



Special Interest Articles

Sexual practices survey
nears completion – page 2

Dominica host men's con-
ference – page 4

YFC launches programme
in Haiti – page 5

Third Caribbean prayer
summit – page 6

Contact us:

41 Excel Road
Elizabeth Park
Christ Church BB15092
Barbados

Tel: (1) 246-427-9746
Email: gaseale@caribsurf.com

Breaking News: Gay Lobby's media 'crusade' revealed. See details at:

<http://www.christian.org.uk/news/20090701/gay-lobbys-media-crusade-revealed/>

CONECAR 2009 All Set

"The stage is set for one of the most dynamic congresses EAC has ever held," said Bishop Gerry Seale, EAC's General Secretary and CEO.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, CONECAR is being held in Kingston, Jamaica where the congress was birthed in 1984.

With a dynamic team of speakers addressing the subject of disciple-

ship and its impact for national transformation, this CONECAR looks to be exciting and informative.

"Every pastor should be there," said Rev. Emerson Boyce, congress director. "I urge every church to ensure that its pastor is in Jamaica October 26-29 this year. Your pastor will be revolutionised and his/her ministry will be transformed."

Chairman of the congress, Dr. Israel Brito, affirmed that the planning committees have worked hard to keep costs down. "Investing in your pastor's life by enabling him/her to be at CONECAR will benefit your church for many years," he quipped.

For further information please visit www.caribbeanevangelical.org/conecar09 for all the congress details.

EAC's General Assembly in October

EAC's General Assembly will take place during CONECAR 2009 in Kingston, Jamaica October 27-29, 2009. Combining the two events enables member-bodies to maximise the use of financial resources and get the benefits of both events.

Notification has been mailed out to all member-bodies and Bishop Gerry Seale, EAC's

General Secretary, is urging all members to take advantage of this invaluable opportunity to be refreshed spiritually at CONECAR while also conducting the association's business during the after lunch sessions.

Business will include the election of a president, second vice-president, and a member-at-large. Time will

also be taken to brainstorm the future ministry of EAC to and through its members.

Rev. Dr. Ken Ragoonath is stepping down as president having served the allotted time. Bishop Seale expressed deep appreciation for Dr. Ragoonath's sterling service and urged members to "come out and show him our appreciation."



Beth Luthye and her husband Curt

Beth Luthye Named Compassionate Ministries Coordinator

The Caribbean welcomes Mrs. Beth Luthye to her new role as Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM) coordinator for the region.

Rev. John Smee, Caribbean regional director for the Church of the Nazarene, announced this appointment noting that Luthye has the knowledge and experience to coordinate international compassionate efforts. Smee added that Luthye is committed to building a wide Caribbean network

of Nazarene leaders who will form the base through which Nazarene Compassionate Ministries will minister in the Caribbean. This network of local leaders can respond to disasters and guide churches in ministering through Christ-like compassion to the needs represented throughout the region.

Luthye began her work in the Caribbean Region in August 2007. She directed the efforts of the Haiti Water Project, served the Caribbean Communications Office as a writer and edi-

tor, and assisted with the Work and Witness programme in Haiti.

Her heart for cross-cultural ministry began in Sarajevo, Bosnia, where she spent two summers teaching English as a second language, doing humanitarian aid relief, and working with Kosovar refugees during the Kosovo War.

A trained educator, she then spent a few years teaching at an inner-city high school in Nashville, Tennessee, and subsequently worked in Christian publishing.

Sexual Practices Survey Nears Completion

The survey of sexual practices of youth attending Evangelical churches in Antigua, St. Lucia and St. Vincent is nearing completion. The final draft of the report was being prepared for printing as this issue went to press.

A major finding of the survey is that between one and three percent of the respondents indicated that they are living with HIV. As the report states, "Clearly, HIV is not something that is happening to 'them out there' but to 'us in here!'" This makes it even more critical that Evangelicals

understand HIV and how it is transmitted."

Of the total sample, 67.6% stated they had been asked to have sex, 33.5% reported having had oral sex and 46.7% that they had had sexual intercourse.

While a number of those who have been sexually active go on to say they are no longer having sexual intercourse, the report states, "We are forced to acknowledge that as much as half of those who have had sex are still sexually active outside marriage."

Respondents also dem-

onstrated a worrying lack of knowledge on HIV and how it is transmitted. This places too many of our youth at potential risk. Lack of information also breeds fear and fear energises stigma and discrimination.

It is anticipated that the report will be printed by the end of July and presented in the three countries shortly thereafter.

EAC expresses deep appreciation to UNICEF for partnering in this project and especially to Coen Rossel-Cambier who has served as UNICEF's consultant on the project.

