

# WEST INDIES UNION VISITOR

FIRST QUARTER 2008



**'DAY OF PENTECOST'**  
OVER 3,000 NEW MEMBERS  
ADDED

**PLUS:**

**Retaining New Members**

**Youth Camporee**

**Record-breaking First  
Quarter Baptism**



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## Our Vision

Every member living and ministering the love of God in readiness for the Second Coming of Jesus.

## Our Mission

The Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in West Indies Union is to glorify God, and under the direction of the Holy Spirit, lead everyone to experience a personal and transforming relationship with Jesus Christ, and to enable the believer to become a disciple in sharing the Everlasting Gospel.

## WIU Directory

The Headquarters of the West Indies Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is located at  
125 Manchester Road, Mandeville, Jamaica.  
Tel: (876) 962-2284, (876) 962-2910, (876) 625-9893/4  
Fax: (876) 962-3417  
Email: [wiumail@jmsda.net](mailto:wiumail@jmsda.net)  
Website: [www.wiunion.org](http://www.wiunion.org)

President	Patrick Allen	<a href="mailto:wiu.president@jmsda.net">wiu.president@jmsda.net</a>
Executive Secretary	Derek Bignall	<a href="mailto:wiu.secretariat@jmsda.net">wiu.secretariat@jmsda.net</a>
Treasurer	Carmelita Findlay	<a href="mailto:wiu.treasurer@jmsda.net">wiu.treasurer@jmsda.net</a>
Vice Presidents:	Enell Hall	<a href="mailto:ehall@jmsda.net">ehall@jmsda.net</a>
	Milton Gregory	<a href="mailto:health@jmsda.net">health@jmsda.net</a>
	Joseph Smith	<a href="mailto:wiu.personalmin@jmsda.net">wiu.personalmin@jmsda.net</a>
Field Secretary	Wendell McMillan	<a href="mailto:wiu.sabbathschool@jmsda.net">wiu.sabbathschool@jmsda.net</a>
Associate Secretary	Doreen Grant	<a href="mailto:wiu.secretariat@jmsda.net">wiu.secretariat@jmsda.net</a>
Associate Treasurer	Sharon Barrett	<a href="mailto:sbarrett@jmsda.net">sbarrett@jmsda.net</a>
Assistant to the President	Princess Lawes	<a href="mailto:plawes@jmsda.net">plawes@jmsda.net</a>
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	Desmond Robinson	<a href="mailto:wiuadra@jmsda.net">wiuadra@jmsda.net</a>
Bible School	Judith Forbes	<a href="mailto:wiu.bibleschool@jmsda.net">wiu.bibleschool@jmsda.net</a>
Children's Ministries	Sandra Gayle	<a href="mailto:wiu.children@jmsda.net">wiu.children@jmsda.net</a>
Communication	Nigel Coke	<a href="mailto:wiu.communication@jmsda.net">wiu.communication@jmsda.net</a>
Education	Sandra Gayle	<a href="mailto:wiu.education@jmsda.net">wiu.education@jmsda.net</a>
Associate Education & Associate Personal Ministries	Vivienne Quarrie	<a href="mailto:wiu.associate-ed@jmsda.net">wiu.associate-ed@jmsda.net</a>
Family Ministries	Derek Bignall	<a href="mailto:dbignall@jmsda.net">dbignall@jmsda.net</a>
Health Ministries	Milton Gregory	<a href="mailto:wiu.health@jmsda.net">wiu.health@jmsda.net</a>
Ministerial	Enell Hall	<a href="mailto:wiu.ministerial@jmsda.net">wiu.ministerial@jmsda.net</a>
Personal Ministries & Membership Conservation	Joseph Smith	<a href="mailto:wiu.personalmin@jmsda.net">wiu.personalmin@jmsda.net</a>
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL)	Princess Lawes	<a href="mailto:plawes@jmsda.net">plawes@jmsda.net</a>
Publishing Ministry	Joseph Barrett	<a href="mailto:wiu.publishing@jmsda.net">wiu.publishing@jmsda.net</a>
Resource Centre	Nazrene Nathan	<a href="mailto:wiu.resource@jmsda.net">wiu.resource@jmsda.net</a>
Spirit of Prophecy	Joseph Barrett	<a href="mailto:jbarret@jmsda.net">jbarret@jmsda.net</a>
Stewardship	Wendell McMillan	<a href="mailto:wmcmillan@jmsda.net">wmcmillan@jmsda.net</a>
Trust Services	Wendell McMillan	
Women's Ministries	Junie Parchment	<a href="mailto:wiu.women@jmsda.net">wiu.women@jmsda.net</a>
Youth Ministries	Charles Blythe	<a href="mailto:wiu.youth@jmsda.net">wiu.youth@jmsda.net</a>
Shepherdess Coordinator	Patricia Allen	<a href="mailto:wiu.shepherdess@jmsda.net">wiu.shepherdess@jmsda.net</a>

### West Indies Union Visitor - First Quarter 2008

Editor: Nigel Coke  
Assistant Editors: Nazarene Nathan & Lisa-Marie Samuels  
Consulting Editor: Princess Lawes  
Graphic Design: Orville Martin  
Cover Design: Orville Martin  
Cover Photo: Grover Samuels



## Pentecost & More 2008 **AN HISTORIC OCCASION**

Several times in our journey God has clearly demonstrated that He is leading this church to certain victory, and that the work will finish in 'a blaze of glory'. Pentecost and More 2008 was one of those outstanding, historic, and unforgettable moments. There were many times when the infilling of the Spirit was visibly evident and when 'victory was snatched from the jaws of defeat'. Through these experiences, we are left with a fervent conviction of God's un-failing love, and bolstered in our commitment to faithfully live for Him.

In the first three months of 2008 we witnessed a remarkable demonstration of unity amongst workers and members in an evangelistic thrust which resulted in the greatest period of reaping our church has ever witnessed in this Union. The combined efforts of leaders of the Union, Conferences, Missions, Pastors, Lay

Preachers, Bible Workers, Youth Leaders and Church Members resulted in more than 7000 baptisms in the quarter. We thank God for His leadership and blessing and all who helped in this remarkable experience.

With successes and achievements come corresponding responsibilities. The major task now is to nurture and disciple those individuals who have accepted the faith. They come to us at different stages of exposure to the church, therefore we need to help them achieve faith maturity. The program of conservation should now be in full swing in all our churches. This program will not only establish our new members in the faith but will see more persons 'who are being saved, added to the church daily'. (Acts 2: 38)

In all of this I can safely say that we have had a mountaintop experience. There is still more work to be done in the valleys, in the ghettos, the busy cities, in the suburbs, as we impact communities with deeds of love and mercy, patterning our Master. We also need to remind ourselves of what the servant of the Lord tells us about true

success in evangelism. "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with (people) as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me.'" (Ministry of Healing, p. 143).

