couples who were united in marriage, may God richly bless your union and guide you on this your new journey.

One highlight of the quarter was the Evangelistic Series sponsored by the West Metro Seventh-day churches and hosted by Pastor Bill Santos. As a result, six precious souls decided to have a closer walk with Jesus and were baptized. We warmly welcomed the newly baptized members in our church fellowship and encouraged them to read their Bibles and pray constantly to strengthen their faith.

Mount Olive has lost three of its beloved members, Sisters Patricia Bailey, Jennie Brown, and Janette Ovid. Our condolences to the Douglas' family on the passing of their beloved Stephanie. We must continue to encourage the families as they journey through one of their darkest moments and pray that they will be strengthened and find comfort in God's Word. The Psalmist writes "Yea, though I walk through

the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil: for thou art with me: thy rod and thy staff they comfort me”. Psalm 23:4

The Communications Department is still requesting that when a department is celebrating their programs or events the leader should assign someone to write an article for the Beacon. Also, we continue to implore our members to submit their articles, suggestions, poems, and all other contributions to enhance our newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Communications and the Production teams, especially Elder Richard Barrett for their commitment and dedication. Also, to everyone who helped to make this newsletter a success. Overall, many thanks to the church for all the support, feedbacks, and encouragement that were given to department. Thanks to the church leadership for granting me the opportunity to serve as the Communications Department Director for the past two years. May God continue to bless us all as by faith we strive together to achieve greater things through faith for the coming year.

V. Lyttle

Message from Pastor Lazarus

Is This Not Joseph’s Son – Luke 4:22

Revival and Reformation is a wonderful experience, and I am certain that most, if not all of us, are excited of the prospect of revival



and reformation in our lives. The anticipation of life altering, spirit filled, empowerment is a thrilling thought. The experience of leaving a worship experience that has transported you into the very presence of God just leaves you with the desire for more. The immediate experience can be overwhelming, leading to tears that are often inexplicable. The euphoric feelings often cannot be described. The empowerment discovered makes one feel that anything is possible and the devil is indeed a defeated foe! There is an enthusiasm for having your friends and relatives, coworkers and neighbors, experience what you are going through in the moment. Your discipleship, in that moment, is real and energetic, so much so that even your pets can see the difference, let alone your children and family members

But it doesn’t take long before the human condition set’s in for it is very difficult to live on a “high” 24/7. After a while even the highest high becomes routine and regular; and it can even become energy depleting to be constantly on a “high”, even in the religious experience. So, it is not unusual for the “high” to wear off and the routine sets in and the nostalgia of what was a wonderful experience becomes the subject of conversations. These exchanges may go something like, “remember when the – any name guest speaker was here – he was phenomenal...”, or “we used to be more dedicated as a church...”. There are many reasons for this but the primary reason might be, for the sake of our discussion, we judge the regular, everyday, routine activities of our religious experience much differently from the one-time ecstatic religious experience created the “specialness of the occasion. There is an aversion to the familiar and the regular or the routine and a longing for the exciting and the quick pick me up.

The difficulty is that people’s expectations of a particular community can be limited, because “nothing exciting ever happens here.” The community is often taken for granted and a much higher regard is given to the stranger or

the “newbie”. Jesus' family was well known to the people in Nazareth. They were certain Jesus would be a carpenter; He was, after all, a carpenter's son. They could not believe this son of Mary and Joseph could be the Christ. They'd watched Him grow up. He'd played with their kids. Even the fact He was the most well-behaved child they'd ever met couldn't convince them He was a Rabbi, let alone the Messiah.

Likewise, when we consider our church family, our familiarity with their faults sometimes keeps us from perceiving their progress. Until it's time to buy new clothes, we don't always notice our children are growing; it's such a slow and steady rate. Spiritual growth works the same way. It would be so handy to have marks on the wall to measure spiritual growth, but the things of the Spirit don't work that way. It may be difficult to see that your spouse is yelling less at the children, since he still yells from time to time. And the fact that your son kept his room clean for an entire week might go unnoticed on the Friday evening when you passed by the room and nothing is in its place. Even your own growth might not be evident to you without a journal to remind you of thoughts you had early in your Christian walk. We were encouraged in a recent Prayer meeting led by Elder Karl Brown on the value of journaling.

Unfortunately, progress that goes unseen, growth that no one believes in, can be a hindrance to those who are attempting to become more mature or change their character defects. And that is what the question, “is this not Joseph’s son led too. Or another way of expressing this is, “can any good thing come out of Nazareth?” It's the idea that when we don't believe in a person, we limit their abilities, ignore their progress and keep them from being all they can be. Children need an adult to believe they can be all they were created to be. Teens need parents and teachers to see in them the possibilities and the promise of more. They need us to look at the potential rather than the present, and adults need friends and family to

have faith there is more to them than their past failures, poor choices and character defects. And communities like the one in which we minister need the church to believe that the Holy Spirit is greater than our circumstances and He wants us to unleash his power on the community.

