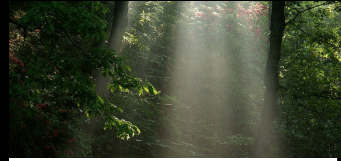


Streams of Light

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BERMUDA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS



August, 2026



From the President . . . January to August 2026

ANNUAL YEAR END SERVICE

The annual Bermuda Conference Year-End Service began with a solemn necrology, honouring members who passed away in 2025. Attendees reflected on the hope expressed in Revelation 14:13: “Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord... that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.” We recognized fifty individuals who died in Christ. Our thoughts and prayers remain with their families as we anticipate the fulfilment of the Lord’s promise of resurrection.

Two pre-recorded testimonies enriched the service. Laverne Smith of the Devonshire Church of Love shared her recovery from cancer, attributing her healing to faith in God’s promises and medical care. Following surgery, she is now cancer-free and is grateful to God for her complete healing.

The second testimony, from Diva Vassell of the Hamilton Church, described a sudden loss of consciousness and resulting physical challenges, including vision loss. After receiving medical treatment abroad, she expressed gratitude to God for her recovery and the restoration of her sight, attributing her healing to renewed faith and divine intervention.

Music by the Hamilton Church Choir, directed by Michael Spencer and Minister of Music Tracey Richardson, enhanced the evening service by fostering an atmosphere of praise and thanksgiving.

Ainsworth Keith Morris delivered the evening message, drawing from Mark 4:35 and the theme, “Let us pass over

unto the other side.” He emphasized this passage as a divine declaration, affirming Christ’s ongoing presence with His followers. The sermon highlighted three assurances: God’s presence, participation in believers’ journeys, and sustaining power during life’s transitions, especially as the congregation moves from one year to the next.



The service concluded with unity and fellowship at the Hamilton Youth Center. These gatherings continue to provide opportunities for meaningful connection as we mark the transition from the old year to the new.

OFFICER'S TRAINING

At each officers' training, the administration has followed Ephesians 4, where the Apostle Paul urges church leaders to equip members for ministry.

In 2026, we invited David Klinedinst, director of evangelism and church growth for the Chesapeake Conference, to present a series of sessions designed to equip members for soul winning.

On Friday night, January 16, he discussed developing a culture of evangelism within the church. On Sabbath afternoon, he covered principles of personal evangelism. On Sunday, January 18, he addressed everyday evangelism.

These presentations provided valuable insights on casting a clear vision for mission, witnessing, and evangelism. He emphasized making church growth a regular agenda item at Board Meetings, celebrating baptisms, and creating a clear, intentional evangelism plan.

He encouraged evaluating all departmental activities to ensure ministries are mission-driven and aligned with evangelism; highlighted the importance of sermons and workshops that inspire members to care deeply about others' salvation; and recommended including regular testimonies in worship services, allowing members to share their witnessing experiences. He suggested using mission-focused video presentations during services to reinforce the church's evangelistic focus.

If pastors implement these initiatives locally, congregations can become spiritually vibrant. Evangelism is contagious and can foster a culture in which it becomes a way of life, not just an activity or an event.

THE BERMUDA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

CHURCH OFFICERS' TRAINING

JANUARY 16-18
FRIDAY 7:00 P.M.
 "HOW TO DEVELOP THE CULTURE OF EVANGELISM IN THE CHURCH"

SABBATH 4:00 P.M.
 "PRINCIPLES OF PERSONAL EVANGELISM"

SUNDAY 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

- 9:00 A.M. DEVOTION BY DR. KEITH ALBURY
- 9:45 A.M. PLENARY BY PASTOR DAVID KLINEDINST
 - EVERYDAY EVANGELISM - TALKING TO PEOPLE, HOW TO CONNECT, GETTING DECISIONS, MAKING APPEALS, & RECOGNIZING CONVICTION
- 12:00 P.M. BREAK-OUT SESSION/DEPARTMENTS
- 1:00 P.M. LUNCH

Pastor David Klinedinst
GUEST PRESENTER

Dr. Keith Albury
SUNDAY MORNING SPEAKER

HAMILTON SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
 43 King Street, Hamilton HM 19, Bermuda | Phone: (441) 292-4110

WORKERS' MEETING

Stressful, high-impact professions require periodic breaks for employees to rest and recuperate. Accordingly, the Bermuda Conference Workers' Meeting this year included a dedicated period for the Bermuda Institute teaching staff to step aside, rest, and press "reset."

Gina Spivey Brown, President of Oakwood University, was invited to address the Bermuda Institute staff. On Monday, February 2nd, Brown encouraged the teachers and staff to press the "reset" button, noting they exemplify global educators who "work beyond contracted hours, experience job-related stress, and face burnout."

