

# Bethel Bible College



Balancing academic excellence, social relevance and spiritual vitality!



## Bethel Celebrates 70 Years

Bethel celebrates its 70th year milestone under the theme "Honouring Past Achievements—Reaching to New Heights". A series of events are planned for the 70th Celebrations, beginning with the Thanksgiving Service, Sunday, April 14 at the Mandeville New Testament Church of God, and culminating with the Dedication Service on December 1, 2013.

Full calendar of events follow and all are invited to participate in this historic milestone.

**Thanksgiving Service**—April 14, 2013 (Mandeville New Testament Church of God @ 10:00 am)

**Bethel Week**—May 5-10, 2013

- Divine Worship—May 5, 2013 (May Pen New Testament Church of God)
- Lindsay Arscott Lecture—Tuesday, May 7 (College) and Unveiling of Campus Sign

**Re-launching of BBC Kingston Extension**—September 2013 (Eastwood Park New Testament Church of God)

**Gleaner Supplement**—September 2013

**BBC Homecoming Week**—October 27-November 3, 2013

- Special Church Service with Alumni & Launch of 70th Anniversary E-Zine—October 27, 2013
- Alumni Day—October 28, 2013
- Campus Facelift Day—October 29, 2013
- Bethel Open Day & Symposium—October 30, 2013
- Banquet & Induction into Hall of Faith—November 1, 2013
- Graduation November 3, 2013

**Dedication Service**—December 1, 2013

## 70th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service

The launch of Bethel 70 took place at a special Thanksgiving Service hosted by the Mandeville New Testament Church of God on Sunday, April 14, 2013. Leading the service was Rev. Garfield Wilson, past student and lecturer at Bethel. Greetings were received from the Administrative Bishop and School Board Chairman, Bishop W.A. Blair; and Rev. Neil Morris, on behalf of the Alumni President, Rev. Cavan Campbell. In his report the President, Rev. Dr Donald Roberts, spoke to the influence Bethel has had in Jamaica, the rest of the Caribbean and the world. The New Testament Church of God, he said, has experienced tremendous growth locally and is now regarded as the second largest denomination in Jamaica with over 360 churches. Internationally, graduates have established churches in various parts of the world that have helped to welcome and nurture Caribbean nationals who have migrated to these places. The vision for Bethel is for further growth as it becomes established in various islands of the Caribbean, offering a Masters programme, and becoming a University College.



The Speaker, Rev. Clement Clarke, spoke eloquently to the 70th Anniversary theme: "Honouring Past Achievements—Reaching to New Heights" using Romans 13:7 as his text. He said that what we owe to the past is appreciation for those who have accomplished much before us – those who rose above the denominational view that theological education meant cold, anaemic preaching, and embraced the balance between biblical exposition and Pentecostal demonstration. Of the future he urged the College and the Denomination to keep the best of the past while changing to meet the needs of the future, to give the word of God primacy both at the College and in the Church, and to recognise that going forward we can do so boldly being assured of the presence and power of God. This resonated well with the song sung earlier by the Bethel Choir - Lord we stand by grace in Your presence, cleansed by the blood of the Lamb ... Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah to the Lamb, hallelujah, hallelujah, by the blood of Christ we stand!

## BBC Welcomes New President

The 2012/13 Academic Year welcomed a new face at the helm of operations, Rev. Dr. Donald Roberts. President Roberts joins the Bethel family, not as a stranger, having previously studied and taught at the institution. Prior to taking up responsibilities he was pastor of the Clifton New Testament Church of God, having previously administered successful pastorates at churches across the island. We say goodbye to Rev. Dr Roy Notice acknowledging the tremendous contribution he made to the Institution for the time he was here and wish him God's best as he takes up the pastorate of the Waltham Park Church.



Rev. Dr Roberts is a former National Youth and Christian Education Director and has served for fifteen consecutive years as a Member of the National Executive Board of the New Testament Church of God in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. He is also a Bible Teacher, Counselor, Justice of the Peace, Marriage Officer and Conference and Retreat Speaker, with a special focus on Christian Education and more specifically in the areas of Christian formation, marriage and leadership development.

On graduation from the Vere Technical High School, where he first exercised the call for ministry, Rev. Dr. Roberts entered Bethel Bible College where he excelled at his studies and graduated with a Diploma in Theology; he was the valedictorian for his class on graduation. He later enrolled at the Jamaica Theological Seminary (JTS) where he completed a Bachelor's degree. Following this he studied at the Caribbean Graduate School of Theology (CGST) where he graduated with an M.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies (Hons.), with emphasis on Christian Education. He then enrolled at the Church of God Theological Seminary in Cleveland, Tennessee, USA, from



which he graduated with a Doctor of Ministry (Hons.), with focus on Christian Education.

