



# CBF Notes

## CBF Notes...

A new way to stay in touch.

CBF Notes is a new publication of the CBF, produced by the Communications Department. The aim is to highlight the work of the CBF and its member churches and to simply stay in touch.

We will need your help. Here is what you can do...

- > Distribute this as widely as possible.
- > Post on your church's bulletin board.
- > Send contributions about what is happening at your church.
- > Join our mailing list.
- > Pray for us.

## From the President's Desk

# Work for the Caribbean people



**Rev. Dr. William L. Thompson**

It is with the joy of Christ that I greet you my Caribbean family.

I feel honoured and privileged to identify with the people of the Caribbean and to draw from the many of our Caribbean Baptist giants. I stand on the shoulders of the many presidents before me, with the hope of Christ that our people might have the opportunity to hear and understand the gospel in their cultural frame of reference.

My family, there are many challenges we face as Caribbean people. While very real, we must put our complete dependence on the leadership of the Holy Spirit and our tough minded commitment to constantly answer the question:

*“How do we get the desired results?”*

Caribbean people have always been a people of strong will and determination to get the job done.

My Caribbean family, the face of home mission as well as global mission is constantly changing. Today, to a greater extent, we have the appointment to propel our Caribbean territory as partner on mission around the world.

Together we take up the call to serve, with gratitude to God for all those who kept the fellowship going over the past years, often against great odds. We are keenly aware that its continued existence is itself a strong reminder and assurance that it is a God-sanctioned project.

The peace of Christ be with you.

## June 27 is CBF SUNDAY!!!

Baptist Brothers and Sisters across the Caribbean, here is something to get really excited about.

Traditionally in the CBF, we take time out in June to celebrate our Caribbean Baptist Heritage. That's right- June is CBF month! Then... we also designate the fourth Sunday as CBF Sunday.

This year we urge all Baptist

churches across the region and in the Diaspora to join us as we recognize June 27th as CBF Sunday.

There is a lot you can do including incorporating Caribbean music, prayers and liturgy in your June services, having a special insert on the CBF, taking a special offering for the CBF's missionary work, saying special prayers

for the work of the CBF, hosting another CBF pastor or group, or having a special forum on Baptist contribution to Caribbean life.

Whatever you do, make it grand as you celebrate the CBF. Don't forget to write us and tell us what you did.

*See the back page for how you can contact us.*

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## CBF News

### Meet the New Executive

The Caribbean Baptist Fellowship General Assembly was held in Montego Bay, Jamaica from March 18—21, 2010 under the theme “On being church in the Caribbean”. The Assembly challenged through stirring worship, thought provoking workshops, and enriched discussions. A new Executive to oversee the business of the CBF was also put in place. Allow us to introduce you to them.

Please remember them in your prayers on CBF Sunday. CBF Notes promises to give a more extensive report on the General Assembly in its next edition.



Outgoing President Rev. Dr. Burchell Taylor inducts the incoming President Rev. Dr. William Thompson. Mrs. Thompson provides support.

President	Rev. Dr. William Thompson
Immediate Past President	Rev. Dr. Burchell Taylor
Vice Presidents	Sis. Jacinth Wood, Rev. Dominique Dick, Rev. Lincoln Conner
Executive Secretary/Treasurer	Rev. Everton Jackson
Men’s Dept.	Rev. David Serrant
Women’s Union	Sis. Yvonne Pitter
Youth Department	Rev. Clinton Minnis
Christian Education/Stewardship	Rev. Lloyd Stanford
Communications	Dr. Michael Taylor
Evangelism/Mission	Rev. Michael Shim-Hue

Recording Secretary	Sis. Celia McKoy
Consultants	Rev. Vincent Wood, Rev. Peter Pinder
BWA General Secretary	Rev. Neville Callam
BWA Vice President	Dr. Victor Gonzalez-Grillo
IMB	Rev. Courtney Street
CCP	Mrs. Gillian Francis
Caribbean Christian Publications Trustees	Rev. Karl Henlin, Rev. Anselm Warrick, Rev. Karl Johnson, Sis. Stephanie Burrows, Sis. Lisa Rocke, Rev. Trevor Edwards, Sis. Tisha Allen-Jack