During her presentation, "Academic Mayhem, Now What?" Brown shared data from the 2025 RAND

Survey. She showed the staff was not alone in facing “inadequate pay, insufficient recognition, and a lack of tangible appreciation,” while managing challenges such as “student behavioural needs, inadequate resources, and support system gaps.”



Although these challenges are common in the education sector, Brown skilfully compared US national data with the Bermuda Institute's specific experiences. Staff members were encouraged to share their concerns and the aspects they appreciate about their school.

These experiences were then contextualized with a reminder to maintain clear focus and recall their primary purpose: “to do God’s work; and to work to save God’s children.”

To support this objective, the Bermuda Institute staff were encouraged to restore work-life balance by adopting healthy practices, including daily exercise, rest, and water intake. Achieving this balance would enable them to participate effectively in meaningful shared governance, shown through the following measures:

- Expanded faculty input on institutional decisions
- Regular listening forums
- Faculty representation on planning committees
- Transparent communication on how feedback influences decisions

Brown’s presentation, featuring valuable data, candour, energy, and humour, was well received by the staff. It fostered optimism that this session would be an opportunity to effect meaningful change at

Bermuda Institute, rather than just another professional development event.

A COURTESY CALL TO THE GOVERNOR

On Thursday, February 12, I had the privilege of making a courtesy call on His Excellency, Governor Andrew Murdock. Accompanying me were Dora Baker, Adventist Community Services (ACS) Director, and LaGregg Smith, Pathfinder Director. We met to share the mission and impact of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bermuda.



During our time together, we highlighted the presence and growth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the fourth largest and one of the fastest-growing denominations on the island. We emphasized the work of Adventist Community Services, which established a meaningful and visible footprint across Bermuda, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. His Excellency expressed sincere appreciation for the compassionate service by Baker, her team, and the wider church community in meeting the needs of individuals and families during challenging times.

We also presented the work of our Pathfinder Ministry, noting its vital role in mentoring and training young people for service, leadership, and Christian character development. His Excellency was pleased to learn of the church’s efforts to nurture youth and prepare them to contribute positively to society.

Throughout our discussion, we affirmed that the central mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to reach out and touch lives in meaningful and transformative ways. We presented His Excellency with a leather-bound copy of *Steps to Christ*.

Following the visit to the governor, the Pathfinders were invited to participate in King Charles III's visit to Bermuda. They had the privilege of showcasing their skills as representatives of the Bermuda Conference Pathfinders. This was a remarkable opportunity for the youth of our church to be part of a historic occasion and gain visibility on a national platform. We thank God for the chance to engage with national leadership and share the work and witness of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bermuda.

NORTHEASTERN CONFERENCE ELEVATE: 8 DAYS OF HOPE

Recently, Eldeen King, President of the Northeastern Conference, and his leadership team presented an outstanding opportunity to the Bermuda Conference. They offered to assign a pastor to each church in the Bermuda Conference for a week of evangelistic meetings.

They committed to covering all their expenses, including travel, accommodations, and personal needs. Our only responsibility was to provide access to the churches. Our pastors welcomed the opportunity to collaborate.

The initiative began on Friday evening with a message from President Eldeen King, who reminded us that “the harvest is ripe, but the labourers are few.” Throughout the week, eleven Northeastern Conference preachers delivered sermons under the theme “Elevate: Eight Days of Hope.” The congregations were refreshed and revived. Many made decisions for baptism, and others committed to continued Bible studies.

The Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
& The Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
PRESENTS

ELEVATE

8 Days of Hope



Dr. Eldeen King
Consecration
Friday | February 27, 2026
Time: 7:00PM
At Hamilton SDA Church



Dr. Keith Albury
February 28 to March 6, 2026
Except Thursday Evening
Time: 6:30PM | (Sabbath 5PM)



Dr. Abraham Jules
Celebration
Sabbath | March 7, 2026
Time: 5:00PM
At Hamilton SDA Church

HAMILTON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
43 King Street, Hamilton
Livestream: Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church - Bermuda

The week concluded at Hamilton Church, where Abraham Jules, President of the Atlantic Union, delivered the final message.

We recognize our longstanding connection with the Northeastern Conference. In 1958, when the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bermuda requested a preacher of colour, the Northeastern Conference responded by sending R. T. Hudson. His ministry paved the way for Charles Bradford's successful evangelistic campaign, which resulted in over 100 baptisms.

Today, 68 years later, the Northeastern Conference continues to support the Bermuda Conference. On behalf of the administration and the entire Bermuda Conference family, we sincerely thank the Northeastern Conference for their generosity and commitment to advancing the Kingdom of God in Bermuda.

