

Personal Ministries and Possibility

Ministries Report

East Caribbean Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (2021–2024)

Mr. Chairman, administrators, departmental directors of the Caribbean Union; delegates, specially invited guests, brothers and sisters.

It is both a privilege and a pleasure to present this report on the Personal Ministries and Possibility Ministries Department of the East Caribbean Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the period spanning January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2024. This period marked significant transitions, requiring both adaptability and leadership as we navigated the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and embarked on a new mission under the “Church Reset Project.”

The Church Reset Project

Under the leadership of Pastor Anthony Hall (President), Pastor Dr. Terence Haynes (Executive Secretary), and Sister Valrica Harrison-Dottin (Treasurer), the new administration introduced the RESET framework. RESET stands for:

- R - Renew
- E - Engage
- S - Support
- E – Empower/Evangelize
- T - Transform

This strategic framework guided the activities of the departments to foster growth, engagement, and transformation across the region.

Personal Ministries Achievements

It has been a privilege to continue serving after the conference session in 2022, working alongside Pastor Ashton O’Neil of the Caribbean Union Conference in the realm of Personal Ministries. Pastor O’Neil’s unwavering support and extensive knowledge proved invaluable, as his passionate and empathetic approach greatly enriched this department.

At the outset of my tenure under the RESET framework, it became essential to craft an inspiring theme that would energize and direct the activities and services of the departments. This vision took shape through the motivational guiding principles of Twinkle, Sparkle, and Ripple.

We were motivated by the great commission found in Matt 28:18-20 “to go and make disciples”

We were blessed by the great counsel found Luke 24:48, 49 to “tarry until ye be endued with power from on high.”

We set off with great confidence to fulfil this awesome mandate from God.

With this passion and purpose, we engaged in a number of initiatives as listed below.

Missionary Sabbaths

The first Sabbath of each month was designated as Missionary Sabbath, engaging churches in outreach activities. This initiative encouraged members to adopt practical ideas inspired by the book ‘Making Daily Deposits’ by Pastor Ashton O’Neil, which was distributed widely across the conference. Each church was given a copy.

It is Nice to be Nice

The congregations were encouraged just to show genuine and sincere care to friends, family and community members. As the name says, by just being nice. This intervention was highlighting, this is who we are as a loving people. It broke down walls and barriers and made connections

Evangelistic Maps in Real Time

We live and operate in a digital and data driven age. With this in mind, real time digital maps of the churches’ areas in Barbados were done. These maps can be accessed by digital and mobile devices. This was a game changer in evangelistic planning. Heartfelt thanks to Elders Justin Alleyne and Paul Collymore of the Welchman Hall SDA Church. Elder Kendol Barry is working on the maps in Dominica.

10 Minute Feature

The personal ministries leaders and secretaries were engaged to make this 10 minute feature real and relevant in the churches. This was noted and highlighted as a keep feature in mobilizing the membership. It was told that it wasn't another preaching exercise. Plans were being put in place to provide a booklet to help in the promotions at this time.

Two by Two

Coming out of the promotion for the 10 minute feature drive, this two by two venture was proposed to complement it. The two by two drive was to encourage the membership to reach and connect with two contacts every month. At the end of the year, persons should have had at least 20 contacts.

Winning the Worldly, The Wealthy and the Well Educated for Jesus

It was our approach and our practice that the gospel must reach everyone. Pastor Obed Babb of the Solid Rock Ministries of Cayman Islands presented to the Personal Ministries department on this subject area. The sessions were very informative and inspirational. Coming out of this interaction, we launched the Naaman Maid project and a Gold Day project. The Naaman Maid project was where we encouraged persons who are in contact and have a solid connection to persons in these categories to use their influence. The golf day was a time to meet, greet, play and connect. Priorities magazines and the Book of the Year were given in the token bag that every golfer got. We had two Golf Days at the Barbados Golf Club. Over these two days we interacted with 178 persons.

Community Engagement Initiatives

The beginning of a new year is a time filled with hope and renewed aspirations. It brings a sense of optimism and positivity that resonates throughout the community. With this sentiment in mind, the department aimed to establish meaningful connections between each church in the Conference and the local community. The distribution of the cards served not only to foster these connections but also to inform recipients about the services offered by the church.

