



BETHEL FOCUS



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

by Anna-Kaye Mighty
ICT Director



Welcome to our Easter issue!

We are excited to showcase the innovative advancements happening at the College. As we strive to establish BBCC-J as the premiere choice for theological education, we are expanding our capacity for growth and effectiveness.

Join us on this journey towards excellence.

ENHANCING THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION THROUGH EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

In response to the evolving post-COVID educational landscape, Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean–Jamaica recognized the importance of enhancing educational offerings through technology. The implementation of our learning management system, BethelONLINE, in 2019 marked the start of this journey, opening new possibilities.

Recently, we secured access to the **Online Publications and Academic Library (OPAL) Network** via the *William G. Squires Library* at Lee University and Pentecostal Theological Seminary in the United States of America. Access to this online library network gives students, staff, and faculty a vast collection of electronic resources at their fingertips. Users can now explore databases like Academic Search Complete, ATLA with Serials, and JSTOR, covering a wide range of academic disciplines specifically chosen to support theological education and ministerial development.

Additionally, we are also implementing **FACTS SIS** - a state-of-the-art student information and school management system designed to streamline our administrative and academic processes and improve communication across the college.

These developments are significant steps forward on our journey of academic and spiritual growth. We thank God for these opportunities to enhance our educational environment and look forward to how they will enrich our great institution.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Rev. Dr. Earlmont Williams



As we celebrate the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Saviour during this Easter season, I am filled with gratitude for the tremendous progress Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean-Jamaica has achieved. Just as Christ's triumph over death ushered in new life and hope, the initiatives we have undertaken breathe fresh vitality into our institution, positioning us to empower future generations of Christian leaders and scholar-practitioners.

From enhancing campus safety and security to establishing a dedicated sick bay, we have prioritized creating a nurturing environment that supports the holistic well-being of our students and staff. Two of our major goals are: the implementation of the

FACTS Student Information System (SIS) and the renovation of the male dorm. These goals reflect our commitment to embracing innovation and providing modern, comfortable facilities that foster academic excellence.

Our strategic partnerships, such as the OPAL Network collaboration with the William G. Squires Library at Lee University and renewed memberships with organizations like the Caribbean Evangelical Theological Association (CETA) and the International Council for Evangelical Theological Education (ICETE), have expanded our academic resources and connected us with a global network of theological institutions. These connections not only enrich our educational offerings but also enable us to contribute to the broader discourse on theological education and ministry preparation.

As we look ahead, our participation in international conferences and initiatives like the recently established Global Association of Theological Education (GATE)—a Church of God entity—will further solidify Bethel's position as a leader in theological education, both regionally and globally. We remain steadfast in our pursuit of excellence, guided by the seven pillars of progress that shape our identity and mission.

This Easter, let us celebrate not only the resurrection of our Lord but also the ongoing renewal and rebirth of Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean-Jamaica as it positions itself to further strengthen the New Testament Church of God in Jamaica and contribute to the health of the Body of Christ. Just as Christ's sacrifice and triumph brought new life, our collective efforts are breathing new life into our beloved institution, empowering us to transform lives, churches, and communities through the power of Christian theological education and ministerial formation.

May the hope and joy of this sacred season inspire us to continue our journey of progress, guided by faith, and sustained by the unwavering commitment to our mission.

Happy Easter!

Rejoice!
The tomb is empty,
and hope abounds.



Wishing you a blessed and joyful Easter from the BBCC-J family.

SAFETY AND SECURITY SENSITIZATION SESSION

by Rev. Deamar Dingwall, Admissions and Student Services Director

At the heart of Bethel's administration is the undying desire to ensure that our staff and students are kept safe while being on campus. We understand clearly that it is vital and necessary for us to ensure that best kept practices for safety and security are applied for the general wellbeing of the populace.

On February 20, 2024, the Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean-Jamaica (BBCC-J) hosted its first Safety and Security Sensitization Session on campus under the theme- *Safety and Security: Exploring Tips to Maintain Safety on Campus*. Our major objective was to establish the value, best kept practices, and tips in the areas of safety, security, and health. We were able to invite members from the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), Mandeville Public Hospital (Nurse), Mandeville Fire Department, and the Public Health Department. Each presenter was allotted 15 minutes to share expertise on specific health, safety and security themes.

