TRANSFORMED PREACHERS

Pastors Ordained to the Gospel Ministry
Impact Guyana: Experiences and Impressions

I felt honored to have been among the 50 preachers who were to preach in the reaping campaigns during Impact Guyana 2018. The experience has left an indelible impression on my mind. The reception I received upon my arrival at the conference office (where I was met by the Pastor from the church where I would be preaching and the elder who came shortly after and committed to ensuring that my food would be taken care of) set the tone for a great time in Guyana.

The introduction meeting with all the “evangelists” at the Central Church on Friday, March 9, gave a great spiritual impetus to this program. The coordination by the Impact Guyana team under supervision of Ps. Jamoul Sancho was superb, and it was clear that everyone was with the program.

The experience at Beter Verwagting church was tremendous. I was able to use the Dutch words (Beter verwachting = Better expectation/future) as a topic for the opening night, and build on it to present a better future to the people. The members were very supportive and did their best to make the crusade a success.

The convention on Sabbath March 17 topped it all off. The program was well planned and executed and the whole service indeed had a great impact on me. I am inspired to continue to do my utmost to let the evangelistic flame burn in my corner in Suriname, looking with great anticipation to Impact Suriname 2019. Thanks to Pastor Morgan for this great initiative and praise to our Lord and Savior for His grace. See pages 4, 6, 7, 8, 13, 17, 21, 25, 31, 36, 39 and 41.
13 pastors were ordained to the gospel ministry in the Caribbean Union. Their ordination was voted at the 2017 end-of-year executive committee meeting held at the Caribbean Union headquarters. Ordained to the gospel ministry from East Caribbean Conference-Barbados are Roosevelt Haynes, Jason Reid and Shane Butcher; from East Caribbean Conference-Dominica is Ernest Pendenque; from the South Caribbean Conference - Trinidad are Bertie Henry, Brendon Thomas, Chanchal Gayen, Jeston Alexis, Cordelle Williams, Clifmond Shameeredeen, Kirt James and Prince Carew; and from The Suriname Mission is Mohamed S. Badoella. The three services were attended by the administrators of the Caribbean Union and the Ministerial and Family Life Director of the Union, Pastor Andrew Farrel. Full accounts of each ordination are on pages 12, 18, 28, 38.
Notice of the 5th Quadrennial Session – St. Lucia Mission of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given of the Fifth (5th) quadrennial business session of the St. Lucia Mission of Seventh-day Adventists, scheduled for November 21st – 23rd, 2018, at the L’Abayee Seventh-day Adventist Church. Delegates will receive reports, elect directors and members of the executive committee, submit plans and recommendations and transact any other business as stipulated in the operating policies of the St. Lucia Mission of Seventh-day Adventists. The Session is due to start at 3:00 O’clock in the afternoon at the aforementioned venue.

Alexander Biscette, President
Roger Stephen, Executive Secretary
The President’s Corner

IMPACT GUYANA 2018: REFLECTIONS AND PROJECTIONS!

Dr. Kern Tobias

The command of our Lord, Jesus Christ, was given great significance when fifty evangelists entered Guyana with the passion of the pioneers and the power of the Holy Spirit, to preach the everlasting gospel. This was a direct fulfillment of the promise that is found in Acts 1:8: “But you shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and you shall be witnesses unto me in “Guyana, Suriname, and all over the Caribbean.”

March 9 to 17 would be long remembered by the Guyana Constituency as the time when the Caribbean Union Conference of SDA intentionally invaded Satan’s territory and rescued more than fourteen hundred persons to faith, freedom and fellowship with Jesus Christ and His Remnant Church. The generals of this rescue mission were Pastors Claudius Morgan and Jumoul Sancho and a host of colleagues who were determined to make this mission a resounding success. And so it was!

Reflection:
I was privileged to be included among the fifty evangelists who participated in this initiative. I was happy to receive the evangelistic sequence from evangelist Morgan and was able to use it to create appropriate topics for the impact series. I was assigned to the Plaisance Church and made contact with Pastor Andrew Chichester who confirmed that things were being put in place for a successful evangelistic experience.

Sister Barbara Savory was also assigned to work along with me and did an exceptional job to guarantee that everything was fine-tuned. Everything was now ready for the trip to Guyana. The orientation for all the evangelists and pastors was effective and empowering. Friday night March 9 was the launch and it was clear that the Plaisance Church was prepared for this great encounter.

It is inconceivable that so much could have been accomplished in eight nights of impact. The members came and brought their relatives and friends. The young and old alike were committed and demonstrated a love for Christ and His work that was admirable. God be praised because by the time the Impact Guyana was over, the goal of twenty baptisms was achieved. Because of the power of the Holy Spirit and the support of Pastor Morgan, I was able to complete this program with confidence and joy.

Celebration:
The grand Guyana Impact celebration that occurred on Sabbath March 17 was a foretaste of heaven. The organization of the program for the day was exceptional. Sister Sheryle Liverpool and the other leaders made sure that every aspect of the day’s program had a touch of class. The evangelists were treated like celebrities and thus there were special rooms prepared for relaxing and enjoying refreshments.

The program was filled with rich music, great drama, a review of the history of the church in Guyana, and powerful preaching by Pastor Steve Riley. The atmosphere was electric and the response of the congregation was positive. The evangelists and special pastors were honored in the afternoon. The saints celebrated this event with enthusiasm and happiness. God was glorified and the people were gratified.

Projection:
This Impact program will be replicated in the other territories of CARU. In fact, Impact Suriname is already announced and is being planned for. The transition to using many evangelists instead of focusing on one appears to resonate well with the leaders and members alike. This trend will continue as more men and women are committed to impacting our world. In the book Gospel Workers, page 13, E. G White says that “In every period of this earth’s history, God has had His men of opportunity, to whom He has said, ye are my witnesses. In every age there have been devout men, who gathered up the rays of light as they flashed upon their pathway, and who spoke to the people the words of God.” Impact Guyana was a resounding success and is a template for future Impact activities. God be praised!
CARU LTM IMPACT GUYANA PREACHERS

I knew that it would be a lot of hard work. Preparing for 50 preachers on 50 sites, making sure that everything was in place for when they arrived, where they would be staying, how they would get their meals, the baptisms, and of course the grand convention on the last day. I also knew it would be exciting; the passion, the preaching and the power of God as it is poured out into hearts and lives, giving rise to some wonderful testimonies of God’s marvelous grace. The reality was that it was much more than I had imagined; more hard work and much, much more excitement as some 1,389 persons gave their lives to Jesus and were baptized.

As one preacher noted, Guyana was turned upside down, and the rest of the Caribbean Union will be, as the 50 preachers return to their islands inspired to burn a hole into the kingdom of darkness by the light of God’s wonderful love. By: Sheryle Liverpool

One of the occasions Sheryle enjoyed as we traversed the landscape of Guyana visiting the sites. The preacher at this site was Dr. Samlalsingh.

Outstanding choir from Linden getting ready to use their beautiful voices in song. They were a tremendous blessing!
I have had many great days as an evangelist - in Africa baptizing over 4,500; in Guyana baptizing some 1075; in Jamaica with a team of lay people passionate about soul winning, 851; in the land of excitement and love, Trinidad, 751 in the Savannah; and in what I consider my best evangelistic campaign thus far, Scarborough Tobago, 567. The Tobago crusade had a presidential support that I have never had anywhere and the lay people showed up. The campaign ended on a Sunday and for the following Sabbath, a new church building was erected to house the new believers and begin the Good News SDA Church.

But! But! Nothing has influenced and impacted my ministry like the recently concluded LTM Impact Guyana 2018.

We voted the program at our November end-of-year executive meeting held at the Union Office in Trinidad. This gave us 3 months and two weeks to get moving and moving we did.

Of the 50 sites, we had the opportunity to visit 47. Guyana is a big country and we did a lot of driving; two and a half hours before we got to one site in the Corentyne! Nevertheless, this was a rewarding experience. What a joy it was to see these preachers in action, connecting with their congregation, preaching with passionate enthusiasm and filled with the Spirit of God. From our visits I was extremely impressed with a number of evangelists including Kishford Frank, Joel James, Nigel Walcott, Terry John and Kay White.

What I can never forget is the night of March 14. We returned to our place of abode about 11.00 pm and the cell phone began pinging. Results from the sites were coming in - 24, 72, 36, 12. At the end of my night into the morning, we had baptized some 859 persons as reported on our WhatsApp chat. In order to sleep I had to put the phone on silent. It felt like winning an election with results coming in from the polls. Pastor Telemaque referred to it as orgasmic and I concur.

We were purposeful in ensuring the success of the convention and the care of the preachers on March 17. We were pleased that everything went smoothly. There were no complaints, but just praises and thanks to God and the team players of the Guyana Conference and the Caribbeanan Union Conference. Dr. Tobias was so elated that he said to me, “Morgie you don’t have to do anything else for the year.” How I wish that were true! My heartfelt gratitude goes out to ALL participants of this program and praise and honor to our God.