I pray that each believer who has experienced the grace of God will with a heart of compassion join this mighty army in the church to get the gospel of Jesus, through the means available to us, to everyone in need.

**I invite our churches with satellite downlink equipment or access to cable television to join Pastor Mark Finley in October for the evangelistic series entitled "Discoveries '08".** We will supply you with more information regarding this series. Let us make it another mountaintop experience.

God bless you.  
Pastor Patrick Allen  
President



## First Quarter Record-breaking Baptism

by Nigel Coke

A record 7,226 persons were baptized in West Indies Union (WIU) during the 'Season of Reaping' from January 1 to March 31, 2008. This climaxed successfully the period of evangelistic thrust, dubbed "Pentecost & More 2008."

Traditionally, the largest numbers of members are added in the first quarter of

each year. Over the previous five years the average first quarter baptism was 3,634.

"We appreciate the effort that our workers have put into this great undertaking and we pray that they will continue to give that same type of effort as we keep up the tradition of excellence in evangelism in our Union," said Pastor Patrick Allen, president of WIU. "We will not stop or be deterred in the effort of carrying out the mission that God has given to us. We hope that this exemplary, record-breaking experience will continue until the mission is accomplished. We thank all those who participated. To God be the glory!"

During the quarter, over

200 tent and church evangelistic series were conducted across the Union territory with Administrators, Departmental Directors, Pastors and Laypersons actively involved.

The achievements by each region are as follows:

Conference/Mission	Number Baptized
Bahamas Conference	473
Cayman Islands Conference	155
Central Jamaica Conference	1,893
East Jamaica Conference	1,210
North Bahamas Mission	140
North-east Jamaica Field	509
North Jamaica Mission	605
Turks & Caicos Islands Mission	115
West Jamaica Conference	2,126
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,226</b>



IMAGE BY NIGEL COKE

Baptism in New Holland, St. Elizabeth



# WIU Office Personnel Impact Pentecost and More 2008

by Nigel Coke

Pentecost and More 2008, which required the involvement of every member in evangelistic outreach activities was fully embraced by the administration and staff of the West Indies Union Conference office who participated significantly in all aspects of the programme.

During the period January 5 to March 15, 2008, 720 individuals were baptized as a direct result of Union team members who took the word of God to the various Conferences/Missions across our territory. See list below:

Name	Field	Baptismal Result
W. McMillan	BC	15
D. Bignall	CIC	14
J. Barrett	CJC	27
H. Ming	CJC	214
C. Blythe	EJC	26
E. Hall	EJC	13
J. Smith	NBM	69
D. Bignall	NEJF	50
P. Lawes	NEJF	25
M. Gregory	NJM	45
D. Robinson	NJM	22
J. Forbes	WJC	20
J. Smith	WJC	180
<b>Total</b>		<b>720</b>

Also, the Union contributed over \$28.3 million dollars to ensure the success of the programme in preparation, bible study resources, transportation, 19 sets of satellite equipment to churches in Jamaica among other things.

Those who were not on the frontline with evangelism, participated in the planning and execution of the programme which climaxed the initiative at the National Arena on March 15, 2008.

Since its launch on July 11, 2007, the Union staff worked continuously in the implementation of the 'Season of Evangelism' and also participated in the Union-wide 40-day prayer and fasting.



Pastor Joseph Smith at the tent in New Holland, St. Elizabeth.



Princess Lawes at the Annotto Bay Church in St. Mary



Pastor Enell Hall at the Shortwood Church in Kingston



Pastor Joseph Barrett and his wife Evadne at the tent in Spalding, Clarendon



Pastor Milton Gregory in Warsop, Trelawny



Mrs. Judith Forbes at the Goshen Church in St. Elizabeth



Pastor Charles Blythe at the Andrews Memorial Church in Kingston



Pastor Desmond Robinson at the tent in Falmouth, Trelawny



The Pentecost and More Steering Committee chaired by Pastor Patrick Allen (facing right)



Pastor Wendell McMillan was in North Andros, Bahamas



Pastor Derek Bignall at the Port Maria Church in St. Mary



Pastor Herman Ming at the tent in Mineral Heights, May Pen, Clarendon

IMAGES BY NIGEL COKE

# Pentecost and More In West Indies Union Conference

## The Bahamas Conference

A spirit of excitement and joy filled the hearts of those who participated in the Pentecost and More 2008 evangelistic initiative in the Bahamas Conference (BC). From the word "Go" in January to the conclusion of the campaigns and baptisms on Sabbath, March 15, the members and their guests were on a spiritual high. Undoubtedly, the Spirit of God was manifested in the preaching of the word and in the people's response to the messages.

Pastor Leonard Johnson, President of BC, said: "Through the cooperation of pastors and laity in the Bahamas Conference, 473 persons were baptized between January 1 and March 31, 2008. This remarkable evangelistic explosion has resulted from a willingness of pastors and lay persons to accept the counsel of the Apostle Paul to young Timothy to teach and preach "in season and out of season."

Of that the 'Sweet Redemption Series' brought 205 persons to the Lord. This group has since been organized into a

new church - the Sweet Redemption Seventh-day Adventist Church. Led by Pastor Kent Price, the new members are excited about their new found faith. Until a permanent place of worship can be found, the new members will worship in the auditorium of Bahamas Academy.

Campaigns were also conducted on most of the major Family Islands in the Bahamas Conference. These included Andros, Exuma, Eleuthera, Long Island, Crooked Island, and San Salvador. Additionally, two mega campaigns were launched on the Island of New Providence.

While the Nassau campaigns were gaining momentum, three other campaigns in the Family Islands were launched. Dr. Wendell McMillan, Field Secretary and Stewardship Director of West Indies Union, conducted the North Andros Crusade, while Pastors Edward St. Fleur and Valentino



Pastors Barrington Brennen and Andrew Burrows baptizing persons who are not new converts.

Campbell led the charge in Eleuthera and Crooked Island, respectively.

The Pentecost and More 2008 evangelistic programme has had a positive effect on the community. Many

persons who are not connected with the church

have made favourable remarks about what they have seen and heard.

"Whenever the church focuses on its universal mission and not programmes, personality and projects, it is literally transformed in the eyes of the public as an unstoppable, attractive and unconquerable movement," said Pastor Peter Joseph, Personal Ministries Director of the Conference.

The various campaigns are finished and the members have returned to the regular church programme, but the spirit of Pentecost and More lives on.

by John Carey/WIU

## Cayman Islands Conference

Pentecost and More 2008 was officially launched in the Cayman Islands by Pastor Patrick Allen, President of West Indies Union, on September 22, 2007.



Pastor Reinaldo Dracket (left), Secretary of the Cayman Islands Conference with newly baptized members.

on the study of the book of Acts from September to December, 2007. There were two Conference-wide days of Prayer and Fasting, asking for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Personnel from West Indies Union along with pastors conducted training seminars for our members as part of the Season of Preparation.