A COURTESY VISIT TO THE PREMIER

I recently requested a meeting with the Honourable Premier David Burt, JP, MP, to formally introduce the Northeastern Conference leadership and pastors. They visited the island to lead a week of evangelistic preaching in all eleven churches. The Premier graciously welcomed our delegation.

During our visit, we discussed the historical and spiritual significance of the nine Regional Conferences within the North American Division. We shared a brief video highlighting the early challenges faced by our North American counterparts, especially when racial discrimination limited leadership opportunities for people of colour. We also emphasized the longstanding relationship between the Northeastern and Bermuda Conferences.



In 1958, the Northeastern Conference responded to a request from the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church by sending R. T. Hudson, a preacher of colour. His Spirit-filled preaching united White, Portuguese, and Black Bermudians. This initiative paved the way for Charles Bradford's evangelistic series, which led to many baptisms and strengthened the church community.



We were honoured that the Northeastern Conference delegation could pray with the Premier.

IT IS WRITTEN EVANGELISM

The It Is Written evangelistic campaign took place March 15 to 21 at the Ruth Seaton James Auditorium. John Bradshaw, President and Speaker of It Is Written for 15 years, led the series. The television broadcast is now in its 75th year.



Kenneth Simons, Personal Ministries Director, initiated this outreach. His leadership was key to its success.

The Bermuda Conference family showed unity and commitment, contributing meaningfully to the meetings' success.

I sincerely thank all participants, including deacons, ushers, pastors, musicians, and the wider constituency, for their dedicated service and involvement. Your attendance, cooperation, and personal witnessing strengthened the campaign and encouraged many to attend.

This series had the highest attendance of any recent Bermuda Conference event, reflecting its effectiveness and the membership's commitment. We give all glory to God for the blessings and outcomes received.



PRINCIPAL HOLDIPP AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SEPARATION

On March 23, 2026, the Bermuda Conference Executive Committee and Principal Linda Holdipp agreed to part ways. The Committee thanks Holdipp for her four years of service to the Bermuda Institute community and wishes her success.

BERMUDA INSTITUTE WELCOMES NEW PRINCIPAL



The Executive Committee of the Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Owen Roberts as the new Principal of Bermuda Institute.

Dr. Roberts is an accomplished educational leader with extensive experience in school transformation, strategic leadership, and academic improvement. He brings a strong commitment to excellence, collaboration, innovation, and faith-based education.

As Bermuda Institute begins this new chapter, Dr. Roberts will focus on strengthening teaching and learning, improving student outcomes, developing future leaders, fostering a culture of accountability and continuous improvement, and addressing the challenges that may prevent the school from fully achieving its mission.

Importantly, this work will be undertaken collaboratively with faculty and staff, students, parents, the School Board, Conference leadership, alumni, and the wider Bermuda Institute community.

Dr. Roberts shared that he is honored to join the Bermuda Institute family and looks forward to listening, learning, and partnering with the school community to build on its proud legacy and ensure that every student is equipped to thrive academically, personally, and spiritually.

The Bermuda Conference warmly welcomes Dr. Owen Roberts and his family to Bermuda Institute and looks forward with great anticipation to this

new season of growth, innovation, and educational excellence.

CAMP MEETING 2026

On Friday, June 26, the Bermuda Conference opened its 39th annual Camp Meeting with Atlantic Union President Abraham J. Jules as the first weekend speaker. Jules addressed our theme, "Almost Home".

Roger Hernandez delivered practical, relational sermons Sunday through Thursday. Debleaire Snell concluded the series, continuing the "Almost Home" theme and drawing from his book, *Almost Home*.

We presented Premier David Burt and his cabinet staff with copies of Snell's book, *Almost Home*, each personally signed by the author.

The nine-day Camp Meeting ended with a Saturday night benefit concert that raised \$40,000 for Bermuda Institute. The program featured Aaron Spencer Jr. on saxophone, a duet by Cammy Burrows and Desirae Simons backed by Spiritual Peace, and guest artists Odayne Rhoden and Brittany Stuart. Local talents included Samone Outterbridge, Jalen Smith on saxophone, Alexia Henry performing an original composition, and the Southampton Inspirational Choir. Damon Hendrickson served as Master of Ceremonies.

On July 5, the conference family gathered for the Camp Meeting Picnic, under the supervision of Dwayne Caines and with support from Carlyle Simmons.

CAMP MEETING HONOUREES

The Hamilton Gourmet Committee received recognition for its significant contributions to Conference events, including camp meetings, island-wide picnics, senior banquets, year-end services, evangelistic meetings, and departmental retreats.

