



CALLING CHURCH ELDERS



It was under the love, guardianship, mentorship and influence of a church elder that I was grounded into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I learned the beauty of home worship, Sabbath fellowship, delicious vegetarian meals, care and nurture, deeper practical insights of the Scriptures and the Spirit of Prophecy, the joy and conscientiousness of church serving from an elder. Having been newly baptized, he was assigned to me as my spiritual guardian. He picked me up for church on Sabbaths and Wednesday night prayer meetings. Under his tutelage, he was used by God to reinforce my calling to become a minister of the gospel within the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The work of elders in the Seventh-day Adventist church is extensive and varied. Churches differ in size and complexities, necessitating careful, diligent “elder” leadership.

Let’s take a look at some of the leadership responsibilities of an elder, for the call of an elder is serious business.

Elders are shepherds.

The Bible repeatedly employs the metaphor of “shepherding” to describe the spiritual leadership of God’s people (e.g., Acts 20:17, 28; 1 Peter 5: 1-4). The elders’ mission is to lead, teach, train, protect and love their church members the way shepherds care for the sheep in a flock, so that church members spiritually mature.

Elders are pastoral.

The word “pastor” means “shepherd.” We often refer, in our organizational system, to paid ministers as “pastors” and lay leaders “elders.” However, let’s not get myopic in our thinking by only seeing pastors as “the professional” ministers and elders only as support for the ministers. Biblically, a pastor is an elder and an elder also engages in pastoral work like a pastor. Elders should collaborate with the pastor and do those things in a local church that in many ways parallel what a pastor would do. Though not financially remunerated by being on the payroll of the church organization, the sacrifice and service of elders should be appreciated, valued,

encouraged and gratitude should be expressed not only verbally but tangibly.

Elders are godly.

Of great importance in reference to the office of an elder are the character qualities (e.g., Titus 1:5-9). Elders must be self-controlled, sensible, holy, and hospitable. They shouldn’t be imbibing in alcohol or bullies or money-grubbers, numbers-players or family-wreckers. Elders who are called must be “above reproach” by daily being in Jesus Christ. Church members should be able to see in their elders inspiring, albeit imperfect, examples of the character of Jesus.

Elders are teachers.

Elders must be able to teach and explain with clarity the word of God so that they can build up the church in sound doctrine and refute false teachers. Such teaching may be one-to-one instruction, small groups, Sabbath School and/or Bible classes, or preaching. An elder doesn’t need a doctorate degree (Ph.D./Th.D.) in biblical studies, but an elder does need to be able to faithfully explain biblical truth.

Elders are leaders.

Elders have a measure of authority within the local church. The elders’ authority is not absolute or unquestionable, nor should it be exercised in a domineering manner. An unknown source is quoted as saying, “Treat people the way you want to be treated. Talk to people the way you want to be talked to. Respect is earned not given.” God calls elders to provide servant-leadership for the flock, and for the flock, to reciprocate by respecting that leadership.

Elders are not Jesus.

Jesus is the Chief Shepherd, and elders are His temporary helpers. Elders should model Jesus’ character, teach Jesus’ word, and lead the church by pointing it to Jesus and His mission. Elders must maintain the awareness that they also are sheep, utterly dependent on the grace of the Good Shepherd.

*-Pastor Michael A. Smith
Ministerial Director
Atlantic Caribbean Union of Seventh-day
Adventists*



FROM THE EDITOR

Are you interested in writing the lead article for the Logos?

Please send an email to lsturrap@sbcadventist.org.bs



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021

JULY

- 3 IWILLGO: “Defense/Police Officer” Local Church Day of Prayer and Fasting/All Night Prayer Meeting (7:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.)

- 3 – 31 Basketball League: Junior & Senior Divisions
- 10 IAD ONLINE AY
- 17 Ministerial Department, Elders’ Appreciation Evening (7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.)
- 24 Third Quarter Youth Day: Local Church (AM)
- 24 Children’s and Adolescent Sabbath (ATCU) Churches
- 24 – 31 Summer Youth Evangelism (Local Church)
- 29 Executive Committee Meeting
- 31 Park ‘N’ Praise (Joint AY) PM&ASI Evangelistic Series Reach the World: Media Ministry (Empowered by Christ – one week Campaign)



ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CALLED CONSTITUENCY MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a Special Constituency Meeting of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held on August 15, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. at the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church, #134 Tonique Williams-Darling Highway, New Providence, The Bahamas.

The Special Constituency Meeting is called to:

1. Vote on one of three proposals in relation to the former Bahamas Academy site.
2. Vote on constitution amendments with respect to online participation in constituency meetings as recommended by the General Conference.

All duly appointed delegates are invited to be present at the constituency meeting. Registration for all delegates will be held on Sunday, August 15, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church located on #134 Tonique Williams-Darling Highway.

- Office of the Secretariat



BAHAMAS ACADEMY REGISTRATION FOR ENTRANCE INTO EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Bahamas Academy’s Early Learning Centre has relocated to Marshall Road. Registration is in progress for children ages 3-5 years old.

BAHAMAS ACADEMY CAFETERIA MANAGEMENT OFFERING

Bahamas Academy is seeking to enter into a contract for the management of its cafeteria services for the 2021-2022 school

year. Interested parties may contact the director by sending applications to aburrows@sbcadventist.org.bs. Sealed bids/envelopes can be delivered to the Education Director at the Conference Office. Deadline for all submissions is July 19, 2021.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

Bahamas Academy's final sitting for the entrance examination for the 2021-2022 school year will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. Applicants for grades 1-10 are invited to apply online at bahamasacademy.org no later than Monday, August 9, 2021. For additional information please contact the school at 461-2100.