A Christian since the age of 15, Rev Dr. Roberts has committed his entire life to ministry. As a consequence all his pursuits have served to prepare him for involvement in the quality Christian ministry which he offers. He is married and he and his wife Esther have two adult daughters, Anthonette and Donela.

The Bethel family warmly welcomes Rev. Dr Roberts to the post of President and looks forward to many years of fruitful ministry as he continues in the tradition of excellence that governs the work and administration of this noble Institution.

## Changes Coming to Certificate in Christian Ministry Programme (CCM)

The college administration is excited to announce developmental changes to the Certificate Programme, having administered the programme over the last three years and noted the responses of students and lecturers..

- The programme will now run for 4 (and not 3 Semesters) over 2 years in order to reduce some of the pressure being experienced and to allow for a more evenly paced programme.
- Electives (the intense weekend courses) will be eliminated and these courses will be assimilated into the core curriculum and will therefore be taught at the Extension Centres.
- Level 1 will now offer a total of 8 courses, including the Community Service Practicum – 4 courses each year.
- Level 2 will now offer a total of 13 courses, including the Community Service Practicum. Students will do 6 courses each year and the Practicum will be done in the summer of the second year.

The Main Campus and all Extension Centres will have information pertaining to these changes so please do not hesitate to call using the contact information at the end of the page.

## BBC Goes Caribbean

The President has been asked by the Caribbean Field Director and the Caribbean Council, to serve as Director of Education, Church of God World Missions, Caribbean Department. This is in view of the vision for the integration of theological education in the region. The vision is that all the theological institutions in the English speaking Caribbean will have a similar curriculum, though taking into consideration the unique circumstances and needs of each country. The effort at integration also has in view the development of each institution. A key element in the vision is that pastors and members will be able to access theological education and ministry training, so that the church and society will be more effectively served.

Bethel Bible College is to play a pivotal and leading role in the process, it being the largest of the institutions and the one that has been accredited by the University Council of Jamaica. Consequently, discussions have been taking place with Administrative Bishops and Education Directors in different countries where the institutions are operated. It is a bold new vision, spearheaded by the Caribbean leadership, and is expected to engage a wide cross-section of the church and wider society within the region.



## Re-Launch of Kingston Extension

The college administration is pleased to announce the re-launch of the Kingston Extension. At the start of the 2013/14 Academic Year, the Eastwood Park New Testament Church will be host to the Kingston Extension

**Please call the Main Campus for more details.**

## Graduation 2012

The first Graduation hosted by the new President was held November 11, 2012. The graduating class consisted of 63 students represented as follows: 9 with the Bachelors in Theology, 1 with the Diploma in Theology, and 53 with the Certificate in Christian Ministry.

Guest Speaker, Rev. Everard Allen, spoke under the theme "Authentic Ministry in a Post-modern World."



## Bethel Programmes

Bethel Bible College is committed to offering educational programmes of the highest quality. Current programmes are:

- a four-year Bachelor of Theology Degree (accredited by the University Council of Jamaica) with minor in Guidance & Counselling
- a three year Diploma in Theology (accredited by the University Council of Jamaica)
- a two year Certificate in Christian Ministry (CCM) - Levels 1 & 2

Diploma & Degree Entry Requirements - five (5) CSEC/ GCE O'Level subjects

CCM Level 1 Entry Requirements - Secondary level education

CCM Level 2 Entry Requirements - 3 CSEC/GCE O'Level subjects

A Pass in CSEC English is compulsory for all courses requiring CSEC passes.

**Bethel is currently accepting applications for all programmes for the academic year 2013-2014**

Also, look out for the possible inclusion of the following programmes for the new academic year – First Degrees in Music and Social Work and a Certificate in Counselling

**For more information on events and programmes contact Bethel Bible College.**

### Main Campus

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### Montego Bay Extension

Miss Charleen Austin – Coordinator  
Montego Bay NTCOG  
3 Water Lane  
Montego Bay

### St. Ann's Bay Extension

Miss Sharon Shaw – Coordinator  
St. Ann's Bay NTCOG  
4 Davis Street  
St. Ann's Bay

### Pt. Antonio Extension

Rev. Glendon Young - Coordinator  
Pt. Antonio NTCOG  
52 West Street  
Pt. Antonio

### Lucea Extension

Miss Shermaine Lloyd - Coordinator  
Lucea NTCOG  
Lucea  
Hanover

### Kingston Extension

(Contact the Main Campus)