Noel Schultz of the Guyana Conference receives award from Dr. Tobias for most baptisms (317) for a district Pastor.
An Evangelistic Orgasm

Samuel Telemaque

Sometimes the vision defines the mission. There are also times when the mission shapes the vision. The Caribbean Union Conference Impact Guyana was a dynamic interaction of vision and mission to catapult a new momentum of evangelism through the Union’s territory. The Holy Spirit began this momentum in the heart of Pastor Claudius Morgan. Though it was an invisible momentum, it soon became visible and contagious. This contagious momentum soon infected field administrators, directors, laity and pastors with unprecedented zeal, commitment and unspeakable joy for mission and evangelism. Today, the entire Caribbean Union Conference is ablaze with a new zeal and commitment to evangelism and discipleship.

The momentum was born of the Holy Spirit and sustained through careful planning. Pastor Morgan is a meticulous planner. He organized, delegated, monitored, and implemented Impact Guyana with dexterity and proficiency. He used his natural abilities, acquired skills and spiritual gifts to create an atmosphere of appreciation, trust, inspiration and unspeakable joy for the salvation of souls. This joy is burning in the hearts of thousands of church members, new converts, seasoned and emerging evangelists.

I experienced this joy in Guyana. After the first baptism, all fifty preachers began to report to Pastor Morgan the numbers of souls each baptized on that Wednesday night. The goal was to baptize one thousand souls by Sabbath March 17, 2018. We began our quest towards this goal on the Wednesday night of March 14, 2018. As each preacher began to report the number of souls baptized that night, it began to appear that we might achieve the goal of one thousand souls. The results were coming in fast and furious via WhatsApp. Pastor Morgan was counting souls until one O’clock in the morning. Most of the preachers were still awake. It was a moment of inexpressible delight as we approached the goal of one thousand. We were experiencing an evangelistic orgasm!!!

On that famous Wednesday night, a new evangelistic momentum was born of the Holy Spirit.
A Look Back at “I Dream of Greatness” Caribbean Union Pathfinder Camporee 2018  
(March 27th to April 1st, 2018)  
By: Uso Telford

Nature is undeniably beautiful. It is one of the ways in which God reveals Himself to His people.

‘Loo Creek’ located on the Soesdyke/Linden Highway was the perfect place to have a Wilderness Camporee in Guyana; the forest surrounding the area captures the beauty of God’s creation. It is an ideal place for people from various places to come together.

Pastor Anthony Hall, the Youth Ministries Director of the Caribbean Union Conference made an excellent decision when he chose Guyana as the host country with support from the Youth Ministries Director of the Guyana Conference, pastor Marvyn Smith. There was also support from the Caribbean Union’s executive body and the youth directors from the various conferences and missions showed their support to what can be described as an ‘unforgettable camporee’, first of its kind in Guyana, under the theme “I Dream of Greatness”.

Most of the campers arrived at Loo Creek the day prior to the opening ceremony and began clearing their allotted areas and popping their tents. The surroundings revealed that a lot of work was done in preparation for the campers’ arrival. The main tent was already set up with minor works to be completed, lights were seen in various locations, water tanks were set up and washrooms were built among other necessities for the benefit of the campers.

An Awe-inspiring opening ceremony that set the pace for the entire camporee

Decked in their uniforms, approximately two thousand pathfinders and masters guides marched to the beat of the drum corps through the path of Loo Creek as they proudly represented the various countries they came from. Many onlookers who journeyed to Loo Creek just to be a part of the opening ceremony were impressed.

The opening ceremony saw the presence of Minister of Public Affairs, Dawn Hastings-Williams; Minister within the Ministry of Public Health, Dr. Karen Cummings; Director of Youth, Melissa Carmichael; the outgoing Mayor of Linden, Carwyn Holland and his deputy Aneka Arrindell; and the Region 10 Chairman, Renis Morian, among others.

The arrival of the president of the Republic of Guyana, His Excellency President David Granger, caused great jubilation. The crowd warmly welcomed him, and he was escorted to his seat alongside the president of the Guyana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Pastor Avert James. Subsequent to the arrival of President Granger, a profound prayer was offered by the Executive Secretary of the Guyana Conference, Pastor Exton Clarke in recognition of God and the occasion.

Continues on pages 33, 34 and 35
NEW ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
Second to none...

The new administrative building for the Suriname Mission is a work of art. It is modern, comfortable, professionally built and spacious. It has reception areas, 10 office spaces, a conference room, an audio visual room, a room for archives, a multi-purpose area, a kitchen, library and store room. All 10 offices are on the upper floor while the reception areas, kitchen and multi-purpose room are on the lower floor. Built at a cost of approximately $500,000 US dollars, it was dedicated on the 28th of January, 2018.

Report by Comm. Director Suriname Mission on pg. 11
NEW ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

By Sergio Pollard

On the 28th of January 2018, the Suriname Mission was proud to celebrate the dedication of its new Mission Office. We did so with songs of praise, special items of music, a powerful message preached by the CARU president, Dr. Kern Tobias, and motivational speeches from Mr. Burke who was the representative of the Minister of Internal Affairs and Vice President Melvin Bouva of the Parliament of the Republic of Suriname. Also, among the attendees were the media and church leaders of other denominations who gave up their worship day for this memorable moment. After the dedication prayer by Pastor Farrel, we culminated the program with the cutting of the ribbon by Pastor Hans Ponte. Following the ceremony, everyone present was welcomed into the new building for a short tour and some refreshments.

The laying of the cornerstone by Dr. Kern Tobias was conducted with much fanfare.

Suriname’s top 3 outstanding district pastors in baptism 2017

Guno Emanuelson 71, Chester Hinds 25, and Roel Blackman 22,
After 20 years of employment by the Suriname Mission, Pastor Mohammed Badoella was finally ordained on the 27th of January 2018. This ordination was held in the Centrum SDA Church with more than 150 persons in attendance from Suriname and abroad. Among these attendees were the President of the Caribbean union, Dr. Kern Tobias and his wife; the Treasurer, Pastor Bertie Henry; the Ministerial Director, Pastor Andrew Farrel; the Secretary of the Dutch Caribbean Union, Pastor Hans Ponte, together with the administration and workers of the Suriname mission. A short biography on the life of Pastor Badoella was given by the Secretary of the Suriname Mission. It highlighted the fact that the same person he married, Sister Ingrid Badoella, was the one who brought him the gospel of Christ. We also had special items in song in the native Indian language, rendered by his good friend Patrick Krieger and two sons. Pastor Badoella was given some time to express his gratitude to God, the current church leaders and all close friends for their contribution and guidance up to this point. The program ended with a powerful ordination prayer by Pastor Farrel. May the lord use Pastor Badoella even more in this work of ministry.
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

What an experience impact Guyana was. First there was the excitement of anticipation of going to war to conquer a new territory on God’s behalf. Then came the arrival with its efficient transportation pick up and distribution of preachers to their venues of accommodation, and the Friday morning instruction and briefing session. What was remarkable about the latter, was the motivational message of the Conference Executive Secretary, the powerful prayer sessions with team members, and the most valuable ‘what not to do’ segment by Pastor Sancho. Both of these activities evidenced to the Tobago Team that the joint Union and Conference management team was ready.

On the ground however, experience of preparedness was a bit mixed. In some cases it was obvious that allies on the ground had done thorough preparation, in others, for one reason or the other, that was not felt. Once we got started however, it was clear that all hands were on deck. Pastoral support was appreciative; the hospitality at the sites of accommodation was splendid and incomparable; the members’ willingness to serve at the nightly meetings and in some cases as Bible Workers was very encouraging and telling; and the nightly Whatsapp comments which proclaimed in thunderous celebration what God was doing, served to heighten the excitement a hundred-fold, and to bring even the weakest of us into a conquerer’s mindset. Every word and action seemed then to declare, ‘It can be done!’ and the overall quantitative and qualitative results reveal that it was done. Impact Guyana was downright impressive and unforgettable. To God be the glory. By: Toney Mapp
Tobago Mission Has New Ministerial Director

Pastor Ein Kirk is the new Ministerial Director of the Tobago Mission of Seventh-day Adventists. He replaces Pastor Earl Edwards who has relinquished the position that he held for just over 2 years. Pastor Edwards, ordained SDA pastor of over 22 years experience (7 of those 22 years in South Korea) still serves the Mission as the stewardship Director, and pastors 3 churches in the far north of the island of Tobago. Pastor Edwards is son of one of our retired SDA pastors.

Pastor Kirk also continues to serve the mission as the pastor of the Central District, which includes the Good News, Scarborough and McKay Hill churches.

Chiang Jacob, a ten-year-old Seventh-day Adventist student from Buccoo Government School, has preached his first sermon at the Mason Hall SDA Church in Tobago. Chiang is the eldest of three boys. His brothers are Quishang and Joshua. He is from a one-parent family, and while his mother works long hours to put food on the table, he pitches in to help look after his younger siblings, setting a good example to them and his school friends. He is not sure yet what he wants to do when he grows up, but is firmly relying on the Lord’s leading to put his talents to best use.

A Good Example
SVG Mission Pastors Receive Training in Evangelistic Sermon Preparation

The Ministerial Department of the SVG Mission as part of its ongoing certification program staged a training session in Evangelistic Sermon Preparation. It was conducted at the Amazing Grace SDA Church with facilitator, Dr. Claudius Morgan, Assistant to the President for Evangelism, Training and Development. At the session, Pastor Morgan presented the importance of the preacher being connected to the power source of the Holy Spirit, and effective sermon structuring. Implementing the classroom method, he highlighted the difference between the Monroe Motivational Sequence, and the Morgan Motivational Sequence (so named by students of the 2015 evangelism class of USC). Pastor Shane Franklyn, the Ministerial Director of the SVG Mission organized the training session.

