



The Lighthouse

“YOU CANNOT FLEE FROM GOD”

On Sunday 17th May 2015, the Word brought by our Bro. Tony Montague was based on Jonah, Chap 4 verse 5 which reads as follows:

Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city.



Bro. Tony Montague

Bro. Tony Montague began by noting that: *“There are times in history when God deals with people, countries, islands, cities and individuals”*. He added: *“God gave us free will. Why did he not make us as robots? That is not what he wanted.”* He stressed that sometimes God makes a judgment, like in the days of Noah, where he destroyed the world, or in the case of Sodom and Gomorrah, where he destroyed the city. Bro. Tony affirmed that *“at some point in time, God brings judgment”*.

This preamble led him back into the text where he explained that *“It became Nineveh’s time to be judged.”* In this regard, he asked the congregation a searching question: *“How long can we live in debauchery before God judges us?”* Bro. Tony explained that God told Jonah to go to Nineveh, but Jonah did not want to go there, perhaps because it was a large city and would involve much work. Jonah decided that he would flee from God. He went to the lakeside. He purposed in his heart that he would go to Tarshis and that God would not stop him. And God did not stop him. Bro. Tony remarked: *“Is it not strange how when we disobey God, he does not stop us? And we are happy and comfortable. But God does not change his mind.”*

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sat. 13 June Sunday School
– 5:30 p.m. Teachers’
 Meeting
- Sat. 13 June – Men’s Fellow-
6:30 p.m. ship Meeting
- Sun 14 June - Morning Wor-
10.40 a.m. ship.
- Sat 20 June - VBS Planning
4.00 p.m. Meeting
- Sun. 21 June Father’s Day
– 10:40 a.m. Service
- Sun. 21 June Board Meeting
– 7:30 p.m
- Sat. 27 June Flea Market

BEREAN CHOIR CONCERT - A HUGE SUCCESS



Story On Page 3

God is omnipotent and omniscient. He has given us a will to choose. With all of our will, God is able to bring His will to bear on us.” He continued with the story of Jonah: “Jonah is sleeping on the ship. God sends a slight breeze which becomes a heavier breeze, which becomes a hurricane. The men do not know where it came from”.



An Artist's impression of Jonah under the tree.

He continued: “God had one interest in Jonah. You cannot run from God. Jonah is fleeing, forgetting that God is still there. When things get too rough, the men cast lots and it falls on Jonah. The men throw Jonah overboard and a big fish swallows him. Would it not be nicer now that you are sitting in the pew to say yes to Jesus rather than wait until you are in the hospital bed? Jonah is in a difficult situation which he himself created, because of his choices. Sometimes, we blame others for our bad choices. Jonah spent three days and three nights in unimaginable agony. Were you ever in your life in a bad situation.? God gave the fish indigestion and the fish vomited out Jonah.”

Bro. Tony reminded the congregation: *“God gave Jonah a second chance. God gives you a second chance. He does not change his mind. God sent Jonah, a single man, to a big city with a message –that he would destroy the city in 40 days. Jonah went to Nineveh and preached. Then he went out of the city waiting to see what would happen. They repented and God changed his mind. Jonah had made a mistake and God gave him a second chance. These people were in the same position as Jonah. But Jonah was angry. Jonah should have been happy”.*

Bro. Tony then asked the congregation: *“Are we not like Jonah? We sometimes treat other people badly, forgetting that we were delivered by God. God wants more to care for us than bring judgment down on us. He is saying ‘It’s up to you! You can heed the call or try to run away’. This morning God is giving you a second chance to obey the first orders....You can answer or you can wait until adversity strikes you”.*

Eleven Plus Exam - A New Beginning

Students who have just completed the eleven plus exam, and have gained entry into various schools, should see this stage as a new beginning.

It is an opportunity to refocus on their goals in life, and to continue to build the correct attitudes to life. There will be challenges as their faith in God will be tested, but they must learn that, always, it is important to stand up for truth and righteousness, even if it means standing alone.

They have the spiritual grounding which will help them make the right choices and avoid negative behavior. Parents will have to be even more watchful and caring.

The academic and vocational subjects are vital

for progress in life, but nothing is as important as the character which they develop and project among their peers and others.

It is important that parents insist that their children join activities in school. The Inter-School Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship (ISIVCF) is a good choice and will help to supplement the teachings learnt in Sunday School and youth group meetings.

Participating in sports and activities which encourage living a healthy lifestyle are invaluable and would go alongside the recommended involvement in the ISIVCF.

The moral development of our children should not be left to chance. Parents and guardians have an active and vital role to play in the process.

