



IMPACT

Jamaica Baptist Union Youth Department Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 2

Keep In Touch

September—November 2006

Special points of interest:

- © CBF Youth Festival
- © Camps 2006

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WE HAVE MOVED!!

The Jamaica Baptist Union has been relocated to its new head office at 2B Washington Boulevard, adjacent Boulevard Baptist Church.

This Issue's Editorial Staff
Lance Fisher
Melissa Gayle

Youth Conference & Rally 2006



It's near that time of year again when Baptist friends and friends of Baptists from all over our beautiful island, gather for the weekend of a lifetime. And guess what?? You are specially invited.

This weekend that we speak of is our 22nd National Youth Conference and Rally to be held at the Nutshell Conference Centre in Duncans, Trelawny (November 23 and 24) and at the Ocho Rios Baptist Church (November 25).

Theme:
Touching Hearts... Changing Lives.

Sub Themes:

- Each One, Reach One
- Renew For A Better You

• Rejoice, You Have Made the Right Choice

Topics to be discussed:

- * Gambling
- * Evangelism
- * Ministering to people with disabilities
- * 'Christians - in - Law'

Other activities include:

- * Singspiration

- * Testimonies
- * Visit to home/Infirmary
- * Uniform groups march

Conference fee

\$2800.00

This weekend of fun and fellowship culminates with Rally where your zone representatives will compete in an effort to bring the trophy home. Areas of competition include:

- * Chorale Singing
- * Chorale Speaking
- * Dance
- * Bible Quiz
- * Original Praise Song
- * Drama
- * Rhythm

This entire weekend promises to be a wonderful experience that you do not want to miss and would really like to share with someone so...

Come and bring a friend!!!



A Word From The Chairman...



Friends,

The pleasure is mine once again to greet you all on behalf of the Youth Department of the Jamaica Baptist Union.

As we all seek to touch hearts and change lives with God as our guide, let us continue in fervent prayer for the youth of this nation. Let us reach out to those in need and seek to make a difference in as many lives as we possibly can.

The rapid advances in technology, the high unemployment rate and the ever-present dark cloud of crime and violence are universal issues and are not experienced only by us in Jamaica. We the youth of the Jamaica Baptist Union should not be daunted by these social ills, but should remain faithful to God's

unchanging Word in our ever-changing world.

In July of 2006 approximately Twenty five (25) of our young people went to Trinidad to attend the 7th Caribbean Baptist Youth Festival. This was an awesome experience for all who participated. The theme, "Lord, I'm available" reminded us that we should offer ourselves to do the Lord's work. It is my duty therefore, to remind you also to make yourselves available to be used by the Lord.

Conference and Rally is fast approaching and, before you know it, we will be in the month of November. I trust that all our circuits are preparing or have already prepared for their parish eliminations and the zone eliminations that follow. It is exciting just thinking about what will take place at this

year's Conference and Rally. As we focus on missions, by touching hearts and changing lives, we will be reflecting on three (3) Sub topics for our weekend, November 23—25. They are:

- **Each One, Reach One.**
- **Renew For A Better You.**
- **Rejoice, You Have Made The Right Choice**

Please make every effort to attend our Conference and Rally as this year promises to be just as rewarding as previous years.

May the Lord continue to equip, empower and motivate you to do His will, as we all seek to Reach, Renew and therefore, all Rejoice. Blessings!!

Dave Collymore (Mr.)
(Chairman – JBUVD)

Caribbean Baptist Fellowship Youth Festival

Tuesday, July 18 through Sunday, July 23, 2006 will stand out in the minds and memories of the almost 80 youth who attended the 7th renewal of the CBF Youth Festival. The memorable event was held at the UWI, St. Augustine campus and incorporated persons from across the Caribbean, representing 8 member territories (Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Turks & Caicos Islands and host Trinidad & Tobago).