SVG’s top 5 outstanding district pastors in baptism 2017

Sylvan Samuel 40, Karlson Samuel 29, Ramano Daniel 29, Shane Franklyn 28 and Aldon Ambrose 26
The dedication of a church is always a most inspirational and joyous hour.

Almost four years ago, the pastor and members of the Owia Church broke ground for the commencement of a church building on a piece of land that they had acquired. The architectural drawings were done by Elder Glenford Stewart of the Kingstown SDA church. Members committed themselves to the task and construction began under the supervision of Pastor Sigmund Wiggins. A church building at Owia is no ordinary feat, since Owia is found on the list of economically depressed communities. Nonetheless, leading Elder Woods and his team set out to accomplish the impossible. It must be noted that during every phase of the building the government played a role in assisting the members to achieve what was celebrated on December 23rd 2017.

The Act of Dedication particularly, it would seem, ought to express Adventist purposes and ideals. This solemn service, at which many non-Adventists were present, afforded an opportunity for the pastor and congregation, who have labored together in the common effort of building a house for the Lord, to articulate their dedication of purpose in such a way as to express Seventh-day Adventist ideals and aspirations.

Pastor Kenan Cain, the current church pastor worked hard to secure donations from good-spirited folk who wanted to see the church completed. Pastor Cain reported, “In the final weeks leading up to dedication, it seemed impossible. Issue after issue kept popping up. Thank God for His mercies and the way He has proven that once we trust in Him he will see us through. That He did indeed.”

In what was hailed as a day of glorious rejoicing there was a baby dedication and a baptism which saw two new additions to the church’s membership. The celebration began in the morning service and spilled into the afternoon with pomp and ceremony.

The dedication service saw a packed church building of celebrants who congregated to give praise and thanks to God. The members would like to thank all those who contributed in one way or another to the completion of the church building.
HI TECH, HIGH TOUCH, HIGH CLASS

It was indeed an impact! While the initiative met the desired effect of impacting Guyana and bringing souls to the kingdom of God, the warriors who left the shores of SVG can testify that we were also impacted, our souls were revived, and we can truly say that we were in the presence of God. We left home knowing that it was going to be an encounter beyond the ordinary. Nonetheless, we were assured that it is not by might nor by power but by the Spirit says the Lord. It was indeed a joy to experience the working of the Spirit as we witnessed for ourselves modern day Pentecost. Fifty preachers anointed by the spirit courageously battled against the enemy to snatch over 1400 souls from the camp of the enemy.

There is so much our delegation took home from this great initiative that we hope sooner rather than later, it will be implemented in our own territory. One of our lay preachers testified that it was one of the best things that has happened to him to be part of such a Holy Ghost, power-packed initiative. Commendation must be given to the organizers and coordinators of this initiative. It was high tech, high touch, and high class! May impact Guyana fuel us and spur us on as we continue to impact the Caribbean Union. 

SVG Mission—Elders’ Certification and Recognition

God calls every member of the church into ministry. The church is a kingdom of priests set free to minister for Christ. Our priesthood is to one another within the church and to the world. An elder, like any other church officer, is a ministering servant of God. Every Christian believer is called to ministry, gifted by the Holy Spirit, and in baptism ordained for ministry. However, the elder is set apart and seen as a critical member of God’s working team.

The elders in the St. Vincent & the Grenadines Mission are among some of the most outstanding church leaders in the Caribbean. Thus, the Ministerial Department of the SVG Mission focused on recognizing, affirming and appreciating all the Elders in the Mission, while certifying those who had completed the IAD’s “every elder involved—‘Ananias’ program”.

A jubilant day it was, on Sabbath February 17th, when all the elders of the 43 congregations in the St. Vincent & the Grenadines Mission met at the Kingstown Church.

A segment of the program saw the viewing of the Inter American Division’s Elders’ Appreciation service. In total over 200 Elders received certificates of appreciation and 47 Elders received the certification.

Prior to this program, congregations held their own appreciation service for the elders. The Ministerial Department is happy for the ‘every elder involved’ training program which will see more elders trained and equipped to serve our Master. 

By Shane Franklyn

By Ian Williams.
The ordination service of pastors Shane Butcher, Jason Reid and Roosevelt Haynes was held on the 24th day of February 2018 at the Oldbury Campsite. This was really a high day for them and their families. From the very first prayer to the last, it was indeed memorable. Some aspects of the service were very impressive like using the ministers and directors as choristers and even for special music which saw a ministerial choir with pastors from both Barbados and Dominica. It really was music to our hearts. Sabbath School lesson study was summarized by Pastor Ernest Pendenque of Dominica. Words of gratitude and the presentation of bouquets to the ministers’ wives were heartfelt gestures that signaled the important roles these women play.

As some would say, the main highlights came during the Divine Hour segment of the Sabbath service. The procession of the platform personnel and the pastoral contingencies was indeed remarkable and included past presidents and secretaries. As the service progressed, a mixture of emotions flowed through the congregation as it was indeed a joyous occasion. “The Peter Files”, as sermonized by the President of the Caribbean Union, Dr. Kern Tobias, emphasized the importance of their ministry and the vital role that they would be embarking on. It really gave clarity to the statement, “to whom much is given much is required.”

A symbolic moment brought tears to the eyes of many and that was the “laying of hands”. The solemnity of the atmosphere was something one had to experience firsthand. Witnessing all ordained ministers having the opportunity to take part in this portion of the service was really a blessing, as these three ministers knelt (with their wives by their sides) and the other encircled them, kneeling, while Dr. Leonard Johnson offered the Prayer of Consecration.

They were welcomed to the ministry by Dr. Kern Tobias and Sis. Linda Tobias; Pastor R. Danforth Francis and Sis. Verna Francis; Pastor Andrew Farrel and Pastor Felix Jack. Following the welcome, they proudly received their certificates which gave confirmation that this event had occurred. Bringing a climax to this portion of the service was the response from the three newly ordained ministers. This was so overwhelming that it brought two of them to tears and to the surprise of many, Pastor Haynes was one.

Events like these showcase the vital role of each office and officer. It also brings light to the magnitude of the work that needs to be done. Even after the service was over many gave their blessings to the pastors and their families and took record of the occasion by taking photos with the ministers.

By: Lee-ann Scott-Lewis
A New Day for Evangelism in the Caribbean Union Has Dawned

At the Safire Convention Centre, in Georgetown, Guyana, more than 5,000 members and friends, including hundreds of 1-week old members, joyously witnessed the baptisms of 101 individuals and the lowering of the curtain on Impact Guyana 2018. This historic, evangelistic initiative added more than 1,400 new members to the Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church in the Guyana Conference.

Faithfulness in Guyana

By 8:30 a.m. on Sabbath, March 17, 2018, hundreds of members were already seated at the convention centre, some having journeyed for up to three hours to get there, with the intention of remaining for all the services. They travelled by river, air and land to participate in the Sabbath celebration, recommit to spreading hope in their communities, and to be inspired by witnesses relating encounters with the Holy Spirit at the various evangelistic sites.

“I am moved beyond words at the dedication of our church leaders, pastors and members just to be here,” said Pastor Avert James, President of the Guyana Conference. “It is no secret our members are struggling in so many ways, but their commitment to the mission of the church has been incredible to see.” (Continued on pg. 20)
“I am so touched by the spirit of giving, the trust and loyalty to God that our members have,” said Elder Raeburn Nelson, a lay evangelist from Grenada. “Many of them have to travel long hours, some of them by paid transportation on a limited budget. They work for little but their commitment is unmatched.”

During the Sabbath School worship segment, youth modelled the tenets of stewardship in an acclaimed dramatic presentation.

Later, the flavor of Adventist fellowship wafted across the grounds as clusters of families and friends had lunch and reminisced on the goodness of God. They reconnected with visiting evangelists who influenced their spiritual growth and baptized them several years ago. Many of the faithful now serve the church in various capacities – some as elders, deacons and Sabbath School leaders.

In spite of the sacrifice that members are called to make, the SDA Church continues to grow in Guyana which has 262,000 members, 112 pastors and 262 congregations. Their annual contribution to evangelism in the Caribbean Union is valued.

“The Other Side” by Pastor Steve Riley

Pastor Steve Riley of the South Caribbean Conference (SCC) stirred the listeners and viewers with his dynamic and powerful sermon, “The Other Side.” Pastor Riley reminded the church that, “Jesus came to save those on the other side. They may not look like you or dress like you but Jesus came to save them. Impact Guyana has already saved hundreds and God is about to save some today. Allow God to use you and witness how God is changing the lives of people all around. You may lose everything but you have Jesus and He can transform your life.”

“Jesus came to save those on the other side. They may not look like you or dress like you but Jesus came to save them.

During an emotion-packed appeal, Pastor Riley was joined by Pastor Claudius Morgan and several visiting evangelists as he implored the audience to recommit their lives to God and seal the act through baptism. Among more than 100 who responded to the call for baptism was one Maranatha Volunteer team member who was visibly impacted by the evangelistic effort. The volunteers are comprised of service-oriented SDA members and friends from around the world – some of its members are currently on assignment in Guyana to construct its first Seventh-day Adventist school.