His Grace the Most Reverend Drexel Gomez, Anglican Archbishop of the West Indies



I fear there will be clear breaks in the Communion

"If we cannot state clearly and simply what holds us together, and speak clearly at this meeting, then I fear there will be clear breaks in the Communion in the period following this meeting. Many of our Churches are asking to know where they stand - what can be relied on as central to the Anglican Communion; and how can disputes be settled without the wrangle and

confusion that we have seen for the last seven years or more," says The Most Rev. Drexel Gomez, outgoing Archbishop of the Anglican Church in the West Indies.

Archbishop Gomez is chairman of the Covenant Design Group attempting to pull together a Covenant providing the basis for continued unity that the Anglican Communion can

sign off on. Asked last March about developments with the US Episcopal Church, the Anglican Church's diocese in the USA, Archbishop Gomez commented, "The Episcopal Church has its own agenda, and that agenda does not have much accommodation with the rest of the Communion."

Bible School of the Caribbean now online

The Bible Correspondence School of the Caribbean (BCS) is now available anytime, anywhere. The new BCS website can be found at www.BCSONLINE.org.

The goal is to have English and Spanish lessons online so anyone can have access to them. Students can enroll in the courses right on the web page. Already students have signed up from Australia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Kuwait, the US mainland and a number of other countries.

In 2008 some students who are in prison also received fixed-tuned radios, tuned to WBMJ and WCGB.

A prisoner in Barbados, who is working through the correspondence courses, wrote: "Since I came to prison and began doing those lessons, they make me understand myself and

to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour. They also help me to understand that there is a Lord above and not give up hope. Now I understand things that are in the Bible that I did not know. I want to study and learn to pray everyday. If I want Jesus Christ to forgive me, I must learn to forgive others. Continue to pray for me. I'm praying for you all."

BCS is currently teaching the Bible to some 23,000 students across the Caribbean and beyond. BCS is a division of ministry of Calvary Evangelistic Mission (CEM) in Puerto Rico. CEM also runs three Christian radio stations: WIVV AM 1370, WBMJ AM 1190 and WCGB AM 1370. Bible study radio programming is streamed online at www.TheRockRadio.org.

CEM is an associate member of the Evangelical Association of the Caribbean.



Dr. Dieuméme Noëlliste

Leaders in theological education meet in Trinidad

PORT-OF-SPAIN — The Caribbean Evangelical Theological Association (CETA) held its 19th biennial consultation March 16-20, 2009 at the Anapausis Community Conference Centre in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago. Leaders of theological institutions gathered to reflect and interact around the theme of "Strengthening Theological Education in a Changing Environment."

Comprised of more than 40 undergraduate and graduate institutions scattered throughout the three main language areas of

the Caribbean region, CETA was founded in 1971 for the purposes of professional association and the development and promotion of standards of excellence in theological education.

Dr. Las Newman—president of the CETA-sponsored Caribbean Graduate School of Theology in Kingston, Jamaica—launched the event with a stirring opening ceremony address on "Understanding Today's World." Throughout the week, delegates heard presentations on timely topics such as Trends in Theological Education, Assessing Institutional Effectiveness, Strengthening Theological Education Through Partnerships, and Education in an Economically Challenging Environment. Workshops provided opportunities to focus on practical issues ranging from resource development and effective governance to mentoring for impact.

Presenters came from

the Caribbean region and beyond, and included Dr. Miriam Rodriguez (Puerto Rico), Dr. Pat Glasgow (Trinidad and Tobago), Dr. Randall Bell (USA), Dr. Dieuméme Noëlliste (USA & Haiti), Dr. Phillip Gray (Guyana), and Dr. Paul Sanders (Lebanon).

During the weeklong consultation, the Association transacted several items of business including the election of officers for the next biennium. The newly elected leadership consists of Dr. Noëlliste (President), Rev. Owen Gordon (Vice President, Jamaica), Dr. Kenneth Ragoonath (Chairman, Trinidad and Tobago), Dr. Errol Joseph (Secretary/Treasurer, Trinidad and Tobago), and members-at-large Dr. Rodriguez, Dr. Abson Joseph (Jamaica/Haiti), and Dr. Ramon Alvarado (Puerto Rico).

CETA provided the impetus that led to the founding of the Evangelical Association of the Caribbean in 1977.