It was a real melting pot of talents and cultures which blended together beautifully as we met under the banner of Christ. The Festival theme: **"Lord, I'm Available"** was aptly chosen and even more aptly applied in the daily Bible studies led by our own Rev. Jeffery Shuttleworth and in workshops led by a number of resource personnel drawn from across the region. Among them were BWA Youth Director Rev. Emmett Dunn and Rev. Donald Lawrence (Past President, BWA Youth Department), and specially



invited guests from North America.

In all sessions, there was the constant reminder in subtle and some not so subtle ways of our responsibility to God, as the one who invites us to share in ministry with Him, and the one to whom we make ourselves available to be broken, molded, filled and used for His glory.

The mind stirring workshops, the heart to heart talks and devotional exercises, mixed and mingled with exciting cultural expressions to create a rich and blessed time of fellowship. As a result, the Festival provided the atmosphere not only for personal inspiration and challenge, but for corporate renewal as well.

Delegates at the Festival met for business one afternoon and unanimously endorsed the nomination of Dr. Michael Taylor as CBF Youth President, which was further ratified at the

CBF General Council in the following week. We were oh so proud of this son of Bethel (HWT) and of course pledged our prayerful support to the ministry he will offer in the region.

Needless to say, there were many sad faces and not too many dry eyes by Saturday evening as the Festival drew to a close, with the official Closing Service. We knew, without a shadow of a doubt, we had been blessed, challenged and inspired, even beyond our expectations, and all we could do was echo the words of the theme:

"Lord, I'm Available To You – Use Me!"



Members of the Jamaican Delegation

Movers & Shakers

Each quarter, this segment will feature and highlight the feats and accomplishments of an outstanding youth of the Jamaica Baptist Union.

This quarter we are pleased to present **Diedre Callam** of Tarrant Baptist Church.



This self-proclaimed Jesusite is the daughter of Rev. Neville Callam. A graduate of the Mico Teachers' College, Diedre is a lover of music. She has taken this love and her

training as a teacher and used it to

teach piano to many. She says "music is just one of those things. It captures so much emotion". Diedre currently resides in the United States as she is pursuing further studies, but while in Jamaica she was very active in the life of her church. Diedre could be seen at the piano or organ on any given Sunday and was an ever present member of her Youth Fellowship.

Diedre also knows how to "tun 'ar han' an' mek fashion". Before leaving Jamaica Diedre launched her clothing line Hizzi (His Eye) as she was dissatisfied with the secular world of design. The inspiration came to her through a mental picture of a bird within an eye. This to her was a reminder of God's

protection. She sees her line as an extreme contrast to the popular messages inscribed on clothing many of us wear. Diedre believes that the way we dress is a powerful witness.

(Excerpts taken from the Love Herald, 2004)

If you know someone you think should be featured, submit a photograph and a brief profile to:

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Youth Issues

Passage for reflection

Isaiah

6:1-8

"The challenge confronting young people are enormous and the task of the church is daunting, but the call is still the same; "Go and

make disciples...". Let us not be discouraged with/by the negatives of the world, but be encouraged with

the words of our Lord that assures us of His ever abiding presence: "...go and I will be with you always". Each of you must make a decision to help transform the world. What are you willing to do? The first step is to say "Here I am!"

(Excerpt from Message from the Director of the Baptist World Alliance Youth Department, Rev. Emmett L. Dunn)

God once again is looking for His "first choice" runners—young men and women who have a passion to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ among the nations. He is saying to you: "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" What will your response be? Stand up and declare: "LORD I'M AVAILABLE!! SEND ME!!"

Youth Fellowship Spotlight

IMPACT is still travelling around the island visiting various Youth Fellowships. Recently, we jumped off the bus in the middle of Half-way Tree and decided to visit the local Youth Fellowship there.



On a typical Friday evening between 7 and 9 P.M. young people of varying ages gather in a cosy 'upper room' on the Bethel Baptist Church grounds for Youth Fellowship.

On our visit, it was evident that the Church's strong technology and music cultures had carried over into

the youth fellowship. Now, seeing a full band in a youth fellowship meeting doesn't seem too farfetched an idea.