Berean Choir Concert—A Huge Success!



Berean Choir and Friends

this year, actually played a few tunes on the steel pans which they had learnt.

Such an event has many inputs from the planning process and throughout. It was an excellent team effort. The concert was a combined effort of the Music Committee and the Fund-raising Committee.

The Lord has endowed Sis. Audrey Lloyd with a brilliant musical mind. She came to the Fund-raising Committee with a very good idea of exactly how the programme would be executed. The Fund-raising committee gave the concept their full support.

Over the last two months, a combined effort of Sis. Audrey, Sis. Patricia Gaskin, Sis. Angello Alleyne and Sis. Trudy Rogers, ably assisted by other Committee members, ensured that all aspects of the Concert planning were finalized.

Several members of the congregation sold their quota of tickets. Some sold much more than their quota. There were three Incentive Awards of *a tablet, a GBox* and a *Lunch for two at Sandy Lane Hotel*. These will be presented on Sunday, June 14th, to the three persons who sold the most value in tickets.

It is understood, though, that persons were driven to sell large numbers of tickets, not because of the incentive awards, but because of their commitment to advancing God's work.

The Board of the Berean Bible Church is extremely grateful to all members of the church for a job well done!

Patrons attending the 2015 Berean Choir Concert, entitled "Let It All Be Music", left the Sir Hugh Springer Auditorium with their faces showing absolute satisfaction.

It was truly a musical treat as the **Berean Choir and Friends**, and a number of other groups which can also be considered friends of the Berean Bible Church, gave performances which were a blessing to us all.

The two segments of music were interspersed by an intermission which lasted thirty minutes. During this time, patrons were able to mingle among each other, while enjoying the food and drink provided.

The melodious tunes of **Aceworx Steel Ensemble** filled the air. It was a special moment when children from the Berean, who were in training since earlier



Sis. Audrey Lloyd



The Barbados Defence Force Band



Berean Children Under the tutelage of Mrs. Glovina Springer

In December 2014, a request was made to **Mrs. Glovina Springer**, leader of **Aceworx Steel Ensemble**, to provide steel pan music for the Christmas morning programme. Sis Glovina, who sometimes attends Worship Service at the Berean Bible Church and is Sis. Eartha's cousin, said that she was unable to assist. This was because most of her children were understandably engaged in family activities on Christmas morning. Her Steel Ensemble is made up of school children. She, however, suggested that a solution lay in training some of our own Berean children to play steel pans. She volunteered her services to make this a reality.

Sis. Glovina discussed the matter with my Sis. Eartha Skeete. Sis. Eartha thought it would be a good opportunity and started finding out if there was any interest among congregation members for their children to participate. As mentioned, Sis. Glovina was offering her services free of cost.

Fortunately, seven young people expressed an interest and an arrangement was made for them to go to Sis Glovina's home, where she teaches steel pan and other instruments, along with some academic subjects.

Sis. Glovina said that she was very pleased with how quickly they have made progress. By 30th May, they were able to play a few items during the intermission at our Choir Concert. This is another Ministry which young people can be involved in.

Sis. Glovina would like to train an adult to take charge of the group which will be important for the group when it is making the transition to becoming self-sufficient. ***She would like that adult to start training now.***

We thank the Lord for the generosity of Sis Glovina.

Gearing up For Vacation Bible



A sample of the lessons to be taught.

The Berean Bible Church is abuzz with news of the upcoming **Vacation Bible School**. This will be an important way of bringing our children closer to the Lord.

Camps and Training activities done during the vacation, and hence outside of the formal school setting, are invaluable in developing the type of attitudes towards God, which we hope to inculcate in these children. This is done of course in a "fun" setting.

It is our aim to start with children of members of the Berean and families associated with the Berean, and then open it to the community. It is a pilot project starting with 40 children from age 5—12 years. It will run for one week from 16—22 August 2015. On the final day, there will be a Closing Ceremony which will involve parents.

Shortly, materials will be available and the process of preparation will commence. ***Kindly pray that plans will come to fruition and that this project will be successful.***

The Board thanks all those who have volunteered to assist and encourage even more persons to come forward to make this activity a resounding success. Winning children for the Lord and keeping them focused in the right direction is a serious responsibility.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW SANCTUARY AT HOTHERSAL

Since our last edition of this Newsletter, when the new Sanctuary was at foundation level, quite a deal of progress was made. To keep this momentum going, a more intensive fund-raising drive has been initiated.

