



BETHEL FOCUS



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

by Anna-Kaye Mighty
ICT Director



As we celebrate milestones and embrace new beginnings, this Christmas edition highlights our community's achievements, growth, and the shared hope that inspires us toward a brighter future.

Thank you for being a cherished part of Bethel's story. Join us in reflecting on God's blessings and the journey ahead.

FROM FARM TO BETHEL: BLESSING THROUGH MISSIONS



On December 4, Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean - Jamaica was blessed with a missional outreach from the Reach Out Farm Foundation, a ministry of the Farm New Testament Church of God located in St. Ann. Through this generous initiative, the Foundation provided essential food items to the College, demonstrating their commitment to supporting Bethel's mission and the needs of its community.

We sincerely thank Pastor and the members of the Farm New Testament Church of God for choosing to bless Bethel in this meaningful way. Your compassion and dedication to missions are truly appreciated. May God continue to bless your efforts, and may your mission grow abundantly, touching more lives for His Kingdom.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Rev. Dr. Earlmont Williams



Nurturing Legacy, Fostering Growth: Building a Sustainable Future Together

As we draw near to the end of another eventful year, it is with profound gratitude and heartfelt joy that I extend greetings to the Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean-Jamaica family. Our theme for this academic year, "*Nurturing Legacy, Fostering Growth: Building a Sustainable Future Together*," continues to guide our efforts as we honour the rich history of this institution while envisioning an even greater tomorrow.

The essence of this theme resonates deeply with the season we now celebrate—Christmas. The birth of Jesus Christ brought *light, life, and love* into the world, a legacy that transformed humanity and continues to inspire our mission at Bethel. Just as the Christ child heralded new beginnings, we remain committed to fostering growth within our students, staff, and community, ensuring that the legacy of Bethel endures for generations to come.

Celebrating Achievements and Expressing Gratitude

This semester has been marked by milestones and opportunities for growth. From the *advancements highlighted in recent settings* to the sustained efforts of our faculty and students, we are witnessing the fruition of hard work and collaboration. I wish to thank each member of the Bethel family for their contributions.

- To *Administrative Bishop Dr. Roy Notice, the National Executive Council (NEC), and the Board of Governors*, thank you for your unwavering support and vision.
- To our *dedicated faculty and staff*, your commitment to excellence and the holistic development of our students is invaluable.
- To our *students*, you are the heart of this institution. Your determination to grow spiritually and academically inspires us all.
- To our *district overseers, pastors, alumni, and other stakeholders*, your partnership and prayers have made this journey possible.

As we celebrate this season of giving, may we take a moment to appreciate the light we bring to each other's lives and the legacy we are building collectively.

Looking Ahead

As we prepare for 2025, our commitment remains steadfast. We are dedicated to pursuing excellence in education, fostering sustainable development, and nurturing a culture of faith and service. This is our legacy, and together, we will continue to build upon it.

I encourage us all to enter the New Year with renewed determination and faith. May we remain united in purpose, remembering that our work is not only for today but for the generations to come.

Season's Greetings

May the peace and joy of this Christmas season fill your hearts and homes. Wishing you and your loved ones a *blessed Christmas* and a *prosperous New Year*, filled with God's abundant blessings. Let us go forward, illuminated by the light of Christ, strengthened by His life, and inspired by His love.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

FROM THE BBCC-J FAMILY TO YOURS!

May this season be filled with joy, peace, and God's abundant blessings as we look forward to a bright and hopeful year ahead.

2024 GRADUATION CEREMONY



The 2024 Graduation Ceremony for Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean-Jamaica was held on Sunday, November 17, 2024, at the Old Harbour New Testament Church of God. A total of 154 students participated, with degrees awarded in various programs including Bachelor of Theology (No Minor), Bachelor of Theology Minor in Guidance and Counselling. Also, certificates were awarded to students who completed the Certificate in Christian Ministry programme, and Short Course Programmes across diverse subjects.



A special posthumous award was presented to Tiffany Robinson, who was honored with a Bachelor of Theology Minor in Guidance and Counselling. Her family graciously accepted the degree on her behalf.



