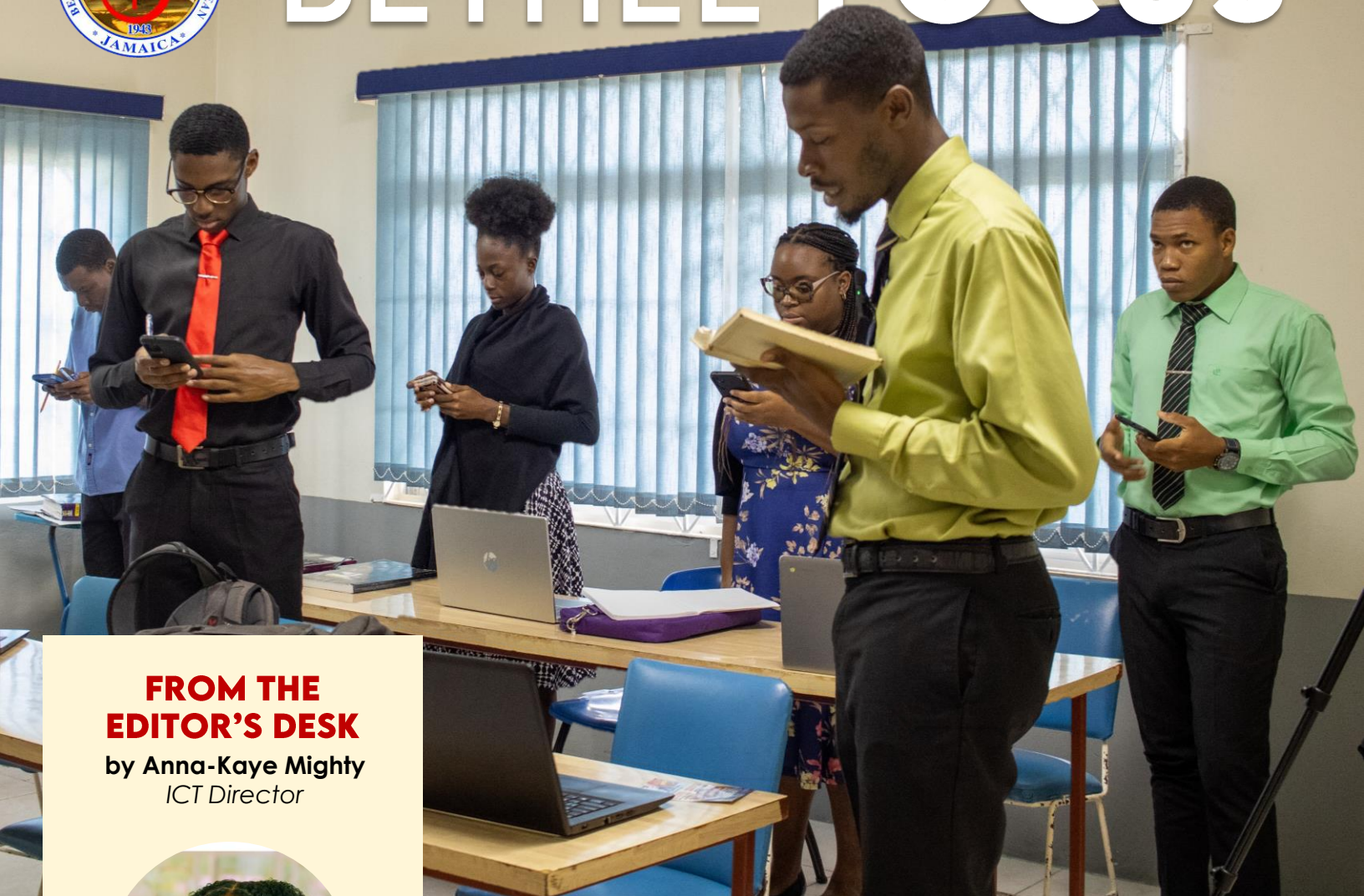




BETHEL FOCUS



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

by Anna-Kaye Mighty
ICT Director



Dear Reader,
Welcome to the Easter issue.
We highlight exciting advancements at the College. We also celebrate the BBCC-J community – its faithful ministry and pursuit of excellence.

May this edition educate, inform and inspire you.