Roslyn Amory, Executive Assistant to the President, was commended for her expertise, dedication, and professionalism. Following an exceptional 44.33 years of service with the Bermuda Confer-

EXCELLENCE IN PATHFINDER LEADERSHIP RECOGNIZED

Pathfinder leaders who demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication to the church's children and youth were recognized for their mentorship, practical life skills instruction, efforts to increase church involvement, and guidance in building spiritual relationships. Each congregation also received a commemorative plaque to honour the contributions of its Pathfinder leaders.

INSTALLATION OF NEW PASTOR AT SOMERSET CHURCH



On July 11, Kevin Murray, his wife, Donisha, and their daughter, Khai-Leigh, were installed as the new pastoral family of Somerset Church. Murray, a native of Jamaica, brings nine years of pastoral leadership and evangelistic success. He

has a passion for soul winning and equipping church members for ministry. These gifts will help Somerset church members reach every family, group, and person with the gospel of hope and wholeness.

We are equally excited to have Donisha Murray join our teaching staff at Bermuda Institute as a mathematics teacher who will challenge students to aim for academic excellence.

Welcome Kevin Murray and family to the Bermuda Conference family.

PASTOR HECTOR QUINONES ACCEPTS OVERSEAS CALL

On June 23, Jeff Villegas, president of the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference, contacted me as a courtesy. Such calls usually invite pastors to consider service elsewhere or request a

conversation after prior communication.

In this case, it was the latter. After nine years of pastoral ministry at Warwick Seventh-day Adventist Church and with Compania Ministerio Hermandad, Hector Quinones accepted a call to serve in the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference. He will begin his new role on August 1.

On behalf of the Bermuda Conference administration, executive committee, and constituents, we thank Hector Quinones for his dedicated service to our conference and the island. We wish him God's richest blessings in his future endeavours.

REFLECTIVE ACCOUNT OF MY VISIT TO WESTGATE FACILITY

By God's providence, I visited the Westgate facility on the day I was to participate in my uncle Arnold Cann's funeral. While discussing a possible visit with Chaplain Kevin Santucci, I was led by unexpected circumstances to go directly to Westgate. Chaplain Santucci welcomed me and introduced me to the leadership staff.

I visited cell blocks throughout the prison, meeting and speaking with inmates individually and in groups. This was a distinctive and eye-opening experience in my thirty-one years of pastoral ministry.

The leadership officers welcomed my visit and expressed interest in future collaborative efforts at Westgate. I anticipate returning to continue ministering to those whom Jesus instructs us to visit, as referenced in Matthew 25:36.

I commend Chaplain Santucci for his dedication and for cultivating strong professional relationships with the officers in his capacity as prison chaplain.

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY SYMPOSIUM 2026



As Conference President, I have prioritized keeping E. G. White's writings at the forefront for our members. On July 23 and 24, I invited Dwaine Esmond, Associate Director of the Ellen G. White Estate, Inc., to deliver three presentations. On Friday evening, he presented "Unforgettable: Mind-boggling Stories from the Life and Ministry of Ellen G. White," sharing compelling anecdotes about the authenticity of Ellen White's visions and the remarkable conversion of Edson White, James and Ellen White's "problem child."

On Sabbath morning, Esmond delivered "Believe His Prophets," examining Ellen White's role and the Seventh-day Adventist witness during the American Civil War. He encouraged us to uphold the call to justice and righteousness exemplified by our Adventist pioneers and highlighted Ellen White's emphasis on the work of Isaiah 58.

On Sabbath evening, Esmond shared poignant and humorous stories from Ellen White's life, offering a personal perspective on her ministry. He concluded with "The Misuse and Abuse of Ellen White: 7 Principles for Correctly Interpreting Her Writings," followed by a Q&A session.

Esmond expressed gratitude for the fellowship of all who attended, both in person and online.

IN CONCLUSION

In closing, I thank God for the privilege of serving the Bermuda Mission and Conference as colporteur (4 years), pastor (32 years), Youth Director (6 years), Personal Ministries Director (3 years), Conference Executive Secretary (6 years), Ministerial Director (4 years), and Conference President (12 years). I have also served as interim pastor for the Warwick, St. George's, and Somerset churches. This journey has been deeply rewarding, with over 700 baptisms. I am grateful to all who have supported me, especially my wife, First Lady Claudette D. Manders. Above all, I give thanks to my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, our soon-coming King.





From the Executive Secretary ...