Church leaders who presided over the baptismal service included Pastor Samuel Telemaque, the Sabbath School Director of the Inter-American Division, and Dr. Kern Tobias. There was an ethereal solemnity as 101 individuals filed across the convention center and into the inflatable pool, ten at a time to the waiting pastors, to symbolically experience the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.
Looking forward to the next impact experience

The scripture says, “This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness.” It was my privilege to participate in the gospel proclamation in Guyana in the month of March 2018. I was assigned to the Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church in Linden where I preached for two weeks from March 4 to 17. It was just an awesome experience to proclaim the good news of salvation to the people of Guyana. It was spiritually fulfilling, exciting and at the same time humbling. The cultural dynamics were impacting and I have grown as a result of the event. Although the field could have been better prepared, the Lord worked mightily and many responded to the invitation to surrender to Jesus.

The idea of 50 preachers impacting a territory in a concentrated way is a great idea. It brings a sense of urgency and motivation to church members and keeps alive the hope of a soon-coming Saviour. More significantly, it presents a unified approach to combating enemy territory and conquering those held captive by the prince of darkness. The combined results are a demonstration of the impact and success of such a program. I look forward to the next impact experience.  

Dr. Carson L. Greene

LTM Impact Preachers from South Leeward Mission. From L to R Dr. Carson Greene, Pastor Kay White and Pastor Sherwin White, Dr. Wayne Knowles and Ev. Eugene Benjamin (Together they baptized a total of 213 persons)
On Wednesday November 8th, 2017, the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Union in Trinidad, voted Dr. Carson Greene as President and Dr. Wayne Knowles as Executive Secretary of the South Leeward Mission. These new actions became necessary as a result of the North Caribbean Conference asking Pastor Desmond James to serve as their president in August of this year. Pastor James previously served as the President of the South Leeward Mission.

From August to November 2017, Dr. Greene has been carrying his role as Executive Secretary along with the role of Acting President. Dr. Carson Green has now held all three administrative positions of the South Leeward Mission, having previously served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Mission at its inception in 2011.

Dr. Wayne Knowles previously held the position of Personal Ministries, Sabbath School & Community Services Director of the Mission and will now take up the responsibility of Executive Secretary. Mrs. Krista Moore retains her position as Treasurer of the Mission.
With the election of the new Administrative team for the South Leeward Mission (SLM), the need arose to fill the vacancies created and also the vacancy created by the retirement of Pastor Charles Heskey. The Executive Committee of the South Leeward Mission met for its year end meetings on November 27 and 28, 2017. At this session, Elder Bertie Henry, Treasurer and Dr. Clive Dottin, Field Secretary, both of the Caribbean Union, were present.

At this time of the year, the Mission brings its business for the calendar year to a close. Reports regarding the Mission’s financial stewardship and also the stewardship of every other department are tabled for discussion along with other important business matters.

During this time, the Mission’s Administration grappled with the very delicate issues of assigning replacements for the vacant posts. Several things were considered, including finance and closeness to the next Mission Session scheduled for early 2019.

The adjustments have seen the Administrators take on additional responsibilities. Dr. Greene, President of SLM, will carry Religious Liberty and Stewardship; Dr. Wayne Knowles, Executive Secretary, will carry Personal Ministries. The departments of Sabbath School, Community Services and ADRA will now be carried by Pastor Orville Joseph who will also remain the pastor of the St. John’s SDA Church. With the departure of Pastor Charles Heskey, Dr. Mark L. Braithwaite will carry the responsibility of Ministerial Secretary along with Family Life and Communications. Health Ministries will now be carried by Sis. Silvia Ham Ying who is significantly qualified to carry this ministry; she will carry the ministry as a part-time worker. 

By: Dr. Mark Brathwaite

Pastor Charles Heskey who has served for 37 years received a well-deserved standing ovation as he walked to the stage with his supportive wife, Carrol Heskey. The event took place at the Bocciolo Restaurant at the Jolly Beach Resort on Wednesday, November 28th, 2017. Pastor Heskey retired as Ministerial Director of the South Leeward Mission. The impressive biography of Pastor Charles Heskey was read by Pastor Orville Joseph who drew thunderous applause throughout his speech as he related experiences that marked Pastor Heskey as one of the greatest serving pastors in this part of the world. "Brother", "friend", "counsellor", "confidante", "father" and "Christian" were some of the words that echoed the whispers of the hearts. In attendance was Dr. Kern Tobias, President of the Caribbean Union, who delighted the audience as he mused that he is Antiguan because of Pastor Heskey.
Years of Remarkable Service

During the 2017 Year-End Meetings of the Caribbean Union Conference, the administrators and committee members paused in order to have a dinner to acknowledge the sterling contributions of Pastor Silton Browne, former president of the North Caribbean Conference and two long serving members of staff, namely Wintress Stewart, custodian at the Union office and also Patricia Le Gall who served as administrative assistant to at least seven presidents of the Caribbean Union. Thelma Kirk was also honored after serving 17 years as a literature evangelist.

The dinner was held at the University of the Southern Caribbean and afforded everyone the opportunity to enjoy sweet fellowship with the individuals before they moved on to enjoy a new phase of their lives in sweet retirement. They all appreciated the gesture and thankfully gave God all the praises for the contributions that they were able to make. *By: Sheryle Liverpool*
Membership: 11,147  
Congregations: 50  
Schools: 3  
Pastors: 19  
Total workers: 30  
Years in operation: 35

The LTM Guyana Impact has to be a God inspired initia-
tive planted in the heart of Evangelist Claudius Morgan,  
assistant to the Union President for Evangelism and  
Training. This power packed idea exposed many of the  
young budding evangelists of the Caribbean Union to be  
missionaries overseas.

The words of Dr. Werner Vyhmeister is true for most if  
not all of the preachers. "Virtually with no excep-
tions, those who go and become personally in-
volved in overseas mission work short term or  
long term are transformed for life. The one who  
goes to serve in the name of the Master receives  
an even greater blessing."

John L Dybdahl, ed. Adventist Missions in the 21st Century  
Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1999) 172

Yes, the preachers were greatly blessed but even more so  
was the constituency of Guyana Conference where TMI  
was implemented to prepare the sites. The enthusiasm  
and joy displayed by the saints in the Guyana Confer-
ence speaks for itself.

This impact reminds us that its now reaping time. We  
acted that way and God tremendously blessed with the  
baptism of over 1400 souls and communities through-
out Guyana were touched by the gospel of Jesus Christ.  

This was an event professionally executed, spiritually  
enriching, mission motivating and developing a large  
cadre of evangelists throughout the Caribbean Union.  

LTM Impact Preachers from Grenada Conference. From L to R Evangelist Raeburn Nelson, Dr. Mario Phillip, Pastors Elvis Hil-
laire, Charles Gittens, Edward Guillaume and Dr. Clinton Lewis. (Together they baptized a total of 105 persons)
The Grenada Conference was jubilant with celebrations as it hosted Festival of the Laity 2018 under the theme “Lord Transform Me”. It began on Thursday morning April 12, with an Institute of Personal and Professional Development seminar at the National Stadium. The Presenters were Brothers Diamond Andrews and Lydon Antione from the Tobago ASI chapter.

On Thursday evening fifty congregations gathered at four locations to preach the gospel, honour persons who made significant contributions to their communities and we closed the evening with fireworks. On Friday morning, schools and government institutions were visited and prayer was conducted with the staff and students.

Sabbath April 14 was grand. The constituency converged at the National Stadium and were motivated and challenged by Dr. Balvin Braham, assistant to the Division President for Evangelism, Training and Development. He spoke passionately from Revelation chapter 10. During the lunch period the constituency had the privilege of visiting booths that encouraged them to be actively involved in evangelism.

The Stadium came alive to singing, marching, drama, preaching, and reports as pastoral districts took the stage. The Grenada Conference lay army was later charged by Pastor Ashton O’Neil, Personal Ministries and Sabbath School Director of the Caribbean Union Conference.

On Sunday, members journeyed to Bathway beach to fellowship, cook and rest a while. This activity brought to an end the Festival of the Laity 2018. The lay army of the Grenada Conference is pressing forward victoriously.
Dr. Clinton Lewis, President for the Grenada Conference since 2000 is the new Communication Director for the Grenada Conference. He was elected to the position following the resignation of Dr. Mario Phillip, who now serves the South England Conference as a district pastor, pastoring the churches of Willesden and Northolt in North-West London.

Dr. Mario, a New Testament scholar who holds a PhD in New Testament Biblical Studies with emphasis in biblical Greek, and who was ordained to the gospel ministry on December 10th 2016 also served the Grenada Conference as Personal Ministries, Sabbath School and Community Services Director. Pastor Elvis Hillaire, Youth Director of the Conference is the new Personal Ministries, Sabbath School and Community Services Director. Pastor Jamie Gordon, who has recently authored a book entitled “Ministry, I Thought I was Ready” has been elected as the Associate Director for Personal Ministries, Sabbath School and Community Services.

The Grenada Conference continues to impact the island’s communities in a positive way and we wish these new directors God’s best favour.

MISSIONARIES TO AFRICA

Missionaries fascinate me! These Christians who are so passionate about God that they will move across the globe to a place they have never been and where they usually cannot speak the native language, all in an effort to introduce their God to that people and help them to get to know Him. These missionaries often do this at huge personal cost. In fact, it can cost them their lives!