We cannot afford to allow what others think of us limit our ministry and mission in the Rexdale community. We cannot live down to the ideas and ideals that detractors may have of us as a community. It's evident in children that are condemned because of their parents, siblings that bear the burden of their older brother's behavior, people who have heard those deadly words their entire life: words like can't, won't, never, stupid, dumb, ugly, idiot.

The good news is you and I have the power to stop it. We have the ability to reverse the effects of the question and see the miracle working power of Christ in the every day routine of life. Phrases like, "you can do it," "I believe in you," "I love you," and most importantly, "Jesus Christ loves you and created you to be more than you can ever imagine," can recreate us a community of faith and our environs. Words of love, encouragement, acceptance and belief can transform a person's thinking, being, doing and living. Our job will be difficult, because along the path, we'll be tempted to become to listen to the naysayers. It will be easy to miss the slow but steady growth this kind of nourishment can bring, but if we're patient and have faith, not only in the person transforming, but in the One who can bring phenomenal transformation, we will be amazed at the miracles we will see.

INSPIRATION

Inspiration What a Mighty God We Serve



Every major character in the Bible had to at one point or another – stand alone with their faith – Noah, Moses, Joseph, Daniel, David, Paul, etc. One thing they all had in common was a supreme trust and confidence in God.

It is so important also for us as Christians to have utmost confidence in God. Remember, that our faith is ultimately in Him. We will all face trials and tribulations in this life...

John 16:33 “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome **the world.**”

Point: God wants us to have full confidence in Him, not in the economy, not in our careers, not in our family, or our spouse, a preacher or even the church.

Point: The Apostle Paul had complete confidence and trust in God.

2 Timothy 1:12 That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was craftier than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “**Did God really say,** ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

Doubts, Deceptions, and Distractions are Satan’s toolbox of tricks to get us off the rails.

Note: Satan’s *immediate* goal for most Christians is not for us to reject God. Or to deny God’s existence. Or to stop being a person of faith.

Note: Satan’s goal is to get us to distracted, disillusioned, and full of doubt. **Note:** Satan’s goal is to get us slightly off track – ever so slightly – increasingly more and more over time we drift so far off course that we lose our faith, our sense of purpose and direction and ultimately our relationship with Him.

Unfortunately, many Christians are going from certainty and confidence to uncertainty with shades of gray. Their faith is being exposed.

God wants us to come to Him with faith and by faith. Faith is an expectation and a command.

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Mark 1:15 Jesus said Repent and believe the good news!

James 1:4-6 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. ⁶ But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

MEMBER PROFILE

Nathanael Barrett

Tell me about yourself?

I am 17 years old, and I am in my last year of high school. I hope to study chemical engineering in university next year. I would describe myself as strong, studious, and hard working. I like reading, movies, and video games. I am most passionate about people, especially my friends and family.



How has Christianity influenced your life?

I was raised in the church and went to Christian private schools for most of my life. It's safe to say that Christianity has played a pretty profound impact on my life. It isn't always easy. I try hard to meet Jesus' standards, which means that I put heavy expectations on myself. I know that God is doing all the work, but it's not an excuse for me to just be rebellious and live for myself. Like I said, it isn't easy.

What are some of the challenges you faced being a young Christian and how have you overcome them?

There are many challenges. Feeling like you are not living up to God's standards. Feeling like you are under pressure to be perfect as soon as possible, otherwise the probationary period will pass, and you will be lost. Feeling isolated because Christianity is less common among your peers. I don't think I have overcome any of these problems yet. I am taking it day by day and asking God to help. It's a process and there is not much else to it.

Hebrews 4:16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Question – Do we have confidence?

Question – Do we trust in His promises?

Question – Do we obey His commands?

How can we love Him if we don't know Him?

How can we obey Him if we don't trust Him?

How can we worship Him if we do not revere him?

How can we understand His holiness and His nature if we don't study the scriptures to see Him as he is revealed to us through His Word?

How can we know Him if we do not spend time with Him?

How can we change to be more like Him if we are not allowing His Spirit to live in us and guide us?

How can we be transformed into His likeness is we are not beholding His glory?

How can we trust in His promises if we don't trust in Him?

How can we trust in Him if we are not convinced that He is holy, upright and good – and only wants what is best for us?

How can we live by faith in Him if we are not confident of His love for us?

How can we be single-minded in our Christian devotion and commitment if we are more influenced by the world than by Christ?

How can we grow to be like Him if we do not imitate Him and take on His nature?

How can we share our faith if the very foundation of our faith has eroded or no longer exists?

