



Return to l'Arbonite



Bro. Dieusaveur & Sis. Remelia Datus are a missionary couple living on the island of New Providence, The Bahamas. Since 2006, they have been doing missionary work in Haiti and it all started with a dream.

One night while Sis. Datus slept, she had a dream that she was preaching to an old schoolmate and urging him to repent because Jesus is coming soon. When she awoke the next morning, she had a strong conviction to reach out to him, but there was one problem. The last time she saw him was more than 30 years ago when they were both living in *Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite, Haiti* and she had no idea if he was still there. Feeling compelled that this was something God wanted her to do, she spoke with her husband and they, along with their children, went on a trip to Haiti.

When she arrived in *l'Artibonite*, on the first day she found the man, who looked considerably older than she did. He did not remember her, but she told him how God had sent her to tell him to repent because Jesus is coming soon. Feeling satisfied that she had done what God asked her to do, she and her family returned to The Bahamas.

Within a few weeks, God gave her a second dream to go and share this message of repentance and salvation through Jesus Christ with another man she knew in *l'Artibonite*. However, by the time she returned, she learned that the man had died since her last visit. Though disappointed, she decided to visit his family and shared the message God had given to her.

Again, God gave her a third dream. This time when she went to Haiti, she would travel far from her hometown into the mountains of *Caho*, where she had never been before. But first, she reached out to the local Seventh-day

Adventist Church to find persons who were willing to go with her. The members laughed and told her she was crazy. Not only was it a far journey, but the area where she was going was known for practicing *Vodou* (also called *Obeah*).

She finally found a lady she knew who had moved to the mountains and came to town to sell produce. Sis. Datus bought out all her produce that day, and paid her additional money, to be her travel companion. After a 30-minute drive and 7½ hours of walking, they finally arrived in *Caho*, where the lady arranged for her to stay with relatives. Between her host family, their elderly mother and a sick girl she prayed for on the streets, 10 people accepted Christ as their personal Saviour and became the first members of the Seventh-day Adventist church in *Caho Fie Fie*, Haiti.

After the 2010 earthquake in Port-au-Prince, Haiti and in the midst of a Cholera outbreak, Bro. & Sis. Datus quit their jobs as gardener and housekeeper to become full-time missionaries to Haiti. They founded **Adventist Amour des Missionnaires en Action** or **AMA** which means *Adventist Love Missionaries in Action* and constructed their first church building in *Caho*, so the members there would have a place to call home. This was no easy task since there were no roads into the mountain village suitable for vehicles or heavy equipment. Materials had to be sourced from the surrounding area or carried long distances.

Not long after, they opened a school which meets in the church building and reached up to 85 children. Students are provided with school materials, uniforms and a hot meal three days a week; all funded through their ministry.

With no formal training in theology, and limited resources, God has used the Datus Family and AMA to conduct community medical clinics, provide a nursing scholarship for a member who is now part of the medical team and assist persons with home repairs. They also planted and constructed a second church in *Pa Benoit* and are helping the church at *Poste-Perrot* to replace their old, crumbling church building.

When asked what advice they would give to other members about gospel ministry, they say *“Don't be scared and don't worry about how everything will work out; just go. If a gardener and a housekeeper can go, so can you. The job belongs to God. Obey your boss and He will*

provide. When we can see no way, God has 1000 ways.”

Due to the financial impacts of Covid-19, the school is temporarily closed, and construction projects are on hold, along with plans to establish three more churches in unentered areas.

In the meantime, Bro. & Sis. Datus are praying for the churches and for God to provide the resources needed to carry on the work in Haiti, until they are able to **Return to l'Artibonite**.

This is one of the many stories highlighting the ministries of persons who are sharing the gospel and love of Christ toward their fellowmen, locally and abroad. If you would like to share your story or if you need help to write or record your story, please contact us at ss@sbcadventist.org.bs or call 341-4021.