Pastor Kwame Diabour and his family will soon become missionaries representing the Caribbean Union and the Grenada Conference in the Ivory Coast, also known as Côte d'Ivoire. It is a sovereign state located in West Africa.

Pastor Diabour’s wife, Dahlia Diabour, a medical doctor, will give service there for 5 to 10 years. Her service will include working in clinics across the Ivory Coast.

Her husband is expected to continue ministry there alongside his wife, who is the daughter of Ivory English, an outstanding servant of God and the SDA Church. They share the joy of their son, John Diabour. Pastor Diabour presently serves the Grenada Conference as the pastor of the Western 1 District. He began pastoral ministry July 1, 2014, working along with Pastors Isaacs, Marshall and Scott.
On Sabbath January 13, 2018, the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Trinidad welcomed into the ordained gospel ministry eight ministerial workers whose varied professional careers include former director at the General Conference, union treasurer, former school teacher, former laboratory technician, Associate Professor in the School of Theology and Religion, and media reporter along with district pastors. This Sabbath afternoon service was preceded by a morning convention the highlight of which was a cameo, energetic, spirited, inspirational message delivered by specially invited guest, Pastor Herman Davis. This certainly set the tone for the solemn ordination service which was to follow. Five of those ordained have been employees in South Caribbean Conference.

During this national convocation held at the Centre Pointe Mall, Chaguanas, Bertie Henry (treasurer, CARU), Brendon Thomas, Dr. Chanchal Gayen, Clifford Shameerudeen, Kirt James, Cordelle Williams, Jeston Alexis and Prince Carew all accepted the challenge to raise the bar of ministry and become exemplars of virtue and paragons of excellence in the pulpit, pew and among all peoples in the community they serve.

President Kern Tobias was emotionally charged as he delivered to the 1,000 members and guests seated as well as hundreds of online viewers, a presentation that unveiled the practicality of ministry in the 21st century.
Mary Hatton || “I am so happy, so very happy! I have given my life to Jesus and I know it is the right decision,” said 91-year-old Mary Hatton, hours after she was baptized at the Victoria SDA Church. Sister Hatton was the oldest of 112 persons who were baptized on March 14, 2018, at the church. The baptism occurred after six powerful presentations on the Pillars of the SDA Church by Pastor Anthony Hall who serves as the Youth, Chaplaincy & Trust Services Director of CARU.

Sister Hatton said her decision to give her life to Jesus is evidence that God is working. She explained that in addition to studying with the Church’s Head Elder, Michael Gillis Sr., and with Sister Ainsworth, Pastor Hall’s presentation helped to deepen her understanding: “…Especially when he presented on Exodus 20 and the commandments and about the fourth commandment that God worked six days and rested on the seventh day.” She recalled that God has blessed her in many ways and cited how God helped her through the difficult period following her husband’s death in 1999 and, some years later, when she was going through another challenging time: “I cried out to him and asked for help and he helped me, so now I have to live for him and I am happy to get the opportunity.”

Sister Hatton had been a Catholic for many years but in the last few years she had stopped attending church because of leg ailments – still, her friends from the Catholic Church continued to visit her. Although her legs are not well, she is excited to start attending the Victoria SDA Church and beamed with happiness when told transportation will be provided. She has one son and a grandson.

Beverly Morrison || “The mighty power of the Spirit of God is so awesome that no one can doubt His leadings,” emphasized Beverly Morrison, a former pastor of the Mt. Zion Seventh-day Church, who was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church on Wednesday, March 14, 2018.

Beverly reflected that she was called into ministry 30 years ago: “During those 30 years, I was able to lead two congregations with the Wesleyan Holiness Church.” Her yearning for the Word of God impelled her to study. Ten years ago, her studies revealed the need to observe the Biblical Sabbath. She was persuaded that pleasing God was critical to her salvation and that she should lead by example. Emboldened by her conviction, she took the Bible as her guide and sought to lead the 60 members of the two Wesleyan Holiness Churches into obeying the voice of God, including Sabbath observance.

Beverly had been adamantly opposed to the SDA style of worship and credits her change of heart to the encouragement of Pastor Philip Bowman, a former president of the Guyana Conference. Whenever they met, his friendly reminder was, “You know better Beverly.” Beverly’s decision for baptism was sealed after the impacting presentations of Pastor Terry John, who serves as pastor of the University Church at the University of the Southern Caribbean. Pastor John was equally impacted by the intensity of Beverly’s conversion and expressed, “I hear great things about you. Your members love you quite a lot.” Beverly responded, “I am happy now. It’s a long time. I will feel better when I am able to lead the rest of my congregation into following God the way they should.”

When asked about the way forward she shared, “I was unable to continue serving as a pastor in the Wesleyan Holiness Church, so I changed the name of the churches into Mt. Zion Seventh-day Church.

After witnessing the baptisms of six members of the Mt. Zion Seventh-day Church, Beverly plans to meet with the Board. She intends to encourage them toward accepting the message of the SDA Church and finally turn the two congregations over to the Guyana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. (continued pg. 30)
Vicroy Henry | “I have this great joy in my heart today, I feel like a brand new person,” said Brother Vicroy Henry, who is the first person from his Amerindian village of Moraikobai to become a Seventh-day Adventist. The village is along the Mahaicony River and Vicroy travels the 90 miles to church in about two hours, by speed boat.

He said his life had been filled with anger, drinking and smoking just about every day, but one day his cousin, Kelly Moses, invited him to visit the meetings conducted by Pastor Terry John. “I was so impressed and moved by the message that I continued attending and began to feel a transformation take place in my life. My life has a new meaning and I’ve left the bad habits behind,” said Brother Henry. He recognized that he was on the verge of losing his life and believes that God saved him. Brother Henry dreams of becoming a missionary and reaching out to those in his community who need a Savior.

Progress of Evangelism in The Guyana Conference

There are scores of other stories of transformation that took place during Impact Guyana 2018. The evangelists were impressed by the dedication of the members to the mission of the church and the way the Holy Spirit used committed men and women to spread the gospel in the territory of Guyana which has the largest membership in the Caribbean Union. Pastor Anthony Hall shared first-hand accounts of the members’ commitment to the mission. Having baptized 112 individuals, the most during the one-week campaign, he believes that Guyana is ripe for evangelism.

Over the years, Guyana has yielded thousands of souls for the kingdom of God because of the personal ministry of members. In 2010, the Conference baptized 1,250 souls during another intense evangelistic campaign, Pentecost and More. In 2017, the door of baptism added 2,545 persons to the SDA Church.

Church leaders from the Caribbean Union Conference (CARU) were excited about the evangelistic efforts driven by scores of visiting and local pastors as well as by hundreds of active church members. During the last three months, pastors and the laity have worked extensively with the community, to prepare for this massive community undertaking. Evangelism program coordinators in the Guyana Conference shared that people are eager to learn more about Jesus and that the pilot program, Impact Guyana 2018, provided the key for opening such critical discourse, nationwide.

“It took pastors, small group leaders, and lay members working together across eight of the nine regions of the Conference, to bring about this evangelistic success. It took months of planning and preparing,” explained Pastor Jumoul Sancho, the Assistant to the President for Evangelism in the Guyana Conference and local coordinator of the effort.
WE SAW THE MIGHTY HAND OF GOD

Impact Guyana 2018 in my humble estimation was much more than a call to preach in a foreign land for a week. It was an experience that catapulted me into a new place with the Lord. In obedience to the Master teacher, we all answered the call “go ye therefore” to the land of many waters to minister to the needs of the poor, needy, possessed, deprived, and the lost in sin. We went with the assurance according to the Lord’s servant that “God will do the work if we will furnish Him the instruments,” 9 vol. T pg. 107. What power that was experienced in Guyana as the word was proclaimed simultaneously from fifty different sites yet under the unifying power of the Holy Spirit. Whereas there were challenges in some quarters as we launched in the deep, we all rallied in prayer with what was dubbed the “616” as all preachers and their team prayed at 6 a.m., at 1 p.m. and again at 6 p.m. every evening.

We saw the mighty hand of God do what He knows how to do best as He turned the tests into testimonies and the trials into triumphs. What a joy it was as preachers logged on to give a ball by ball commentary of what transpired during the night and to report their baptismal goals. The scores certainly swept away the sleep from the eyes of tired preachers nightly as everyone asked for a final count which all culminated in a glorious and moving manner at the convention with yet more trophies for the Lord. Personally, I saw God’s omnipotent power at its best when men and women came together in prayer, sacrifice and service for Him. Among the many testimonies from my site was an incident on the field during visitation in Stewardville where I preached. A teenager came and stood by the roadside and invited me to her home to pray for her family. We went in and prayed with the family and as a result they attended the meetings and the entire family gave their hearts to the Lord. I truly thank God for such a powerful and rewarding experience. May God continue to bless Pastor Morgan for his hard work, organizational skills and commitment, as well as Pastor Sancho and the leadership of the Guyana Conference and all the hardworking men and women of the field. Maranatha!! By: Roger Stephen
The Personal Ministries Department in collaboration with the Sabbath School Department began 2018 with a focus on training and empowerment. The Personal Ministries Department spearheaded this lay evangelism camp from the 19th to the 21st of January under the theme Transformed, Connected and Ready to Serve. It was a joy to see the hundreds of lay preachers, Bible workers, personal ministries leaders and secretaries along with Sabbath school superintendents and Sabbath school teachers crowd the auditorium at the Gros Islet Secondary School from Friday until the Sunday morning. Over six hundred faithful soldiers of the cross were present for the event.