We can only be like Him if we stand in awe of Him, if we trust Him, and if we know Him and follow Him.

Submitted by: Angela E

What is your career inspiration and why?

My parents and Grandma are big career inspirations. They are incredibly smart, hard-working people who fought tooth and nail to make a life for us in Canada. They have made lots of sacrifices to let me have the life that I have right now. I want to honour their sacrifices and pass it on for the next generation.

How would you encourage a young non-believer to give their lives to Christ?

I think the best way to bring non-believer to Christ is by emulating His character. What drew people to Christ 2,000 years ago probably works now. Making connections with people is how Jesus introduced Himself when He was on Earth. Thus, the best way to introduce people to Jesus now is to make connections with them.

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

I feel unsatisfactory with how the church implements their programs for children. It could have been better even before the pandemic occurred. For me my favourite moments within the church were when the Children's Ministry did something special with us. I feel like if more people got involved and put more time and resources into the Children's Ministry, then more children would have that experience and feel closer to the church.

What department would you like to work in and why?

I help out with the Children's Ministry occasionally. I like it. It's never a job that's too taxing and I get to help the children. I think it's nice, and it's something I will continue as time progresses.

Interview by: V. Lyttle

HEALTH CORNER



Positive Mental Health of Youth – Infographic

Strong social support plays an important role in the positive mental health of youth. This includes support from family, peers, schools and communities.

Positive mental health is the capacity to feel, think and act in ways that enhance our ability to enjoy life and deal with the challenges we face.

In Grade 10:

- 12% of girls and 24% of boys strongly agreed that they had confidence in themselves
- 22% of girls and 28% of boys strongly agreed that they were full of energy
- 42% of girls and 55% of boys reported high levels of life satisfaction

Data are from the 2013/14 Health Behaviour in School-aged Children, a research study that aims to gain insight into youth health and well-being, and their social contexts.

Relationships matter!

We can all play a role in promoting positive mental health among youth.

Read our report *Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) in Canada: Focus on Relationships* to learn more.

Visit Canada.ca/Health and search for HBSC.

Making Sleep Count for Youth (Infographic)

Sufficient duration and quality of sleep is important for good physical and mental health.

Sufficient sleep contributes to:

- Healthy growth and development
- Improved mood and concentration
- Better academic performance

In Grade 6: 47% of boys and 44% of girls report they are tired when going to school in the morning

In Grade 10: 75% of boys and 62% of girls report they are tired when going to school in the morning

Data are from the 2013/2014 Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC), a research study that aims to gain insight into youth health and well-being, and their social contexts.

Ways to improve sleep

- Practice relaxation and mindfulness-based stress reduction techniques
- Exercise regularly
- Avoid caffeine before bed, e.g. energy drinks and coffee
- Maintain a regular bedtime/waketime

Submitted by: Paula Williams

Read our report *Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) in Canada: Focus on Relationships* to learn more. Visit Canada.ca/Health and search for HBSC.



Member Profile cont'd

Semone Simon

Tell me about yourself?

I was born and raised in Jamaica. As a child my mom always took me to church, and I grew up believing in the Sunday worship. After being baptized twice I was ordained as a missionary to go and visit the sick and help others who needed the church assistance. My greatest passion growing up was to serve in my country. I joined the police force in 2008, where I was assigned as a detective at the Centre for Investigation of Sexual Offences and



Child Abuse. I enjoyed working with and counselling abuse and uncontrollable children. There were times that I got emotional, but I had to do my job as an investigator. I have been

married for 3 years to my wonderful husband Barrington Simon. I have a soft side for the vulnerable and I love Yahweh with all my heart.

How has Christianity influenced your life?

Being a Christian has transformed my life. Meaning that practically every moment of every day is influenced by my faith in Christ. It provides the motivation for how I interact with others, how I do my Job, and how I love my friends and family, even those who are hard to love. Christianity fills my leisure activities with a

sense of joy and purpose, provides me with mental peace, emotional support which encourages me to face life and its problems. It promotes social virtues such as truth, honesty, non-violence, service, love, discipline, patience, kindness, goodness and a prayerful life. It also influences my health.

How would you describe your experience in Mount Olive church?

Being at Mount Olive Church is a new experience. I like the warm fellowship, upon entering the church. I feel welcome and at home. I was warmly greeted by Elder Kenneth Gayle and Sister Sandra Williams on my first day. Elder Gayle, Sisters Williams and McCalla always asked me how my week was and it encourages me to hold on to the Lord and never gave up because God is good. Their kind words are encouraging. I still get encouraging and uplifting phone calls from some of my brothers and sisters.

How did you become a Seventh-day Adventist?

