

THE LOGOS

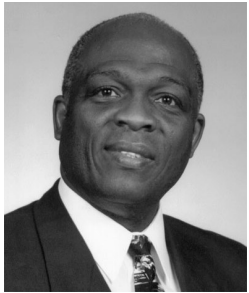


“Mission of Hope”

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LETTER FROM PASTOR ISRAEL LEITO, PRESIDENT OF I.A.D.

The World is in financial turmoil, and many see this as fulfillment of prophecies. Because we are a prophetic people, we pay keen attention to the events gripping our world in fear. However, God's people can remain confident, knowing we are in His hands. This is not the time to panic. It



Pastor Israel Leito,
President of The Inter-
American Division

is not the time to be paralyzed by fear, nor is it the time to forget that this is the Lord's church, and we are His people.

As financial institutions are collapsing, as banks are closing, as credit becomes tighter, we must lift up our eyes to heaven in gratitude, because the Lord is still

holding the winds of strife, giving us time to reach our neighbors and friends with the message of salvation.

It is time to rejoice because of the prospect of the soon return of our Lord. **However, life goes on, and we must live as the best citizens on this planet. The future is very uncertain, but we are confident the Lord will see us through.** His will must be done, and we need to be ready to accept His will in our lives. In the meantime, what can we do?

Definitely, nowhere in the Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy do we learn that this is the time to panic or lose our heads. To the contrary, this is the time for ardent prayers. This is the time to frequent God's house and to associate with His people like never before. This is the time to really care for our brother.

As we go about our lives, please remember that in times of crisis, many civil guarantees will be suspended or canceled outright. The world has seen years of peace and quietness. Time had been given to us. **However, this is the time for action in preparation for what may come.**

According to predictions by the experts, one of the first things that may happen is massive job loss. In times of crisis, there is no job security, and as workers in the upper echelons of society lose their jobs, they will fall back on the jobs of the less fortunate persons. It must not surprise us to soon see persons who had high paying jobs, be our trash collectors, for want of a better job.

As Adventists we must be aware of this

reality, and one of the first groups of casualties may well be the Sabbath keepers. **Protections we have enjoyed thus far may not be there anymore, and to ask for the privilege of Sabbath off to worship according to the dictates of our conscience may well be the reason to be laid off. We need not despair, for the Lord is on our side. However, there are things we can do today to at least lower the possibility of getting fired. No, it is not relying on the laws to protect us, but by being the best workers possible.**

Although it was always important that Seventh-day Adventists should be the best workers and citizens there are at all times, now it is more essential than ever. We must engage in our work always with a prayer on our lips, asking the Lord to help us to discharge our duties to the best of our abilities. **Let us make sure we are never late for work; let us make sure we are not the first to leave at quitting time. Let us pray to the Lord to preserve our health in order for us not to have to take days off due to real sickness or because we just need "a day to attend to other business." Let us treat our fellow workers with respect, and deal honestly with our employers, by giving an honest day's work. Let us go beyond the call of duty. After all, what is to happen shall happen, but don't let us accelerate it needlessly by just being average workers. We must be the best workers around.**

This is the time to intensify our commitment to the Lord, our love for one another, and our dedication to His church. We do not return our tithe to force the Lord to bless, because according to His blessings, we return to Him what is His. This must be a priority now. Let us come together to pray and to study God's Word. **Let us fill our churches on Wednesday nights to pray and invite our neighbors to come with us to the house of the Lord to pray.**

If you know of a brother or a sister who has fallen on hard times, make life more bearable for him/her. **Share with each other what we have, and make the burden of our fellow Christians lighter.**

No, we are not in panic mode, but we realize that this may be the call of the Lord to draw closer to Him and to be prepared for bigger things that are to come on this earth.

May the Lord grant us His peace in this time of trouble, and may His blessings pre-

serve us from the ills of the world and the uncertainties surrounding us.

Maranatha! -Israel Leito, President of the Inter-American Division

PENTECOST AND MORE IS HERE!

Across the length and breadth of West Indies Union, March 21, 2009, is the day of Pentecost and More. On this exciting day over 3000 converts are expected to be baptized in the West Indies Union. Moreover, it is expected that on this day, the Bahamas Conference will exceed 300 baptisms.