Bahamas Academy's Summer Office Hours - 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. from Monday-Friday.

-Mrs. Juliette Sands, Principal, Bahamas Academy.



BIBLE CLASS

This Sunday Bible Class will be conducted by Dr. Martin Hanna of Andrews University on the topic Fundamental Beliefs #11 – Growing in Christ, the last one voted by the General Conference. Time: 6:30p.m.

-Pastor Lynden Williams, Spirit of Prophecy Coordinator.



CHILDREN & ADOLESCENT MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2021 – Virtual VBS Programs (churches)

CHURCH VBS PROGRAMS:

'Cactusville, Where kids are called to follow Jesus'. #SayYestoJesus

- **July 19th - 23rd, 2021 at 9:00a.m.- 1:00p.m.** - Grant's Town Church.
- **Monday, July 19 – Sunday, July 25, 2021 at 4:30p.m. to 6:00p.m. daily** - Good News Church, Cockburn Town Church & South Andros District.

-Mrs. Lavern A. Sturup, Children & Adolescent Ministries Director.



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

A special thanks is extended to all women who sent in submissions for the devotional book.

UPCOMING EVENTS

EnditNow

BRINGING PEACE HOME:

Addressing Youth Violence at the Roots
August 28, 2021

"God Covers Me" September 1, 2021
A joint initiative by Women's Ministries and Children & Adolescents Ministries.

PAUSE & PRAY

Remember to Pause & Pray with us virtually each Wednesday at noon.

DONATION REQUEST

Used, But In

Good Condition Devotionals

Kindly donate to your local Women's Ministries Leader for distribution during our community outreach projects this year. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions or need additional information on any of our initiatives, kindly email us at SBCwomensministries@sbcadventist.org.bs --Mrs. Jacqueline Gibson, Women's Ministries Director.



SOUTH BAHAMAS CONFERENCE

YOUTH DEPARTMENT:

SPORTS MINISTRY:

BASKETBALL LEAGUE:

Date: July 10 - 31, 2021

AY Leaders and coaches are asked to begin team training.

#ATFIT: Adventist Track & Field International Tournament

Date: Sunday, August 1, 2021

AY Leaders and coaches are asked to begin team training.

JUNIOR YOUTH MINISTRY:

A COLLABORATIVE MASTER GUIDE CLASS is scheduled to begin on Sunday, June 27, 2021, at the Johnson Park Church. Members in good standing, ages 16+ years interested in participating in this training, can register with your Pathfinder director or with the SBC Youth Department.

SENIOR YOUTH MINISTRY:

IGNITE 2021 *NEW DATE

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2021 - VIRTUAL ONLY

SABBATH, JULY 31, 2021

Age: 18-35 years

Under the theme: "Situationships- the 5 S' Formula"

Venue: New Providence Community Center

*In person for **paid** delegates **ONLY**.

JULY 2021 is YOUTH MONTH in SBC!

AY leaders are encouraged to begin planning evangelistic missionary activities for local churches!

JOINT CONFERENCE-WIDE

YOUTH MONTH ACTIVITIES:

#YMF:

1 Week Hybrid Youth Campaign

Date: July 17-24, 2021

#IGNITE:

Youth Congress & Retreat

July 31, 2021



JEFF RODGERS BASKETBALL CAMP

The 33rd Annual Jeff Rodgers Basketball Camp is scheduled to begin July 5 – 30, 2021 at the Basketball Courts in the Government Sports Complex, east of the New Baseball Stadium.

Registration forms can be collected at the South Bahamas Conference Office (Call 341-4021), Monday – Friday.



CAMP 242 IS BACK!!!!!!!

We are excited to be back for our 12th year.

Date: Tuesday July 13th - Friday August 6th

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Place: Hillview Church

A Registration Fee is Required.

Call 242-422-4834

COVID-19 protocols will be strictly enforced. All campers must wear a face mask. Hot lunch will be on sale daily. Looking forward to seeing all our past campers and new ones there!!!

-Mr. Seanray Jennings, Camp Coordinator.



WHAT WE BELIEVE: BELIEF 14:

Unity in the Body of Christ

The church is one body with many members, called from every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. In Christ we are a new creation; distinctions of race, culture, learning, and nationality, and differences between high and low, rich, and poor, male and female, must not be divisive among us. We are all equal in Christ, who by one Spirit has bonded us into one fellowship with Him and with one another; we are to serve and be served without partiality or reservation. Through the revelation of Jesus Christ in the Scriptures we share the same faith and hope and reach out in one witness to all. This unity has its source in the oneness of the triune God, who has adopted us as His children.

REFERENCES: Ps. 133:1; Matt. 28:19, 20; John 17:20-23; Acts 17:26, 27; Rom. 12:4, 5; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 5:16, 17; Gal. 3:27-29; Eph. 2:13-16; 4:3-6, 11-16; Col. 3:10-15.

For more information, visit: <https://www.adventist.org/unity-in-the-body-of-christ/>



Please Email Weekly Announcements

To: sbclogos@gmail.com

Or logos@sbcadventist.org.bs

By Tuesday at 3:00p.m.

Visit the Conference website:

<http://southbahamasconference.org>
for the Logos publication archives & the
ATV658 NEWS, as well as weekly
programming.



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SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH

July 24, 2021 @ 7:58 p.m.



Have a Happy Sabbath!