The main facilitators for this retreat were Pastor Samuel Telemaque, the Sabbath School, Special Needs and Missions Director of the IAD and Pastor Ashton O’Neil, the Personal Ministries, Sabbath School and Special Needs Director of the Caribbean Union. Pastor Telemaque’s practical and powerful presentations encouraged everyone to become more professional in the Sabbath school and to get involved in the work of soul-winning. Pastor O’Neil preached a rousing consecration message challenging the laity to set St. Lucia ablaze with the gospel in 2018 and until Jesus returns.

One of the high points of the retreat was the practicum session on Sunday afternoon. The audience was captivated by the explosive preaching of the three lay preachers who demonstrated what they had learnt. An evaluation instrument completed by the attendees revealed that the camp was well organized and that such training should be planned yearly. The future looks bright for Lay Evangelism.

St. Lucia’s top 5 outstanding district pastors in baptism 2017

Cornelius Emmanuel 142, Desouza Antoine 92, Vincent Emmanuel 72, Quigley Morris 64 and Nick Vitalis 45
Awakened in the Dew

The coldness of Loo Creek throughout the night and into the early hours of the morning is part of the beautiful nature of the environment. Campers were awakened at 5:00 every morning. The day commenced with devotion by the clubs, line call, reporting, flag raising, corporate devotion which included beautiful singing, a prayer session and inspiring messages. The morning after the opening ceremony, the flag raising was performed by pathfinders and master guides from the Guyana Conference. In addition, there was an excellent message delivered by a pathfinder from St. Kitts during the devotional period and the majority of campers were introduced to the theme song captioned ‘Dreamer of Dreams’.

A theme song - approved and celebrated

Many times, when we hear a song for the first time we may like some aspect of it, or we may not like it at all. Sometimes it doesn’t even register in our consciousness. ‘Dreamer of Dreams’ was proven to be one song which first time hearers recognized for its beauty not just because of the rhythm, but the relevant lyrics that were penned by Pastor Anthony Hall. As the days went by, when traversing the campsite of the various contingents it was not surprising to hear someone or a group of pathfinders singing the theme song. Moreover, it was the norm to hear the chorus of the song being sung throughout the day.

“Jehovah, Your dream lives in my heart, Jehovah, Your dream sets me apart. Jehovah, I am grateful for all You’ve done. I dream of Greatness, I dream of you Lord.”
Hot in the day

The morning dew died as the sun emerged in the sky and brought on the heat that one can always remember. It was during this hot period that most of the day’s activities occurred. Clubs and federations participated in various challenges such as church heritage, Bible doctrine, current affairs, semaphore, first aid, tract and trail, drilling and marching among other challenges. Pathfinders and master guides also completed several honors which included flowers, grasses, ferns, trees, insects, butterflies, travel, camping skills and steel pan. Drilling and marching were major highlights of the camp where clubs demonstrated precision and creativity as they thrilled and impressed all those who were present. Other challenges such as road relay, obstacle challenge, shuttle run, water relay, among others brought many to their feet. In addition, the wounds that looked very real which were created for the first aid practical, amazed the viewing eyes. It was certainly an exceptional job done by all those in charge.

The various skills and knowledge demonstrated throughout the period of this camp, indicated how this youth organization under the Seventh-day Adventist church gears its young people to be well grounded in all aspects of life. After the completion of the various challenges, relevant awards were given in the categories of gold, silver or bronze which further motivated the youths to improve on the skills and the knowledge they already have.

Cool in the evening

A people that hold God at the center of their lives, did not fail in making him the focus of ‘I Dream of Greatness’ Camporee. Every evening at 7 p.m., the night’s program began and included the torch lighting ceremony, wonderful singing and other special items. The biblical messages were based on the story of Joseph. Attendees were presented with a four part series of the story of Joseph, which was written and directed by Ronald Forde, a Guyanese, and performed by pathfinders and master guides from various churches in Guyana. The skillfully crafted series of the story of Joseph in a more modernized fashion thrilled the audience on the first night as they anticipated the other parts of the series. To crown off the evening’s programs was the dynamic preaching of the guest speaker, Dr. David McKenzie who is the Youth Ministries Director of the North-Eastern Conference. His messages which were also based on the story of Joseph were clearly presented and well received.
Recognizing Youth Work

It is good to recognize the dedication and great work of youth leaders; more so if they carry many years ‘under their belts’. Cyril Persaud, one of the founders of the Loo Creek Campsite, is eighty-three years old and a staunch youth leader in Guyana. He has been in youth work for more than 50 years and was relevantly recognized for his work. His age does not limit him. He spoke about his dedication and work for the Lord and encouraged the youth leaders to train the youths to preach God’s word.

Heaven rejoices over one sinner that repenteth

On the penultimate day of ‘I Dream of Greatness’ which was ‘the Sabbath’, many visitors made their way through the forested area to participate in the day’s program. Dr. David McKenzie preached his final sermon for the camp, and by the end of his soul-stirring sermon thirty-two young people gave their lives to Christ. Several pastors then positioned themselves in the baptismal pool and submerged the new souls for Christ in the water and raised them up in their new life. The celebration of a new life in Christ fostered a deep sense of satisfaction, as the camp was coming to a close. Subsequently, the afternoon program saw 198 persons from Guyana being invested which included 177 Pathfinders and 21 Master Guides.

Ending on a high

The Saturday evening was filled with joy, excitement and mixed sentiments at the realization that most campers were leaving the following day. The bonds that were created were evident and it seemed like the days went by too quickly. Nevertheless it did not deter the excitement and fun the last night produced, as each territory enthusiastically thrilled the audience with a final piece that depicted some aspect of their culture.

Represented at the camporee were the St Lucia Mission, South Leeward Mission, South Caribbean Conference, Tobago Mission, St Vincent Mission, Grenada Mission, Suriname Mission, North-Eastern Conference and the Guyana Conference. In attendance was the Caribbean Union Conference President, Pastor Kern Tobias; the treasurer, Pastor Bertie Henry; the Field Secretary Public Affairs & Religious Liberty, Pastor Clive Dottin; and many others whose presence was highly appreciated.

‘I Dream of Greatness’ was undisputedly a success. The camp was spiritually and socially satisfying and exceptionally executed.

In life we all want to ‘Dream of Greatness’ but more so, we want to achieve that greatness we dream of. No one should give up on their dreams. Remember, Joseph went from ‘Prison to Palace’, and from ‘Slave to Prime Minister’.
IMPACT GUYANA 2018—My Experience

By: Dr. Colin Thorne

IMPACT GUYANA 2018 was a tremendous initiative. I do believe that God breathed his divine plan into the mind of Dr. Claudius Morgan and his team as they implemented such an awesome evangelistic thrust. I was blessed to have been selected as one of the anointed 50 to IMPACT GUYANA.

I had a rich and rewarding experience at the Central Church. Not only were the members warm and friendly but the visitors came nightly and eventually many gave their hearts to the Lord. I remember Cheryl, who struggled with her decision but fell in love with Jesus and surrendered everything to Him. Dr. Reynolds and the prayer team ensured that the music was right each night. Dr. Patterson and Pastor Collin Sweeny worked tirelessly as they engaged with the visitors who needed study and guidance before they were baptized. Finally, Elder Cecil Jacques ensured that everything was in order for the success of the campaign.

It was a wonderful experience, one I would long remember and cherish.

TRAINING FOR THE LAITY

The Personal Ministries Department of the East Caribbean Conference began 2018 preparing the laity for a massive assault against the enemy. It is hoped that 50 lay preachers will be on the firing line beginning in the month of July. Pastor Dayle Haynes, the PM Director of the Conference told CARU Communications, “The time is now. We need to get our lay preachers back on the firing line. They are the sleeping giants and must be awakened.”

In preparation for the lay explosion, Directors Ashton O’Neil and Claudius Morgan spent the first weekend in January preparing the lay preachers for the event. Beginning on Friday night, the Ebenezer Church filled to capacity, heard from the experienced evangelist, Claudius Morgan on the topic, Awaking the Sleeping Giants. President Francis commented after the presentation, “This is what is needed.”

On the Sabbath, Pastor Ashton O’Neil with skill and patience demonstrated the Power of Lay Witnessing for Successful Evangelistic Campaigns. Director Dayle Haynes did an exciting presentation on Creativity in Preaching and Sermon Preparation. The rest of the day was given to Evangelist Morgan who dealt with Pre-work That Works With Your Powerful Preaching, The Art of Appealing, and Preparing Effective Evangelistic Sermons. Continued on pg. 37
The day of training and information ended with a preachaton involving 8 of the lay preachers present including youth lay preachers from ASI Mission 2000 and Beyond. This group of passionate young people which numbers over 550 has been making waves across the IAD. Responsible for raising their own fares with assistance from ASI Barbados and Director Marvalee Franklyn, they have conducted evangelistic campaigns in SVG, St Lucia, Antigua, Dominica, London UK, West and East Jamaica, Trinidad, Guyana, Tobago, Costa Rica, Belize, Dominican Republic, Suriname, Panama, and this year they will be revisiting Tobago. A contingent of 100 to 150 makes the trip every year.