2026 Statistical Report...To end of 2nd Qtr.

	Total Start	Baptisms	P.O.F.	Trans In	Adjust	Trans Out	Death	Drop	Missing	Adjust	Total End
DEVONSHIRE	427	1		3			4				427
HAMILTON	928	11		2		4	6	3			928
MID. HEIGHTS	347	1	1					1			348
PEMBROKE	251	1				2					250
REST. MIN.	251	1					1	1			250
ROCKAWAY	88	1					1				88
SOMERSET	368	1				2	2				365
SOUTHAMPTON	545	1		1		1	5				541
ST. DAVID'S	94	4									98
ST. GEORGE'S	275					1					274
WARWICK	285	2	1				1				287
CMH	36	1				2					35
TOTALS	3,895	25	2	6		12	20	5			3,891

Bermuda Conference Calendar

DATE	EVENT
August 19-September 27	40 Days of Prayer
September 19	World Pathfinder Day—Hamilton
September 27	Quadrennial Session
October 26	EXCOM Meeting
November 11	Office Closed
November 23	EXCOM Meeting
December 23	Office Closed - Return on January 5
December 31	Year-End Service

BERMUDA CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS®
Prayer Ministries
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR

40 DAYS
OF
Prayer

AUGUST 19 – SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

 **JOIN US AS WE PRAY FOR THE
CONSTITUENCY SESSION.**

 **YOU MAY PURCHASE THE
40 DAYS OF PRAYER DEVOTIONAL
AT THE ABC.**

“ If my people who are called by my name ”
HUMBLE THEMSELVES AND PRAY,

2 CHRONICLES 7:14 (NIV)

 **LET'S SEEK GOD TOGETHER.**
Prayer Changes Things.

Chelsea Crockwell, Religion Correspondent—February 14, 2026—Royal Gazette

‘Uniform day of rest’ idea sparks debate

Speaks with Pastor DeJaun Tull about the implications of an idea coming out of the US

The Heritage Foundation, a conservative US policy organisation often referred to as a think tank, recently released a 168-page document titled “Saving America by saving the family: A foundation for the next 250 years.”

The report outlines national statistics on marriage, birth rates, family life, and religious participation, along with policy ideas aimed at strengthening what it describes as the traditional family structure.

Among its many recommendations is a section titled “Support for a uniform day of rest”, which proposes limiting commercial activity on a designated day in order to encourage time for religious observance, family gatherings, and rest. The document notes research suggesting such practices correlate with improved mental health and stronger social bonds.

While the section speaks broadly of a uniform day of rest, it also highlights that similar proposals in the United States have historically centred on Sunday. So-called “blue laws” — regulations restricting Sunday business activity — have long reflected the majority practice of Sunday worship.

In the 1961 case, *McGowan v Maryland*, the US Supreme Court upheld Sunday-closing laws as constitutional when framed to provide a uniform day of rest, acknowledging that most people who observe a religious day of rest do so on Sundays.

It is this historical and legal backdrop that has drawn attention from some faith communities. Although the Heritage Foundation proposal is not legislation, it prompted a formal response from the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which expressed concern about reli-

gious liberty and government involvement in matters of worship.

Because the Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists operates under the North American Division, the discussion has local theological relevance — even though no such legislation is under consideration in Bermuda.

That connection provided an opportunity to seek a local perspective. Pastor DeJaun Tull responded to questions in a personal pastoral capacity, noting that his comments reflect his own understanding of the Church’s position and do not constitute an official statement of the Bermuda Conference.

When asked how closely the local church is following discussions around the proposal, Pastor Tull said the issue is being viewed through a principled rather than political lens.

“As part of the North American Division, the Bermuda Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church remains aware of major policy discussions that touch on religion, conscience, and civil authority. At this stage, our engagement is principled rather than political,” Pastor Tull said.

“As a corporate body, we are not aligned with any political organisation, nor do we assume intent where none has been legislated. However, history has taught Seventh-day Adventists that ideas precede laws, and proposals around a ‘Sunday day of rest’ deserve careful, prayerful attention — not alarmism, but discernment.

“God has blessed this church with a prophetic message that involves this very issue at the end of time (Revelation 13 and 14). We believe that even well-intentioned Sunday legislation crosses a line when

the state begins to regulate what belongs to God alone — time set apart as a holy day of worship.

“For Seventh-day Adventists, who believe that God has already given humanity a holy day (Mark 2:27), and that this day is, according to Scripture, truly the Lord’s Day (Mark 2:28), vigilance on this issue is not fear, but faithfulness.”

Asked why the Adventist Church has historically expressed concern about mandated rest legislation, Pastor Tull said the distinction lies not in rest itself, but in compulsion.

“The concern is not rest itself. Scripture affirms rest as a divine gift from the beginning of humanity’s existence (Genesis 2:1–3; Mark 2:27). The concern is coercion.