Having careful regard for the mission of the church, every field in West Indies Union has unequivocally accepted Pentecost and More as the major evangelistic strategy for this quinquennium. Hence, today every field, without timidity, earnestly anticipates hundreds of baptisms through numerous reaping campaigns. Here in the Bahamas, two such campaigns will culminate with a substantial number of new believers committing their lives to the Lord.

The momentum that propels us to this point originates with the Holy Spirit. Pentecost and More can never be a reality without the abiding person, presence, and power of the Holy Spirit. I am amazed at the impressive and magnificent display of the Holy Spirit among believers who are bound inextricably together by a heaven born mission that supersedes the talents, gifts, and skills of any single person. This mission ultimately defines the church.

"It's my time in 2009" has become our personal motto to remind us not just of our personal responsibility to contribute time, energy, skills and presence to soul winning events but also to yearn for the direct connection with the Holy Spirit. Pentecost and More is here. Did we prepare diligently for this experience? Did we expend sufficient time, energy, skills and presence at gatherings that form the foundation for the experience we now expect? For all who did, Pentecost and More is here.

No one in attendance at the "Jesus Is The Answer Campaign" on Tuesday night, March 17, 2009, can dispute that Pentecost and More is here. Certainly, that night every human strategy was abandoned as the Holy Spirit came in and presided. No sermon was preached by the Evangelist. The lone voice was the convicting person, presence and power of the Holy Spirit. An atmosphere charged with the presence of the Divine, only needed a human being to appeal. Evangelist G. Earl Knight did just that, and that night 27

(Continued on page 2)

converts entered the baptistery. To date over two hundred persons have been baptized. Today we expect more. Pentecost and More is here! - *Pastor Peter Joseph, Ministerial Director, Bahamas Conference of SDA*

THE "JESUS IS THE ANSWER" CRUSADE CONCLUDES TOMORROW

The "Jesus Is The Answer" gospel campaign with Evangelist Knight will conclude with a grand gospel concert and baptism tomorrow, March 22, 2009, at 7:15 P.M.

VOLUNTEERS ASSIST BAHAMAS ACADEMY

On March 15, Bahamas Academy welcomed twenty-six high school students and teachers from Chinook Winds Adventist Academy in Calgary, Canada who arrived to help with the construction at the new Bahamas Academy. Not only are they giving free labour, but they raised almost five thousand dollars which they presented to Bahamas Academy at an assembly on Wednesday, March 18. Present to receive the check were Conference President, Dr. Leonard Johnson, Mr. Melvin Lewis, Conference Treasurer, and Dr. Cheryl Rolle, Education Director. They thanked the students and teachers for their remarkable generosity and assured them that their physical effort and monetary gift would help greatly in completing the new school. As they return home on March 24, we wish God's blessing on them as they continue to do service for Him.-*Dr. Cheryl R. Rolle, Education Director*

GYMNASTS VISIT BAHAMAS ACADEMY

During March 12-19 twenty three gymnasts, their coach, and the Athletic Director from Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska visited New Providence on tour to various schools demonstrating their skill in gymnastics as they witnessed for Christ. On Wednesday, March 18 during the weekly assembly, they delighted Bahamas Academy students and teachers with their athletic skill and agility. The excitement was even greater when the performers invited some of Bahamas Academy's students to demonstrate some of the basic gymnastic positions with them. After a breathtaking display of talent, the gymnasts expressed their appreciation for the hospitality shown and the pleasant weather that they experienced.-*Dr. Cheryl R. Rolle, Education Director*

LEBERT MCBEAN IS CHAMPION AGAIN

At the recently held Literature Evangelist Congress of the Inter-American Division held in Cuba during March 9 -15, Mr. Lebert McBean was named the champion colporteur for the West Indies Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Mr. McBean now holds the championship for two consecutive years, 2007 and 2008. The trophy was presented to Mr. McBean by Pastor Howard Faigao, the Publishing Director of the