Dominica Hosts Men's Conference

The Men's Ministry of the Christian Union Church of the West Indies will be holding its Fourth Biennial Regional Men's Conference in Dominica July 24-26, 2009. The conference planners are expecting over 200 men from the Caribbean and North America. The conference's major emphasis will be encouraging Caribbean men to be men of honour by making wise choices and in the

overall conduct of their lives, recognising that one's life impacts both present and future generations for good or for ill. Theme of the conference is, "*Empowering the Caribbean Man: Pursuing a Life of Integrity.*" Venues for the conference will be the Christian Union Church in Goodwill and the University Centre in Roseau. Mr. Julian (Mally) Eloi will be the keynote speaker.

National EA



AEA's New General Secretary

The Association of Evangelicals in Africa (AEA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Aiah Forday-Khabenje as its next General Secretary. The decision was taken after an extensive search process mandated by the General Council.

Mr Forday-Khabenje, a Sierra Leonean national, has years of service in Christian ministry and experience in leadership at a senior level. His immediate past involvement was with

the Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone (EFSL) where he served as the General Secretary for nearly ten consecutive years. He also held a position of Director of Vocational Training Institute of EFSL. He is a qualified optician and holds an MA in Christian Studies and an MBA specialising in Human Resource Management. He is married to Almonda and they are blessed with four children.

How to Thrive in Trying Times

ST MAARTEN, Netherlands Antilles – Global socio-economic crisis, environmental degradation, war, crime, civil unrest and a disintegration of the traditional values held within the home and community; are among the social, economic and political ills that plague us in our own

time. We can not deny it anymore, but there is also no reason to give up all hope. Founder and director of Victorious Living Foundation, a family-oriented nonprofit group dedicated to empowering Caribbean and global communities, Dr. Nicole Erna Mae Francis, reveals

the keys to regaining focus and bringing joy back into readers' lives through faith in God and oneself in her new self-help book, ***How To Thrive in Trying Times.***

The book presents readers with a variety of poems, and lessons from the Bible in order to supply

them with the means of enduring social and economic hardship. Francis urges readers to put their faith in God, trust him, and find the determination to overcome the challenges that life throws their way.

Victorious Living Foundation is an associate member of EAC.

Funding Crisis Forces ACEA to Suspend Operations

The Evangelical Alliance UK has moved quickly to reassure members of the African and Caribbean Evangelical Alliance (ACEA) that they will continue to be represented by the Evangelical Alliance UK despite ACEA's announcement that it is to suspend operations, according to www.audiopot.org.

ACEA announced that it is unable to continue operations due to lack of funding. However, ACEA members are also automatically members of the Evangelical Alliance UK, and this affiliation and representation continues to stand.

Dr R. David Muir, Executive Director of Public Theology for the Evangelical Alliance UK and a member of the Black Christian Leaders Forum (BCLF), said: "We were deeply saddened to hear that ACEA has had to suspend operations in this financial climate.

"I have been involved with ACEA since its foundation, and seen the sterling work it has accomplished in bringing black and white Christians together. The Black Majority Church community is healthier as a result of ACEA.

"The Evangelical Alliance UK is committed to continuing our support

for, and representation of, the Black Majority Churches and organisations in our constituency.

"We will be working closely with the patrons and trustees of ACEA as they review and consult their constituency about the need for continued specialist representation."

The Evangelical Alliance UK and ACEA are two separate charities with separate boards of trustees. The two organisations have a partnership agreement and the Evangelical Alliance UK has worked closely with ACEA on public affairs and press matters for many years, granting it substantial support financially and in other practical ways.



"ACEA announced that it is unable to continue operations due to a lack of funding."

YFC Launches Programme in Haiti

Haiti, the poorest and least safe county in the Western Hemisphere is also the latest to form a national Youth for Christ organisation, according to Larry Williams, YFCI Americas Area Director.

Haitian National YFC Director Galilee Perlus has already held a training programme for youth workers and pastors which has graduated 50 students. The training took place for three months, all day Fridays and Saturdays. The graduates were proudly decked out in full graduation garb, including robes and mortar board hats.

"Haiti is currently in a state of semi-anarchy and armed mobs roam the streets and highways.

The YFC organisation in Haiti is virtually self-supporting and was formed indigenously by the National Director Galilee Perilus with very little outside help," Larry said.

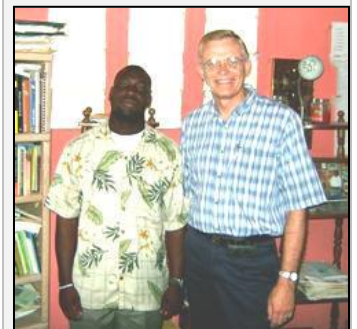
Youth for Christ International operates in 22 countries in the Western Hemisphere and over 100 worldwide. The programme in Brazil alone has 50 ministry centres throughout the country. Every YFC national programme has a locally selected board and a National Director from within the country.