On January 6, 2008, the Season of Reaping was launched. Seven Evangelistic Campaigns were launched simultaneously. One of these was conducted at the Kings Church by Pastor Derek Bignall, Secretary of West Indies Union Conference, which saw 16

individuals baptized. A similar programme was conducted during the same period at the Filadelfia Church, a Spanish congregation; they baptized over 11 persons. Five (5)

persons were also baptized as a result of Prison Ministries, during this period.

"The Cayman Islands Conference sees it as a privilege to have been a part of this great evangelistic initiative, said Pastor Wilton McDonald, President of the Cayman Islands Conference. "We will continue to do our part, to prepare men and women, youth and children for the glorious return of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. A total of 155 persons gave their hearts to Jesus, from January to March. To God be the glory!"

During the last three weeks, leading up to March 15, the Day of Pentecost, eight campaigns were conducted. Five of these campaigns were conducted by visiting evangelists from Guyana, U.S.A. and Canada. On the 'Day of Pentecost' we saw 77 individuals giving their hearts to the Lord in Baptism. Six of our churches were

Continues on Page 7



## Central Jamaica Conference

Central Jamaica Conference of Seventh-day Adventists baptized 1,893 persons in the first quarter of this year, a feat that has never been accomplished since the Conference was started. The power of the Holy Spirit could be seen and felt as He worked through men and women to accomplish the mission. Every district and almost every church was involved in this programme as Lay Workers, Pastors, Conference Administrators and Directors availed themselves to be used.

The Day of Pentecost, March 15 2008, saw thousands of persons surrendering their lives to God. On that day Central Jamaica Conference baptized 483 souls.

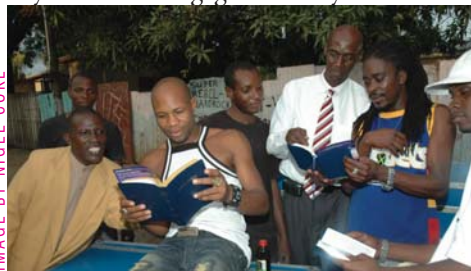
"Pentecost and More 2008 was a phenomenal success. We saw the outpouring of the Holy Spirit uniting the membership in accomplishing the mission of the Church," said Pastor Everett Brown, President of Central Jamaica Conference. "During the Pentecost and More programme we saw the church at its best, fulfilling the mandate."

The Pentecost and More 2008 initiative was launched in Central Jamaica Conference on September 16, 2007 at Leaders Council

held at the Balford Hurst Auditorium, Camp Verley, St. Catherine.

"In the Pentecost and More programme the power of unity in regards to evangelism was seen," remarked Pastor Levi Johnson, Secretary of Central Jamaica Conference. He went on to say that, "We saw the church carrying out its mandate efficiently and unitedly."

After the launch came the Season of Preparation, which consisted of a Conference-wide 50-Day Fasting and Prayer and a Week of Revival. The 50-Day Fasting and Prayer began on November 17, 2007 and saw every worker, church, district and lay worker being given a day to fast and



Residents of the Homestead Community in Spanish Town, read their Bibles with Pastor Everett Brown (third from right), President of CJC.



Pastor Wayne Palmer pronounces the baptism sentence for a new convert in Cross Keys, Manchester.

pray about issues or concerns associated with the Pentecost and More programme. It ended on January 5, 2008. Six mega tents, three small tents and several church series were held in the first quarter. The six mega tents, combining two or more Districts, took place in Mandeville, May Pen, Old Harbour,

Linstead, Spanish Town and Portmore, and baptized over a thousand persons. Newport, Spaldings and Watermount Districts were the sites of the three small tents and they baptized over one hundred persons.

Three outstanding community projects were the Bible Distribution, Skills Training Workshop and the Spanish Town Infirmary beautification. Over three thousand Bibles were placed in the hands of persons in and around Spanish Town. Many of the persons in the inner city and those at the Spanish

*Continues on Page 7*

## East Jamaica Conference

It was under tents, and it was in churches. Wherever it was, East Jamaica Conference was the home of several evangelistic initiatives leading up to the 'Day of Pentecost'. The grand finale on March 15 at the National Arena was even more spectacular. 483 individuals from our Conference were among those who gave their lives to Jesus Christ. A total of 1,210 persons were baptized during the first quarter of the year.

After several months of preparation, and prayers, this magnificent effort yielded many souls, not only in EJC, but around the West Indies Union and the Inter-American Division as well.

The road leading to this spectacular event in EJC began with the official launch at the North Street Adventist Church in downtown Kingston. Several individuals were enlisted to get involved in witnessing activities, as well as evangelistic efforts such

as tent and church crusades, leading up to March 15. A tract and Priorities distribution initiative was one of the many events that got underway soon after the launch.

Pastors, elders, conference workers, church members, laymen and women, youths and others, all worked tirelessly to accomplish the goal of sowing the seed, and reaping the harvest for Pentecost and More 2008.



Pastor Adrian Cotterell, President of EJC, distributes hot meals at the 'Good Samaritan Inn' in Kingston. (Right) Pastor Alton Heslop conducting baptism at the Shortwood Church.

Although EJC was deeply involved and hosted several evangelistic initiatives, community outreach was not neglected. The Good Samaritan Inn in Cross Roads, St. Andrew gained momentum during this period as well. Some two hundred and fifty less fortunate individuals are being served a hot meal weekly at this location and organizers are hoping to increase this to twice weekly very soon.

Then came the moment everyone was waiting for March 15, at the National Arena. Melodious music rang through the Arena, and eager ears heard the word of God while witnessing hundreds give their lives to God that blessed Sabbath day; it was clear that the Holy Spirit was present.

*by Fabia Phillips-Lawrence/WIU*

## North Bahamas Mission

The flame of Pentecost and More 2008 was officially lit in the North Bahamas Mission (NBM) over the weekend of August 10 & 11, 2007 by Pastor Charles Blythe, Youth Director of West Indies Union Conference (WIU). During a joint service that was held at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Freeport, Grand Bahama, members were informed, inspired and prayerfully ignited to commit themselves to Pentecost and More 2008.



Candidates for baptism in North Bahamas Mission affirming their beliefs by the raising of hands.

The fires of Pentecost evangelism burned through prayer, preparation and participation among members throughout

the Mission as we followed the "Season of Evangelism" plan outlined. Consequently, we began the Mission-wide Pentecost and More 2008 campaigns with four in Abaco and three in Grand Bahama.

