



IMPACT

Jamaica Baptist Union Youth Department Quarterly Newsletter

JBUYD THEME 2008/2010: SPIRIT-FILLED WITH A PURPOSE TO FULFIL

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July-October 2008

CONFERENCE & RALLY '08 **"THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE"**

Special points of interest:

- © Dive Deeper: The Leipzig Experience
- © National Youth Rally 2008

Inside this issue:

Chairman's Message	2
Youth Rally 2008	2
Student Affairs Committee	3
Dive Deeper	4
JBUYD Website & Youth Sounds	4

Coming soon:
Caribbean Baptist Youth Festival
July 22-26, 2009
Nassau, Bahamas

This Issue's Editorial Staff
LaTonya Linton
Danique Williams
Melissa Gayle

Yes it's that time of year again! Our National Youth Conference and Rally is just around the corner. It will be held from November 20-22 under the theme 'The Spirit-filled Life: Spirit Inna Wi, Mek Wi Touch Lives'; and 'Spirit Inna Wi, Mek Wi Unite'.

The commencement activities for National Youth Conference and Rally will be held at the Nutshell Conference Centre in Trelawny on Thursday and Friday. This will take the form of a Conference, dealing with the business and training aspect of the Youth Department.



The Youth Department now operates on a two-year term. Elections will take place for only one position (chairman-elect) in this the intermediate year of the 2007 - 2009 term. As a result, much of the Conference will be used to accommodate training and teaching sessions for youth in general and youth leaders in particular.

We therefore urge you to ensure that as many youth as possible attend the Conference which promises to be truly rewarding.



Although all are invited to the Delegates' Conference only the following persons will have voting rights at the Business Session:

- a) President (or a representative) of each Parish Association
- b) Two representatives from each Youth Fellowship.

The activities will conclude at the Ocho Rios Baptist Church on Saturday with the National Youth Rally.

Please remember, this does not limit the number of attendees from any one congregation/fellowship/committee/group; all are invited.

(continued on page 3)

A Word From The Chairman...



Greetings my friends in Christ! I encourage us to be faithful in at least this one thing - *to live like Christ!* Do not forget our theme, 'Spirit-filled with a Purpose to Fulfill'.

Let us not fail to understand that Jesus Himself has given us His Holy Spirit, so that we can live like Him and for Him. Jesus, in Luke 4: 14 - 21, spoke of the Holy Spirit enabling Him to meet various needs.

Might we respond to the various needs and situations in similar ways as Christ? Let us ask ourselves what some

of these needs are and let us decide how we will respond, in practical ways to meet these needs.

Could some of our responses include volunteering to assist our Church's programmes? Or will our efforts be put into more direct and personal situations?

Maybe some of us could mentor a young child, or just organise some activity to keep him or her positively occupied and out of trouble.

Aggression and violence are, for many, as natural as breathing. Gangs and the associated lifestyles are too acceptable by our peers, particularly the males.

How do we choose to live when perverse sexuality, it appears, is light entertainment for the masses. How do we choose to live when all this comes to us so easily, gliding on the lewd and violent lyrics of what is now called music? May we choose to deny self and live like Christ.

Let us no longer be part of these problems by allowing our speech either to pattern the world's speech, or to indicate an indifference to sin!

Let us beg God to help us care:- care to make the effort and care to help people meet their needs. May God bless you richly!

Lance Fisher

Youth Rally 2008

Hey guys! Do you remember those soulful songs, vibrant choral speaking, energetic dances and creative articles? Yes! I am talking about the JBU's annual National Youth Rally, the most exciting place to be this year.

Youth Rally will be held on November 22, 2008 at the Ocho Rios Baptist Church in St. Ann and the entry fee remains at fifty (\$50) dollars.

Areas, for competition include choral speaking, original praise song, dance, Bible quiz and an essay Competition.

Before your church can compete in the finals at youth rally, here is some information that you need to know:

You will have your Parish Eliminations (circuit vs. circuit) and then Zone Eliminations (parish vs. parish) which will be held on October 18). At the Rally we will have our finals which will be zone vs. zone.

Competitors should be members



of a Baptist Church; Sunday School; Youth Fellowship; Young Adult Fellowship or other youth related ministry. All competitors are expected to adhere to the criteria and guidelines provided.

For further information on the areas of competition just click on the Youth Department's website: <http://youth.jbu.org.jm/>. Information can also be obtained by calling the JBU office at 969-2223/969-6268.

Wait, there is more! If your youth group is not involved in mission or service then it's time to get going! An area will be provided for each Zone to display the mission/service involvement its youth participated in

throughout the year, whether at the zone, parish or youth fellowship level.

So, if your youth group has or intend to engage in projects that minister to the needs of those in the church, community or parish, prepare to share the experience with us at the Youth Rally!

Make your display interesting, by using colourful charts, photographs, audiovisuals and PowerPoint presentations.

Speak with your Zone Representative if you wish to have something displayed.

For further information, please contact the **Cultural Commission** through the JBU offices at 969-2223/969-6268 or 877-7556/322-1972; fax-924-6296 or email us at jbuyouth@gmail.com

Student Affairs Committee

Are you a Baptist young adult, pursuing tertiary education in Western Jamaica? Well this is for you.