I was an ardent Sunday worshipper when I got married. When I met my husband, he told me that he was a Seventh-day Adventist. I was curious about his beliefs. When I got married and I visited Mount Olive church one Sabbath morning, I was astonished with their teachings in the class. The teacher was very thorough in explaining the lessons and the scriptures. This learning experience was amazing. When I was converted to the Adventist Church, it was a whole new transformation for me. Elder Vereton Brown and Brother Lynoth Jones were my assigned Bible workers, who were patient in answering my questions and concerns. As a newly baptized member, I would like a female Elder/Spiritual Guardian assigned to me, because as a new female convert I felt left out. It's like I am in the wilderness seeing two roads and don't know which one to take. I would also like an ongoing spiritual male guardian for my husband.

CHURCH EVENTS

Tell us a time when you experience God's miracle?

I experience God's miracles every day when I wake up. I take and taste the fresh breath of life, but most significantly was in 2007 when I felt ill. The doctor could not diagnose me with a specific diagnosis but gave me medication that only works for a few hours. It was years after I was invited to church by a family member where I was converted and prayed to God about my illness, and I was healed and that to me was a miracle. I have also experienced many more miracles in other peoples' lives.

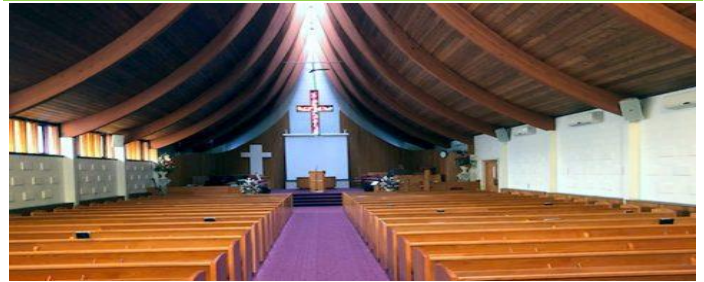
What are some of the programs/services you would like to see implemented in the church for the newly baptized members?

I would love to see a Bible class for the newly baptized members. In this class they would freely ask questions. Ongoing male and female spiritual guardians for new converts.

What department would you like to work in and why?

I would like to work in an evangelist or in the missionary department, because I love to reach out to the less fortunate and those who cannot help themselves. I have never known before the joy and happiness that filled my soul. It is perfectly natural that I would want to share my experiences with my friends and those of the least. I saw the need to lift up my womanhood to help the unloved, unwanted, especially children; and did not Christ say "suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for such is the kingdom of God?"

Interview by: V. Lyttle



The Gill Family Bids Farewell

Goodbyes are often said but sometimes with great difficulty. Sabbath evening, October 23, 2021, was bittersweet for our congregation at Mount Olive. After thirty-one years (31) of devoted service to the



church, Elder Desmond Gill, his wife Claire, and daughter Amara said farewell to the Mount Olive congregation as they moved away to continue on the path God has for them.

Elder and Sister Gill were among the sixty (60) committed and enthusiastic chartered members from Perth Avenue now (Toronto Perth) and Kingsview Village Seventh-day Adventist churches co-laboured to establish a new congregation in the Rexdale area of Etobicoke in October 1990. This effort gave birth to Mount Olive Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Elder Gill and Sister Gill faithfully served in various departments: Sabbath School, Treasury, Stewardship, Education and Children's Ministry amongst other. As an ordained elder, Elder Gill has served as the Head Elder on numerous occasions and is a much respected and appreciated Bible class teacher. He is

an impassioned and energetic preacher who have engaged the congregation, and many have been blessed by listening to his thought-provoking sermons.

Members and visitors alike reflected on the many ways in which the Gills have impacted their lives. One member gave an account of when she wanted to move but could not afford the moving costs. She called Elder Gill and he assured her not to worry. With the help of Elders Gill and Mitchell and other members she was able to move at very little cost. Another member recounted that he had an emergency in his home early one morning and he called Elder Gill and sure enough he was there to lend a helping hand.

Equally impactful were the recollections of time spent with Sister Gill. She was described as helpful and thoughtful and was admired for her creativity and leadership skills. She invested heavily in the Sabbath School, Vocational Bible School and Education Departments. She was known for exquisitely decorating areas of the church for various occasions. Her catering skills were appealing to sight and taste.

In expressing their sincere gratitude Elder and Sister Gill thanked everyone for their kind words, encouragement, and the good relationship that were established over the years. They personally acknowledged some members for their support. Sister Gill spoke of the first time she was asked to superintend Sabbath School. Though lacking in experience, she stepped out in faith and got it done. She is grateful for that humble beginning and for all she has learned on that remarkable journey.

The journey continues and the Gills will be very much missed by the Mount Olive family. As they embark on their new chapter, the church wishes them every success in their endeavors and God's richest blessings.