"Pentecost and More Evangelistic Series was indeed an unforgettable experience," said Pastor Bryan Tinker, President of the North Bahamas Mission. "It witnessed God's people converging in a spirit of unity and togetherness that has not been seen heretofore in our Mission. This spirit of oneness prevailed not only during the preliminary activities leading up to the campaign, but also throughout the evangelistic series, and as a result, we saw the Holy Spirit working mightily and miraculously through our corporate endeavours, and causing to come to reality the baptism of 86 precious souls on the 'Day of Pentecost' March 15."

During the month of March, 122 precious souls united with God's remnant church. Evangelist Joseph G. Smith, VP and Personal Ministries Director of WIU under the Big Tent in Grand Bahama had 70 baptisms. This result also included the contributions of Sister Ann Albury,

Children's Ministries Director, and her team who did an excellent job in coordinating the children's crusade at the Shiloh Church next to the Big Tent.

The result in soul-winning during the first quarter of 2008 for the North Bahamas Mission was 140 persons. When this is tabulated with the baptisms since the initial launching last year of Pentecost and More 2008, over 250 souls have joined the Advent Faith in the Mission. With the song writer we say, "To God be the glory, great things He hath done". The spirit of Pentecost and More lives on for us as a lifestyle not only in baptism but also in consolidation and discipleship.

by Michael Smith/WIU



Baptism by Mission Leaders

## Cayman Islands Conference

*Continues from Page 5*

able to downlink the programme from the Arena in Kingston via 3ABN.

The Pathfinders and Community Services Departments in our churches were also involved in outreach activities, ministering in an active and tangible way in the various communities with tract distributions and luncheon for senior citizens.

by Reinaldo Dracket/WIU

## Central Jamaica Conference

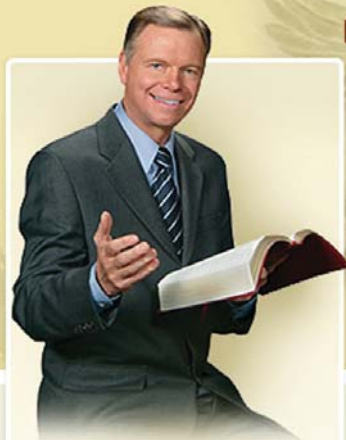
*Continues from Page 6*

Town Adult Correctional Centre were happy to receive the Bibles. The Spanish Town Mega Tent conducted a four-week skills training programme by partnering with HEART Trust NTA and saw over 200 persons graduating with various skills such as Houskeeping, Plumbing, Interior Decorating, Customer Service and basic Mathematics and English.

The Youth Department of the Conference and the Greater New York Conference along with the St. Catherine Youth Federation went to the Spanish Town Infirmary to beautify the home of the indigent. They planted trees, painted sections of the property, provided care, donated chairs and clothing. They also made a pledge that they will continue to help with the upkeep and care of the infirmary.

by Kemar Douglas/WIU

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# 'Day of Pentecost' Over 3,000 New Members Added In West Indies Union

*Almost 50,000 joined the church in Inter-America*



*by Kimone Thompson/Libna Stevens/WIU*

The West Indies Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (WIU) added more than 3,300 souls to its membership on the day of the grand finale of the Pentecost & More 2008 evangelistic initiative which culminated at the National Arena in Kingston, Jamaica on Saturday March 15, 2008. In the Inter-America territory, the evangelistic initiative rippled across Seventh-day Adventist Churches, tents and groups, bringing waves of new believers into the church. Almost 50,000 joined the church in Inter-America on the 'Day of Pentecost' during the widely celebrated satellite event.

In Jamaica nearly 30 pastors performed the ceremonial rites in the National Stadium pool in Kingston, in a portable pool in the National Arena and at baptismal sites across the Island. Hundreds of simultaneous baptisms also took place at churches and tents located across the Union and Inter-America.

"It means we have more disciples to assist in fulfilling the gospel commission, and that's what we're working for," said WIU President Pastor Patrick Allen.

"It also means we have more work because we have to nurture these new members by putting in place a conservation programme which includes Bible study, prayer, worship, fellowship and outreach," he said.

The idea behind Pentecost & More 2008 was to re-enact the experience of the Day of Pentecost in the book of Acts. According to the Bible, 3,000 believers were baptized in one day and they were endowed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit which include healing, teaching and speaking in tongues.

"The concept is to keep the spirit and the significance of Pentecost alive," said Pastor Allen. "The essence of Pentecost is the baptism by the Holy Spirit and every

believer has to live and serve in that Spirit. With the reception of the Holy Spirit, all other gifts the believers need will be supplied and when those gifts are received, everyone will have the power, the ability and the courage to use his gift best."

But the experience and its benefits, says Pastor Allen, cannot be confined to a single day or special campaign. It should be ongoing. "Everyday should be Pentecost in the life of the believer. This exercise was just to bring it to the forefront because we cannot live

or witness without the endowment of the Holy Spirit."

President of the Inter-American Division, Pastor Israel Leito, who presented the main address on Sabbath, also said that the focus of Pentecost & More was more than the addition of numbers.

"The church worldwide has three strategic issues," he told our news team at the Arena that Sabbath. "They are Growth, Unity and Quality of Life. We want to improve



Pastor Patrick Allen as he gives the first baptismal sentence.



IMAGES BY: GROVER SAMUELS, KENNY WHYTE, KEVIN HENRY



(Left) Pastor Israel Leito, President of the Church in Inter-America as he delivers the main message. (Right) Conceptualizer of the programme Pastor Balvin Braham, Associate Ministerial Director, IAD







The National Adventist Choir

people's lives when they join the church. It's not just to have a number in the church. We want to have the best citizens, the happiest people. We want our people to be the best neighbours, so church growth for us has an indirect added result of improving the



Candidates for baptism affirming their beliefs

communities where these people are," he said.

The outcome of the evangelistic programme is not surprising to church leaders, who credit the decades-long unity

among pastor and lay people for the success of the initiative.

"I have been around our vast territory and have witnessed that the mobilization among administrators, leaders and the membership was quite responsive,"

says Pastor Balvin Braham, Associate Director of the Ministerial Association in charge of evangelism, and organizer of the initiative.

"The key to successful evangelism in the Inter-American Division is found in the empowered leadership, the involvement of pastors and the involvement of the laity," emphasized Braham. "It's this collaboration that has proven to be a formula for success in soul-winning."

Prior to the grand culmination of Pentecost & More 2008, 20-year old university student Nacene Thomas had only been inside a Seventh-day Adventist Church twice.

Despite that perceived handicap, and the fact that she comes from a Methodist background, the young woman sealed her commitment by baptism, joining the fastest growing church in the world.

"I made the final decision Wednesday night, my second night at the crusade. It wasn't last minute because I've been thinking about it for years," she said.

"I've been to several churches before and there was always something that I wasn't feeling, but with this specific one I just realized that they were telling the truth," she said bluntly.