### BWA News—<http://bwanet.org>



#### 20th Baptist World Congress July 28—August 1, 2010

All Caribbean people know the face of the General Secretary of the BWA—our own Rev. Neville Callam. Read his welcome address to the 20th Baptist World Congress to be held in July in Hawaii. CBF Notes notes that this will be a special occasion for Caribbean Baptists as, not only will Rev. Callam preside over his first Congress as General Secretary, but two Caribbean nationals will be installed as Vice Presidents of the BWA. They are the Immediate Past President of the CBF, the Rev. Dr. Burchell Taylor and Dr. Victor Gonzalez-Grillo from Cuba. There will also be other Caribbean inputs including that of Rev. Karl Johnson (General Secretary of the Jamaica Baptist Union) who will speak at the Thursday evening celebration. If you haven’t yet contacted your travel agent, please hurry. Join the large Caribbean contingent who will be present for a **Baptist Gathering Like No Other**.

#### Baptist Youth World Day of Prayer Sunday June 13, 2010

Every year Baptist Youth worldwide join together for prayer on the 2nd Sunday of June. You can visit the BWA’s website for suggested activities for observing this day and for global prayer requests.

#### Welcome

As the organized world Baptist movement completes the first years of its second century, Baptists from around the world gather in 2010 for a life-changing opportunity. Our celebration takes place just one year after we mark the 400th anniversary of the founding of the first Baptist church. We have many reasons to be thankful.



As we begin a new chapter in the life of the Baptist movement, we embrace the opportunity to assemble in Honolulu, Hawai’i, for the 20th Baptist World Congress.

In our last Congress, held in Birmingham, England, we looked back and found many reasons for both celebration and repentance. Now, as we look ahead to the future, we have a single resolve.

We desire to hear from God so as to gain the guidance we need as we go forward in faith. In the face of post-modernism, secularism, and rampant idolatry, we seek God’s face, for we need to discern new ways to carry the unchanging Gospel to our changing world.

We invite you to join us in the common search that will yield a sharper focus, a greater dynamism, and a needed freshness in the ministry we execute on Christ’s behalf. Come join us and hear what the Spirit is saying.

Neville Callam, General Secretary

# CBF Departments

*The CBF is made up of a number of Departments including Men, Women and Youth. Through this and subsequent publications we hope to introduce you to each Department. In this issue we feature the Youth and the Women.*



## Youth—CBFYD

The Caribbean Baptist Fellowship Youth Department (CBFYD) is known for its dynamism. They are a vibrant collection of youth on fire for God. They seek to (i) present the gospel of Jesus Christ as the only tool which can hook an un-churched youth to experience the greatest love of all (ii) inform and educate youth and youth leaders on critical issues affecting Caribbean young people (iii) engage youth through Caribbean culture (iv) turn Caribbean youth on to mission.

The CBFYD engages in youth rallies and conventions to promote Christ. Members of the CBFYD executive also participate in Youth weekends i.e. short visits to share with and encourage youth from a Caribbean territory. Youth Weekends have so far been held in Jamaica, Guyana, Trinidad, Barbados, Dominica and the Tuck and Caicos Islands. The CBFYD also produces a quarterly newsletter. The newest and most ambitious task of the CBFYD is, however, still in its embryonic stage. It is the Youth Economic Project (YEP). The project is the brain-child of the CBFYD leader Rev. Clinton Minnis and is intended to encourage entrepreneurship amongst Caribbean youth. Submitted project proposals will be reviewed and one recipient will receive US\$1000 to offset the proposed business' startup cost. YEP is expected to be launched during the latter part of 2010.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Caribbean Youth Festival held in Nassau, Bahamas in July 2009 was one of the most successful activities of the CBFYD. It brought together over 500 youths from across the Caribbean and USA. Needless to say, the stage has been set for an even greater Festival in 2012. The CBFYD is eager to hear from you and look forward to your continued support as they seek to win young souls for Christ.