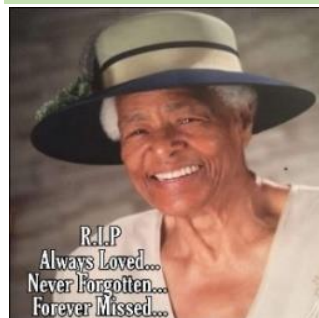
V. Lyttle

In Loving Memory

Patricia Elaine Bailey

Mother - Mom – Mommy - Gran

Patricia Elaine Bailey was born on Sunday, July 12, 1936, in the district of Allman Hill in the Parish of St. Andrew, Jamaica West Indies. Mom was a born Seventh-day Adventist and remained strong in the faith all her life. With a smile on her face and a song in her heart she spoke with clarity what Jesus meant to her and encouraged everyone she met to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour and be blessed.



A mother of six children and still hoping for more, decided upon a new venture. She left Jamaica at age 40 and came to Canada in 1977. Being only a visitor

in Canada, she did not have landed status but she put her trust in God. Despite the challenges that new immigrants face, Prince Emmanuel was able to see her through. Her life was a patchwork of experiences put together by her GOD who showed her the way and opened possibilities.

She transferred her membership from Rollington Town Seventh-day Adventist Church in Kingston, Jamaica to Malton Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada. Because she loved to sing, she transferred her membership to Downsview Seventh-day Adventist Church to be a part of the senior choir.

A number of churches came together and held a crusade in the school auditorium of North Albion Collegiate Institute (NACI). Pastor Joseph Bulgin was the evangelist. A church company

was then formed. The street next to NACI was called Mount Olive. The then members voted that the company should be named Mount Olive Church.

Later the congregation moved to the church at Islington and Albion and became known as the Mount Olive Seventh-day Adventist Church. After many years worshipping at Mount Olive, Mom accepted the position as Head of Women's Ministry for one year. The following year, she took the position as Sabbath School class teacher and taught for only two months. She gave up the position so she could spend as much time in Jamaica with her ailing father.

When, her daughter, Jocenne, started the children's choir known as "Tomorrows Leaders" Mom assisted her all those years with the practices, sleep-overs, when they went ministering to other churches and in musical performances and AY programs at Mount Olive and at others sister churches. She was a big part of fund raising bake sales for Tomorrows Leaders choir and she willingly sewed the scarves, bowties and neckties for their uniform.

Throughout her life, her children successfully surprised her with 5 birthday celebration parties - at age 32 before she left Jamaica, at 50 years, at 65 years, at 71 years and at 80 years. At 85 years of age, Mom died on August 6, 2021 and is now asleep awaiting the trumpet of the Lord on that great getting up morning. She is survived by her four daughters; Jocenne, Patricia, Darlene and Dahlia; 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

Mommy really tried to follow her Lord. She was always singing and praising her Lord and always encouraging us to pray for each other. Though she had very dark and difficult patches, His love strengthened her to deal with the dirt life threw at her so she kept pressing through. Angels must have been attracted to her and loved to linger about her path. Angels must have been

like a wall of fire about her and one day she shall walk with them in the city of God.

Mom was the treasured daughter of the Master of the Cosmos. She knew with certainty who she was in her Heavenly Father's eyes. God smiles upon the humble and lowly ones who follow closely in the footsteps of the Master. Jesus knows where Mommy is and one day He will come back for His faithful.

Patricia Bailey

Jennie Brown

January 23, 1952-November 22,2021

The Church pays tribute to a founding member, a daughter, a sister, a wife, a mother, a grandmother, a friend and so much more.

Born in Clarendon, Jamaica, where she spent her formative years, Jennie Brown, then migrated to Canada in the 1960's. Initially



she attended the Seventh-day Adventist Church on Shaw Street.

She was also one of the founding members of the Harvie Seventh-day Adventist Church, now Toronto West, where she served in the Deaconesses Department and sang in the choir. She later became a member of the Perth Avenue, now Toronto Perth Seventh-day Adventist Church.

In 1990 a partnership between Perth Avenue and Kingsview Village led to the formation of Mount Olive Seventh-day Adventist Church in Rexdale, Etobicoke and the subsequent transfer of the membership of Sister Jennie Brown to this church as one of sixty charter members.

She was faithful, dedicated, and committed in doing God's work. She served the Sabbath School Department from the time of her arrival until shortly before her passing. As a Sabbath School Superintendent God used her marvelously. Her opening, closing remarks, and special items were 'food for thought.' In the Health and Temperance Department she was instrumental in organizing health fairs along with other health programs and literature distributions. The Deaconess Department was blessed by her invaluable contribution as she tirelessly worked with the team for God's glory.