"I got a lot more information. With the others, it was like they were hiding something. Like there was a cover-up so the message did not really reach to me. I love information and where I'm not getting it, I become turned off," added Thomas.

Nacene credits her roommate Terrian Lawrence with helping her arrive at the decision to become a Seventh-day Adventist, and although her family does not support her, she believes she made the right choice.

"I'm going to have to face up to

everything I do so it's just my decision." Nacene was one of 650 new believers who were baptized at the National Arena in Kingston on Sabbath March 15 when Pentecost & More 2008 climaxed. Hundreds



The colourful display and parade of all 15 Unions in the IAD.

of people like her turned out to signal their decision to walk with God. Eager, sincere wives, husbands, children, God-fearing seniors, young people, the sick and the lame. They came by bus, by car and on foot. They came alone, in pairs and in groups.

Later in the afternoon the National Arena was transformed into an arena of praise, thanksgiving and prayer, as the church leaders and the various individuals, groups and choirs gave thanks to the Lord. A prayer for continued advancement of Unity was done by Pastor Desmond Robinson. Presentations on the "Impact of Social Outreach Programmes and Inspirational Resources" were done by Pastors Anthony Kent and Pablo Perla, Associate Ministerial Secretary of the Adventist World Church and President of Inter-American Division Publishing Association (IADPA), respectively.

Pastor Allen presented the final charge of the day from the book of Jude, verses 17-22.

*Continued on page 9*



A scene from the Pentecost and More 2008 drama.

## North-East Jamaica Field

With our collective eyes on a rich harvest of souls, and armed with the sword of the Spirit and the Shield of Faith and in the power of Prayer, twenty-five evangelistic teams set out on the campaign trail from January 5 to March 15 during Pentecost and More 2008. They were lead and assisted by West Indies Union (WIU) Secretary, Pastor Derek Bignall, Assistant to the WIU President, Princess Lawes, North-East Field Leader, along with the officers, directors, pastors, lay-preachers, Bible instructors and members.

"From Hector's River in the east to White River in the west, from Guys Hill

and Castleton towards the south to Galina Point in the north, we preached in the open air, in other peoples churches, in our own churches, in dance halls, tents and tabernacles," said Pastor Arlington Woodburn, President of the North-East Jamaica Field. We had baptisms in rivers, in pools, in the sea and anywhere there was enough water. We encountered demons and devils and the host of darkness but we withstood them and pressed on in the power of prayer. We rebuke, reprove, exhort and called to repentance and baptism. At the end of the Season of Reaping, five hundred and thirty two precious souls were baptized. To God be the glory!"

Over in Stanton, Evangelist Doreen Morrison was preaching in the power of Pentecost. A pastor of the First Born Church for over forty years met her on the way to the meetings. He was searching for truth and he heard it. "Baptize me now" he requested, and he was baptized and immediately began to preach the Advent message.

Over in Port Maria the WIU Secretary

was preaching in the power of Pentecost, he appealed and made altar calls after calls, many came and were baptized but one man did not come to the altar. "Come even for the prayer", pleaded the preacher, but that man did not budge. One fateful night he walked out of the meeting in the midst of the altar call, claiming that he was not ready, not even for prayer. He did not make it home; he died of a heart attack that night.

Up in the Rio Grande Valley, Pastor Jason Moore was preaching in the power of Pentecost and a woman actively opposed the preaching, got sick and was hospitalized. She couldn't walk, but she called for baptism and was carried to the pool. After baptism she literally ran home. "There is healing in the water" she proclaimed.

During Pentecost and More the Field reached out to the communities in the form of health clinics, beach clean-up, food and clothes distribution and Bible and tract distribution.

by Arlington Woodburn/WIU



Pastor Arlington Woodburn, President of the North-East Jamaica Field is about to baptize a new convert.

IMAGE COURTESY OF NEJF

## North Jamaica Mission

Six hundred and five (605) persons were added to the church during Pentecost and More 2008 from January 1 to March 31. This represents a 47 % increase in baptism when compared with the same period last year, when Two Hundred and Eighty Three (283) persons were baptized.



Pastor Michael Harvey, President of the North Jamaica Mission is about to baptizes a new convert in Higgin Town, St. Ann.

IMAGE BY NIGEL COKE

On the 'Day of Pentecost' 21 persons were baptized from the Mission at the National Arena, increasing the total baptized on that day to 136 precious souls.

"Our Mission is rejoicing in Jesus for the remarkable way He has lead us during Pentecost and More," said Pastor Michael Harvey, President of the North

Jamaica Mission. "We thank the Officers, Director and staff of the Mission who along with the united force of Pastors, Lay-preachers and members, empowered by the Holy Spirit, gave out the victory."

It all began on Sunday, July 29, 2007 with the official launch of Pentecost and More 2008 at the Brown's Town Seventh-day Adventist Church by Pastor Michael Harvey. At this special event, each member and Pastor gained vital information from presentations made by Pastor Harvey who gave an overview. Administrators and Director of West Indies Union Conference were on hand to present the various facets of the programme at each level of the launch.

The entire North Jamaica Mission was awakened, as the gospel went forth with each pastor, armed with the truth involved every member in the five "Seasons of Evangelism" namely; Revival; Training and Equipping; Community Outreach; Reaping; Nurturing and Conservation.

The season of Community Outreach

propelled many churches to creatively address the needs of those around them in ways such as;

- Singing Ministry
- Health Clinics
- Training and Certification through the HEART Trust NTA in Housekeeping, Food and Beverage Services, Social Graces and Construction Skills.
- Water and Food Distribution to the Community of Pear Tree Bottom and the St. Ann Infirmary

Thirty evangelistic campaigns were conducted across the Mission in all fourteen districts during Pentecost and More 2008.

by Dyhann Fletcher/WIU



Pastor Carlington Hylton baptizes new convert in Warsop, Trelawny.

IMAGE BY NIGEL COKE



## Turks and Caicos Islands Mission

Over 115 persons were baptized in the Turks and Caicos Islands Mission during Pentecost & More 2008, which was launched at the Williams Auditorium, Providenciales, on September 29, 2007 by Pastor Patrick Allen, President of West Indies Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

The main objective of the Mission was to get every church member and affiliated institutions, to embark upon a course of action that would lead persons to Jesus Christ. Each church pursued what was dubbed 'the seasons of evangelism' which included Season of Revival, Season of Training and Equipping, Season of Community Outreach, Season of Reaping and Season of Nurturing and Conservation. Prayer and fasting was also a main focus of the members in preparation for the culmination of Pentecost and More on March 15, 2008. On the 24th February, 2008, the Bethel, Blue Hills and Ephesus

churches joined hands and hearts together and began three wonderful weeks of sharing the Word of God with the wider community of Providenciales. Two large tents were pitched on land generously supplied by the Herzog Group of Companies, to facilitate the *Footprints of Hope Evangelistic Series*,



Pastor Peter Kerr, President of the Turks and Caicos Islands Mission is about to baptize a new convert.

the main evangelistic thrust of the Mission. It was conducted by Evangelist Richard

Jackson, who joined the Mission as a pastor in February. One of the highlights of the campaign was the live broadcast of one of the Divine Services on 90.5 Praise Him FM and recorded for broadcast on the T.C.I. News Media Company. Over 90 persons were baptized as a result of this initiative with most of them being men.