A local missionary story effort initiated by the Sabbath School department in conjunction with the Communication department of the South Bahamas Conference. #IWILLGO

Story written by Ms. Marcia Musgrove, Sabbath School leader, Good News Seventh-day Adventist Church.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021

JANUARY

- 17 Sabbath School Superintendents & Secretaries Training
Grant Writing Workshop
- 21 Conference Executive Committee Meeting
- 22-24 A. C.L.A.S.S. – 10 Hrs. ADV, PDF/SYL Course
- 24 AHPA & Health Ministries Re-consecration Service
- 24 CHAM Planning Meeting (Leaders)
- 30 Park 'N' Praise (Joint AY)
- 31 Masterguide Program Registration
Sabbath School Teachers' Training
- 31 Communication Leaders Meeting



CHILDREN & ADOLESCENT MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT CHAM Leaders Meeting

We extend special commendations to the CHAM leaders within the South Bahamas

Conference for their faithfulness in ministry to our children and teens in 2020, and we welcome those leaders who have committed to serve in 2021. #CHAMIWILLGO

Our first meeting for all CHAM leaders will be held on Sunday January 24, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. Please save the date as we solidify our plans for the year.

Meeting ID: 938 4405 2326

Passcode: 337760

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



HEALTH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

8 Weeks to Wellness Coaches Needed

All persons interested in being a coach for the upcoming 8 Weeks to Wellness Programme via Zoom platform please contact Nathelyn LaCroix at Whatsapp 826-8486 or email Lifestylecounsellor64@gmail.com.

Let's Move to Live Thank You

A great 'thank you' to all the persons in New Providence and the Family Islands who embraced the opportunity to get moving during the **Let's Move to Live Fun Run/Walk**.

The oldest participant was Edith Roach, 77 and the youngest, two-year-old Cristina Rahming from South Andros.

The first male and female were Eric Butler and Sharon St. Price respectively. Results from Apps which were submitted totaled over 300 miles. Keep moving folks. The next walk is scheduled for Monday, April 5, 2021.

-- Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix, Health Director.

HEALTH TIP

Small gatherings with Meals During the Global Pandemic

Due to the current global pandemic the Ministry of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have set safety guidelines for small gatherings with meals to aid in keeping individuals and communities safe.

The main suggested best practice is that celebrations should only include groups of people that live in the same household. College students who are coming home and persons within the household who traveled abroad, even for short periods, should be considered a different household until they have completed the recommended period of quarantine.

- Gatherings should be 10 persons or less, outdoor gatherings are best.

- Limit the length of time of the gathering, practice physical distancing (6ft)
- Wear masks **properly** when not eating.
- Frequent hand washing is required
- Use single-use plates, condiments, and utensils, designate one person to serve items, no buffet lines, limit how many people are in the area where the food is being prepared. Even better, bring your own food.
- Avoid loud singing and shouting, it can project virus particles into the air.
- Stay at home if you are sick or have been recently exposed to a COVID-19 positive person.
- Persons at risk for severe COVID-19 disease should avoid attending gatherings.

Remember that you can still feel close to loved ones through virtual gatherings. --Nurse Valyncia Gooding.



MEN'S MINISTRIES

Prayer Service - February 7, 2020

Adventist Men Prayer Service together with the Prayer Ministries Department of South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Grant Writing Workshop – January 17, 2020

For all church leaders & businesses people or persons wanting to apply for Grants.

Via Zoom @ 10:00a.m – 1:00p.m

ID: 957 2495 4905

Password: 503720

Please have your notepad and pen available to take notes.

--Elder Curtis Bryan, Men's Ministries' Coordinator.



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

2021 Theme and Power Text

Theme: God's Beloved Daughters: Shining His Light; We Will Go!

Power Text: Matthew 5:16 - "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

We will still be unable to connect physically initially, but our innovative and spiritually inspiring initiatives will come to you from your Local Leader, as well as they will be posted on our Facebook page. Additionally, we are asking all new leaders to kindly contact Sis. Tanya Miller at the SBC Office with your contact details.

Stay poised and ready, as we continued to be empowered by the Holy Spirit to Shine for Christ in 2021.

Upcoming Events

Johnson Park Women's Ministries Drive Thru Prayer Breakfast – January 31, 2021.

International Women's Day of Prayer – March 6, 2021.

Women's Devotional Submissions
Deadline June 2021

Pause and Pray Wednesday.

Don't forget our weekly Pause and Pray appointment on Wednesdays at noon which will be expanded in 2021. Details to follow.

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.



Please Email Weekly Announcements

To: sbcblogs@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.



CALL 341-4021

SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH
January 23, 2020 @ 5:48 p.m.



Have a Happy Sabbath!