Happy reading!

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF

We are thrilled to have two new team members on staff at Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean-Jamaica. Their unique skills will undoubtedly contribute to the mandate of the College.



Mr. Brian Williams
Groundsman / Gardener



Miss Charmaine Blake
Office Attendant

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Rev. Dr. Earlmont Williams



Greetings in the Name of our Risen Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

As we reflect on the resurrection of Jesus Christ this Easter season, I am filled with deep gratitude for the many ways God continues to guide and bless Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean- Jamaica. This season of renewal, hope, and resolute faith reminds us of God's grace and the power of new beginnings. In both our personal lives and as an institution, the resurrection signifies a fresh start, a renewed spirit, and a divine calling to keep pressing forward in faith and service.

In the first quarter of 2025, I have had the privilege of experiencing God's faithfulness in some very tangible ways. In December 2024, I shared some of the exciting developments and challenges facing our institution. As we continue our journey, I am pleased to report that we are making significant strides toward fulfilling our mission of developing godly leaders equipped to serve with excellence in all spheres of life.

In March, I traveled to *Tirana, Albania*, for the *ICETE C-25 Consultation*, a global gathering of theological educators and leaders. This experience was both enriching and inspiring, as it allowed me to engage with church leaders and theological educators from across the globe. The opportunity to exchange ideas on leadership, discipleship, and theological education opened doors for new collaborations. Our discussions reaffirmed the importance of *Bethel's role in global theological education*, and I was encouraged by the recognition of our work here in Jamaica and beyond.

Following my time in Albania, I journeyed to the *United Kingdom*, where I preached in several church services and presented in an evangelistic symposium. My visit was a significant opportunity to reconnect with alumni and to establish relationships with prospective donors (pastors and other Christians) committed to supporting *Bethel's vision*. The relationships formed during this trip will prove invaluable as we continue to enhance the quality of theological training at Bethel. The funds raised from the trip will be directed towards the Male Dorm Renovation project.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Rev. Sandra and Bro. Andrew Litchmore for their exceptional role in making my UK trip a success. Their flawless coordination, warmth, and unwavering support ensured that every detail of the journey ran smoothly. I am also deeply thankful to Bishop Claion Grandison, Administrative Bishop of the New Testament Church of God in England and Wales, for his invaluable support in endorsing the trip, as well as to Bishop Delroy Henry, Education Director, for his pivotal role in organizing and supporting the trip. Additionally, I must extend my sincere thanks to my magnanimous and incredibly hospitable hosts, Rev. Lineve and Bro. Don Peart, whose generosity and kindness made me feel truly at home throughout my stay. Their warmth and graciousness added immeasurable value to the experience.

Through both trips, I was reminded of the far-reaching impact Bethel has beyond the borders of Jamaica. Our commitment to excellence in theological education resonates globally, and it is truly a blessing to witness the fruit of the seeds we have planted. The work we do here at Bethel is making a lasting impact on the lives of students, the churches, and the communities we serve worldwide.

On the campus front, I am excited to share that we have made significant progress in our efforts to enhance the learning and living environments for our students. The recent re-tiling of the *Mess Hall* is one of the many projects that reflects our commitment to providing a nurturing and conducive

environment for academic and spiritual growth. Renovations to the ceiling in our reception area and verandah will take place soon. This demonstrates our ongoing commitment to improving facilities that support both student life and institutional operations.

I want to take this moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to our Administrative Bishop and the NEC, board members, staff, students, and partners who continue to support Bethel, especially during times of challenge. The dedication and hard work of our staff and faculty have been pivotal in ensuring that we continue to move forward with purpose and passion. Together, we have achieved much, and I look forward to the opportunities ahead.

As we step into the second quarter of 2025, we look ahead to the Easter/Mid-semester break, effective Monday, April 14, 2025, followed by the examination period in May and the conclusion of the semester on May 31, 2025. Additionally, we are excited about the proposed Bethel Experience for online students, scheduled for June 2025, which will serve as a significant milestone for the college. These upcoming events provide us with the opportunity to pause, reflect, and strengthen our commitment to academic excellence, community building, and the continued advancement of the mission of our great institution.

This Easter season, let us be reminded of the resurrection power that breathes new life into every area of our lives. As we reflect on Christ's ultimate sacrifice, may we renew our commitment to serving one another with love, grace, and dedication to our calling.

