

NOTICES

1. EASTER EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY

All members of the ECBM Circuit are reminded of our **Easter Evangelistic Meetings next week (April 5-8, 2009)**. There will be **4 nights** of Biblical preaching in our series of evangelistic meetings. Our guest speaker will be Pastor Louis Love Jr. of the New Life Fellowship Church of Vernon Hills, Illinois (a suburb of Chicago). Each member is encouraged to bring a guest to each of the meetings. The goal is to have a guest at all of the services. Please pray earnestly for a mighty move of God's spirit among us.

2. GOOD FRIDAY FOOD FELLOWSHIP

All members are advised of the Good Friday Food Fellowship on April 10. Previously, we had formally envisaged this fellowship to be an evangelistic opportunity, but the Eldership has decided to do things differently. The event will focus on fostering fellowship and unity in our church family. The fellowship will be opened to all church members and regular non-members. Please begin to pray for every aspect of this event.

3. TYRELLS LAY-A-BLOCK FUND

All church members in our Circuit are reminded of our commitment to pledge and give to the Tyrells Lay-A-Block Fund. Construction has begun. We need to finish the building in time for the 17th Caribbean Baptist Heritage Conference. We do not have all the funds that we need. We need to pledge and give now to this project. Even the children need to get involved and make a pledge and give whatever they can. Let us make sure that our giving surpasses what we gave to the Covenant Lay-A-Block Fund. Let us rise to the challenge to the glory of God!

4. CBHC PLANNING MEETING

There will be a special planning meeting on Thursday, 2nd April, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Central Baptist Church for the planning of the **17th Caribbean Baptist Heritage Conference to be hosted here in Antigua from July 5-8, 2009**. All Elders, Deacons and leaders of the Events Preparation Ministry are expected to attend.

5. ACTEENS CLUB

All members of the Acteens Club are reminded of their meeting this **Friday, 3rd April, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at Central**. Do not miss this night of great fellowship and a means to grow in the Lord. *All teenage boys under 18 years of age, especially those in secondary school* are encouraged to participate. Be sure to bring a pen, a notebook and a Bible.

6. PRAISE ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL

Members of the Adult and Youth Praise Ensembles are advised of a rehearsal this **Saturday, 4th April, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.** at Central. All members are asked to be punctual.

TARRY IN PRAYER

GENERAL MINISTRY NEEDS

Elders, Deacons, and their families
Baptist Academy of Antigua
E.C.B.M. Ministries & Staff
Evangelistic Ministries
"Sovereign Grace Hour" (ABS TV & Abundant Life Radio)

CHURCH FAMILY

HEALTH: Sis. Cassilda Williams, Sis. Karen Wehner
SAFETY IN PREGNANCY: Sis. Susan Powell, Sis. Sarah Maina, Sis. Annstachia Barlow
PRIVATE CONCERNS: Sis. Diane Joseph, Bro. Byron & Sis. Annushka Andrew
THANKSGIVING: Bro. Bruce & Sis. Marquita Andrew, Bro. George & Sis. Karen Wehner
NEW MEMBERS: Bro. Randy London, Sis. Murissa Benn, Sis. Mariah Selwood, Bro. Bedan Maina, Bro. Mark Theodore, Sis. Michelle Jeffrey
SHUT-IN: Bro. Claude Jeremiah
WATCH CARE: Sis. Christophene Daniel, Sis. Edith McCoy, Sis. Enid Matthew, Bro. Claude Jeremiah, Bro. Isaiah James

OTHER CONCERNS

SAVING GRACE: Wilson Barnes, Semaj Barnes, Daniella Lynch, Gregson Pilgrim, Brian Williams, Craig Williams, Ramone Spencer, Mandela Edwards
NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS: Wanda Campbell (Central), Jemelia Saunders (Tyrells), Joanna Joseph (Central), Judy Butters (Tyrells)

This Week

Sun.	8:00 a.m.	Sovereign Grace Hour (ABS TV)
	8:00 a.m.	Worship: Tyrells & Covenant
	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School: Central
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School: Tyrells & Covenant
	10:00 a.m.	Worship: Central
	6:00 p.m.	Worship : All Churches
Tues.	3:00 p.m.	Sovereign Grace Hour (ALR 103.9 FM)
Wed.	7:00 p.m.	Prayer Service: All Churches
	7:45 p.m.	Fellowship Groups: All Churches
Fri.	9:00 a.m.	Sovereign Grace Hour (ALR 103.9 FM)
	6:30 p.m.	Acteens Club: Central
Sat.	5:00 p.m.	Adult & Youth Praise Ensemble

FAMILY NEWS

Baptist Circuit of Churches, ECBM
P.O. Box 2678 • St. John's • Antigua & Barbuda
E-mail: admin@baptistantigua.org • Website: www.baptistantigua.org
Dr. Hensworth W.C. Jonas, Pastor/Presiding Elder

Vol. XX, No. 26

March 29, 2009

UNDERSTANDING GOD Part 2

In Part 1, we discussed the following:

- ◆ God is Love.
- ◆ God is Perfect.
- ◆ God is Awesome.


