



# IMPACT

Jamaica Baptist Union Youth Department Quarterly Newsletter

JBUYD THEME 2007/2009: SPIRIT FILLED WITH A PURPOSE TO FULFIL

Volume 3 Issue 3

April - June 2008

## CAMPS 2008

### "MEK IT REAL: SPIRIT WALK WID SPIRIT TALK"

#### Special points of interest:

- ☺ Review of Youth Sectional Meeting
- ☺ In my Opinion



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#### WE'RE SORRY!!!

The **IMPACT** Committee sincerely apologizes for the delay in the publication of this issue.

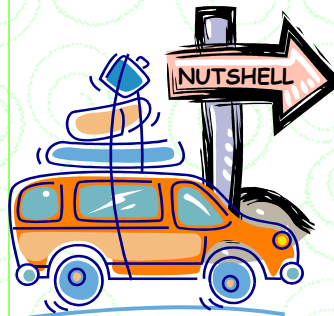
This Issue's Editorial Staff  
LaTonya Linton  
Danique Williams

Easter is over, and do you know what that means? Yes, you guessed it, summer is right around the corner!

If you are still wondering what the significance is, then you have obviously been missing out on the experience of a lifetime that is **GUARANTEED** by attending a Jamaica Baptist Union (JBU) Summer Camp.

If you have never been to a JBU camp no need to worry; it's never too late. Summer Camps 2008 may just be the year for you! The Camps are a great opportunity to get away from the bustle of life, have fun, worship in a cool, natural and beautiful environment, make new friends and best of

all, learn more about God.  
**Before You Pack Your Bags...**



I know you are all just bubbling with excitement right now, but before you start packing those bags there are some more things that you will need to know.

The *theme* for Summer Camps 2008 is '**Mek it Real: Spirit walk wid Spirit talk**'. The *dates* and *ages* for the camps are as follows:

Junior  
9 - 12 yrs  
July 7-12

Intermediate I  
13 & 14 yrs  
July 14-19

Intermediate II  
15 & 16 yrs  
Jul 28-Aug 2

Youth  
17 - 20 yrs  
August 4-9

All campers are to be registered with payment of \$4000\* **NO LATER THAN Friday, June 6, 2008.**

**\*You will also need to carry \$600.00 for the camp excursion.**

Please contact your respective churches for more information.

OR

See further details on the JBUYD website  
<http://youth.jbu.org.jm/>

## A Word From The Chairman...



Greetings my Friends in Christ!

There have been many changes since we published the last issue of the IMPACT.

There is a brand new Jamaica Baptist Union Youth Department (JBUYD) Executive and a new Jamaica Baptist Union Executive (JBU).

And change can be a good thing at times. As Christian youth it should be our deliberate aim and distinct pleasure to be constantly changing to become more and more like Christ. After all,

that is who we are, the people who are like Christ!

Our JBUYD theme for the period 2007-2009, 'Spirit-filled with a purpose to fulfil', is meant to inspire, encourage and testify to a necessary reality for every single youth, to live as Christ lived.

The theme tells us to become more spiritual. No, not simply to sing more gospel songs with our eyes closed and our hands heavenward. The real issue is *living* like Christ.

Jesus Christ himself, in Luke 4:18-19, speaks about ministering to various types of persons, with various needs. The same Spirit of our Lord, living in us,

therefore, must translate into a practical spirituality for each of us.

So let us ask ourselves, How can we help people who don't know God's truth? What about those being oppressed and abused daily? Could we make the effort to reach those who just need a friend to affirm them? How can we reach the strangers we see everyday and have them see Christ in us?

Let us aim to ensure that God's Spirit is always the controller of our behaviour toward the people around us so that our lives will always be pleasing to Him. I pray God's blessings on you as you seek to live wholly by His Spirit.

Lance Fisher

## Movers & Shakers

When Shanelle Powell was announced the winner of the first-ever Jamaica Observer Gospel Face of Fame Competition, tears of joy flowed easily from her eyes.

Shanelle, who is the daughter of Rev. Jacob Powell, pastor of the Sharon Baptist Church, Santa Cruz had always wanted to enter a gospel competition and said that she entered the Jamaica Observer Gospel Face of Fame Competition for her mom.

She also said entering was fun. "It was fun and full of excitement. It wasn't really challenging because the talent comes naturally. The other contestants were friendly so I was comfortable," Shanelle said.