“Seventh-day Adventists believe the Sabbath — the seventh day — is a commandment of God, not a creation of the state (Exodus 20:8–11). Worship has value only when it is voluntary. Civil government has authority over civil conduct, not over conscience.

“We have a prophetic understanding that the moment the state enforces religious observance, even for noble reasons, it steps into God’s domain and violates Christ’s clear distinction: ‘Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s; and unto God the things that are God’s’ (Matthew 22:21).

“A mandated day of worship, even indirectly, risks punishing those who choose to honour God differently, or biblically, according to conscience.”

While some supporters argue that a uniform rest day could strengthen families and protect workers, Pastor Tull said the tension centres on who would determine and enforce such an observance.

“The tension arises not from rest, but from who defines it and who enforces it,” he said. “Adventists affirm that rest is good. Families need time. Work-

ers deserve protection. But when the state enforces a religiously significant day, three dangers emerge.

“First, conscience is trampled. A person who already rests on the seventh-day Sabbath may be compelled, economically or legally, to observe an additional rest day or to violate conscience to survive.

“Second, minorities are pressured by majorities. We should be concerned about a ‘majority must rule’ mentality in matters of worship. Truth and conscience should never be decided by a vote.

“Third, faith is hollowed out. Worship compelled by law ceases to be worship. God desires willing hearts, not regulated behaviour (Joshua 24:15; Revelation 14:12).

Adventist position is simple: Rest is a blessing; forced worship is not.”

Regarding whether the issue has any immediate implications for Bermuda, Pastor Tull emphasised that the matter is currently one of principle rather than imminent legislation.

“At present, this is a matter of principle and awareness, not an imminent legislative threat in Bermuda as far as I can see,” he said. “Seventh-day Adventists believe that liberty is preserved only when it is consciously protected. History demonstrates that erosions of freedom often begin gradually, under the guise of benevolence.

“We are aware that circumstances can shift quickly with social unrest or natural disasters. As we observed during the Covid-19 pandemic, global powers can influence legislative decisions in the name of the common good.

“From our prophetic understanding, we see a possible progression: first, encouragement for nations to ‘refrain’ from working on Sunday for honourable reasons such as rest, family, or climate concerns.

“Then, measures that ‘cause’ nations to honour Sunday while still allowing Sabbath worship. Later, stricter enforcement that could penalise those who refuse.

Revelation 13:16–17 is understood by Adventists as describing severe end-time restrictions upon those who worship according to conscience.

“However, I am grateful that Bermuda, like the United States, currently upholds freedom of religion, pluralism, and respect for conscience.

“Our responsibility is not necessarily to predict outcomes, but to bear witness to enduring principles: God alone is Lord of the conscience. The state must remain religiously neutral. True faith flourishes best in freedom.”

When asked what message he would share with the broader Bermudian community, Pastor Tull said the Church’s position extends beyond self-interest.

“The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bermuda stands for religious liberty for all people, not just for ourselves.

“We defend the right of Christians to worship on Sunday, the right of Jews or others to observe the Sabbath on Saturday, the right of Muslims to worship on Friday, and the right of every person to follow — or not follow — faith according to conscience.

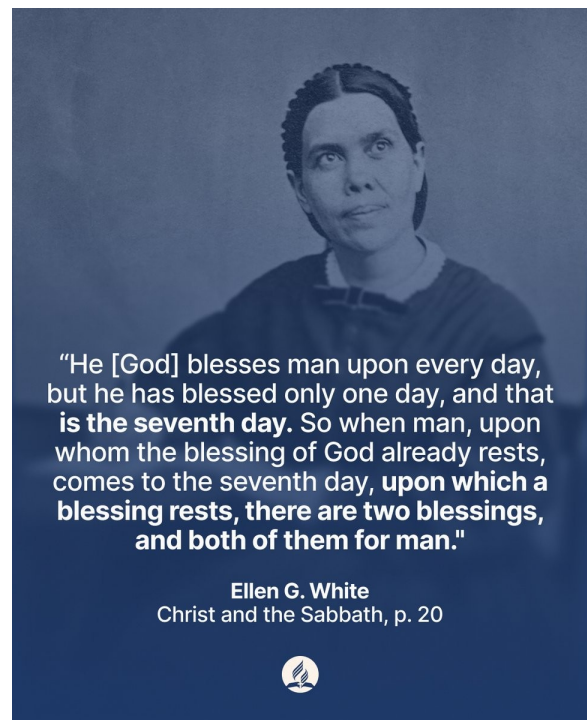
“We oppose forced worship, not because we reject God’s law, but because we honour it too deeply to place it in human hands. Whenever the State enforces religious observance, even with exemptions, liberty is no longer a right; it becomes a permission granted by power.