Initiative	Details
New Year Greeting Cards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 16,000 cards distributed in 2023 2. 18,000 cards distributed in 2024; 3. Collaboration with Barbados Postal Services to distribute cards to 1,000 homes near the conference office.
Exchange of Pulpits	<p>Cross-regional preaching and evangelism by elders from Barbados and Dominica.</p> <p>Elder Andrew Shaw from the Wesley Church visited the Indian Ground Church in Barbados, while Elder Lindsley Bowen from the Belleplaine Church in Barbados travelled to the Penville Church in Dominica.</p> <p>It is worth mentioning that Elder Bertram Jones from Blessed Hope led an evangelistic series in West Berbice Corentyne, Guyana, resulting in 33 baptisms.</p>
Lay Preacher and Bible Worker Training	Regular sessions held to empower lay members for ministry.

Festivals and Technology

Two “Festivals of the Laity” events were held in Dominica and Barbados in 2023, setting the tone for the 2024 Year of Evangelism. Additionally, real-time digital maps of church areas in Barbados and Dominica were developed to enhance strategic outreach planning.

By taking a pragmatic approach to ministry and embracing the understanding that wisdom emerges through collective counsel, the quadrennial featured 12 consultations on evangelism. These gatherings, which I like to call “meetings of minds,” brought together all the church's key stakeholders.

Below are some Statistics for:

1. Evangelistic Consultations
2. Lay Bible Instructor Course
3. Lay Baptisms
4. Ingathering

Evangelistic Consultations

Year	Number of Consultations
2021	2
2022	2
2023	3
2024	4

Lay Bible Instructor Course

During the reporting period we conducted a number of Lay Bible Instructor Course sessions to better equip the laity with the requisite skills to enhance the work of making disciples for Jesus. The table below shows the number of participants who attended this course.

Year	Participants
2021	58
2022	72
2023	82
2024	90

The following trainers were involved in the delivery of the course.

1. Dr Wayne Knowles
2. Pastor Sherwin White
3. Pastor Jason Peters
4. Pastor Raul Jackman
5. Pastor Leeroy David
6. Elder Peter Elcock
7. Sister Noreen Waithe

Lay Baptisms

In Matthew 28:19, Jesus told His disciples and by extension all of us, that we should make disciples by calling men and women out of darkness into His marvellous light. During the period 2022 – 2024, the laity participated in a number of evangelistic campaigns resulting in a total of

227 persons giving their lives to Jesus and were baptized. The table below provides a break-down of the number of persons baptized for each year.

Year	Baptisms
2022	51
2023	98
2024	78

Ingathering Campaign

The principles we embraced during the Ingathering Campaign focused on:

- Spreading the message of love and hope through Jesus.
- Sharing literature and enrolling individuals in Bible Study lessons.
- Identifying and addressing the needs of people within our communities.
- Providing community members with an opportunity to financially support the Department's developmental initiatives.

The table below shows the results of the implementation of the above principles.

Year	Total (BDS\$)	Barbados (BDS\$)	Dominica (EC\$)
2022	58,863.51	54,146.33	6,415.28
2023	201,245.13	182,363.62	25,678.85
2024	238,533.85	219,832.47	25,433.87

The remarkable growth in ingathering contributions reflects a positive trend. This growth in contributions results from the following activities aimed at providing the public with more information about the ingathering programme. These Radio programs and video stories also helped to mobilize membership for this campaign.

1. Radio programs aired on Life 97.5 FM in Barbados, Q95, Kairi FM, and DBS Radio stations, sharing inspiring stories and updates.
2. Videos showcasing the success stories of ingathering efforts, featuring notable individuals such as the Late Eudise Yard, Bro Lincoln Robinson, Joan Bannister, and Bro Louis Greaves.

3. Performances by singing bands documented through video recordings.
4. Efforts to galvanize community members through the leadership of pastors and personal ministries leaders, fostering strong engagement and participation.

It should be noted that in 2021, due to the measures and protocols associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, monetary collections for ingathering were limited. However, the total for 2024 exceeded even the figures recorded before the COVID-19 era.

Community Services Highlights

In a world that is given to high levels of technology, where persons are surfing the internet and living in the dot com society, there is the need to be high tech, but there is also the present need to present a high touch. We stand by the truth to have the end time message. Equally there is a need for having the end time message. The Community Services Department provided this by touching the needs in our communities.