The session was captivating, enlightening, and informative. Attendees were truly impacted and have become deeply aware of various measures to maintain wholesome health, safety, and security at BBCC-J and elsewhere.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to President Rev. Dr. Earlmont Williams for his unwavering vision and commitment to the safety of the BBCC-J family. Our sincere appreciation also goes to the dedicated presenters and enthusiastic attendees whose participation made the Safety and Security Sensitization Session a resounding success.

As we work to keep our campus safe, we urge everyone at Bethel to stay alert and participate in future safety initiatives.



IMPROVING HEALTHCARE AT BBCC-J

Bethel Bible College of the Caribbean-Jamaica (BBCC-J) has recently introduced a valuable addition to its campus infrastructure - a dedicated sick bay. This new facility aims to prioritize the health and well-being of students and staff, offering essential medical support when needed. Fully equipped with medical supplies and a bed, the sick bay is the brainchild of the Student Services Department.

Nurse Petuna Kates plays a pivotal role in this endeavor, generously volunteering her time and expertise to enhance the school's healthcare services. Employed at Mandeville Regional Hospital, Nurse Kates brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to her role at the College. With her compassionate care and professional dedication, she ensures that individuals in need receive appropriate medical assistance. Beyond her professional commitments, Nurse Kates is actively involved at the Georges Valley New Testament Church of God.

This project underscores BBCC-J's commitment to the welfare of its students and staff, reinforcing its mission to empower individuals to achieve their full potential academically, spiritually, and personally.

Please join us in shaping a brighter future for our school community by contributing to our wishlist. Your support makes a difference!

Male dorm renovation project (estimated cost of \$6 million JMD)

New office furniture (desk for President, desk for Business and Finance Director, 2 chairs, 1 laptop, 1 AC unit)

Funds to repair the road from the back gate to the cafeteria area

Funds for repairing/replacing termite-affected bookshelves in the library

Newer and updated editions of textbooks for the library

Installation of the intrusion prevention component of our campus security system (JMD \$300,000)

Retrofitting the conference room for hybrid meetings and securing new and suitable furniture

Sponsorships/grants for innovative initiatives like the proposed "Mind Education" programme

Funding to attend international conferences like ICETE Dubai 2025

Funds for full scholarships (tuition and boarding), partial scholarships, donations, and grants for overall growth, expansion, and sustainability

Replacement of sign at the entrance of Patrick Road



FROM STUDENT TO EDUCATOR: THE RHONEIL PARKINS STORY

It was a no-brainer when Bethel's Academic Dean asked Rev. Rhoneil Parkins to facilitate a course in the Certificate of Christian Ministry programme. As a student, Rev. Parkins showed much potential and promise. His academic achievements earned him the award of valedictorian for the graduating class of 2023. In addition, he was a student leader, serving as the Students Association President for two terms. His peers speak highly of his sound character and work ethic.

Rev. Parkins eagerly accepted the invitation to teach, expressing gratitude for the opportunity to give back to the institution that helped shape his spiritual formation through Christian education. Teaching has been his passion from a tender age. 'I feel it's in my niche,' he said. He grew as an educator because of the opportunities given to teach the Word of God through Bible study and Sunday School in church for many years. He also assisted his colleagues while studying at BBCC-J.

Balancing being a new pastor at the New Trysee New Testament Church of God and a lecturer, Rev. Parkins admitted that his experience has been good, but this new addition to his life has presented some challenges. However, he is happy for the opportunity because he can build on his experiences as a student. He also conveys that facilitating keeps him sharp. He is learning how to prepare lessons to teach effectively with the support of the BBCC-J administration. He is also gaining new perspectives from his students.

Rev. Rhoneil Parkins hopes to continue this journey of Christian education by equipping himself through study. He aims to impact the lives of others for the glory of God.

**APPLY TO OUR
PROGRAMMES
TODAY**

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