As of time of this story, YFCI Americas Area Director Larry Williams was in the island nation of Barbados dealing with

leadership issues in that country's programme.

Larry Williams and his wife, Gail, live in Poplar, Wisconsin. After college he worked with young people for the Salvation Army for two years before joining Youth for Christ over 30 years ago. On a mission trip to Haiti he developed a burning desire to help evangelise and disciple young people in the very poor countries. He spent four years in West Africa and then headed up "Project Serve", YFC's short-term missions programme for twelve years before becoming the Americas Area Director.

YFC is a member of EAC.

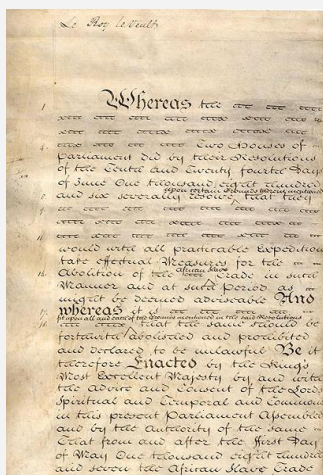


Youth for Christ Americas Area Director Larry Williams with Galilee Perilus, YFC National Director of Haiti



"On the last morning of the Caribbean Prayer Summit the children led in prayer using the 50-50 principle. They expressed a need and were prayed for and then they turned and prayed for all the children who might have the same need."

Below: Act abolishing slavery in the British Empire



First Conviction in Kandhamal Case

The fast-track court in Kandhamal District, India has sentenced a 58-year old tribal leader, named Chakradhar Mallick, resident of Dampidhia village, Kandhamal who had set the house of Loknath Digal a man belonging to the same village on fire and threatened to kill him.

He was also accused of instigating other

people in the village to set afire the houses that belonged to the people of the minority Christian community. Chitta Ranjan Das, Judge of fast-track court-II, found Mallick also guilty of being involved in other riot-related cases.

The court imposed a two year prison sentence and fined him Rupees 1000/-.

Ten thousand people have been named in the 827 cases registered in regard to the Khandhamal riots. The charge sheet has already been filed in 437 cases and investigations are in progress in the other cases, including the case dealing with the rape of a nun.

Please continue praying for Christians in Orissa State, India.

Third Caribbean Prayer Summit

Prior to the Third Caribbean Prayer Summit (CPS) in Ocho Rios, Jamaica April 29-May 03, 2009, regional coordinator, Maria Harbajan, went through an experience in prayer in which she sensed that God was launching CPS. One presenter interpreted launching something as meaning that "it has been tested, proven and is now ready for take off".

Bishop Dr. Peter Morgan spoke at the opening on the God of Elijah manifesting Himself as fire and this was evident throughout the Summit. As each nation's representative shared their nation's most critical issues (Barbados, Guyana, Suriname, Cuba, Cayman Islands, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and Haïti – in absentia as the Haïtian team did not receive travel permission on time) the Holy Spirit led in dynamic intercession for the nations, prophetic acts, individual ministry for presenters to be strengthened, spontaneous giving, etc.

The two public sessions,

the Reconciliation and Unity Service (apology for slavery) and the Youth In Prayer, were done in collaboration with the Annual Keswick Convention which was being held in Ocho Rios at the same time. Both CPS and Keswick called local churches to come together in fellowship. Bishop Desmond Whittaker (Cayman Islands), the Keswick speaker, did a marvelous job incorporating both events in his messages.

The Lifeline Expedition team led by David Pott (Europe) and Rev. Komi Aholou (Togo, West Africa) revealed the heart of God for reconciliation. The Europeans processed silently up the church aisle in chains, knelt down together and read a prepared apology for the atrocities of slavery done to the Afro-descendants in the Caribbean. Rev. Aholou also apologised on behalf of the West African peoples who had sold their own people into chattel slavery in the Americas. Both apologies were well received.

In David Pott's words, "We were released from the chains and walked down the aisle free. That was very moving as everyone was standing, smiling and clapping... They had certainly not heard an apology like this from white people before, so it was very fresh and amazing for them."

One of CPS' objectives is to raise up an army of children in prayer. On the last morning of the summit the children led in prayer using the 50-50 principle. They expressed a need and were prayed for and then they turned and prayed for all the children who might have the same need.

The Way Forward session was critical in closing the summit. Delegates were given an opportunity to summarise what God had said throughout the time together and where they felt God might be wanting to take the Summit in the future. There was a strong suggestion that the next summit be held in Haïti, if the Haïtians would welcome this event.