Sister Brown avidly supported many church programs and events in person and in kind. The Seniors' Department and Youth Shelter Program were grateful for her help. At the last seniors' banquet held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, she was in attendance and her greatest joy was to be among family and friends to celebrate God's bountiful love and mercy.

Solomon penned it best when he said, "there is a time for be everything under the sun." Surrounded by family and friends, Sister Brown peacefully transitioned from this life. Her mother, Sister Bernice McDonald, was among those who comforted her during her final moments. Her mother watched her entering this world and in departing, was also there tenderly stroking her hair backwards, and embracing her with her motherly arms. With the tears flowing down her cheeks, one can only imagine the mixed feelings she must have endured in witnessing this temporary goodbye

while holding on to the hope of the resurrection. What a day that will be when the trumpet shall sound and we shall be changed from mortal to immortality and corruptible to incorruptible!

Sister Jennie Brown is sleeping awaiting that grand reunion. She fought a good fight and by faith the family will be reunited. While memories of her live on, her departure leaves an evident void as family, church family, friends and associates struggle to cope with this loss. The Bible says "Blessed are those who die in the Lord". May her soul rest in peace.

V. Lyttle

Jeanette Ovid

October 1945-December 19, 2021

The church pays tribute to Sister Jeannette Ovid, a faithful member who loved the Lord with all her heart. Born on the beautiful island of Trinidad she was very proud of her culture. She was the second among four sisters and had two brothers.

During an interview with the Personal Ministry Department, Sister Ovid said that she was baptized by Pastor Kenneth Campbell. Prior to baptism, she was always punctual and faithfully returned her tithe. Even though she had her ups and downs she never ceased to praise God and testify of His abundant blessings. She Said that she asked God for five things, and they were granted. She further mentioned that God saved her and brought her to Mount Olive church for a reason. She explained that after the death of her mother she was in a dark place. She even blamed God for taking her mother. It took her twenty years to come back to God.

Outreach evangelism was one of her passions. She enjoyed working in Community Services Department for many years. She helped with the packing of grocery boxes and any other items that the Food Bank received and served the participants. In the soup kitchen she helped to prepare the vegetables and other staples for cooking and also assisted as a



server. She helped to prepare and distribute sandwiches to the homeless in Downtown Toronto.

Sister Jeanette was a regular

attendee at Wednesday night meetings. Despite her limited mobility she kept coming and stressed that she had no aches nor pain. She loved to read her Bible and prayed constantly. Her favourite text is Psalm 116 because it directly related to her. The first 2 verses reads "I love the Lord, for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy. Because He turned His ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live." She also loved Psalms 133 which speaks about dwelling in unity. Even when hospitalized she continued to pray daily in the morning and in the evening for an hour.

When asked what advice she would give to members of the church. She replied, "as long as you are with the Lord and you choose Christ, do not turn back. God will see you through all the way!"

Sister Jeanette Ovid was faithful and had fought a good fight. She will be missed.

Let us all remain faithful as we await our Saviour's imminent return.

V. Lyttle



[Google.ca/images](https://www.google.ca/images)

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world: but the world through Him might be saved. St. John 3:16,17

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

People Wave Palms to Jesus

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

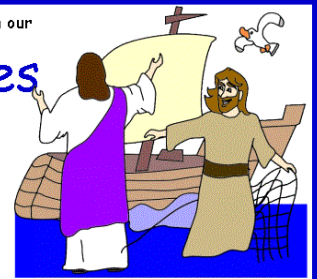
blessed
 branches
 coats
 crowd
 donkey
 Hosanna
 Jerusalem
 Jesus
 palms
 village



Google.ca/childrenactivities

Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

Twelve Disciples Anagram



- eeltvw _____
- eefhimrs _____
- acehgint _____
- filloow _____
- cdeiilpss _____
- acehpr _____
- definrs _____
- enst _____
- aejms _____
- aegill _____

David and Goliath Crossword

Across

1. Samuel anointed this young shepherd to be king someday.
3. David chose not to wear this it, was too heavy and he trusted God.
6. This was David's main weapon for defeating Goliath.
8. While David would watch the sheep he would make this.
9. The Israelites didn't get along with these 'giant' people.
10. God didn't choose a king by his size but by his ____.

Down

2. All the men were ____ to fight the giant Goliath.
4. Out of eight brothers, David was the ____.
5. This is the number of smooth stones David picked out to fight Goliath.
7. David wasn't afraid to fight the giant because he ____ God to keep him safe.

Pathfinders Department

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths”. Prov 3: 5-6.

We have come to the end of another year, and I must say to God be the glory. We have managed to ride the wave of virtual learning.

We began the year in January with 18 Pathfinders, 13 staff members and 6 teen leaders. We were happy to have the teens onboard as it would strengthen their interest in leading out in the club one day.