Whereas in the early days, five or six years ago, members of the congregation were asked to pledge contributions, at this stage the approach is to ask for pledges of building materials for the project. In other words, it is hoped that individuals or families will make dona-

tions based on some aspect of the materials for the building process. A table showing the list of materials needed is posted below. Envelopes are being distributed with the label "Donation For Building Materials". If you prefer to donate an item in kind, kindly speak with **Bro. Tony** to ensure that it is suitable. If you are donating money to purchase an item, you may place it in the envelope and submit it to the treasurer or place in the offering. *You can consider paying for an item (e.g window or door) in instalments.*



Building Under Construction

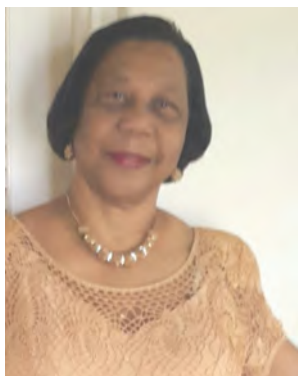
MATERIALS NEEDED	QUANTITY	COST PER UNIT (\$)
Concrete Blocks	8000	3.00
Doors	6	2000.00
Doors	8	350.00
Windows	36	475.00
Cement bags	210	30.00
Roofing materials	5	50,000.00
Toilets	4	450.00
Basins	5	350.00
Sinks	1	425.00
Tiles	7000	4.00
Tile cement (bags)	300	35.00
Light Fixtures	40	125.00
Other fittings	90	20.00
Timber (running feet)	4500	4.00
Chairs	200	120.00

Very Steady Progress

We have come very far by faith. We still have a distance to travel in terms of our building program. It is often good to look back and see how far we have reached. The photos below show how far we have come since August last year (2014).



BEREAN CHURCH CHOIR HISTORY

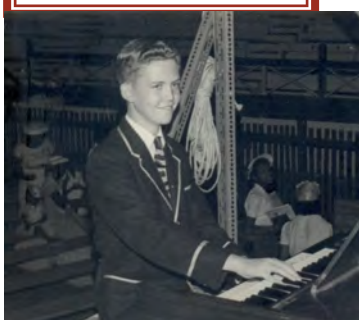


Sis. Leslie Hull

In the last edition of this Newsletter, based on the contents of the history researched and scripted by Sis. Audrey Lloyd, I indicated that, in 1993, Mrs. Leslie Hull lent her services as Choral Director to the Church for a short time. She was instrumental in raising the quality of Choral Music in the Church to a very high standard through her voice training programs and excellent directorship.

In a telephone conversation with Sis. Leslie, she explained that she first started to work with the Berean Choir in 1993 until 1996 when she became ill. Later, in this newsletter, we will continue the story of where she returned to offer her services.

I will digress for a moment and write about someone who played a role at the Berean during those early years. He is Mr. Peter Deane.



A young Peter Deane

Through Sis Rosita Moore and Sis Joy Banfield, I was able to make contact with Mr. Peter Deane, who once played the organ at the Berean to accompany the choir. The following are his words: *"The picture is actually me playing the organ at a Sutera Twins meeting at the Garrison Savannah. I'm 16 in the pic and wearing my Lodge School formal wear, usually worn on Speech Day etc. It was a small home organ. The organ was lent from a music store for the meetings. Up to that point the church only had a piano and Miss Squires played it most of the time. I would play, at times, to accompany various people. At the end of the Sutera meetings the organ was moved to the church and I then became organist for 4 years when I was 16 until I immigrated to the U.S. when I was 21'.*

Yes I did accompany the choir mostly on the organ. I remember Mrs. Ruby Hansen, Rev Hansen's wife conducting a Christmas cantata and I accompanied the choir on the organ. I can't remember if someone was also playing piano along with the organ. That's been almost 50 years ago. Thank you for including me in all of this. Berean holds such fond memories for me".



Recent Photo of
Bro. Peter Deane

The next Director was Bro. Collin Jackson. Bro. Collin directed the Choir during their presentation for the Church's 40th Anniversary program in October 1996. He was accompanied by his son, Sean, just back from the Royal College, on the organ, and Sis. Audrey on the piano. He continued for a short while after the anniversary, but gave it up in 1997, after he was appointed Principal of St. Leonard's Boys' School.

Bro. Collin explained: *"It's almost twenty years since 1996 and, as such, few persons might remember the impact of the 40th anniversary choir which sang nightly during the crusade. It is sufficient to note that the transformation of the choir began at this point".*



Bro. Collin Jackson, Bro Peter Deane
and Sis. Audrey Lloyd at the Berean.



Bro. Collin Jackson