God's Benevolence Toward All (Matthew 5:43-48, Psalm 145:9)


God extend goodness even to the most wicked of His enemies by providing them with such things as sunshine for warmth and rain for their crops. It is not only the believing farmer who prospers as God's hand, but also the wicked one. Because God does good to all, even His enemies, we as Christians are taught to follow His example and love our enemies.

God's Love for Mankind in General (John 6:16- "For god so loved the world...")

Precisely *who* is God said to love in this verse? A common mistake is made when we assume that "the word" refers to all people *individually*, each of whom (it is also assumed) God loves *equally*. These assumptions are rooted in the notion that god is obliged to be "fair". But the Bible is clear. God is not bound to any human understanding of fairness. He sets His highest love on *whom* He *pleases* (c.f. Deuteronomy 7:7; Romans 9: 15; 2 Thessalonians 2:13). We find it perfectly natural for a human father to love his own children in a much deeper way than he does those who are not his. God is no different in this respect, and the Bible clearly teaches that not everyone in "the world" belongs to God in the same way that children belong to their father. (John 6:37-39; 8:42,44; 10:26; 15:19; 1John 3:10). There is, in fact, a special, *fatherly* sense in which God only loves His children (study He-

From The Pulpit...

 Pastor Orvin Paige will preach on the topic "Have You Given Up?" based on **Hebrews 10:35-39** at **Covenant at 8:00 a.m.** and at **Central at 10:00 a.m.**

 Bro. Charles Grant will preach at **Tyrells (BRC) at 8:00 a.m.** on the topic "Dressing For Success" based on **Ephesians 6:13-17**.

brews12:5-11 to see this clearly). Our conclusion, then, is that "the world" in John 3:16 refers to a "what" more than a "who." It is a reference, not to all people as individuals, but rather to unlovely humanity in general as a singular object of God's love.

God's Fatherly love for His Children (Ephesians 2:4-7)

The New Testament is filled with references to God's elective, seeking, redeeming, fatherly love *toward His chosen people* (e.g. Romans 5:8; 8:35-39; Ephesians 2:4-5; 2Thessalonians 2:13; Hebrews 12:5-11; 1John 3:1;etc.). While it is often argued that these references are meant to refer to all people universally, the people in view (God's elect) are shown to be recipients of God's love in ways that cannot logically be applied to every person. From among the mass of fallen humanity, which God loved in the "John 3:16 sense, He has chosen *some* upon which to set the higher love.

-Daryl Wingerd

Memory Verses For Next Week



Pre-school — Matthew 1:21
Elementary — Jeremiah 17: 9
Secondary & Adults — Isaiah 41:10

IT'S A GIRL!



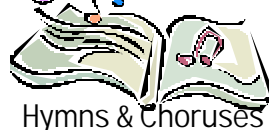
We rejoice with Bro. George & Sis. Karen Wehner on the birth of their daughter, Shauna Jenelle Wehner. She was born on Wednesday, 25th March. She weighed 9 pounds and 7 ounces. We give God thanks for this family, and we pray that the Lord will continue to bless them and guide them.



CONGRATULATIONS! BABY CONCEPTION

We rejoice with Bro. Ceon & Sis. Annstachia Barlow on the conception of their baby. Let us keep them in our prayers, and may the Lord continue to bless them.

Music Ministry



Hymns & Choruses

Praise ye the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul. While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being. — Psalm 146:1-2

MORNING HYMNS

Tyrells: #223, #338
Central: #223, #209
Covenant: #337, #218

EVENING HYMNS

Tyrells: #201
Central: #201
Covenant: #214

1. My life is in You/Lord/My strength is in You/Lord/My hope is in You/Lord/In You/It's in You/I will praise You with all of my life/I will praise You with all of my strength/With all of my life/With all of my strength/All of my hope is in You.

2. Over all the earth/You reign on high/Every mountain stream/Every sunset sky.

But my one request/Lord my only aim/Is that You'd reign in me again.

Lord reign in me/Reign in Your power/Over all my dreams/In my darkest hour/You are the Lord of all I am.

