



NOVEMBER 29, 2009

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

The trip to Israel



**SIS ARTHEN SCOTT
FAITHFUL MEMBER**

After speaking to Sis Scott days before her trip, I could sense that she was filled with excitement. It seemed as if she had waited her entire life for this trip. She was busy gathering clothing and funds from the brethren at West Toronto Church of God (W.T.C.G): baby items, clothing for the soldiers, and oral care items. Basically anything she could get her hands on, she was willing to carry.

Her excitement was contagious; in the sense that those who spoke to her would leave her presence wishing they were going as well. Everyone who knows Sis Scott knows that Israel and the Jews are on the very top of her prayer list. Consequently, upon hearing that she was going on this trip, I can boldly say that, the entire church celebrated with her knowing that she was going to experience her passion.

The Missions and Evangelism Departments concurred to the fact that she should be our feature story for our first

newsletter.

We hope in this first volume to capture her contagious passion and hope that it spreads throughout the congregation pertaining to missions and evangelism.

Let us highlight a few objectives before we go any further in this feature story: ***it was the centre of her prayer, it was something that she sought after, it was her dream to go on a missionary trip to Israel to walk where her savior walked, visit where he prayed, to see Jordan river and to see the place where he was crucified and resurrected.***

These objectives Sis Scott set before her knowing that one day she would experience her passion. We hope that we all can learn from her experience in setting some aspirations before us pertaining to evangelism and missions. We encourage everyone to pray, and aspire to one day experience the same in our lives and in our local church.

Upon returning from her mission trip, Sis Scott reported to the Missions and Evangelism department the life-changing experience she had. She explained her experience with mixed emotions: she was so excited to visit some of the places that she has been reading about most of her life, in the bible; on the other hand, when she got there and saw the ruins, experienced the culture, learned about the rich history from which the written word, the bible, stems, she realized that we in Canada need to do more. She was happy and sad when sharing her experience. She states, *"while on the trip, I cried, and I laughed. When I saw the road where Jesus walked on his way to his*

crucifixion and the place where he was crucified, I became overwhelmed with sadness. The road is rough and rugged and the people on the tour did not want to get out of the bus even to walk on the road because of its condition. And when I looked at the road and imagined what my savior went through carrying the cross, I cried".

She went on to stress the fact that seeing the place has changed the way she reads the bible, and has changed her attitude towards mission and evangelism. Pertaining to the scripture she states: *"now I read the scripture with the knowledge that everything is real; it is not just a story, it is a reality... I cannot describe it; its natural... it is an experience of an experience"*. Pertaining to evangelism, she is doing more witnessing; and pertaining to missions, she wants to give more and would like to go on more mission trips. She states, ***"my life has been drastically changed, pertaining to my living, praying, reading the word, my thought patterns and my attitude towards service"***.

All of us will have some experiences in our lives that will change us drastically; where we will not look at life the same way we did prior to the experience. Our dear, Sis Scott's experience was her trip to Israel; your experience might be something or someplace else. Paul's experience was on the road to Damascus and his life was drastically changed. Sis Scott states, *"there is a brighter light shining upon the words whenever I am reading the bible. I am broken more when I read; I am fasting and praying more and witnessing more"*. She went on to state the fact that she hopes that every Christian will have the experience she had.

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4. PRISON MINISTRY
5. NURSING HOME
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Church of God in Canada World Missions Vision:

Saturday morning prayer meetings:

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. Please come out and be blessed.

Right hand of fellowship:

Sonia Holder Plunkett
Glenda Gould Joseph
Icilda Russell
Elainey Halstead
Tulah Hayles
Della Gordon
Christna Brooks
Patrick Alexander Ricketts
Diana Sterling
Hannah Cunningham
Barabara Beech
Emmanuel Jean
Christine Riley
Gouin Franciane
Paulette Simpson
Cheryl Simpson

Baptisms

May 2009

Joshua Rowe
Larissa Noel
Annemarie Chambers

September 2009

Chantelle Bennett
Nadisha Blair

Icyline Sawyers

November 2009

Marlon Hibbert
Rupert Jones
Shannel Ramballi
Kassidy Akposi
Anika Gayle

Prison ministry

W.T.C.G Prison Ministry goes into the prison on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the Month at 01:00PM to 03:30PM. Our aim is to bring words of encouragement through the Word of God, prayer and counselling, to make a difference in these inmates lives. Through this ministry, many of the inmates have come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. The workers of the Prison Ministry are comprised of Sis. Andrea Seivwright, who has been listed since 2001; Sis. Elsie Francis, who has been on board since 2005; and Bro. Walcot Williams, since May of 2007.

Church of God world mission seeks to fulfill the great commission of our Lord Jesus Christ. "to therefore go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the father and of the son and the Holy Spirit...." (Matt 28: 19).

We seek to be a gateway of information and support between those whom God calls to minister around the world and those whom God calls to sponsor these ministers. We support and develop an international perspective, in fulfilling the mission of the Church of God, and ensure the sponsorship of ministries that meet the needs of persons of different cultural settings. Our work includes specialized training programs and materials, opportunities for leadership experience, and opening channels for new ideas.

WEST TORONTO EVANGELISM MINISTRY

Mission:

To revolutionize the current image of Evangelism with the objective to transformed our people into soul winners...

Vision:

The aim is to change the image of evangelism from one group's responsibility to a collaborative approach where every member feels a sense of ownership in the process.

We will accomplish this collaborative approach through teaching and promoting the true meaning of evangelism. This will require participation from every member in the church.

The theme for this initiative is: *All Hands on Deck*

The Church of God World Mission exists to exalt Jesus Christ through evangelism, church planting, leadership development and other ministries of compassion for a flourishing church.

THE VISION FOR W.T.C.G:

West Toronto Church of God adheres to the Church of God in Canada's vision. However, we maintain the fact that in order for our local church to be amalgamated with the international vision, we have to, first, accomplish the vision among ourselves.

Jesus said to his disciples: "...ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the world" (Acts, 1: 8). Consequently, we have to, first, start out in our Jerusalem/local

church to accomplish the vision.

In the past we collected food items and presented it to families in need in our local church; as well, we collected food, clothing and school supplies for the international missions. Consequently we realized that the great commission cannot be obtain apart from the local churches. For that reason, we maintain the fact that healthy families make healthy churches.

For more information on missions in our local church contact Sis Valeria Russell Coordinator.

Board members:

R. Thompson (Mission's Liaison)
Colette Daley, Symone Wilson,
Sam Cockett, Ena MacDonald.

Board members:

Director: Deacon Rohan Thompson
Assistant: Deacon Walcot Williams
Debra Brown
Hazel Ashely
Valerie Russell
Colette Daley
Anita Gayle
Lola Waugh
Rev Wesley Williams

GET INVOLVED:

We need members to serve in these areas:

- Tract distribution
- Hospital and home visitation
- Prison ministry
- New converts care: Follow-up workers

Please see anyone of the coordinators or their assistant.

Nursing Home:

Under the leadership of Rev C. Vassell, every Friday and 4th Sundays of the month there is a faithful group of members of the WTCG who goes to Kipling Acres nursing home.

On Fridays is the old time gospel hour and Sundays they will have regular church service. This faithful group of members brings church to those who cannot make it out to church.

May the Lord continue to bless these faithful members who decided to labour in this part of the vineyard. For more info contact Rev C. Vassell