This year's ceremony also featured two valedictorians, Taffarey Reid and Kristen Smith, who together delivered an inspiring speech. Rev. Dr. Rohan Ambersley, Host Pastor of Sterling Castle New Testament Church of God, guided the ceremony. The guest speaker, Rev. Christine Gooden-Benguiche, President of the Jamaica Council of Churches (JCC), delivered a powerful charge under the theme of the graduation, *"God's Gifted People: Going with the Gospel."* Her message was enhanced by a creative dub poem she penned, leaving a lasting impression on the attendees.



In addition, long service awards were presented to faculty members Rev. Cornell Shaw, Rev. Dr. Clement Clarke, and staff member Winston Barrett, in recognition of their unwavering dedication to the College.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to all those who attended and participated in the 2024 graduation ceremony, making it a memorable and impactful event. To the graduates, may God's guidance and blessings continue to lead you as you go forth in your calling and service to His kingdom. For a full viewing of the ceremony, visit www.bethelbiblecollegecaribbean.edu.jm.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean-Jamaica is grateful to offer the following scholarships and grants in support of our students' academic journeys:



REV. VERNON AND EVA NELSON SCHOLARSHIP

Established by Bishop Dr. R. C. Hugh Nelson, in honour of his parents, this scholarship, effective September 2024, provides *full tuition coverage* for a male, second-year, full-time Jamaican student who is single, a member of the New Testament Church of God, and has demonstrated exceptional academic performance, work ethic, and community involvement.

THE GOOD LAW GRANT

This grant, established in partnership with Sheldon C. G. Clarke, author of the *Good Law Devotional Series*, contributes JMD \$160,000 annually from devotional sales proceeds. It supports two well-rounded, final-year students (one male and one female) with JMD \$80,000 each to assist with tuition or outstanding fees.



These scholarships and grants are instrumental in reducing financial struggles for our students and enabling them to focus fully on their studies and community engagement.

REOPENING OF THE LUCEA EXTENSION

by Rev. Dr. Ajilon Ferdinand, Academic Dean

Four years after the COVID-19 pandemic reached Jamaica's shores and disrupted educational programmes, the Lucea Extension proudly reopened in September 2024 for face-to-face classes. Seven (7) students are now enrolled in the Certificate in Christian Ministry programme. These individuals represent not only the New Testament Church of God but also other denominations and the wider community, highlighting the growing demand for higher learning and equipping oneself for Christian ministry.

Two courses, *How to Interpret the Bible* and *Effective Communication* are being offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays for Semester 1 of Academic Year 2024-2025. With these classes students are equipped with foundational knowledge and practical skills for effective service in the ministry field.

We are deeply grateful to Rev. Robert Williams, pastor of the Lucea New Testament Church of God, and Mrs. Nervoline Clarke, the Lucea Extension Coordinator, for spearheading this development. Special thanks also go to Mr. Kamal Fullwood, a faculty member, for his invaluable assistance in getting the programme off the ground.

Plans are underway to reopen other extensions across the island. It is our hope that this programme will continue to grow, meeting the needs of individuals and communities for the glory of God.



HAPPY RETIREMENT, "MR. BARRY"!

After more than 20 years of dedicated and loving service, Mr. Winston Barrett, our beloved groundsman and gardener, has retired from Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean - Jamaica.

Known for his hard work, wit, and kindness, Mr. Barrett's contributions went beyond maintaining the College grounds. His generosity, often sharing food with staff spoke volumes about his caring nature. His uplifting humour made him a cherished member of the Bethel family. At the 2024 Graduation Ceremony, he was honored with a long service award, recognizing his years of loyalty and selfless service.

His favourite quote, "After every long prayer is an 'Amen'," remind us of the value of patience and the inevitable closing of one chapter as we step into the next. As he moves into a new chapter, we wish him nothing but the best and express our deep gratitude for his unwavering dedication.

The Bethel community will always remember you, Mr. Barry, not just for the work you did, but for the heart you put into everything. We will miss you. Happy retirement!


APPLY TO OUR
PROGRAMMES
TODAY


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