“Our appeal is pastoral and peaceful: Let faith persuade, not law compel. Let conscience be sacred. Let Bermuda remain a place where diverse convictions coexist under mutual respect.

“The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bermuda is not seeking privilege; we are seeking principle. We are not resisting rest; we are resisting coercion. And we are not fearful — we are faithful to Christ, who never forced worship, but always invited it.”

While the Heritage Foundation’s proposal remains a policy recommendation rather than legislation, the discussion it has sparked highlights enduring questions about conscience, governance, and the role of faith in public life.

For the Seventh-day Adventist community in Bermuda, the issue is less about immediate change and more about principle — a reminder that, in a plural society, religious freedom is best preserved when it is protected for all.



“He [God] blesses man upon every day, but he has blessed only one day, and that **is the seventh day**. So when man, upon whom the blessing of God already rests, comes to the seventh day, **upon which a blessing rests, there are two blessings, and both of them for man.**”

Ellen G. White
Christ and the Sabbath, p. 20



Personal Ministries Report
It Is Written Evangelistic Campaign
Kenneth Simons, Director of Personal Ministries
May 29, 2026

SUMMARY

This report outlines the coordinated evangelistic and community engagement initiatives conducted by the Personal Ministries Department leading up to the *It Is Written* series in Bermuda. The combined efforts of door-to-door outreach, health programming, strategic advertising, and interchurch collaboration resulted in unprecedented community contact, strong attendance, and measurable engagement across the island.

Beginning in November 2025, a team of seven volunteers canvassed more than 150 homes in Collectors Hill, Pokiok, and Smith's, establishing early visibility and building rapport with residents who proved highly receptive. This groundwork transitioned seamlessly into the 21-Day Health Transformation series led by Dr. Leonard Gibbons, which attracted 30 participants—nearly half of whom were non-Adventists—and strengthened our presence in Smith's Parish through a new partnership with the Centenary Methodist Church.

A comprehensive promotional campaign, including nightly primetime news advertisements and the distribution of 29,000 flyers, significantly expanded public awareness and generated a robust database of community contacts. These efforts contributed to strong attendance at the *It Is Written* series, with 739 registrations, 569 total attendees, and at least 177 non-Adventists participating. Website traffic from Bermuda surged during the promotional and event periods, confirming widespread interest.

Overall, the preparation and execution of these initiatives reflect both diligent planning and clear evidence of divine leading. The alignment of major anniversaries, the first visit of *It Is Written* to Bermuda, and the success of cross-cultural outreach underscore the timeliness and impact of this evangelistic cycle. The receptivity observed in Smith's

Parish signals a promising field for continued, intentional engagement.

IT IS WRITTEN EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN REPORT

This report presents a comprehensive overview of the Personal Ministries Department's coordinated outreach efforts leading up to the *It Is Written* evangelistic series in Bermuda. It highlights the strategic blend of community engagement, health education, and island-wide promotion that strengthened our presence in key neighborhoods and fostered meaningful connections with residents. Through door-to-door ministry, the 21-Day Health Transformation program, and a robust media and mailing campaign, the department laid a strong foundation for the series and demonstrated a unified approach to evangelism that reflects both intentional planning and God's clear leading throughout the process.

1. DOOR-TO-DOOR OUTREACH

Beginning November 15, 2025, seven volunteers, referred to as *Forerunners*, conducted weekly door-to-door outreach to distribute "Save the Date" invitations to residents in selected areas of Collectors Hill, Pokiok, and Smith's.

More than 150 homes were canvassed. The majority of residents encountered were Caucasian and Azorean, and they were generally very receptive to the outreach efforts.

During one of the outreach sessions, Wes Peppers joined the team on a Sunday to assist.

2. HEALTH SEMINAR INITIATIVE

The door-to-door outreach continued until March 1, 2026, at which time the team paused activities to

support the launch of Dr. Leonard Gibbons' 21-Day Health Transformation Series, held at the Centenary Methodist Church in Smith's.

Dr. Gibbons was assisted by Sis. Pam Ingham of St. George's and additional members of the Health Ministries Department from various churches.

A total of 30 individuals registered for the series, 14 of whom were non-Adventists. Following the completion of the health program, all registrants were invited to attend the *It Is Written* evangelistic series.

The strategy behind this initiative included:

- Establishing a presence in Smith's Parish, where approximately 30 percent of residents are non-Black.
- Utilizing a neutral community environment for outreach.
- Creating an outpost for ongoing community engagement.