Among those baptized was a former preacher whose life was a constant struggle with drugs. Also the Mission was able to facilitate four of its new believers who were baptized on March 15 at the host site of Pentecost and More at the National Arena Kingston, Jamaica.

A special feature of the crusade was health talks, which were done on Sabbath afternoons by Dr. Rufus Ewing, the Director of Medical Services in the Turks & Caicos Islands.

by Richard Jackson/WIU

## West Jamaica Conference

The year 2008 started out for West Jamaica Conference (WJC) as a year of Pentecostal expectancy. The spirits were high as pastors and laity combined in praying for empowerment of the saints, and working for a rich harvest of souls.

On the "Day of Pentecost", March 15, six hundred and fifty (650) persons were baptized across the Conference. As at March 31, 2008, a record 2,126 persons

O. Samuels, President of WJC with 704, and the Savanna-la-mar campaign with Evangelist Alanzo Smith, of the Greater New York Conference with 542.

Between January 6 and March 15, 2008, over eighty of the field's churches were actively engaged in evangelistic campaigns, with pastors and laity declaring the gospel in some twenty-two (22) campaigns. Pastor Joseph Smith, Personal Ministries Director of West Indies Union, and Mrs. Judith Forbes, Assistant Personal Ministries Director of West Indies Union, were guest evangelists in the Parish of St. Elizabeth reaping 180 and 20 souls, respectively.

The major community outreach projects in the Savanna-la-mar campaign were Health Clinics; training with HEART Trust NTA in Building Construction, House-making, Information Technology, Entrapreneurship with over 240 persons continuing training for certification which ends in August 2008. Tire Warehouse through its Tires R Us stores is assisting the trainees with food and traveling allowance. Also, some retired

teachers and career dressmakers also assisted the community of Savanna-la-mar with literacy, numeracy and sewing. Mr. Lindel Samuels, a former vice principal of the Savanna-la-mar High School is spearheading this project.

In Montego Bay there were family life counseling, health clinics and lectures, CXC mathematics classes, GSAT classes and training through HEART Trust NTA. Also, the relatives of a new believer, whose houses were destroyed by fire were given financial and material support by members. Funds were also collected to assist in the rebuilding of the houses.

It was indeed Pentecost and the Conference is still working for More.

by Robert Vassel



Pastors Alanzo Smith and Glen O. Samuels

were baptized in the West. The major contributors to this amount were the Mega-Montego Bay campaign with some nineteen churches involved with Evangelist Glen



# Membership Conservation

## A Post-Pentecost and More Priority

by Nigel Coke

Following a historic record-breaking first quarter baptism and the successful execution of Pentecost and More 2008 which culminated on March 15, the leadership of West Indies Union Conference will focus attention on nurturing the over 7,000 new members who were added to its fold.

Conserving our new believers was one of the main focuses of a retreat held April 8–10, 2008, as administrators and departmental directors of the Union met to review the work of the previous two-and-a-half years and look over the plans for the remaining period of the 2006 – 2010 quinquennium.

"We are truly delighted that over 7,000 persons gave their hearts to Christ in baptism," said Vice President in charge of Membership Conservation at the Union, Pastor Joseph Smith. "We now have the task to ensure that every newly baptized



Pastor Joseph Smith

person is nurtured in the faith and integrated in the church family, so that each one can become a vibrant disciple, enjoying meaningful worship and fellowship, and actively witnessing for Christ. The great commission involves not only baptizing people, but also making disciples of them. A number of initiatives are being put in place as part of our conservation effort," he further stated.

The Adventist Church is taking membership conservation seriously and has elected individuals to be responsible for Membership Conservation from the General Conference level to the individual church level.

To ensure that we keep those we reap the following should be put in place:

1. A New Believer's package with relevant information for Christian

growth prepared and given to each new member.

2. Churches are asked to incorporate new members in the services and programmes of the Church.
3. New members are given Sabbath School Study Guides and are encouraged to follow the Daily Sabbath School Lesson Study Plan.
4. New members are to be visited at least once per quarter by fellow members.
5. Sabbath afternoon Bible Class is being revived so members can spend time studying God's word.
6. Additionally, a Spiritual Guardianship programme is being implemented in which mature Christians are placed in charge of new members for the purpose of guiding their walk with Christ.

One of the responsibilities of the membership conservation coordinator is to organize membership conservation conferences.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church worldwide baptized over 5 million people from 2000–2005. However, surveys done recently show that membership losses during that period equaled nearly 1.4 million. Current indications are that annual membership losses, for reasons other than death, equal approximately 28 percent of membership accessions. Although some membership loss occurs among recent converts it is not limited to new members.

The Union which comprises nine conferences and missions in Jamaica, The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands and the Cayman Islands presently has a membership of over 258,000.

## Preparing Pastoral Families for Ministry

by Nigel Coke



Ministerial students at the Northern Caribbean University (NCU) benefited from a Family Ministries Seminar hosted by West Indies Union Conference in collaboration with the Inter-American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. It was held at the Solomon Harriott Lecture Theatre at NCU from March 28 – 29, 2008.

The main objective of the seminar was the training of the ministerial couples to enable them to understand what their roles and responsibilities are as they enter pastoral ministry.

"I believe those objectives were met adequately," said Mrs. Patricia Allen, Shepherdess Coordinator of West Indies Union Conference. "How they will translate that into real ministerial work is to be seen. The information that was given to them should enable them to draw on in the future for the enhancement of themselves and the congregation which they will serve."



Mrs. Patricia Allen

During the period of the seminar, the participants were exposed to lectures such as "How Ministry can be Hazardous to Your Family," "What Pastors Wish Their Wives Knew About Them," "By Her Side," "Strengthening the Pastoral Family," "Sex in the Pastoral Marriage," Creative Fidelity," and "Managing Conflict Creatively."

Presenters of the seminar were Pastor Jansen Trotman, Field Secretary and Family Ministries Director of Inter-America and Mrs. Gloria Trotman, Women, Children Ministries Director and Shepherdess Coordinator of Inter-America.



Pastor Jansen Trotman and wife Gloria, conducting one of the seminars.



# 4,000 & More Delegates Expected for *Pathfinder/Master Guide* Camporee

by Charles Blythe

**B**illed as one of the largest events for the West Indies Union Conference quinquennium, the Pathfinder/Master Guide Camporee is shaping up to be a very massive and exciting experience. The camporee will be held at Camp Verley, St. Catherine, Jamaica from July 23–29, 2008 and is expected to see almost 4,000 delegates from the Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands, Jamaica, other parts of the Caribbean and North America participating.