As challenging as it was with virtual classes we forged ahead. I was impressed to ask Sean Gayle to be our Director in Training for the year. He accepted the challenge, and I must say he did a wonderful job.

We had our Induction Service in March which was also done virtually. We had 7 new pathfinders added to the club. Praise be to our Lord and Saviour.

We met twice per month on Sundays. The focus was teaching them the importance of living for Jesus. We created an effective online environment that was educational, fun engaging and interacting.

We recognized and thanked the pathfinder parents. Thank you for helping with the children, making sure that they showed up for class and being present to participate in class activities. May the Lord bless you. To our dedicated teachers, you did your best, we would not be successful without you. May the Lord reward you openly.

Thanks to the following teachers:

- Friends: Sister Kim Douglas and Brother Sean Gayle,
- Companion: Deputy Director, Shelley Carby and Sister Valerie Johnson,
- Explorer: Sister Karene Whyte.
- Ranger: Sisters Amy Robinson-Gunn and Paula Williams,
- Voyager: Sisters Eval Bernard and Gracey Beckles who is also our Event Planner.
- Guide: Sisters Andrea Gayle and Katayan Simpson.

Special thanks to our teen Leaders: Zamyra Hamilton, Adin McFarlane, Nate Barrett, Jade Sumra, Tajae Henry and Alyssa Adams who helped in various classes on occasion.

To our diligent and dedicated Administrator, Sister Tracey McFarlane, you made sure we stayed current with the conference which we were awarded silver place. You went above and beyond the call. I thank you for all you did and is still doing. Blessings my sister. It was immensely appreciated.

To our dear Pastor Lazarus, thank you for your consistent and dedicated support. Also, thank you to the church family for their consistent and continued support. Today, we are stronger because we have allowed the Lord to lead as we followed and work in His vineyard. As we look ahead, we do so with confidence, knowing that the Almighty God will see us through as we dedicate our service.

Bridgette Philip
Pathfinder Director

SINGLES MINISTRY

The past two years was an unconventional one for our church, the Singles Ministry and the world at large. However, the Singles Ministry created opportunities as a great way to build on our deepening faith in God and to strengthen our sense of community.

Our theme for both years was S.A.L.T – Single Adults as Living Testimonies. With this in mind, we embarked on meeting on Fridays to discuss various spiritual issues that would enhance our Christian lifestyle. One of our discussions was to read the book 40 Days of Prayers and Praise for the Holy Spirit, this led to the pairing of our group of six to read, discuss and pray on a daily basis, for 40 days to receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit, and praying for five or more persons we wanted to see saved in God’s kingdom.

The next project we did was the reading and discussion of the book, Steps to Personal Revival being filled with the Holy Spirit, by Helmut Haubiel. Our average attendance was three persons, but we had the privilege of up to six persons on any given evening. We believe that ‘where two or three are gathered, there the Lord is in the midst to bless and do good.’

Next, we tasked ourselves to read and discuss the book of Revelation and although we are not quite through with the gleaned information, we soon realized that this book is the foundation of our Seventh Day Adventist faith. It gives us the opportunity to pray, reflect and focus on the work and try in the Heavenly Sanctuary of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We are still in awe of His work and what it means to our soul salvation. It has also reinforced our understanding of the power of prayer and the many resources available to us that shows the love of God for us.

We also had some secular activity where we had movie nights, these movies had to do with our faith and how we as Adventists were founded, “Tell the World, “and if you have not yet gotten the opportunity to watch this great movie I would encourage you to do so. We also had other faith based, true stories that encouraged us in seeing faithful Christians in our time.

On further contemplation of the past two years, I have seen the way God used the resources we had to encourage and motivate us. In every facet of our church’s ministry, there are always opportunities for evangelism and a commitment to be a part of a movement. This does not stop with any single individual but as a body of believers that can witness under the auspices of the Holy Spirit, leading to changed lives through the preaching of the Three Angels’ message of Revelation 14. Let us pray Mount Olive, that God would work in the hearts of our congregation and our singles, so that our lives will reflect our Redeemer and remain faithful to Him until He comes.

I would like to personally thank those singles that were faithful in attending our meetings, to you I say, allow the Lord to write a beautiful story in your life. I also wish to thank the Mount Olive leadership in affording me the opportunity to lead this challenging but rewarding ministry. May God’s richest blessings be ours.

Karene Campbell-Whyte
Singles Ministry Director

Recipes

Ginger Zinger Juice

Ingredients:

2 medium apples, cut into eighths

5 carrots (no need to peel)

1/2 inch fresh ginger· 1/4 lemon (remove peel to avoid bitterness)



Strain well and enjoy your Ginger Zinger Juice!

Benefits:

Vitamin C, Potassium, Magnesium, Folate, Iron, Phosphorous, Vitamin A, Calcium,

Sodium, Vitamin K and Vitamin E.