During the reporting period, the Community Services participated in several activities which aided persons in the various communities in Barbados and Dominica. In addition, some members of the Department received recognition for their participation in helping those who are in need in the various communities across Barbados. Below is a table which provides some highlights on the major achievements.

Project	Description
National Independence Awards	Barbados National Independence Committee acknowledged seventy five community members for their contributions. This was for the work done in the food banks during the COVID-19 period.
Partnerships	Collaborated with Astra Babb Reading Clinic and other organizations to assist students improve their reading skills. Collaborated with Queen Elizabeth Hospital in a Bedside Assistance Meal time program.

	<p>Twenty nine volunteers were trained to help feed persons at the hospital</p>
Festivals of Community Services	<p>On Dominica and Barbados these festivals highlighted the community services of the churches. They were high powered and engaging.</p>
Relief restoration under the theme R.O.O.F (Replacing Original Overly Firmly)	<p>Supported hurricane relief efforts in Union Island and Carriacou, including nine (9) roof replacements and complete building of one house from “scratch”</p> <p>NB: 17 volunteers went to Union and Carriacou.</p>
<p>Relief drives under the theme “With Hearts of Love”</p> <p>Community Support</p>	<p>Eight shipments of food stuff and relief items were sent to the islands of Union Island and Carriacou after hurricane Beryl. Four were sent to Union Island and four were sent to Carriacou.</p> <p>Christmas hamper drives brought joy and happiness to some members in the community while the back-to-school initiatives assisted some families with needed supplies for their children.</p> <p>Impact Dublanc in the village of Dublanc. Hampers were given to the elderly, all the children were given gifts. Mr Jervaney Xavier and Mr Savio Anslem were honoured from the community.</p> <p>Donation of one hundred and twenty water filters in the Eastern District of Dominica</p> <p>North Eastern District in Dominica and the Belleplaine Church had the soup drives</p> <p>“Plates of Love” done by the Mile and a</p>

Food Ministries	Quarter Church. Some other churches that ran sustained food ministries were St Joseph Church in Dominica, Roseau, Way to Calvary Church, Mt Zion, Portsmouth, Salisbury and Tarreau, Hillaby,
Bus Ministry	The Cave Hill Church ran an innovative bus ministry where the church's bus was used to transport the elderly and persons in need from Speightstown to their homes in St Lucy.
Evening classes assisted children in Reading, English and Mathematics	Advent Avenue, Nile life , Ephesus, King Street Churches

Investiture Growth

During the reporting period, there was significant growth in the number of participants who were invested. This demonstrated the eagerness of some of the members of the Church to get involved in the work of helping men and women to decide to give their hearts to God. In 2023 there was a 48.5% growth over the number of persons who were invested in 2022. While in 2024 there was a 50.5% increase over the number of persons who were invested in 2023. The table below provides the information showing the growth in participants during the period under review.

Year	Participants	% Increase
2022	68	
2023	101	48.5
2024	152	50.5

Possibility Ministries Milestones

Mission Statement

Adventist Possibility Ministries inspires and equips individuals with disabilities, caregivers, and those who have suffered loss to serve God and the community.

Its motto, “All are gifted, needed, and treasured,” underscores the recognition of every person's inherent value.

APM upholds the principle that all individuals are gifted, valued, and cherished. It emphasizes that while people may be drawn to places where they feel welcomed, they remain where they know they are truly valued. This sense of value is intrinsic, rooted in Creation, and does not depend on a person's abilities or limitations. Everyone is uniquely created with a divine purpose, which includes the call to enrich others' lives—a mission inspired by gratitude for the blessings they have received.

APM affirms that: -

All are gifted, needed, and treasured. - - - People go where they are welcomed but stay where they are valued. Value is inherent through Creation and not determined by what a person can or cannot do. Each person is unique and has a God-given purpose. Included in that purpose is the call to enrich the lives of others which flows out of a sense of gratitude for what they have received.

First and foremost, I must extend heartfelt commendations and congratulations to Sis. Debbie Henry, the director of Possibility Ministries for the Caribbean Union. Sis. Henry embodies empathy and compassion with an extraordinary heart, leading this relatively new Department with both grace and determination. Her dedication and inspirational leadership have been pivotal to the Department's progress. I also want to express sincere gratitude to her efficient and capable Administrative Assistant, Sis. Jadia Joseph, for her invaluable support.