The Fellowship is warm and receptive and has a good liking for visitors. It is also one of the fellowships which is blessed not only with capable leadership but also with a wealth of ideas and varied abilities within the group.

Under the leadership of president, Julia Rowe and an able executive, things have, in the words of one member, "jus been clicking".

IMPACT is confident that, with continued good leadership, things

should continue to 'click'.

So, if you're ever passing through (or, God forbid, stuck in) the Half-way Tree area on a Friday evening, stop by Bethel's Youth Fellowship. We trust you'll have just as good, if not a better experience than we did.

So, what has your Youth Fellowship been doing? What are your programmes and ministries like? Write to us and let others know.

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Review of Camps 2006

As the summer draws to a close and we head back to the normal and routine activities of our lives, some of us will look back at the few days we spent at Nutshell for Camps!

This year, over 500 young people attended camps under the theme, 'Ready, Set, Go...To let others know'. If you didn't go to camp, you missed something great! For those of us who did, oh, the memories... like, do you remember how, by Tuesday, you wanted to go back home, but then Saturday came just too quickly? Now you're already planning for next year!

Remember you couldn't imagine sharing that small room with so many people, and that tiny bed?! But remember how soon it felt like home? And remember the thing they

put on your plate and told you was food; remember those crispy, golden-brown fried dumplings with their tender, white insides?

Remember that annoying person you just couldn't stand? Remember the people you learned to get along with, the friends you'll have for the rest of your life? Remember waking up for those dreaded morning exercises? Remember how happy you were when they ended?

Remember struggling to stay awake in Bible Study and having to go wash your face? Remember the great new things you learned, the decision you made for your spiritual life?

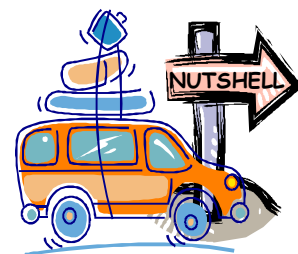
Remember the joy and excitement when your house won- or the sheer disappointment when you lost? Remember the night you didn't want

to sleep? Remember the night you couldn't keep your eyes open?

Remember what you told God you would do when you got home? Remember!

We thank God for those experiences, these memories, and pray that camps will continue to be a place where young people find themselves, find lasting friendships and most importantly, find God.

Are you thinking what we're thinking? Exactly! See you there next year!! We can hardly wait!!



Dear Student



Dear Student,
As you wave good-bye to your fun, exciting summer days, watching with tear-filled eyes as they roll farther and farther

away, the drone of school draws menacingly closer.

But, this isn't another one of those traumatizing comments, "Yuh free paapah bun!"

Instead, I write to remind you, simply but ever so importantly, of *who* you are and of *whose* you are.

Be sure of this, no Christian student is ever placed in an educational institution just to be an ordinary student! Make your life witness of the Lordship and Love of Jesus Christ, louder than your words ever can!

I encourage you to excel in your academics and extracurricular activities-Your Christian witness demands it.

I encourage you to continue, or to begin to be actively involved in the activities planned in your church fellowship.

I encourage you, more than anything else, to surrender to God and seek him more than before.

DO NOT RESERVE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST!

ALWAYS REMEMBER, NEVER FORGET: Only what is done in and for Christ will last! Jesus gives value to our lives.

Look at the lives of Daniel and Joseph- **GOD HONOURS THOSE WHO HONOUR HIM!**

God bless and strengthen you as you go out in the witness of his name.

Keep In Touch

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Look out for our JBUYD
website coming soon!!
<http://youth.jbu.org.jm>

Upcoming Events



• Sept. 9: JBUYD Students' 'Round Town Tour

• Sept. 10: JBUYD Students' Service - Mona

• Sept. 29 - October 1: Parish Intervention (KSABA)

• Oct. 28: Zone/Area Eliminations - All Zones

• Nov. 23 - 25: National Youth Conference & Rally