



Redeeming the Time: This Is Not a Drill



Much has changed over the past year. At the same time, it feels like the world changed overnight. I believe we would agree that the source of this shift is the COVID-19 pandemic. While the pandemic is cause for concern, some good can come out of this because of the opportunities our present circumstances afford us. Like many others, I believe that this is a watershed moment. Moments like these present unique challenges and opportunities. They also challenge us to grow by adding new programs, structures, and capacities while moving away from some established ones.

Based on the testimony of Scripture we have the full assurance that the church of God will not go under, and history bears this out as well. While the Church will not fail, we must not ignore the possibility that individual churches can at the least be disadvantaged or at worst from time to time. At times we can take the perpetuity of the Church as license to stay the course when there is a need to adjust so that we do not run aground. Of course, this is not a green light to throw out everything and start from ground zero.

Thom S. Rainer in his book, *The Post-Quarantine Church*, identifies six challenges that churches must address considering the COVID-19 pandemic. They are as follows:

1. Gather Differently and Better
2. Seize Your Opportunity to Reach the Digital World
3. Reconnect with the Community Near Your Church
4. Take Prayer to a New and Powerful Level
5. Rethink Your Facilities for Emerging Opportunities
6. Making Lasting Changes that Will Make a Difference.

It is along these lines that we as individuals, and corporate bodies, guide our thoughts and actions as we are considering how to live out our faith in 2021 beyond.

I know that many of our churches have made changes to their programming to remain relevant and serve their communities. Some changes were made

because there was no way to move forward otherwise. There may be a great temptation to see these adjustments as temporary measures until the pandemic blows over. I would suggest that we consider the possibility, and likely reality, that once the pandemic subsides things may never be the same again. I would also hope that the conscientious reader would admit that some things needed to change for a little while now but resistance to change held the calls for innovation at bay.

Some consideration should be given to making further, and long-term, adjustments beyond bare necessities. Nostalgia could lead us to lament about how good things were at the expense of how great they could be. We have an opportunity to rebrand the way that we live out God's call to be witnesses to every kindred, tribe, tongue, and people. We have an opportunity to reach people, and to engage local members in new and meaningful ways. We can redeem the time because all is not lost.

This article is written by Pastor Kareem L. Black, South Andros & Mangrove Cay District.

FROM THE EDITOR

Are you interested in writing the lead article for the Logos? Please send an email to lsturup@sbcadventist.org.bs.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021

MAY

- IWILLGO: "BlueAPP Tag" Local Church
- 2 Joint Prayer Meeting
- 2 – 23 Youth Volleyball Season
- 14-16 Solutions to Obstacles Adventist Retreat
- 9 – 15 Health Week - Emphasis Addiction
- 15 Global Adventurer's Day (AM: Local Church) Communications Advisory Council Adventurer's Voice (PM: All Adventurers & Parents) Bahamas Academy Special Offering
- 16 International Day of the Boy Child SBC Music Committee Meeting
- 22 World Day of Prayer for Children at Risk (IAD)/CHAM Speech Contest
- 28 – 30 IGNITE: Youth Congress & Retreat (Joint AY) People to People
- 29 Women Shining God's Light
- 30 ATCU Health Promoters Certification Course (Graduation Ceremony 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Local Personnel Training (ATV – Video Production)

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES THE COVID-19 VACCINATION

The Seventh-day Adventist Church places strong emphasis on health and well-being. The Adventist health emphasis is based on biblical revelation, the inspired writing of E.G. White (co-founder of the Church), and on peer-reviewed scientific literature. As such, we encourage responsible immunization/vaccination, and have no religious or faith-based reason not to encourage our adherents to responsibly participate in protective and preventive immunization programs. We value the health and safety of the population, which includes the maintenance of "herd immunity."

We are not the conscience of the individual church member, and recognize individual choices. These are exercised by the individual. The choice not to be immunized is not and should not be seen as the dogma nor the doctrine of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. –Administration.

ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES RELIEF FUND

One week ago, on April 9, 2021, the Island of St. Vincent and The Grenadines were rocked by the eruption of the La Soufrière volcano. Thousands of residents were evacuated, and many are now in shelters.

The most urgent need now is for water, masks, and other supplies. The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Bahamas is coordinating this response from the Bahamas. In this regard, we are asking all members to give a special offering on May 1, 2021, towards this cause.

We are still in a global pandemic; however, we must assist our brothers and sisters who have been so severely affected by this tragedy.

On May 1, 2021, please mark your special offering as St. Vincent and we would know how to direct your gifts. Thank you very kindly and we continue to pray for our members in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. –Administration.

I WILL GO ADVENTIST VIRTUAL GLOBAL CAMPMEETING

On May 19-23, 2021 the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be conducting the first ever "I Will Go" Adventist Virtual Global Campmeeting. All members are asked to register to be a part of this major global church event. Below are the registration website links and other information concerning the event. –Administration.
<https://www.campmeeting.com>
<https://www.campmeeting.com/americas/>
<https://2021.campmeeting.com/>

BIBLE STUDY & SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

Bible Class will be held on Sunday May 2, 2021 at 6:30p.m.