Thank you for your continued support of Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean- Jamaica. Together, we are transforming lives and empowering future leaders for Christ, in anticipation of His glorious appearing.

Wishing you a blessed and joyous Easter.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to our Dean's List achievers for Semester 1, Academic Year 2024-2025!
Your hard work and faith reflect God's purpose in your life. Keep striving for excellence and glorifying Him!



Cykisia Bailey



Grace-Ann Dawson



Shanique Griffiths - Morris



Veveca James-Holness



Joanna Oughton



Tray Smith



Gabrielle Stewart



Charrah Whittaker

PRAYER BREAKFAST AT BETHEL BIBLE COLLEGE OF THE CARIBBEAN-JAMAICA: A SPIRIT-FILLED GATHERING

by Monique Fearon, Online Student



On March 8, 2025, the Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean–Jamaica hosted its Prayer Breakfast under the theme *"God's Gifted Servants United in Prayer."* The event, held on the College campus, was a spiritually uplifting experience. It began with an amazing time of praise and worship that set the atmosphere for divine encounters. The moderator, Student Pastor Ann Walters-Clarke, led effectively, ensuring a smooth flow of the programme.

Various prayer points were presented with accuracy and impact, covering essential areas of spiritual and communal life. The highlight of the morning was the inspiring message from guest speaker Bishop Lymano Wishart, host pastor of the Parks Road New Testament Church of God. His powerful sermon resonated deeply with the theme, encouraging unity and devotion in prayer.

Attendees also enjoyed a well-prepared and delicious breakfast, which brought a satisfying conclusion to a morning filled with worship, fellowship, and intercession. The function left everyone renewed and inspired to continue in a life of prayer and service.

The organizers of the Prayer Breakfast extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the event in any way. Your support and participation were deeply appreciated. It is hoped that this meaningful and enriching gathering will continue in the future and be supported by even more members of our community.



HAPPY EASTER FROM THE BBCC-J COMMUNITY!

May the joy of Christ's resurrection fill your heart and renew your spirit. Wishing you blessings this holy season.

BETHEL'S DAY AT ESCARPMENT ROAD DISTRICT: A MISSION OF MINISTRY

by Rev. Deamar Dingwall,
Admissions and Student Services Director



On Sunday, April 6, 2025, students and staff of the Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean-Jamaica actively engaged in a day of ministry within the Escarpment Road New Testament Church of God District of Churches. They participated in leading worship, delivered sermons, fellowshiped and worshiped with the brethren at Escarpment Road, Papine and Kintyre churches.

The day began with the attendees being warmly welcomed on arrival in the morning, and thereafter they dispersed to the three churches to serve. Students with a sense of focus fulfilled their mandate - to worship and to sensitize persons to the call of ministry. Efforts proved to be fruitful as a number of souls responded to the call of salvation. Also, a number of prospective students submitted their names to be enrolled into the college. After the morning services, all gathered in one place to feast and fellowship. The day concluded in the evening with a rich worship session at the Escarpment Road Church.

Students and staff expressed that it was a truly enriching and refreshing time of worship. We thank the District for accommodating and allowing Bethel to share its mission with their congregants. We hope that future Bethel's Days will be as rewarding as this one.



**BETHEL BIBLE COLLEGE OF
THE CARIBBEAN- JAMAICA**

**SPORTS DAY
BBQ & CONCERT** **2025**

**Saturday
May 31**

**Mandeville NTCOG
18 Knowles Road, Mandeville**





FARMING WITH PURPOSE

by Samuel Benjamin, Residential Student

When the Bethel Bible College campus was located in Windsor Castle, St. Mary, the concept of farming the land became a reality. At that time, the initiative served as both a training and assessment tool for student pastors. The idea was simple but profound: if a student pastor could faithfully care for plants, they could also be trusted to care for people in a church.

Over the years, however, the practice of farming faded into dormancy. That changed in the 2024–2025 academic year when Students' Association President, Odaine Walters, reignited the initiative among the residential students.

Farming is no longer used as a means of assessment. Instead, portions of the expansive campus property are now cultivated to help feed the student population and reduce food costs. This has been a welcome and refreshing shift, bringing variety to meals, improving nutrition, and fostering a spirit of community and responsibility.