Submitted by: Pricilla Hayles

Sources: [8 Easy Juice Recipes to Get You Started Juicing | Whole fully https://www.herbazest.com/herbs/ginger/ginger-nutrition](https://www.herbazest.com/herbs/ginger/ginger-nutrition)
[Carrot Nutrition Facts and Health Benefits \(verywellfit.com\)](https://www.verywellfit.com/carrot-nutrition-facts-and-health-benefits)

Bulgur Rolls with Raisins and Onions

Yield: 24 medium-sized rolls

Ingredients:

- 2 cups finely ground bulgar wheat, rinsed and drained
 - 4 cups water
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 2 teaspoons cumin
 - 1/4 teaspoon ground cardamom (optional)
 - 1-1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
 - 1/2 cup raisins
 - 1 medium onion, chopped
- Place the bulgar, water, olive oil and salt in a pot. Bring to a boil, and skim off any foam or particles that float to the

top. Lower heat to medium and cook until water is absorbed, about 5-8 minutes. Stir occasionally, to prevent bulgar from sticking to the bottom of the pot.

- Remove from heat and stir in 1 teaspoon cumin. Let cool until bulgar can be easily handled. Add the flour and knead with the hands, pressing against the sides of the pot, until the mixture easily sticks together and is firm enough to form rolls. Set aside.
- Heat enough olive oil to cover the bottom of a small skillet. Fry the onions till golden brown. Add the raisins and cook an additional minute, stirring constantly. Cool.
- Stir in the other teaspoon of cumin and the ground cardamom, if desired. Mix well.
- Form the bulgar mixture into 24 elongated rolls, wetting your hands in cold water occasionally to aid the process.
- Holding one roll in the palm of the hand, and using the index finger of the other hand, make an indentation along the length of the roll, leaving space at the top and bottom.
- Place a scant teaspoon of the onion-raisin filling along the indentation, and seal by pinching the sides together. Roll between the palms of the hands so that the roll is again uniform.
 - Note: Patties or burgers may also be made if desired: Make a ball, form a whole in the center with your index finger, add filling, close up and flatten.
- Place on a greased baking sheet and bake in a preheated 350F oven 35-45 minutes, till golden brown, turning once. Or if you prefer, fry in olive or sesame oil till browned on both sides.

[DLTK's Bible crafts for Kids-Recipes](#)



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

BIBLICAL HUMOUR

What does the Bible say about laughter? Laughter is an amazing ability that God gave us all. Laughter helps us cope with sadness and life. The Bible gives examples of when to laugh and when not to laugh. The Bible also gives us the strength to be able to laugh at the wicked. "The wicked plot against the godly; they snarl at them in defiance. But the Lord just laughs, for he sees their day of judgment coming" (Psalm 37:12-13).

[Biblical jokes.com](http://Biblicaljokes.com)

Q. Why couldn't Jonah trust the ocean?

A. Because he knew there was something fishy about it.

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah; he was floating his stock while everyone was in liquidation.

Q. Where is the first tennis match mentioned in the Bible?

A. When Joseph served in Pharaoh's court.

Q. What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?

A. It's Christmas, Eve!

Q. How do we know Peter was a rich fisherman?

A. By his net income.

Q. Who was the smartest man in the Bible?

A. Abraham. He knew a Lot.

Q. Who was the fastest runner in the race?

A. Adam, because he was first in the human race.

Q. Why did the unemployed man get excited while looking through his Bible?

A. He thought he saw a job.

Q. What animal could Noah not trust?

A. Cheetah

Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A. Samson. He brought the house down.

Q. What time of day was Adam created?

A. Just a little before Eve.

Q. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?

A. Because Noah was always standing on the deck

Q. Why didn't Noah ever go fishing?

A. He only had two worms.

Q. Did Eve ever have a date with Adam?

A. Nope — just an apple.

Q. What's so funny about forbidden fruits?

A. They create many jams.

Q. Why did God create man before woman?

A. Because He didn't want any advice on how to do it.

Q. Did you know they had cars in Jesus' time?

A. Yup. The Bible says the disciples were all of one Accord.

Q. Why do they say 'Amen' at the end of a prayer instead of 'Awomen'?

A. Same reason we sing Hymns instead of Hers!.

[Google.ca/Biblical jokes](http://Google.ca/Biblicaljokes)

V. Lyttle



**YOUR PRESENCE, LOVE AND
KINDNESS WILL FOREVER BE WITH
US.**

R . I . P

Country Living

*“Jesus said to her,
‘I am the resurrection
and the life. Those
who believe in me, even
though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives
and believes in me will
never die.’”*

—John 11:25-26



Mount Olive
SDA Church