The Student Affairs Committee of the Jamaica Baptist Union Youth Department (JBUYD) will be hosting a church service just for you in Montego Bay on January 11, 2009. Your wholehearted support is being desired, so come out and experience the fellowship.

Recently the committee hosted its Students' Service at the Bethel Baptist Church, Half Way Tree, where eighty students attended and shared in a rich day of fellowship, with fellow students and members of the JBUYD Executive.

Also, if you are a student and desirous of beginning or reviving a Baptist fraternity on your campus, we are here to assist you, feel free to contact us.

The Student Affairs Committee is for you and is one of the four committees of the JBUYD. It is focused on spiritually guiding Baptist youths and presenting them with opportunities for fellowship as they pursue studies



on the various campuses across the island. This includes students in teachers' colleges, community colleges, universities and vocational institutions.

There are also events such as workshops, student socials, and church services, which provide opportunities for Baptist students to fellowship with each other. Other activities of the Committee include visits to fraternities/fellowships in the

months of October and November and a Christmas social which will be held in December 2008.

The present committee, headed by JBUYD Vice Chairman Dimario Sullivan, looks forward to a very productive academic year with great participation from Baptist students across the island, especially those attending schools outside of the Kingston Metropolitan area.

For further information you may contact your Student Affairs Chairperson at 401-3164 / 788-6782 or via email at dimariosullivan@yahoo.com, pastordimitri@gmail.com or dimitrisullivan@hotmail.com.

(continued from page 1)



Registration for the Conference begins at 6:00 p.m. and the

opening session will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday. The fee for attendance at the Conference is \$4,000.00 and is inclusive of accommodation, meals, the Conference package and transportation/entry to the National Rally in Ocho Rios on the Saturday.

We urge all those who will be attending the conference to access early registration (inclusive of

payment) on or **before November 7, 2008.**

Churches/Circuits who register four or more persons before November 7, 2008 will receive a special group registration discount. All persons are expected to complete and return the registration form (attached) to the JBU Office at Fax # 924-6296 or email to info@jbu.org.jm.

The entry fee for the National Youth Rally in Ocho Rios remains at fifty (\$50) dollars per person.

So start saving now for Conference 2008 or help someone else to pay their fee if you can. Come

out and play your part in the planning of the Youth Department activities while benefiting from the corporate sessions and from sharing with other youths from across the island!



Dive Deeper: The Leipzig Experience

The afternoon of Monday August 28th, 2008 was no ordinary afternoon for the approximately 60 Jamaicans who traveled to Leipzig Germany, for the 15th Baptist Youth World Conference held from July 30 to August 3, 2008.

The conference, held under the theme "Dive Deeper", was a spring board for the approximately 6400 Baptist Youth and Youth Leaders from 85 countries across the world.

Over the course of the conference, we were encouraged to "Dive Deeper" in Faith in Jesus, Justice for Jesus, Listening to Jesus, Outreach for Jesus and Experience of Jesus.

Indeed, the experience was indescribably valuable, even more so than the 'pearl' that we were each given during the conference's opening ceremony. The pearl symbolized the treasure we were 'diving' for.



My decision to attend the 'Dive Deeper' conference was not an easy one. I do however believe that it was a decision that the Lord led me to, for He knew what He had in store for me.

I benefited tremendously from the morning gatherings, celebration and Bible study, the family group sessions, workshops and evening celebrations. I always left challenged and humbled as I considered the expectations that God has of me and the many ways in which I fall short.

As I assess my experience, I can say that the most outstanding part of the conference was the challenge that I left with.

I was challenged by speakers who cautioned that the mountain top experience of the conference was not intended to last forever. God's intention was for me to come down from the mountain top, using Jesus' voice and guidance as the lynchpin for reaching out to the Zacchaeuses and Samaritan women who are to be found all over Jamaica and our world.

I was challenged to reach out to persons that are often scorned and rejected for one reason or another. I was urged to go out of my way as Jesus did, to meet these persons on



July 30 - August 3
15th Baptist Youth World Conference **2008 LEIPZIG**
Germany

their turf, at their point of need, and to start by simply loving them.

Now, I don't use this word 'challenge' loosely, as indeed this will not come naturally for me, for already I have fallen down and fallen short, but I have purposed in my heart to get back up with God's help.

The fact is, it is impossible for me to say that I am growing into a deeper experience with God, and not feel the desire to lead others to have their own experience with Him.

So, it is my prayer for all of us who desire to 'Dive Deeper', that as the theme song said, we will "Stand up and live for You, Speak out my hope in You, keep on running to You, Lord I want to Dive Deeper".

Lisa Prince

Jamaica Baptist Union

**2B Washington Boulevard,
Kingston 20.**

**Phone: 969-2223,
969-9835, 931-9225,
969-6268**

**Fax: 924-6296
E-mail: info@jbu.org.jm
Website: <http://jbu.org.jm>**

The JBUYD Website:



Need to know more about the JBUYD. Come to our website. The site is home to IMPACT and provides a hub for the exchange of information among youth of the JBUYD.

*The JBUYD Website-
<http://youth.jbu.org.jm/>*

Youth Sounds

This is the JBUYD's very exciting and interesting radio programme that allows youth to explore the word of God while covering a wide variety of hot topical issues. Youth Sounds is aired Wednesdays at 4:30pm on Love 101 FM.

Happy Listening!