



Volume Five - January to June, 2022

Bi-Annual Newsletter of the General Assembly of the Church of God in Trinidad and Tobago



There is something about life, from since the days of old, about being "in right

standing" with someone. For instance, in approaching any Banking Institution for a loan, you must first be in "Right Financial Standing" before they

will even consider your request... we call it "Credit-Rating". Then too, it augurs well for you if you have a RELATIONSHIP with the Bank – in other words you were doing business with the Bank before – maybe a savings account.

The Credit Union will tell you that you must have Shares in their Institution before they can even consider you for a Loan.

What we are talking about here is RELATIONSHIP.

As RELATIONSHIP grows we feel a sense of ease and comfort

communicating with each other... it gets to the point where you believe that there is nothing I cannot discuss or say with that someone with whom I have a relationship. Your relationship as it grows will blossom to that point where this person becomes your "Go To Person".

As Christians it must be our goal to have a great relationship with God. To get to that point where you are comfortable with God, where you feel at home in His presence, where you are walking with Him.

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness and all these things will be added onto you". (Matthew 6: 33)

e Kingdom of teousness and vill be added Matthew 6: 33) In the Book of 11 Kings 20, we are told that Hezekiah was sick and according to the Word that came from God through the Prophet Isaiah, he (Hezekiah) would die.

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However, Hezekiah, because of the RELATIONSHIP he had with GOD, felt that sense of comfort and bold assurance to ask the desire of his heart:

"I beseech Thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before Thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in Thy sight".

Hezekiah knew God – he had a relationship with Him and as he asked, as he wept before God, we are told in the following verses that:

"afore Isaiah was gone out into the

(continued on page 2...)

"One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to enquire in His temple." - Psalm 27: 4

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Page Eight: N.Y.F. Stay Tuned... middle court, that the Word of the LORD came to him, saying, 5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal Thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD. ⁶ And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

All this because Hezekiah had a RELATIONSHIP with GOD... a relationship of such that when His heart was overwhelmed, he did not see the need to run to any other than his ROCK – the God of his SALVATION – the God whom He KNEW – the God whom he LOVED – the God whom he had a RELATIONSHIP with.

There may be days situations confront us and we become overwhelmed, we may feel "heavy at heart"; but there is One who can calm any storm, One in whom with can find rest, peace, comfort

and strength...

The song writer penned the words: "I come to the Garden alone while the dew is still on the roses, and the Voice I hear falling on my ear the Son of God discloses: and He walks with me and He talks with me and He tells me I am His own and the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known".

Brothers and Sisters of the Household of Faith, seek daily to walk with God, to do the things that are pleasing to God. As you grow closer and closer to God, as you seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, truly all these things will be added onto you.

Walk according to the Vocation wherewith you are called. Walk in fulfilment of the purpose for which you were created.

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus...



It is the hope of the General Assembly of the Church of God in Trinidad and Tobago that this competition will bring to life/understanding among our young people (from a small age), that they were created with purpose and that they are overcomers in Christ.



Pastoral Assignments

Pastor Louise Francis at the Church of God in San Pedro/Poole.

Pastor Kelvin Harrinarine at the Church of God in Chaguanas.

Pastor Kenneth Joseph at the Church of God in Diego Martin.

Pastor Ivy Mahabir and the Members of the Church of God at Ridge Road. The Teakville Church of God, located at Ridge Road in Poole was dedicated, and Pastor Ivy Mahabir installed as their Pastor on Saturday 4th December, 2021.

Pastor Eunica Kerr-Quashie and the Members of Church of God at Canaan. The Canaan Church of God, located at Canaan Farm Road, Canaan, Tobago was dedicated, and Pastor Eunica Kerr-Quashie installed as their Pastor on Sunday 30th January, 2022.

> Pastor Sally-Ann Maynard-Ransomme at the Church of God in Rio Claro.

> > Rest in Peace.

United in Prayer for:

- A special touch from God for our Leaders and Members who are ailing.
- Pastoral Leadership for our Congregations with Pastoral Vacancies.
- Succession Planning: Future Ministers and Leaders within the Church of God.
- The upgrade of the Church Facilities at Barataria, and the recommencement of Church Services.
- The establishment of the General Assembly Office at the Church of God in Barataria.
- The building expansion works at the Church of God in Carapichaima.
- The future of the West Indies Theological College.