So won't You reign in me again/
Over every thought/Over every word/May my life reflect the beauty of my Lord/You mean more to me than any earthly thing/So won't You reign in me again

3. If I have found favour in Your eyes/Teach me Your ways, teach me Your ways/That I may be pleasing in Your sight/Teach me Your ways; teach me Your ways/And if You have called me by my name/Teach me Your ways, teach me Your ways/And O, let Your presence ever remain/Teach me Your ways, teach me Your ways/I want to know You, Lord/I want to see Your glory and grace/And may Your presence go with us all of our days/O Lord, teach me Your ways/O Lord, teach me Your ways.

4. As the deer panteth for the water/So my soul panteth after You/You alone are my heart's desire/And I long to worship you/You alone are my strength and my shield/To You alone does my spirit yield/You alone are my heart's desire/And I long to worship You/You're my friend and You are my brother/Even though You are a king/I love you more than any other, so much more than anything/I love you more than gold and silver/Only you can satisfy/You alone are the real joy giver and the apple of my eye

5. Exalted/You will ever be exalted/You are worthy of honour and praise/Adore You/I will ever stand before/To worship and praise You all my days.

6. Through it all/ I've learned to trust in Jesus I've learned to trust in God/Through it all/I've learned to depend upon His word.

7. Blessed be the name of the Lord/He is worthy to be praised and adored/So we lift up holy hands in one accord/Singing blessed be the name of the Lord.

8. Great and mighty is He/Clothe in glory/Arrayed in splendor/Great and mighty is He/Let us lift His name up high/Celebrate His grace/For He hath redeemed our lives/And he reigns on high.

9. Turn your eyes upon Jesus/Look full in His wonderful face/And the things of earth will grow strangely dim/In the light of His glory and grace/Keep your eyes upon Jesus/And others will not take His place/But through every hour/He will give you power/Til at last/You have run the straight race

10. Father we love You/We praise You/We adore You/ Glorify Thy name in all the earth/Glorify Thy name/Glorify Thy name/Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

11. O Lord/You're beautiful/Your face is all I see/For when your eyes are on this child/Your grace abounds to me/O Lord/Please light the fire/That once burned bright and clear/Replace the lamp of my first love/That burns with holy fear.

12. To Thee we ascribe glory/To Thee we ascribe honour/To Thee glory we ascribe power and majesty/Holy is the Lord

ELDERSHIP

Pastor Dr. Hensworth W.C. Jonas, B.A., M.A., D.P.Th. (Presiding) 773-0242
461-7757
Pastor Ivor J. Walker 464-1644
461-1414
Pastor Orvin D.E. Paige, B.Sc., M.Min. 772-6314
560-5543

DIACONATE

Deacon David Jarvis 464-7477
Deacon Earl Skerritt 722-4313
Deacon Ian Blair 722-5947
Deacon Stephen Butters 783-5800
Deacon P. Tomlinson 786-7957

DIRECTORY

Central Baptist Church 462-2894
Tyrells Baptist Church 460-3557
Covenant Baptist Church 561-4022
Baptist Academy Office: 462-2894 Fax: 462-6029
Baptist Retreat Centre 463-8801

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDING ELDER...

Dear Brethren,

I know that you must be wondering about my sudden departure for the USA last Wednesday. What could be so important? I am in Nowata, Oklahoma (a small town north of Tulsa) for the purpose of spending some time with a dear loved one who has been very close to my family for years. Her name is Mrs. Loetta Landers and she has cancer and has been given a few months to live. Her deterioration recently has been so fast that the family advised that if I was going to come to Oklahoma, it had better be now.

Sister Landers is one of the best examples of Christian love that I have ever seen in my life. As a scared university student in 1981 at Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU), I found in her a maternal security in every possible area of my life. She was generous with me when I needed it most. She opened her home and life to me. Her husband, children and grandchildren became members of my family. She is even responsible for being used of God to keep me in the ministry when a crisis in faith concerning my call to the ministry made me attempt to enroll in the University of Oklahoma Law School after graduating from OBU. She told me that the world does not need another lawyer and that I was the most gifted young preacher that she knew. I just had to see her face to face before she died to thank her for her influence on my life. Pray with me for a miracle, but let us also submit to the will of God, for He doeth all things well.

I came into town last Thursday and already many were working to line me up for the pulpit. Deo volente, I will preach this morning at the Paradise Baptist Church in Tulsa (an African-American church), and will also preach this evening at the First Baptist Church of Nowata (an Anglo SBC church). I will experience both styles of worship, but the praise will be offered to the same God. Pray for me even as I pray for you. Pray for my safe return on Thursday.

Semper Reformanda,
Dr. H.W.C. Jonas