Pastor Baraka Muganda, Youth Director of the Adventist World Church and Pastor Balvin Braham, Associate Youth Director of the Inter-American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, will be the main presenters. Already 400 persons from the Allegheny East Conference in the United States have confirmed their participation. With an additional 250 expected from the Bahamas, Cayman and the Turks and Caicos Islands, and 100 or more others from USA, Canada and Trinidad indicating interest. Five hundred (500) youths from various inner-city communities across Jamaica are also being recruited to participate.

The camporee will officially begin on Thursday July 24, with a dramatic opening ceremony planned for 7:00 p.m. Thereafter, it will be a buzz of activities both in the camporee village at Camp Verley and in the surrounding communities where numerous outreach projects will take place. Pathfinders will distribute clothing,

toiletries and food to a number of children's homes, the infirmary and rehabilitation centres in and around the Spanish Town and Old Harbour areas. In addition, a number of beautification projects are planned as well as distribution of meals to street people. Others will simultaneously engage in street side drama, music and puppet ministry.

There are plans to include high-tech youth-oriented features in the camporee village, such as internet café, computer training and multi-media skills and facilities. The camporee organizers also intend to web cast special aspects of the programme live to the rest of the world.

The pathfinder programme is designed for boys and girls ages 10 to 15 years and is built on the model of the holistic development of the mental, physical, social and spiritual capacities of the individual. It has been an auxiliary body of the Youth Ministries Department of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for over 50 years now, and caters to both members and non-members. It has been making a very positive impact on the lives of many young people all over the world who otherwise would have no meaningful Christ-centred, fun-filled, goal-oriented activity.



IMAGE BY NIGEL COKE

## 'Day of Pentecost' - Over 3,000 New Members Added In West Indies Union

He challenged the members to build up each other in the faith and to keep pure and holy, avoiding the very stain of sin. He also prayed for the newly-baptized members of the Inter-American Division.

Church leaders hope that the momentum will last as they begin planning their evangelism strategy for the next two years.

Next year's Pentecost and More initiative will focus on encouraging every church member regardless of age to get involved and share the gospel with at least one person.

The theme for 2009's Pentecost and More will be "It's My Time."

Up to the time of Pentecost and More, the Union had approximately 250,000 members on its books, and the weekend's additions bodes well for the church's position in Jamaica, the Bahamas, Cayman and the Turks & Caicos Islands.

## Notice of the Cayman Islands Conference 2nd Quadrennial Session

*Notice is hereby given that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quadrennial Session of the Cayman Islands Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the Georgetown Church, Smith Road on Wednesday, June 18th 2008. It will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will conclude on Sabbath June 21. This Session is called to receive reports from the officers and various departments, to elect officers and departmental directors for the ensuing term, and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates.*

*Delegates are selected by the local churches according to the terms of the Cayman Islands Conference Operating Policy.*

*Wilton McDonald, President  
Reinaldo Dracket, Secretary*

## Treasury Department Hosts Informative Council

by Nigel Coke

While the rest of the world recognized Holy Week and ate bun and cheese, over eighty Treasurers, Accountants and Auditors from all the Fields and Institutions across West Indies Union territory gathered for an informative Treasury Council. It was held at the Union Headquarters from Monday March 17 to Thursday, March 20, 2008.

During the three-and-a-half days of intense training, the participants were exposed to areas such as "Developing a Model for the Operation of the Local Field," "Internal Control," "The use of the Ideal Tithe Management Software," "Accounting Procedures" and "Application and Risk Management."

The main presenter for the Council was Elder Filiberto Verduzco, Treasurer of the Adventist Church in the Inter-American Division.

"We are very happy to have been here to share with treasury personnel of the Union," said Elder Verduzco. "The training that was given will assist them to better manage the financial resources of the church as we seek to spread the everlasting gospel. The financial challenges we face are very hard. In the next couple of months and years we are going to see the good result of this training."

"The seminar was very informative and gave us a lot of tools whereby we can be better prepared," said an elated Mrs. Sheila Woods, Treasurer of the Cayman Islands Conference. "It gave us tools so that we can know how to work the process and get into exactly where we need to be. The presentations were excellent. It's just that there was not sufficient time. It was very taxing and packed with good information," she added.

The well organized Council was spearheaded by the Treasurer of the Union, Miss Carmelita Findlay. One of its objectives was to strengthen the information system of preparing, recording and reporting data in the form of monthly and annual financial statements for decision making by management.

Keynote speaker for the Council was President of West Indies Union Conference, Pastor Patrick Allen, who admonished the

workers to be good managers of the Lord's funds.

Presentations were also made by personnel from the General Conference and the Inter-American Division Risk Management and Auditing Services.



Elder Filiberto Verduzco



Pastors and Elders in attendance at the meeting

## Ministerial Department Hosts Pastors and Elders Collaborative Meeting

by Nigel Coke

Following on the heels of a successful culmination of Pentecost and More 2008 on March 15, the Ministerial Department of West Indies Union Conference held a Pastors and Elders Collaborative meeting on Sunday, March 16, 2008, at the Seventh-day Church in Kencot, Kingston.

The meeting focused primarily on church leadership and was spearheaded by Pastor Enell Hall, Vice President and Ministerial Secretary of West Indies Union Conference.

Presentations were made by Pastor Anthony Kent, Associate Ministerial Secretary of the Adventist World Church and Elder Willie Hucks, Associate Editor of Ministry Magazine on 'Being Pastoral in Evangelism' and the relevance of the "Spirit of Prophecy" and the writings of Ellen G. White.

Pastors and elders from across Jamaica, but particularly from East Jamaica Conference, were in attendance.

Also in attendance were: Pastors Patrick Allen and Derek Bignall, President and Secretary, respectively, of West Indies Union Conference; Pastor Balvin Braham, Associate Ministerial Secretary of the Inter-American Division of Seventh-day Adventists; Pastor Adrian Cotterell, President of the East Jamaica Conference; Pastor Michael Harvey, President of the North Jamaica Mission and Pastor Arlington Woodburn, President of the North-East Jamaica Field.