Gone ... Not Forgotten:

- Sis. Dorothy (Grace) Bacchus who departed this life on Friday 6th May, 2022. Her smile, her love, her support will always be remembered. A strong woman of God, who supported her family and cared for her Church Family selflessly. She was a mother to many. Her legacy lives on.
- Sis. Sylvia Tuckett who also departed this life on Friday 6th May, 2022. Her years of dedicated service within the Church of God at Arima and by extension the entire body will always be remembered with gratitude and love.
- Bro. John Walters peacefully left us on Tuesday 7th June, 2022. Bro. Walters' service at the Church of God at Logwood Park will forever be remembered. He gave of himself in service, as a Lay Minister, Worship Leader, Bus Driver... yes he served, and he served well.



"Not my will Jord, but Your will be done."

Rev. Earl Burrowes

The Reverend Earl Burrowes was born in our CARICOM neighbour, the coral island, Barbados. He was the last of four siblings, one girl and three boys. He grew up in the parish of St. George. The third son of his mother, the neighbourhood baker, and his father, the choir master and builder. Rev. Burrowes attended Modern High School in Barbados.

He left Barbados as a 20 year-old young man in 1953, to attend what was then known as West Indies Bible Institute (W.I.B.I). He remained at Bible School until 1957 under the tutelage of such servants like Rev & Mrs. Clair & Rita Shultz and Rev. & Mrs. Ralph & Ruth Coolidge. He rubbed shoulders at W.I.B.I. with the likes of the late Eddie Daniel, Eva Payne, Jerome Peters Snr. and Earl Procter.

As part of his time at W.I.B.I. Rev. Burrowes, along with other students, worked alongside the Millers in the woodwork shop, which operated under the brand name "Master-built."

He served as Student Pastor at Sisters Road Church of God while at W.I.B.I. After graduating, he became the Pastor of the same congregation in 1957. He was the Pastor at Sisters Road Church of God when it hosted the very first International Work Camp of the Church of God in 1961; and remained as Pastor for several more years at Sisters Road.

It was at Sisters Road he met his wife, Ann (nee) Jeffers. They got married in 1962 and had three children, Judy, Curtis and Steve.

Rev. Burrowes next pastored the congregation of Siparia - then located on the Siparia Old Road. At one point in time he simultaneously pastored both the Siparia and Princes Town congregations. Thereafter, he pastored solely at Princes Town for some years.

Rev. Burrowes also served for several years as a teacher at the Primary and Secondary levels. He, for years gave extra lessons to students in the Sisters Road community in the subject of Mathematics.

Rev. Earl Burrowes has served the National and Regional Church as:

- Corresponding and Recording Secretary of the General Assembly
- Chairperson of the Board of Christian Education
- Zonal Coordinator for the Caribbean Atlantic Assembly with responsibility for Curacao, Guyana, Grenada and Trinidad and Tobago.

Rev. Burrowes is now retired and has long since given up official pastoral duties.

He worships at the Sisters Road Church of God.

Many lives have been blessed, as Rev. Burrowes dedicated himself to the service of God.

We say thank you Rev. Burrowes for your service, your love, your guidance.

God bless you.

The Pioneer

Sis. Elsie Eldora Daniel

Sis. Elsie Daniel, formerly Elsie Hunt, was born on 27th August 1931 in Woodbrook Trinidad, where she grew up until the age of approximately twenty-eight (28) years.

Initially, Sis. Daniel attended the Anglican Church, since the Hunt's family were Anglicans. During those early days, Elsie Hunt attended both the Anglican Sunday School and the Port of Spain Church of God Sunday School.



Whilst the rest of the Hunt's family remained in the Anglican faith, Elsie Hunt gradually transitioned to the Port of Spain Church of God Congregation. Though there were very strident verbal efforts to dissuade her by her family members - even into adulthood - she remained faithful to the Church of God doctrine. She was convinced that the doctrine is the 'exact replica' of what the Bible teaches.

Not long after completing her Secondary School education, Sis. Elsie pursued her studies in Pharmacology.

Later into her adult life, Sis. Elsie got married to Edward Daniel on 10th December 1961 at the Port of Spain Church of God, by Pastor Clifford Payne.

In 1963 Pastor Edward Daniel was called to serve in Grenada at the Morne Jaloux Church of God and consequently Sis. Elsie also journeyed with him. In Grenada, Sis. Elsie was quite enthusiastic and gifted in working with children and thus started a large Sunday School in the area of Morne Jaloux, whilst still working in her profession as a Pharmacist.