As a result, a stable working relationship has now been established with the Centenary Methodist Church for future use of their facilities.

3. ADVERTISEMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

From February 27 to March 13, nightly one-minute advertisements aired on Bermuda's primetime news. These featured Pastor John Bradshaw highlighting a Bermuda historical event paired with a spiritual object lesson, along with promotional details for the CedarBridge venue.

Additionally, 29,000 flyers were distributed to households across Bermuda. Each flyer included a QR code enabling residents to pre-register, allowing names and contact information to be captured in a centralized database. This island-wide mass mailing provided valuable data for ongoing community engagement.

4. ATTENDANCE AND ENGAGEMENT STATISTICS

It Is Written Series Attendance (March 15 to March 20)

- Sunday: **340**

- Monday: **355**
- Tuesday: **352**
- Wednesday: **355**
- Thursday: **305** (*torrential rain; many assumed it was a break night*)
- Friday: **370**
- Sabbath: **704** (*children at Southampton and adults at the pavilion*)

WEBSITE ENGAGEMENT – BERMUDA REGION (2026)

- March 1 to March 7: **112,321** (*first week of primetime news promotions*)
- March 8 to March 14: **54,109**
- March 15 to March 21: **111,196** (*week of the It Is Written series*)
- March 22 to March 28: **40,770**
- April 5 to April 11: **5,330**

REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE TOTALS

- Total registered: 739
- Total who attended at least once: 569
- Minimum non-Adventist attendance: 177 (*based on Accord database*)

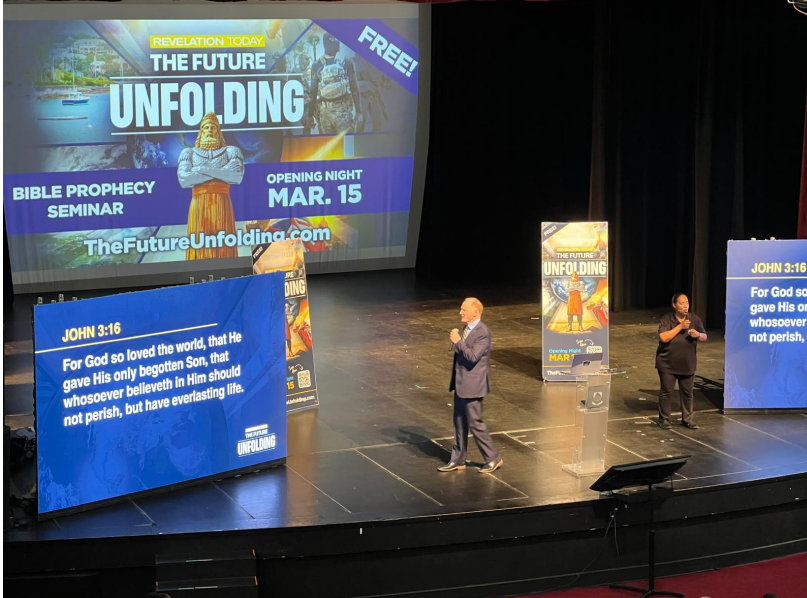
5. FINAL OBSERVATIONS

The preparation and execution of the *It Is Written* series clearly reflect a combination of diligent human effort and divine intervention. God blessed the commitment to follow the blueprint of evangelism closely.

Providential alignment was evident in several ways:

- The 70th anniversary of *It Is Written*.
- The 125th anniversary of Hamilton's celebration.
- The first-ever visit of *It Is Written* to Bermuda.
- A meaningful attempt at cross-cultural outreach.

The door-to-door work in Smith's Parish demonstrated that these communities are receptive and ready for intentional, ongoing engagement within the evangelism cycle.





Bermuda Institute 2026-2027 Calendar

DATE	EVENT
August 31	Parent Night - K-6 at 6:00 p.m.
September 3	Parent Night - 9-12 at 6:00 p.m.
September 14	Home & School Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
September 18	SA Picnic and Elementary Fun Day
September 20	SAT Exam
September 28-October 11	College Days
October 5	Home & School Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
October 14	Open House
October 16	ACT Exam
October 18	SAT Exam
October 19-23	Fall Break
October 26-30	Fall Week of Prayer
October 31	BI Day at Restoration Ministries
November 2	Home & School Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
November 9-10	Parent/Teacher Meetings
November 18	Open House
November 20	ACT Exam
December 3	Christmas Concert
December 6	SAT Exam
December 7	Home & School Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
December 10-15	Final Exams
December 16	BI Closes for Christmas Break
January 5	Students return to school

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Executive Secretary - W. DeJaun Tull
Interim Treasurer - Pamela Greyson
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