Participants at the Council



# WEST INDIES UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

## RADIO, TELEVISION AND CABLE TV PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

TITLE OF PROGRAMME	PRESENTER	STATION	TIME	FIELD
"Word of Hope"	Pastor G. Samuels	Love TV	Fridays @ 7:00 p.m.	West Indies Union
"Word of Hope"	Pastor G. Samuels	TVJ	Sundays @ 8:30 a.m.	West Indies Union
Local Programmes, Hope TV, 3ABN	Various	NCU TV - Wilson's Cable Channel 29	Daily - 24 Hours	NCU
Local Programmes and Music	Various	WIC Radio 88.3 FM	Daily - 24 Hours	NCU
"Voice of Prophecy"	Lonnie Melashenko	ZNS 1540	Sundays @ 6:00 p.m.	Bahamas Conference
"Adventist Spotlight"		Cable Channel 12	Fridays @ 8:00 p.m.	Bahamas Conference
"Adventist Speak"	Raymond Antonio	ZNS TV Channel 11	Sundays @ 1:00 p.m.	Bahamas Conference
"Steps to Christ"	Pastor W. McDonald	Radio Cayman 89.9 FM	Tuesdays @ 6:45 p.m.	Cayman Conference
"Heralds of Hope"	Church Programme	Love FM	Saturdays @ 2:15 p.m.	CJC
"Morning Manna"	Pastor D. Mullings	Love FM	Fridays @ 5:45 p.m.	CJC
"Life Line"	Issues	Love FM	Sundays @ 5:30 p.m.	CJC
Hope TV & Local Programmes	Various	Bless TV Cable Channel 65	Daily - 24 Hours	WJC
"Word From Heaven"	Pastor E. Ferguson	RJR	Tuesdays @ 4:45 a.m.	EJC
'Living Waters'	Pastor Ryan Simpson	TVJ	Sundays at 8:00 a.m.	EJC
Local Programmes, 3ABN	Various	Cable Channel 57 WCCN	Daily - 24 Hours	WJC
"Behold He Cometh"	Pastor R. Vassell	TVJ	Sundays @ 7:30 a.m.	WJC
"Voice of Prophecy"	Lonnie Melashenko	Radio	Daily @ 6:30 a.m.	Turks & Caicos
Hope TV	Various	FLOW - Channel 655	Daily - 24 Hours	Where available
"Breath of Life"	Walter Pearson	Cable TV BET	Wednesdays @ 8:00 a.m.	Turks & Caicos

Key: CJC – Central Jamaica Conference  
CIC- Cayman Islands Conference

EJC – Central Jamaica Conference  
BC- Bahamas Conference  
WIU- West Indies Union

WJC – West Jamaica Conference  
NCU- Northern Caribbean University  
TCIM- Turks & Caicos Islands Mission

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### JUNE

- 1-12 Mid-year Meetings, West Indies Union Conference
- 7 Bible Correspondence School Emphasis
- 8 WIU Shepherdess Breakfast
- 13-22 WIU Women's Ministries Leadership Training, Bahamas Conference and North Bahamas Mission
- 14\* Women's Ministry Emphasis
- 15 WIU Elders' Certification, North-East Jamaica Field
- 15 WIU Addiction Workshop, East Jamaica Conference
- 16-17 Bahamas Academy Graduation
- 17 East Jamaica Conference Executive Committee Meeting
- 19 Executive Committee Meeting, North-East Jamaica Field
- 18-19 Cayman Islands Conference Session
- 21 Adventist Laypersons Service & Industries (ASI) Day
- 25 WIU Chaplaincy Summit
- 25-29 Mid-year Convention, Bahamas Conference
- 25-29 WIU Sabbath School Training, Bahamas Conference
- 28 13th Sabbath Offering (Inter-American Division)
- 29 WIU Addiction Workshop, North-East Jamaica Field
- 29 WIU Education/Children/Women Ministries Workshop, West Jamaica Conference

#### JULY

- 4-6 WIU Women/Children/Education Leadership Training/ Workshop, North Jamaica Mission
- 4-7 WIU Youth Leaders' Summit, Cayman Islands Conference
- 5 WIU Publishing and Spirit of Prophecy Workshop
- 5 Home Study International Promotion
- 5 WIU Membership Conservation Convention (Jamaican Fields)
- 5-6 Willowdene Group of Schools Graduation
- 6 WIU Addiction Workshop, West Jamaica Conference
- 8 Executive Committee Meeting, West Jamaica Conference
- 9 Executive Committee Meeting, Central Jamaica Conference
- 12+ World Mission Budget
- 12\* Tell the World: Media Ministry
- 15 Executive Committee Meeting, East Jamaica Conference
- 17 Executive Committee Meeting, North-East Jamaica Field
- 20 WIU Addiction Workshop, North Jamaica Mission
- 20 WIU Women/Children/Education Workshop, East Jamaica Conference
- 22 WIU Youth Directors' Advisory
- 23-29 WIU Pathfinder and Master Guide Camporee
- 31 Executive Committee Meeting, West Indies Union Conference

#### AUGUST

- 2 Global Mission Evangelism
- 8-10 Northern Caribbean University Graduation
- 9\* + Youth Day
- 11-14 WIU Ministerial Council
- 15-17 Book and Nutrition Centre (BNC) Book Fair
- 19 Executive Committee Meeting, East Jamaica Conference
- 20-21 WIU Stewardship Summit
- 20-23 IAD Asi Convention
- 21 Workers' Meeting, North-East Jamaica Field
- 21 WIU Strategic Planning Workshop, West Jamaica Conference
- 23 Abuse Prevention Emphasis Day
- 26-31 WIU Professional Growth and Leadership Training, Bahamas Conference and North Bahamas Mission
- 28 Executive Committee Meeting, West Indies Union Conference
- 28 Workers' Meeting, Central Jamaica Conference
- 29-31 Health Summit, Strategic Planning and ICPA Chapter, Turks & Caicos Islands Mission
- 31 Workers' Meeting, Bahamas Conference
- 31 Children and Education Workshop, North-East Jamaica Field

#### SEPTEMBER

- 1-8 Adventist Review (Annual subscription promotion)
- 1-30 Lay Recruitment, Subscription Material & Mission Magazine Promotion Month
- 6 Lay Evangelism
- 6\* Family Togetherness



# Pathfinder/Master Guide Camporee



**IT'S EDUCATIONAL**  
Honour Classes, Seminars,  
Heritage Quiz, Bible Bowl

**IT'S EVANGELISTIC**  
Outreach Projects, Witnessing  
Activities, City/Town Impact

**IT'S INSPIRATIONAL**  
Daily Devotionals, Spiritual  
Nuggets, Praise & Worship

**IT'S FUN**  
Track & Field Events, Daily Parades,  
Speech Competition, Talent Exposure



Main Speaker:  
**Pastor Baraka Muganda**  
World Youth Director



Presenter:  
**Pastor Balvin Braham**  
Assoc. Youth Director  
Inter-American Division

**Camp Verley**  
St. Catherine, Jamaica  
**July 23 - 29, 2008**

**Registration Fee: US\$28.00**

**Delegates Pay: US\$20.00**

Plus cost of meals, transportation  
tents, etc.

**CONTACT YOUR YOUTH DIRECTOR NOW AND REGISTER TODAY!... DO NOT DELAY!**