More than that, farming has become a character-building exercise. Students are not afraid to get their hands dirty—a reflection of the humility and resilience that may be required in the mission field.

The crops are tended to daily. At present, the land produces fruit trees such as otaheite apples and cherries, along with pineapples, mangoes, bananas, plantains, tomatoes and herbs. Students are grateful for the opportunity to engage with the land, describing the experience as life-changing.

We continue to pray that the initiative grows and that the land remains fruitful for years to come.



EASTER: A SEASON OF RESPONSE

by Rev. Rhoneil Parkins, Faculty Member

The Easter season is a time of reflection on the life, ministry, and atoning work of Jesus Christ. Through His one-time sacrifice, all humanity can be saved from the wrath of God. That is God, the Father, poured out his wrath on his own son so that all who believe may live.

We have a blazing hope in Christ because He rose triumphantly from the grave. Our proclamation and faith are grounded in truth, and our sins are covered. (1 Cor. 15:13-17).

Believers in this season are not just to reflect on Christ's work but to respond to it. Essentially, our knowledge of Christ through the Word must determine what we believe and how we live. St. Luke 24:13-35 can serve as a guide for responding.

The passage recalls a conversation between two disciples as they travelled to Emmaus. Their journey was filled with lament as they gave a social commentary on the recent events in Jerusalem. The headlines over the period would have read, "Jesus, Crucified!" followed by, "Empty Tomb -Corpse Missing!" Hope was lost because he was expected to be the redeemer of Israel.

Jesus, who joined them incognito during the journey, expounds the Scriptures to them about Himself. He breaks bread with them later, their eyes are opened, they recognise Him, and He vanishes, prompting them to return to Jerusalem to tell the others.

Here are three responses:

1. Faith - Christ is the fulfilment of prophecy (verses 19-21)

"O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His Glory?"

A faith response is rooted in the truth of Scripture. Jesus is the fulfilment of prophecy. We are to believe that his death, burial, and resurrection are a reality which changes our perspective on life.

2. Forward Look - Anticipating Resurrection (verses 26-27)

Look up!

Christ's resurrection assures us of a future reign with Him. Just as He died and was raised, we, too, who die in the Lord, will also live again. Paul encourages that, *"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory."* (Col. 3:1-4)

3. Fellowship – Conversation and Connection (verse 33)

"So, they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem... saying, 'The Lord is risen indeed and has appeared to Simon.'"

Conversations with believers and non-believers can help to reinforce the truth of Christ in the hearts of men. As we go on the job, in the streets, etc., let us talk about Jesus. When we talk about Him, He will come alongside us and enlighten our discourse. This is what His divine command is: to go! And His divine promise is his presence. (Matt: 28:19-20).

Easter is about the head, the heart, and the hands.

Knowing Christ stirs our hearts to believe, and that belief moves our hands to act. Let us reflect, respond, and rejoice in what our Saviour has done.



IN MEMORIAM: CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF BISHOP DR. RONALD BLAIR

With gratitude and admiration, we reflect on the extraordinary life of Bishop Dr. Ronald Blair, whose contributions to the New Testament Church of God in Jamaica and the Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean-Jamaica were nothing short of remarkable and impactful.

An outstanding graduate of Bethel Bible College, Bishop Dr. Blair embodied the spirit of excellence and dedication that the institution strives to instill in its students. His journey of ministry and leadership left

an indelible mark on both the church and the community. Bishop Dr. Blair served in various roles within the New Testament Church of God in Jamaica, including as National Youth Director, District Overseer and later as Administrative Bishop. His vision and steadfast commitment to the spiritual growth and development of others were evident in every duty he undertook.

In addition to these contributions, Bishop Dr. Blair held the esteemed position of Chairman of the Board of Governors at the College. Through this role, he provided wise counsel, strategic guidance, and unwavering support, ensuring the continued growth and excellence of the institution he held dear.

As we honour Bishop Dr. Ronald Blair's life and legacy, we celebrate his steadfast dedication to the ministry, and the profound impact on all who had the privilege of interacting with him. May his legacy and memory inspire us to continue building on the foundation he has laid, and the Kingdom of God.

APPLY TO OUR PROGRAMMES TODAY!

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