*If you wish to receive the CBFYD's newsletter, or participate in their newest Economic venture, or join their facebook page, or just find out more about them write to [cbfyouth@gmail.com](mailto:cbfyouth@gmail.com) or drop us a line and we will make the connection.*

Road March at CBFYD Youth Festival 09



## Women—CBWU

Not to be outdone, the Caribbean Baptist Women's Union (CBWU) is an active Fellowship of Baptist Women's Unions who are always praising the Lord. If you have never been to one of their annual gatherings, then you have missed out on a truly blessed experience. Each year they gather in one Caribbean or Diaspora location, under one theme which they explore through teaching, meditation, prayer and workshops. The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference (2009) was held in Christ Church, Barbados under the theme: *Caribbean Women Standing Strong in Heart and Mind in Two Thousand and Nine*. The pictures to the right tell the story that no-one leaves unfulfilled.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the CBWU will be held from July 18-21, 2010 at Rosen Shingle Creek, Universal Boulevard, Orlando, Florida, U.S.A. The Theme is: *Caribbean Women In Step With The Spirit* with biblical basis from Galatians 5:16-26. Their theme song is *Stepping In The Light*. The current president of the CBWU is the Rev. Dr. Marina Sands (Bahamas) who is a true stalwart of the CBF. During this year's session a new slate of officers will be installed.

In addition to their annual Assembly, the CBWU facilitate exchanges between countries, and host an Annual Day of Prayer on the first Monday of June. The CBWU invites all Baptist Women to be a part of their activities. You may contact them through us.

CBWU Conference Barbados



CBWU Conference Jamaica





# Mission & Evangelism

## Living Water- Havana, Cuba

The penultimate BWA's Living Water Conference was held at the Calvary Baptist Church in Havana, Cuba from March 23-26, 2010 under the theme "Jesus Christ Living Water." The conference attracted approximately 530 registered delegates from the four Baptist communities in Cuba, namely, The Eastern and Western Conventions and the Freewill and Fraternity Baptists. It was the first time in the known history of Baptists in Cuba that the four Baptist communities came together for fellowship and worship. Of the four communities only two are members of the CBF. However, Executive Secretary/Treasurer Rev. Everton Jackson, who was one of the 14 person BWA delegation and who preached at the opening service, met with the leaders of the Baptist Communities and urged those who are not yet members of the CBF to consider membership given our common history and experience as Caribbean people.

In addition to the approximately 530 delegates, another 1000 attended an evening rally during the meetings. According to Tony Cupid, organizer for the Living Water Conference "The Living Water conference in Havana was meaningful, exciting, historic, joyous, liberating, exuberant, educational ... all participants testified to its importance for their lives. We were all challenged to continue our efforts to share God's great love in Jesus Christ and to do so "having the mind in you that was also in Christ Jesus ..."

The conference with its emphasis on Leadership and evangelism unified the Baptist communities among other things to the extent where the Presidents of the four conventions washed each others' feet as a symbolic show of Christian love, unity and service. The conference was rich in music, fellowship and powerful presentations on various topics including:

- Living Water and discipleship
- Pastoral care for the congregation
- Encouraging young people to serve
- Living Water and worship
- The ministry of reconciliation
- The importance of establishing new congregations
- Living Water and the thirsty soul
- The ministry of prayer

The Living Water conferences are a series of evangelism and leadership training seminars held around the world over the past five years. Previous events have been held in Russia, Brazil, Kenya, Thailand, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Czech Republic, Barbados and Freeport.



A young worshipper



CBF EST speaks through interpreter



Cuban, CBF and BWA leaders with Cuban officials

CBF Notes...

A new way to stay in touch.



Please note our new Email  
[caribbaptistfell@gmail.com](mailto:caribbaptistfell@gmail.com)

We will soon have our web  
page up.

### Dates to Remember

- June 13** Baptist Youth World Day of Prayer
- June 27** CBF Sunday
- July 18-21** CBF 30th Annual Women's Conference
- July 28-August 1** Baptist World Congress
- October 27-28** CBF Executive Meeting & Think Tank



Contact Caribbean Christian Publications (CCP) today to see how you can partner with them to ensure God's word reaches everybody in the Caribbean and beyond. Contact them also for your 2010 Vacation Bible School or Sunday School needs. Caribbean bible lessons for Caribbean people. CCP is an affiliate of the CBF. Send them an email at: [info@ccpcbf.org](mailto:info@ccpcbf.org) or visit their website <http://www.ccpcbf.org>.