General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, who congratulated Mr. McBean for his achievement and urged him to continue the great work. Mr. McBean was accompanied by Elder Melvin Lewis, Publishing Director of Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. We congratulate Mr. McBean on once again achieving this great accomplishment. May God richly bless him as he continues to spread the gospel through the printed word. - *C o n f e r e n c e Administration*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES LEADERS TO MEET

All Children's Ministries Leaders are asked to attend a meeting on Thursday, April 2, 2009, at 6:00 P.M. at the Conference Office. Your quarterly reports are due at this time. - *Diane Jones, CM Director*

CONFERENCE CHILDREN'S RETREAT AND VISITATION

The children's retreat will be held during April 17 - 19, 2009. Final Payment is March 30, 2009. The monthly visit to Elizabeth Estates will take place on Sabbath, March 28, 2009. The Grant's Town and New Providence Churches are responsible for the program.-*Diane Jones, CM Director*

"BACKYARD FARMING" SEMINAR

The Hillview Women's Ministries in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture & Marine Resources will host a "Backyard Farming" seminar on Sunday, March 29, 2009, from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. For further information and applications, please contact Donnalee Bowe, Latoya Smith, Eldora Beneby, Maxine McDonald, or Charmaine Smith at the church at 361-8683.-*Donnalee Bowe, WM Leader*

GENEVA HEALTH SUMMIT

All persons who plan to travel to Switzerland in July for the Health Summit are asked to contact Dr. Alvira Higgs at 322-8314 during store hours.

NEW BELIEVERS SUMMIT

The New Believers Annual Summit will be held in Little Creek, South Andros during April 17-19, 2009. Accommodation and transportation are free, and space is limited. Please contact James Sands at 341-8661 or Pastor Kent Price at 362-0966 for information.

CHURCH EDUCATION SECRETARIES TO MEET

All church Education Secretaries are asked to attend a meeting at the Conference Office on Tuesday, March 24 at 6:30 P.M. - *Dr. Cheryl Rolle, Education Director*

CONFERENCE YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE AND UPCOMING CONCERT

Mass youth choir rehearsal will be held on Sunday, March 22 at the gym from 4:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

The Mass Youth Choir will host a gospel concert on March 28 at 7:30 P.M. at First

Baptist Church on Market Street. Tickets are available from choir members. -*Monique McKenzie, Coordinator*

ADVENTIST MEN CHORALE PRACTICE

The Adventist men chorale will practice tomorrow morning, March 22 at 8:00 at the Centerville Church. All men are asked to make a special effort to be on time. -*Tony Roach, Leader*

ADVENTIST BOOK CENTRE

The ABC has a new shipment of Ellen White books, church manuals, devotionals, Bible games, and an assortment of other products. Come visit us now.

Sabbath School supplies for the second quarter will be available for collection on Monday, March 23, 2009. All persons collecting supplies are reminded to follow the collection procedures. -*ABNC Manager*

SOUTH ANDROS ADVENTIST HOMECOMING

All South Androsians, descendants and friends of Androsians, and persons interested in traveling to South Andros during April 10-13 for the Grand Homecoming are asked to meet with Mr. Kenny Deveaux and Pastors Jeremiah Duncombe and Leo Rolle at the tent on Sunday, March 22 at 6:30 P.M.

HOUR OF GOSPEL MUSIC

AT THE MARY INGRAHAM HOME

Today between 5:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M., the Breath of Life Church is expected. Next Sabbath, March 28, the Centerville Church is scheduled.

ADVENTIST YOUTH LEADERSHIP COURSE

A meeting for all persons interested in completing the Adventist Youth Leadership course will be held on Sunday, March 22, 2009, at 8:00 A.M. at the Good News Church.

ADVENTIST YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING

Adventist Youth Council Meeting will be held on Monday, March 30, 2009, at 7:00 P.M. at the Grant's Town Church. It is very important that ALL AYS Leaders attend.

MASTERGUIDE CLASSES

Masterguide and PLA classes continue on Sunday, March 22 at 7:00 A.M. at the Good News Church.

SUN SETS TODAY AT 7:22 P.M.

SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH AT 7:25 P.M.

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HAVE A BLESSED SABBATH!