In 1969, Pastor & Sis. Daniel adopted a child named Antoinette Dianna Bain. Sometime after, another call was placed on Pastor Daniel's life and the entire family migrated to Guyana to serve in a Church of God Congregation there. The family ministered there for approximately three years, before returning to Grenada. Upon returning, Pastor & Sis. Daniel served at the Pearl's Church of God in the St. Andrews Parish of Grenada.

Although Sis. Daniel was engrossed in her secular work as a Pharmacist at one of the Government Health Institutions - Birch Grove in Grenada, she remained faithful and active in the Pearls Church of God. Sis. Elsie again formed outpost Sunday Schools in the Dunfermline and Paradise districts. There were approximately twenty-five (25) children in both Sunday Schools.

Sis. Daniel was one of the first persons in Grenada to teach Sunday School using Flannel Graphs, which really piqued the interest of the children who were very eager to attend and participate. These outreach schools were conducted while also organising her very own Sunday School at the Pearls Church of God.

Sis. Daniel always had a 'heart' for children – and almost every Christmas season, she would visit the home for under-privileged children, based in the St George's area. She also invited one of the children to spend some time at the Daniel's home for the entire Christmas period.

Sis. Daniel was affectionately called "Sis. Dan" in Grenada, and is still called by that name up to today.

Sis. Elsie was also instrumental in forming a Club for children named "Pathways Club" where Bible Stories, art and craft were taught. Even though, most of her time was taken up with the running of the Sunday School, she was also heavily involved with the Women's Group at the Pearls Church of God. Sis. Daniel was

President for several years at Pearls, and many of the women looked to her for both spiritual guidance and counselling.

The manse at Pearls served as a 'hostel' for many groups and persons from the Church of God congregations outside of Grenada, and who visited from time to time. The Daniel's served the Church of God in Grenada for approximately ten (10) years in total, before returning home to Trinidad in 1978.

On their return, Sis. Daniel and daughter worshipped at the Barataria Church of God, while Pastor Daniel ministered in other Church of God Churches. Again, Sis. Daniel was heavily involved with the women at the Barataria Church of God, and in 1982 the entire family moved to Santa Rosa Heights, Arima.

It was in the living room of the Daniel's home, that Arima Church of God began. Firstly, Sis. Daniel started a Sunday School in her porch and not long after, she invited neighbours for many other services and Bible Study.

The Arima Church of God then moved to the Malabar Community Centre; operating there for many years before being able to construct their own Sanctuary under the leadership of Rev. Clinton & Beryl Providence.

Sis. Daniel with her tenacious spirit, continued to serve in many areas – Sunday School, Women Ministry – and participated in almost **every** other programme/activity of the Arima Church of God. She even served the wider Church of God as one of the members of Golden Agers. Her desire was to have a 'home for the aged' constructed and managed by the Church of God.

Sis. Daniel also journeyed to other Caribbean countries, where the Church of God Women's Conferences were held. Sis. Elsie continued in that vein, serving in ministry even after retiring from her profession. There is a saying "Though one is retired, one can be re-fired" and refired indeed, Sis. Daniel became, when she continued serving.

At present, Sis Daniel - now 90 - is enjoying her present life of fulfilment at the *Age with Joy* residence in Tacarigua, and has been there since March 2021.

Sis. Daniel insisted on not being placed anywhere that is too far from the Arima Church of God. She is still very, very determined in her Church attendance at Arima Church of God, notwithstanding the difficulties or circumstances.

Though many persons passed on who were deemed as part of the group of 'original members' of Arima Church of God, Sis. Elsie Daniel is still alive and is regarded as "THE PIONEER' of Arima Church of God – now called The Church of God Centre of Ministries.

With Gratitude and Love... God bless you Sis. Elsie Eldora Daniel.

Do you Know...? You can get back a portion of the money you are spending on Dental and Doctor Visits? Your eyeglasses can now become a lot more affordable, as you get back a portion of the sum spent? • The cost of healthcare continues to escalate. • No one wants to get sick, but unfortunately it happens. Find out more about our Group Health Plan... what we have and what we are putting in place... making healthcare more affordable to our Members. Call 318-6350 TODAY!

...and counting....