In operation for over 16 years, ASI Mission 2000 and Beyond has baptized 1,735 persons and planted 5 churches. Of particular mention is the fact that 20 of the young passionate soldiers have gone on to become ministers of the gospel including Jamal Franklyn, son of one of the directors, Marvalee Franklyn.

Each of the 50 lay evangelistic sites has a goal of 10 baptisms. Pastor Haynes is confident that each site will achieve its goal.

ECC’s top 5 outstanding district pastors in baptism 2017

Dayle Haynes 58, Sheldon Brome 40, Carl Dyal 33, Joel James 31 and Ernest Pendenque 25
Sabbath March 3, 2018 was indeed a high day in Zion as members of the ECC of SDA hosted a special ordination service under the theme, Embracing Transformation. A capacity crowd filled every available pew in the Portsmouth Seventh-day Adventist Church at Glanvillia, Dominica as hundreds of passionate members from every Pastoral district converged to capture this historic moment in time—the setting apart to the Gospel Ministry of one of Dominica’s finest and beloved sons of the soil—Pastor Ernest Pendenque!

The preaching of the Word by Pastor Johnson Frederick, entitled “A Heart Like Thine”, focused on the life of a transformed leader, drawing on the experience of Moses. In his message, he highlighted the great need of leaders to be transformed, for a transformed leader can “move mountains.” A biographical sketch and presentation of the candidate was done by the East Caribbean Conference’s Ministerial Secretary, Pastor Felix Jack. The ordinand’s family: Pastor Ernest, wife Stacey and daughter Penina Philomené Pendenque was escorted by Pastor Colin and Sister Emelda Bacchus of the South Eastern District. The Prayer of Consecration was offered by President Kern Tobias. A Ministerial Chorale sandwiched between the Consecration Prayer and Ministerial Charge by Pastor Andrew Farrel, Caribbean Union Conference’s Ministerial Secretary, crowned the moment with an apt rendition, “Take My Life”.

Words of welcome to Ministry were extended by Dr. Kern and Sister Linda Tobias on behalf of the Administration and Ministerial Spouses Association of the Caribbean Union; Pastor R. Danforth and Sister Verna Francis representing the Administration and Ministerial Spouses of the East Caribbean Conference; Pastor Andrew Farrel and Pastor Felix Jack, Ministerial Secretary of the Union and Conference respectively.

In presenting Pastor Pendenque his certificate of ordination and ministerial pin, Pastor Tobias congratulated him, apprising him of his new position that effectively renders him an ambassador of the World Church, with the rights to perform fully every ministerial function and the capability of serving in any capacity anywhere in the world! He jokingly challenged him to look beyond Dominica and the East Caribbean, since opportunities to serve are limitless.

In his candidate’s response, Pastor Pendenque was both scholarly and spontaneous as he freely shared his journey from his baptism into the Mahaut SDA Church family to his ordination as a minister. He spoke of the friendships built, the mistakes made, the experiences shared, the lessons learnt, the people who influenced him, and the dreamlike reality of the occasion.

Pastor Pendenque views his wife, Stacey, as his partner in ministry. Her silent but steady work behind the scenes, he says, provides him with the supportive environment conducive for success in his pursuit to effect change in the name of Jesus Christ. He is thankful to God for the fruit of their marital union, Penina. The service was carried live by local internet broadcaster Come See Television! When the service concluded, snapshot interviews were done with colleagues, family, community members and well-wishers.
MY IMPRESSIONS OF IMPACT GUYANA

Impact Guyana was an extraordinary evangelistic activity. It was novel, well planned, excellently executed and highly inspirational. Thanks to the Caribbean Union Conference and the Guyana Conference for an exhilarating experience.

The apostles in Jerusalem must have had a similar jump of enthusiasm and shout as they covered the city with the gospel: “Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.”

“And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?” Acts 2:6-7 KJV

Then the preacher stood up to preach: “But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words.” Acts 2:14 KJV

This for me was Pentecost in Guyana. I long for the day when this will be our daily duty and then Jesus comes! Maranatha!

LTM Impact Preachers from SCC. From L to R Top—Pastors Leslie Moses, Inskip Richards, Onesii La Fleur and Nigel Walcott.
From L to R below—Pastors Terry John and Kishford Frank and Evangelists Anthony Lewis and Frankie Thomas. (Together they baptized a total of 190 persons)
Pastor Durwin Clarke, a graduate of the class of 1995 from the now USC is keeping lay evangelism alive and flourishing in the South Caribbean Conference. Elected to serve the church in Trinidad as Personal Ministries Director in 2012 by the executive committee of the conference and re-elected at the 2015 conference session, Pastor Clark is passionate about evangelism and his lay people. Dr. Dottin would say about Pastor Clarke, “He loves evangelism.”

This year, Pastor Clarke and his team have been involved in training the lay people to be more effective and confident soul winners. Of the 8 zones in SCC, he has conducted training in 6 of them, graduating over 232 passionate lay disciples and preachers. His department proposed 100 lay crusades in 2018 but with the many pastoral crusades scheduled for the year, he cites a more realistic number of approximately 40.

In one of the sessions CARU communications attended at the Mt D’or SDA Church, the seriousness and fervent attention of the attendees were noted. Every man had his pad or paper taking notes. The panel discussion was tremendously effective in answering questions on evangelism that many participants asked. The panelists were Drs. Clive Dottin and Claudius Morgan and pastors Inskip Richards and Ashton O’ Neil.

It is also commendable that in the training sessions, two lay preachers were among the presenters; Lionel Decoteau who dealt with field preparation and Joseph Charles who presented on small group evangelism. Pastors Clive Dottin, Claudius Morgan, Ashton O’Neil, Terry John, Paul Philbert And St Hugh Henry dealt with topics like decision making, sermon preparation, making appeals, and effective field preparation. There is eager anticipation of baptismal results from the crusades.

Dr. Clive Dottin presenting on the topic: Making your appeals work - getting people to the altar. This session took place at the Mt. D’or SDA Church on Sunday January 7, 2018

SCC’s top 5 outstanding district pastors in baptism 2017

Nigel Walcott 81, Erlin Dolly 58, Kirt Thomas 56, Roger Edwards 54 and St Hugh Henry 51
Guyana will never be the same again

Guyana, WI holds in its historical realm an evangelistic outreach that is second to none. Chronicled in the evangelism strategy of CARU is “Impact Guyana 2018”. This event sparked a new paradigm for evangelism in the Caribbean Union, and struck a direct response to the call of the world church leaders for “Total Membership Involvement”.

At Impact Guyana 2018, we witnessed a Holy Spirit-led synergy with combined multiple forces working together. The church and the community engaged in a meaningful and mutually beneficial collaboration through which God's name was lifted to pinnacle level. Biblical sermons, door-to-door evangelism, creative evangelism, prayer evangelism, personal evangelism, phone evangelism, props evangelism, and WhatsApp evangelism merged with the forces of Heaven in spiritual combat against all the forces of evil. Guyana will never be the same again.

TMI became TCI – ‘Total Church Involvement’, which enforced TLI – ‘Total Leaders Involvement’. I declare that all that happened in Guyana 2018 was a “God Thing”.

“The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers.” — Gospel Workers, p. 352

By: Wilmoth James
Driven by a goal to revamp communication delivered by its congregations, and to use appropriate delivery methods to impact the church constituency and its community, creatively and effectively, the North Caribbean Conference (NCC) Communication Department hosted a very successful workshop from February 16 to 17, 2018.

The two-day event, conducted at the St. Croix Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) School, brought more than 60 participants together for professional instruction, the exchange of ideas and ministry-methods, and to unify efforts to share the message of hope.

The NCC Communication Director, Pastor Royston Philbert, shared the objectives of the training: Provide inspiration, foster team-spirit, harmonize our message and impact communication in the local church with a stronger commitment to service and excellence, in the fulfillment of its mission.

Pastor Claudius Morgan, the Communication Director of the Caribbean Union Conference (CARU), was the primary program facilitator. He stated, “The workshop is important to our church communication directors as it helps them to become more knowledgeable about the purpose of communication in the life of the church. Communication is everything. When sharing information, there is need to ensure the messages reach the targeted audience.”

A series of valuable concepts from several presenters equipped attendees to target effective content delivery. Pastor Desmond James, the NCC President, emphasized, “We want to improve the paradigms of communication dramatically. We must move to the next level using the technology to make our church communication-friendly.”

Pastor Morgan urged attendees to, “step out of your comfort zones to learn more of current technology and media. Youtube has it all. Challenge yourself and learn all you can to be efficient in the things you do.”

The husband and wife team of Brother Richard and Sister Sigorney Dorsey guided attendees on gathering the content for communication that is relevant and life-changing. “We are living in an awesome time where technology can enable us to reach millions with the gospel in places and at times when it was otherwise impossible to do so,” said Sigorney Dorsey.

Dr. Verleen McSween reiterated that “the greatest challenge lies in sharing the vision and bringing awareness of who we are. The Church is looking for efficiency and inclusiveness.”

The workshop included practical instructions on the use, maintenance and positioning of microphones in the church; how to prepare the church for online distribution of church services; and how to collaborate using innovative methods to showcase professionalism in churches and institutions around the NCC.

The NCC Communication Department collaborates with CARU in the thrust to present a favorable image of the SDA Church in the Caribbean Union to the world.

