



Stewardship Emphasis Day – God First



One of the most famous biblical passages cited to encourage oneself and others to give is the text about the giving practices of the Macedonians and the praises they received from the apostle Paul. Their generosity is well described in these words: “That in a great trial of affliction, the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality” (2 Corinthians 8:2, NKJV). How was such lavish giving possible during a time of scarcity and when one’s resources are limited? They stand as examples of impossible givers! As the apostle Paul introduces the Macedonians as an example of giving, he provides a clear answer to the question “How was this possible?”

The capacity and willingness of the Macedonians to give was a “grace of God,” literally a gift from God. Paul employs the words charis, translated “grace,” no less than six times to speak about the privilege of participating in the collection or how God enables the believers to give (2 Corinthians 8:1, 6, 7, 9; 9:8, 14). The generosity of the Macedonian was activated neither from the inside nor from the outside but from His side. Ellen White confirms this principle: The power to give comes from the One who invites us to give. Once the believer consecrates himself or herself to God, the propensity to give emerges naturally (2 Corinthians 8:5). They were transformed into the image of the Divine Giver. As God’s people, we have received an assignment similar to the one given to the ravens. We read in

Malachi 3:10: “Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house” (NKJV). We are called to bring food to the house of God, not bread and meat but “all the tithes.” This passage’s context helps us understand that God is referring to the ten percent of our income and offerings.

The Bible also highlights the regularity with which believers must fulfill their assignment of bringing food. We read in Deuteronomy 16:17, “Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which He has given you” (NKJV). This text does not refer to the ten percent tithe but to offerings. No one is asked to give more than what one has received or what one’s beak or bill could carry. However, this text states a common principle that applies to all: “According to the blessing of the Lord your God which He has given you.” As you are blessed, you give and give in proportion to what you have received.

It is often beyond human expectations, requiring some additional strength, which we seem not to have. God can turn each of us into impossible givers, irrespective of our biological and social inclinations, by renewing our minds. Believers should not be discouraged by the gap between their natural selves and God’s expectations in all areas, including giving.

You can become an impossible giver. He transforms anyone who “gave themselves first of all to the Lord” into channels to bring food to His house. Furthermore, He makes our giving regular and systematic, as we are blessed, not only prompted by events or our good mood. Finally, He grows us into partners in His final mission. Let us pray daily for the grace of giving.

*-Pastor Aniel Barbe, Associate Director
Stewardship Ministries, General Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS DECEMBER

- 2 World Stewardship Day
- 3 Joint Prayer Meeting via Zoom
- 9 Health Ministries Emphasis Day
- 16 Education Emphasis
- 16 Men’s Power Hour (MPH) – (Christmas Edition)
- 17 Grill and Chill – Camp Bamivoca
- 21 Conference Office Closes
- 30 Baptism Sabbath/ Year-End Service



BIBLE CONVENTION

Bible Convention continues this Sabbath at the Maranatha Church with Pastor Lynden Williams under the topic, “Come let us Worship”. Bible convention will conclude on Sunday at 6:30 pm under the topic “The Christian and Junkanoo”. For further information contact Pastor Lynden Williams: lwilliams@sbcadventist.org.bs or 803-9793.



FAMILY MINISTRIES WEEKEND

All families are invited to a special weekend with Dr Willie and Elaine Oliver, Family Ministries Directors of the General Conference. The Families in Mission event will be held at the Centreville Church from January 12-14, 2023.

THE ADVENTIST INSPIRATIONALS

Join us for a mesmerizing evening of soul-stirring melodies. Experience the power of Christ through music at our concert production on December 10th, 2023, at 5 p.m., at the Living Faith Seventh-day Adventist Church. Admission is FREE!

J. Ralph Rolle

Director, The Adventist Inspirational



CENTREVILLE CHURCH BEHOLD, THE LAMB!

An awe-thentic life-changing worship experience awaits you at the Centreville SDA Church on Saturday, December 23rd, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

-Centreville's Christmas Planning Committee



LIVING FAITH CHURCH Pathfinder Royalty Award Banquet

You are cordially invited to attend the 2023 Pathfinder Award Banquet organized by the Living Faith Trailblazers Pathfinder Club. The event will take place on December 3rd, 2023, at 6 pm, at the church. We are honored to have Pastor Jamal Franklyn, the Youth Director for the South Bahamas Conference, as the Master of Ceremony for the evening. We look forward to your presence at this special occasion.



HEALTH MINISTRIES & AHPA

The Adventist Health Professionals Association and Health Ministries Department will host their end-of-year Social on Sunday, December 17, 2023, at 2 p.m. at Camp Bamivoca, Marshall Road.



A Time to Celebrate!

ADVENTIST HEALTH PROFESSIONS ASSOCIATION &
SBC HEALTH MINISTRIES

End of Year SOCIAL

'His Gift to Change the World'

Sunday December 17, 2023
at 2 p.m.

Camp BAMIVOCA, Marshall Road

DRESS CODE: SMART CASUAL

Donation: \$30.00
(Part proceeds for the Mary Ingraham Home)

RSVP by December 10, 2023 -- Tel. 465-9515, 428-4251

GOOD NEWS CHURCH

Mix and Mingle Singles Social

Join us for an evening of fun, food, games, and prizes at the Good News Church on December 16th, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.



GOOD NEWS SDA CHURCH
INVITES YOU
TO

MIX & MINGLE

Singles Social

JOIN US

DECEMBER 16TH, 2023 @ 6:30 P.M.

FUN!! FOOD!! GAMES! PRIZES!!

Donation: \$10
Location:
Great Britain St.,
Flamingo Gardens



MUSIC MINISTRIES UPCOMING EVENT:

All singers who would be participating in the Festival of Carols on December 9th are requested to attend a rehearsal on Tuesday, December 5th at the Maranatha church beginning at 7:00 p.m.

South Bahamas Conference Music Ministries presents *A Festival of Carols*, an evening of Christmas Carols and Bible Readings to honor the Birth of Jesus, on Sabbath December 9, 2023, at 5:30 pm at the Hillview Church. All are invited to attend.



The South Bahamas Conference
Music Ministries presents

Festival OF Carols

December 9th, 2023 at 5:30 PM
Hillview Seventh-Day Adventist Church
Tonique Williams-Darling Highway

- Annette Dorsett

Music Ministries Director

HILLVIEW SENIORS MINISTRIES

"When going through the process of grief, it's completely normal to feel a wide range of emotions, including sadness, anger, and even moments of happiness. Smiling doesn't mean that we're ignoring or suppressing our grief, but rather, it is a way to find small moments of joy amidst the pain of the losing a loved one or item. It's all about finding what works best for everyone during their unique journey of healing. A merry heart doeth good like a medicine. We encourage you to smile a while."

-Domica Davis,

Hillview Seniors Ministry Leader



Hillview Seniors Ministry
In collaboration with
Hillview Grief Ministries
Present

"Smile A While"

COMEDY SHOW

with Franco & Friends

Sunday December 3rd, 2023
4:00p.m. - 6:00p.m.

Bahamas Red Cross Auditorium
John F Kennedy Drive

Hillview Seniors (70+) Free * General Admission \$10
A merry heart doeth good like a medicine:
but a broken spirit drieth the bones. Proverb 17:22 KJV



Please Email Weekly Announcements

To: sbclogos@gmail.com

Or logos@sbcadventist.org.bs

By Tuesday at 3:00 p.m.

Visit the Conference website:

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



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SUNSETS
Saturday, December 9, 2023
@ 5:20 p.m.

Have a Happy Sabbath!