The burgeoning young singer informed that she was not sure that she would have come out victorious.

"There was a lot of talent so I couldn't really say, 'I am going to win!'



But I won. At one point I wondered if I was going to make it, but I just said I am just going to do what I have to do and whatever happens, happens. So I never thought I would win, but then I won," Shanelle said.

The participants in the competition had to perform one original song, one local song and another of their choice for the judges to decide. In the third round Shanelle wowed the judges with her rendition of 'Mercy Said No'.

For winning the competition Shanelle was awarded a cellular phone from Digicel and a chance to perform at Genesis 2008. She also won a trip to Arizona along with a recording contract from Glory Music.

Shanelle has been getting a lot of calls to sing at various events since having won the competition.

"It has been good though. I do not feel any different. I just feel that I have the favour of God on me, but it is not any hype feeling," she informed.

Along with pursuing a music career, Shanelle wants to pursue a career in

psychology or family therapy. A past student of West Wood High School, Shanelle was successful in nine CXC's and is currently doing Sixth form at the Hampton High School for girls.

At church, Shanelle serves as the Assistant Superintendent for the Sunday School and also as her youth fellowship's secretary.

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

**The Editor**

**IMPACT**

**Jamaica Baptist Union  
2B Washington Boulevard,  
Kingston 20**

**OR**

**[jbuyouth@gmail.com](mailto:jbuyouth@gmail.com)**

\* photo courtesy of the Jamaica Observer.

## In my Opinion

By Andrew Wildes

I would like to humbly share my views on the moral turn in our nation for the reconsideration of our current laws concerning abortion.

### 'There are no insignificant issues'

Let us consider a principle revealed by the "Broken Window Theory" that was instituted by New York City Mayor, Rudy Giuliani in 1993, as the city was faced with an absolutely confounding monster in crime.

It was not the arrests of the most-wanted mobsters, but the implementation of a set of wide-ranging reforms and a "zero tolerance" approach to things as simple as strictly enforcing laws against 'subway fare evasion', 'public drinking,' 'urinating' and 'graffiti' among other things. Amazingly, New York City's rates of both major and petty crimes immediately and drastically fell and continued to fall.

We ought to learn from this that one great reason why we must be concerned about the truth regarding abortion is that everything in our fragile world is so radically interwoven and inscrutably interdependent that we dare not think of any issue as "no big deal."

### 'Why?'

Abortion in Jamaica is illegal yet the Ministry of Health estimates that some 22,000 women have one each year. That is a very high number of innocent deaths when we consider how the Bible speaks of the personhood of the unborn child.

But, as though all that killing is not already enough, a report by the government commissioned Abortion Policy Review Advisory Group has made some very chilling recommendations that should concern us.

**The group has recommended, in short:**

1) that our current laws criminalizing abortion be changed to make abortion for whatever reason legal for all women, throughout all stages of pregnancy (from 1 day to 9 months, with the only conditions in the third trimester being the agreement of two doctors.

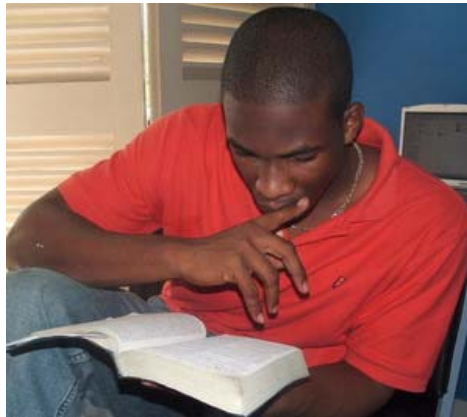
2) That clinics dedicated to performing abortions be established (funded by our tax dollars) in every region.

3) They've also recommended that medical students and professionals be trained to safely carry out these abortions.

### 'As a Christian'

As a Christian young man, I am opposed to abortion because by all the signs available to me it is absolutely clear that the God of the Bible could not tolerate this practice.

**"...I recommend that we...make no laws, no provisions, and no moves to support or condone, anything that may inevitably lead to the legalization of any form of abortion in Jamaica..."**



Abortion does not only break the law of Jamaica as it stands now, but it breaks the law of the Christian God, and His laws are too deeply entrenched to ever be amended.

As a Christian there are many points that drive my opposition to abortion but these are the main ones:

1) Abortion is the taking of human life,

and Psalm 72:12-14 makes it clear that the blood of the innocent will not be shed lightly, for in God's sight it is precious.