By: Royston Philbert
“Lord Transform Me” Initiative

The LTM initiative, Impact Guyana 2018, left an indelible impression on the minds of all and Dr. Kern Tobias asserted, “Impact Guyana has set the model that we can take to the other constituencies of the Caribbean Union. You are great Guyana!”

Pastor Claudius Morgan is the Assistant to the President for Evangelism at the Caribbean Union and the organizer of the LTM initiative. He summarized the enormous effect of Impact Guyana 2018: “The Church here has this initiative as their own and made it work successfully. We are working on rekindling the fire of soul-winning throughout the Caribbean Union, stressing to our pastors the importance of not stopping nor slowing down on the mission to reach more souls for the Kingdom.”

During the Sabbath afternoon program Pastor Morgan recognized pastors who are impacting evangelism in the Caribbean Union and gratitude was extended to nine “Centurion Evangelists” from 2017. They include Evangelist Marvyn Smith of the Guyana Conference, who baptized 265 persons in a crusade held in Guyana; Evangelist Sherwin White of the South Leeward Mission, who baptized 215 persons in a crusade, also held in Guyana; Evangelist Claudius Morgan of CARU, who baptized 307 persons through crusades held in St. Maarten and Grenada; Evangelist Roger Stephen of the St. Lucia Mission, who baptized 112 persons in a crusade held in St. Lucia; Evangelist Matison Previle of the St. Lucia Mission who baptized 107 persons in a crusade held in St Lucia; Evangelist Mark McPherson, Dean of Men at the University of the Southern Caribbean (USC), who baptized 103 persons in a crusade held in Guyana; Evangelist Inskip Richards of the South Caribbean Conference who baptized 161 persons during crusades held in Trinidad; Evangelist Clive Dottin, Religious Liberty Director of CARU, who baptized 157 persons during crusades held in Barbados and St Lucia; and, Evangelist Henry Peters of the North Caribbean Conference who baptized 112 persons during crusades held in Anguilla and Grenada. Additionally, 19 district pastors were recognized for leading their districts in baptisms during 2017.

Pastor Wilmoth James, Secretary of the North Caribbean Conference, shared his impressions: “Impact Guyana afforded Morgan the opportunity to identify and empower new and upcoming evangelists in order to continue evangelism in the Caribbean Union.”

As the intense rays of transformation spread across the Caribbean Union Conference, Pastor Samuel Telemaque affirmed, “It’s a new day for evangelism in the Caribbean Union.” While the Guyana Conference wraps its arms of fellowship around its newest members, Pastor Morgan and his team are heading across the border for the next LTM endeavour in the territory of Suriname.  

By: Pastor Royston Philbert
Guyana Conference

Richard James - President Guyana Conference - July 2011 to the present.

Membership: 61,272
Congregations: 220
Pastors: 48
Total workers: 122
Years in operation: 131

Most Outstanding Evangelist 2017

Pastor Marvin Smith, Youth Director of the Guyana Conference, was honored at LTM Impact Guyana as the most outstanding evangelist in 2017 by virtue of baptizing the most in any single crusade in the Caribbean Union, 267 in Guyana.

Pastor Smith who hails from an SDA home was baptized at 8 years old by Pastor Ivor Keizer during a Week of Prayer conducted by Pastor Clive Dottin.

His first crusade was at age 14 and he baptized 16 persons. He has since conducted over 6 crusades baptizing a total of 1034 persons. Graduating from USC in May 2008, he served as intern to the late Ashton Alleyne and President Hilton Garnett. He spent just under 2 years as a district pastor before being elected as the Youth Director of the Guyana Conference in May 2011.

The Amazing and adorable Elodie Smith, from Martinique is his dear wife. They have two children, son Jared and daughter Eden. Pastor Smith is a cool but aggressive and organized leader. He knows how to get it done. The future of evangelism is bright with evangelists like Marvin Smith.

Pastor Smith receives certificate and trophy from President Tobias.

Guyana’s top 6 outstanding district pastors in baptism 2017

Noel Schultz 317, Lester Pereira 217, Rawl Jackman 150, Alfred Charles 145, Andre Meusa 135, and Carolyn Brandon 135
Norma Evelyn Greaves was born in Barbados to SDA missionary parents, Pastor & Mrs. Eric S. Greaves. The family was sent to Guyana where she spent her first five years before moving to Trinidad when her parents answered another call to work there. She attended the San Juan SDA Primary School, and pursued her secondary and college education at Caribbean Union College (CUC), now the University of the Southern Caribbean (USC).

She accompanied her parents to the USA and furthered her education, earning a Bachelors Degree in Biology at La Sierra University. From there she returned to CUC in September 1967 to start her teaching career in the areas of biology and integrated science at both the secondary and college levels.

During her 41 year tenure at CUC/USC she went on to earn two Masters degrees; one in biology from Loma Linda University and the other a MSLS in Library Information from the University of Southern California. While teaching, she also served for years as Director of Library Services at USC, and ably improved the library’s growth and expansion. At USC she is also remembered in the areas of the Pathfinder and Master Guide Ministries as well as Church Clerk, pianist and historian/archivist.

She climbed the ranks from lecturer, assistant professor, and associate professor before she was asked to serve in administrative positions as Vice President of Development, Public Relations and Alumni Affairs. As Alumni Director she travelled to areas of the world where USC alumni reside including the islands of the Caribbean, USA, Canada and Hawaii. She has travelled as far as Africa, Europe, Alaska, the Holy Land and the Far East. Once, on arriving in Greece and another time arriving in Hong Kong, surprisingly she met USC students and that really brought her much delight.

In February 2008, Norma was asked to work in Barbados for the East Caribbean Conference, where her father served as a Conference President and Minister in bygone years. She was happy to give her support to jointly upgrade the library services for the SDA Secondary and Primary Schools in Barbados.

She has received various awards including tributes from USC, the USC Alumni Association North America Chapter, the South Caribbean Conference, the FOB Association in Trinidad, and from the Barbados SDA Secondary School Alumni for contributing to their programs.

God has been very good to Norma Greaves who on September 18, 2017 celebrated 50 golden years as a devoted, loyal and committed worker in God’s vineyard.
USC Welcomes New Female Dormitory Facility

On February 28, 2018, personnel from the University of the Southern Caribbean (USC), the Caribbean Union Conference of SDA (CARU) and the USC Alumni Association gathered to celebrate the opening of the highly anticipated female dormitory and dedicate it to the Lord. The state-of-the-art, fully equipped structure is elegantly perched on the highest and most visible point of the campus.

Among those in attendance were the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Kern Tobias; Vice President of the North American Alumni Chapter, Mrs. Nicole Archer; and Executive Secretary of the Caribbean Union, Pastor Johnson Frederick.  

A look at one of the rooms in the ladies’ dorm.
University President, Dr. Hilary Bowman in his address, lauded the efforts of past Presidents Dr. Trevor Gardner and Dr. Clinton A. Valley, commending them for their part played in the foundational phase of the dormitory. He graciously expressed, “With God, all things are possible.”

Dr. Kern Tobias, sharing in the celebration, referred to the completed dormitory as a miracle (that which came sooner than expected) and urged those present to hold Psalm 91 close to their hearts.

Mrs. Nicole Archer expressed how delighted the North American Alumni Chapter is to contribute to USC going beyond excellence and further expressed the Association’s loyalty to USC and its endeavors.

The President, administrators, faculty, staff, and students are eternally grateful to those who contributed to the completion of the ladies’ dormitory.

Auditorium Rebuilding Project Resumes

Administrators, student representatives and workmen assembled at the site of the USC auditorium to pray for blessings on the continuation of the Auditorium Rebuilding Project which began on February 7, 2018.

The project which originally commenced in 2014 was brought to a halt, leaving a great need for space to host university activities and events, including the annual graduation exercises.

Recognizing the evident deficit in space on campus, USC’s current administration committed to the auditorium’s completion, with a goal of having it outfitted in time for the 2018 graduation exercises, scheduled to be held from June 29 – July 1.

The need for a university auditorium arose in 2012 when fire destroyed the then auditorium only two weeks before the scheduled graduation exercises.

University President, Dr. Hilary Bowman stressed on the trust and faith in Christ that should be exercised in order to make the completion of this project a reality. He also prayed for the safety and well being of the employees who will be labouring onsite over the next few months.

Since the resumption of the building project, there has been significant advancement and we pray for your continued support of this project.
Pastor Frederick Johnson of the Caribbean Union stands with the New President and Secretary of the Inter-American Division in a photo taken at the end of the Best Practices Summit on Thursday March 29th. Earlier that week Dr. Israel Leito announced his retirement during the church’s mid-year executive meetings and Dr. Elie Henry was elected president. Dr. Henry’s position becoming vacant was filled by Atlantic Caribbean Union President, Dr. Leonard Johnson. Dr. Henry will officially commence his presidency as of Aug. 1, 2018. Pastor Filiberto Verduzco continues as treasurer.

For the Church at USC

The presence of a church building on the campus has been an age-old dream of USC. For decades, efforts have been made to construct a center that will be used to glorify God and to serve members of the community.

Thankfully, this dream will soon be realized. This is due in part to the portion of the World Church’s 13th Sabbath School Offering which will be used to help construct the building, and also in part to the prayers and contributions of members like you who have a great desire to see a church building erected on the USC campus.

A ground breaking ceremony will take place on July 2, 2018, following which construction will begin on August 27, 2018. The construction date coincides with the celebration of USC’s 91st Anniversary.