As Possibility Ministries is still in its early stages of development, there has been a focused and deliberate effort to establish a strong foundation for this work. The steps taken by the Department have been thoughtfully planned and executed with this developmental reality in mind.

Partnerships and Initiatives

The impetus and the thrust of this ministry were to embody compassion. This ministry isn't one of pity but one of power and empowerment. We asked everyone to see everyone's ability and not disability. With this in mind, the focus was to create safe places:

S-Stigma confronted...Stigma Cancelled

A-Accessibility (in buildings and to God's Grace)

F-Faith drives

E-Empowerment

The table below shows the various initiatives and partnerships which were implemented during the review period. The partnerships and initiatives benefited a number of persons in this community.

Initiative	Details
Canes for the Blind	Donation of 30 canes: 20 in Barbados, 10 in Dominica.
Support for Special Needs Schools	Provision of seven fans to improve facilities.
Themed Fun Days	Hosted two inclusive events in 2023 and two inclusive events 2024.
Sign language training	This training was done by the CARU throughout our conference on line
Hybrid conventions	At every Community Service convention there was the intention to highlight the awareness of persons with disabilities (Sister Karen Walker and Sis Earnica Esprit) made

	presentations.
Christmas party for children of the deaf	Every year a Christmas party is held for the children of the deaf. A key player is the Church of the Deaf and Hard of hearing
Time out	This time out initiative is one where we encouraged churches to minister to persons with disabilities so that the care takers would get a time out. This timeout is a rest for the caretakers
The theme song	The theme song for the Caribbean Union was signed by members of the church for the deaf and hard of hearing
Adventist Possibility Ministries Day	.This is a day in April where we encourage churches in the conference to highlight and empower persons with disabilities.
Dinner in the Dark	Our department sent two representatives to this event .It was a dinner in the dark, actually bringing the experience of the blind
Partnership with Barbados Blind Cricket team	They were games played against the blind. This fostered a strong connection. We made donations of shirts for the team. We played three matches over the period.
Partnership with DAPD (Dominica Association of Persons with Disabilities)	This partnership realized two consultations along with members of this association doing seminars to help our churches.

Day out	This day out was an event put on with the Roseau SDA Church and the Possibility Ministries Department of the conference, where persons with disabilities were taken on a bus ride and a beach excursion.
Golf day	There were two golf days done over this period. The Barbados Golf Course in Durants Christ Church was the place. The management of the golf course allowed us to entertain and treat persons with disabilities.
Reading project	12 computers were donated to the department by Sagicor Life. These computers assisted in helping children to improve their reading skills.

Evangelistic Series

Signs of God's Love Evangelistic Series, July 13-27, 2024

An evangelistic series in collaboration with Elder Anthony Pile and Pastor Coniel Morgan of Jamaica resulted in 11 baptisms, including four individuals from the deaf community. This series was done at the East Caribbean Conference Center. Many thanks to the Alpha Emmanuel Church and the Church for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Elder Anthony Pile (who is deaf) is the First Elder of the Church of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Training and Advocacy

The table below highlights the number of training sessions that were done from 2023. Sessions that covered several areas e.g. how to minister to persons with disabilities, the correct terms and words to be used, what is accessibility, the use of sign language, the use of a wheelchair.

Year	Sessions
2023	3
2024	12

Acknowledgments

Special thanks are extended to Sis Debbie Henry, Director of Possibility Ministries, for her leadership and empathy, alongside the support of Sis Jadia Joseph and all other administrators, facilitators, and volunteers.

This report represents the collective dedication and commitment of our leaders, members, and volunteers in advancing the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church through Personal Ministries and Possibility Ministries.

Table of Acknowledgment

Category	Individuals/Groups
Divine Support	Almighty God
Family	Andrea Haynes (Wife), Dillon Haynes (Son), Donne Haynes (Daughter)
Administrative Guidance	Administration of the East Caribbean Conference
Office Support	Office Staff, Mrs Amanda Parris (Secretary)

	and fellow Directors
Community	Family, Friends
Pastoral Team	Pastoral Staff
Volunteering and Facilitation	All the Volunteers, all of the Facilitators