Topic: "Different than all others: Unique perspectives from the Gospel of John" Part 4 of 4.

Meeting ID: 915 5872 2673
Passcode: 592256

--Lynden Williams, Pastor, Bible Studies & Spirit of Prophecy Coordinator.



CHILDREN & ADOLESCENT MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH

Dear Parents, your child's mental health is just as important as their physical health especially when it comes to dealing with stress, behavior, and academics. Here are some steps to keeping your child as mentally healthy as possible.

1. Take Care of Your Mental Health
2. Build Trust
3. Foster Healthy Relationships
4. Be Consistent
5. Teach Stress Management
6. Establish Healthy Habits
7. Develop Self Esteem
8. Play Together
9. Watch Out For Red Flags
10. Seek Professional Help Where Needed

Be proactive in your approach to your child's mental health. If you see any adverse signs, please contact your child's physician.

For more information on this topic see <https://www.verywellfamily.com/improve-childrens-mental-health-4154379>

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



MINISTERIAL DEPARTMENT NEW DATES for S.O.A.R Solutions to Obstacles Adventist Retreat May 14-16, 2021

Under the theme **PREPARING FOR EFFECTIVE MINISTRY POST COVID-19**, the Ministerial Department of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists presents SOAR 2021.

Don't wait until the pandemic has passed to discuss the way forward for your congregation. Attend SOAR and gain knowledge from churches that are already creating the template for ministry post-Covid-19. Please take note of the **NEW DATES May 14-16, 2021.**

To see a list of the subjects and presenters for this year's program, log onto the Conference website (southbahamasconference.org) and click on the SOAR link.

--Pastor T. Basil Sturup, Ministerial Secretary.



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

Women's Devotional

Need help composing your devotional? Not sure how to write your devotional? Need help proofing your devotional? Have no fear for we are here to help! Kindly email us @sbcwomensministries@sbcadventist.org for confidential assistance in getting your transforming story on the pages of the book.

Remember: Deadline is June 2021 for acceptance of submissions.

Upcoming W.M. Events "Ruth & Naomi" Outreach

May & June 2021

Please contact your local leader for details.

"Ribbon of Hope" Initiative May 2021

Please contact your Local Leader for details.

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 --Mrs. Jacqueline Gibson, Women's Ministries Director.



EXUMA DISTRICT of CHURCHES A Special Called ZOOM Meeting For All Descendants From Exuma!

The Exuma District of churches is asking all members within the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to attend a called zoom meeting to be held Saturday, May 8, 2021, at 7:15 p.m. Zoom Meeting ID: 508 626 8046

The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the following items: The District Homecoming Weekend, November 26-28, 2021, the establishment of EEC (Exuma Evangelism Consortium), and the Six-Month Project to build the Rolleville Seventh-day Adventist Church. Plan now to be a part of this exciting meeting designed to make the island of your birth, the birthplace of your parents, or your ancestors a bulwark of the Seventh-day Adventist faith.

--T. Basil Sturup, District Pastor.



YOUTH VOICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Adventurer Day

Date: Sabbath, May 15th, 2021

Where: In every local church, adventurers will lead the Sabbath School and Divine Hour. A Joint celebration of the Adventurer Ministry will be held in the afternoon.

Resources have been sent to Pastors and Adventurer Directors.

"Every youth, every child, has a work to do for the honor of God and the uplifting of humanity." **Education, p.58**

IGNITE 2021

3rd Annual Youth Retreat Congress

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

Dates: Friday May 28, 2021, 8:00p.m.

(VIRTUAL ONLY)

Sabbath, May 29, 2021, 9:00a.m. to 7:00p.m. (HYBRID)

Venue: New Providence Community Center *In person for paid delegates only.

Age limit: 18 to 35 years

Cost: \$45.00

Registration Deadline:

Sunday May 16, 2021.

To register please

visit: <https://cutt.ly/Axg5qMR>



What We Believe

BELIEF 5:

What Seventh-day Adventists Believe About THE HOLY SPIRIT.

God the eternal Spirit was active with the Father and the Son in Creation, incarnation and redemption. He is as much a person as are the Father and the Son. He inspired the writers of Scripture. He filled Christ's life with power. He draws and convicts human beings; and those who respond He renews and transforms into the image of God. Sent by the Father and the Son to be always with His children, He extends spiritual gifts to the church, empowers it to bear witness to Christ, and in harmony with the Scriptures leads it into all truth.

References: Gen. 1:1; 2 Sam. 23:2; Ps. 51:11; Isa.61:1; Luke 1:35; 4:18; John 14:16-18, 26; 15:26; 16:7-13; Acts 1:8, 5:3; 10:38; Rom. 5:5; 1 Cor. 12:7-11; 2 Cor. 3:18; 2 Peter 1:21.

Find out more at

<https://www.adventist.org/holy-spirit/>



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.



CALL 341-4021
SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH
May 8, 2021 @ 7:43p.m.



Have a Happy Sabbath!