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The Church of God, Lambeau



So you may recall from our previous issue (volume 3), that the Church of God located at Milford Road in Lambeau, was the first Congregation to be established by the Missionary Board of the Church of God who came to Tobago in 1921. Missionaries George Pye and William Rather journeyed to Tobago after sowing seeds in Trinidad from 1906. When they arrived in Tobago in 1921, they stayed at the Savoy Guest House on Burnett Hill, where they conducted services with local converts.

The Baptist Mission owned property at Milford Road in Lambeau, but as their membership declined, they closed their doors; and the Missionary Board of the Church of God purchased the said property *(which is now home to the Church of God, Lambeau)* from them for TT\$240.00.

Many of the Members who worshipped at the London Baptist Church formed the nucleus of the Church, along with other converts. Some of the early members included the Prescod, Pitt, Birchwood, Daniel and Cudjoe families.



The Cemetery located at Cemetery Street in Lambeau was also acquired at a cost of One Hundred Dollars (TT\$100.00); and years after the Church inherited what is today identified as the John Henry Property, which of course was left to the Church by the late John Henry.

Church of God - always known for our singing; voices such as Sis. Ruth Francois & Sis. Umilta Daniel (soprano), Sis. Kate

Francois (contralto), Bro. Conrad Frederick (tenor) and Bro. Lewis Daniel (bass), under the guidance of the Choir Director - Sis. Adina Pitt blessed the hearts of many as they united their voices in adoration to our Triune God and King.

The Congregation at Lambeau has been blessed with many a dynamic Ministers through the years, including Pastor & Sis. Edward Arthur Cumberbatch, Rev. Theophilus & Sis. Harriet Edwards, Rev. Jerome Peters & Sis. Anna Berkeley-Peters, Rev. Clifford Payne & Sis. Eva Payne, Rev. Edward Daniel & Sis. Elsie Daniel, Pastor Hilson Phillips & Sis. Veronica Phillips, Rev. Clinton Providence & Sis. Beryl Providence, Rev. David Brathwaite & Sis. Ann-Marie Brathwaite, Rev. Gordon Luke & Sis. Gwennie Luke, Rev. Rollin Bacchus & Sis. Grace Bacchus. Currently the Church functions under the Pastoral Leadership of Rev. Michael Williams & Sis. Pearletta Johnny-Williams.

More detailed history of the Church of God at Lambeau will soon be available for your information on the Church of God website at <u>www.gacogtt.org</u>

(We thank Minister Victor Laptiste for his diligence in seeking to document the history of the Church. God bless you.)

National Youth Fellowship of the Church of God in Trinidad and Tobago Bro. Kern Perryman

Bro. Kern Perryma President

I greet you in the wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It was with a sense of excitement that the last appointed committee of the National Youth Fellowship met at the West Indies Theological College for a weekend retreat entitled "United in Fellowship and Love". We departed feeling rejuvenated and ready to work in God's Kingdom. It is unfortunate that the

COVID 19 Pandemic curtailed our plans.

Nonetheless, as we look towards the future, we aim to ensure that much of what was planned comes to fruition. Our current Team comprises:

- Bro. Kern Perryman
- Bro. Lishawn Ösmond
- Sis. Makiba Thomas
- Sis. Darielle Morrison
- Corresponding Secretary
 Treasurer

President

Vice President

Recording Secretary

- Sis. Celine Guerero
 Bro. Zion Guerero
 - Pastor Kemar Rhoomes
- Trustee
- Advisor

Even as we continue in prayer without ceasing for our Youth Groups across our Twin Islands and the Region, we urge you to stay tuned for all our upcoming events - we do look forward to your love and support; and we solicit your prayers.

One of our first events will be "An Evening of Worship and Praise" - we can all agree that we do have a lot to be Thankful for.

In closing, I always say 'somebody prayed for me' and as that person prayed for me I know someone will be praying for you.

Lots of Plans for our *Future*, by Gods Grace Get onto our website at <u>www.gacogtt.org</u> - join our mailing list and look out for all our Upcoming Exciting Events...

We look forward to your presence.

Biblical Conversations

United Christmas Dinner

National Convention

Caribbean Cruise

Media & Publications Team: Sis. Lois Williams-Moore, Sis. Racquel Moolchan, Sis. Esther Harrinarine, Sis. Antoinette Trim, Sis. Kirsten Bhola, Sis. Lecharl Moolchan.

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