2) Abortion is an attack on God. It is an attack on the creative hand of God who is at work in the womb, knitting His image into human existence. (Psalm 139:13-14).

3) Every major work of injustice against humanity; Trans-Atlantic slave trade, the Holocaust in Germany, the Apartheid and Racial Segregation laws, the Sudanese Genocide, has all come from an evil way of thinking that looks at what is clearly a human being and calls it something else, something of far less value.

**In closing I must make the follow recommendations:**

1. That we urgently empower our physical and psychological health sector to offer preventative aid for women who are thinking of having an abortion and remedial care for those who have already had an abortion.

2. We should seek to understand the deeper reasons why so many women would want to end their pregnancies every year, and to find solutions.

3. Above all though, I recommend that we as a nation, in response to having been privileged with the revelation of the mind of the Christian God via the Bible, make no laws, no provisions, and no moves to support or condone, anything that may inevitably lead to the legalization of any form of abortion in Jamaica.

I thank you for allowing me to share my views on this matter.

**If you would like to share your views on topical issues, write to:**

**[jbuyouth@gmail.com](mailto:jbuyouth@gmail.com)**

## Youth Fellowship Spotlight

We sometimes hear that young people in the church are not eager to do something that will benefit the wider church community.

Well, this is what youth fellowship members of the Montego Westgate Baptist Church did!! They raised \$100,000 last year in aid of the reconstruction of their church's roof which was damaged during the passage of Hurricane Dean in 2007.

Inka Burke, President of the youth fellowship, said the group often assisted with raising funds for the church. However, with the destruction of the iron casting for the roof by Hurricane Dean, they decided to make a major contribution to this worthy cause, which included a tag drive.

"We wanted to make it a part of our duty to contribute and we decided on the tag drive. So we printed the tags and we went into the town, into a few areas and we let people know what we were doing and we got help," Inka said.

She also informed that in addition to the tag drive, the youth fellowship group also raised funds through its annual Barbeque held in October each year. The group will be focusing on raising additional funds this year through its tag drive and a Barbeque which is to be held in September.

Inka stated that the youth fellowship will also be focusing on achieving growth in membership; fellowshiping with other churches and

outreach.

"We are planning on doing more outreach and we have so far joined up with our Sunday School department and we made a visit to Garland Hall (children's Home) and we brought items such as toiletries. So we want to continue along that line," the President said.

The Montego Westgate Baptist Church's youth fellowship meets every Saturday at 4pm. Persons interested are very much welcomed to be a part of the fellowship. Currently the membership of the youth fellowship varies between 8 and 15 persons.

**What's your youth fellowship doing? Let us hear from you!!**

## Youth sectional meeting: Spirit Inna Wi; Mek Wi Arise



**By Sherry-Ann Earle**

Wow, it was the bomb!

Yes, I am talking about the Youth Sectional Meeting which was held on Thursday February 21, at the Bethel Baptist Church during the 158<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Jamaica Baptist Union.

Everything about this meeting

was so remarkable, as I got the chance to participate in many different activities and represent the Trelawny Youth Arm as a youth delegate for the very first time!

This year's theme was '**Spirit Inna Wi, Mek Wi Arise**'. The presentation which was led by Rev. Dr. David Kuck, Lecturer from the United Theological College of the West Indies, was awesome and was centered on "Who is the Spirit"?

This understanding was further applied to the Trinity that is, who is the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of the Holy Spirit.

The guest speaker gave a clear understanding on how one can be filled with the Spirit and how He is manifested in the life of a Christian. He went on further to say that the Spirit will allow one to be bold in Christ.

The group discussions were also excellent as it helped me

to understand even more about the Spirit.

Did I mention the praise and worship team? They were very dynamic and soul stirring. I left the meeting filled with the Holy Spirit and empowered to go out and spread the Word all by myself.

Any doubt I had of managing the mammoth task of spreading the Word was instantaneously erased, thanks to the Youth Sectional Meeting. It was certainly a meeting well worth attending.

### Jamaica Baptist Union

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Young Adults, don't miss :  
**YOUNG ADULT RETREAT**

Theme: *"Listening to the voice of God: Moving from where you are to where God wants you to be."*

Date: August 29-31, 2008

Venue: Jamaica Crest Villa - Portland

Cost: \$6200

Contact  
JBU offices  
to book  
your space!