

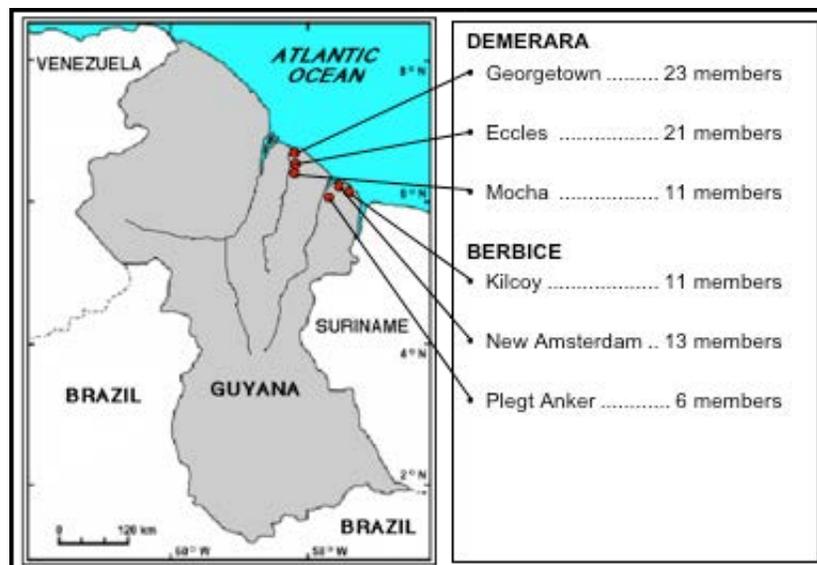


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Guyana: Land of Many Waters

There are just under 100 brothers and sisters in the small Caribbean country of Guyana situated on the northeast coast of South America. The country is divided by three major rivers: Essequibo, Demerara and Berbice. The six ecclesias are clustered in 2 areas: Demerara contains Georgetown, Eccles and Mocha; these are the "town" ecclesias. They are 30 minutes or less apart and



accessible by numerous taxis and minibuses, hence joint activities and shared speakers are fairly easy to arrange. Berbice is home to New Amsterdam, Kilcoy and Plegt Anker; these are the "country" ecclesias. New Amsterdam and Kilcoy are about 30 minutes apart; Plegt Anker, only 20 miles from New Amsterdam, is 90 - 150 minutes travel time, depending on rainfall and the degree of deterioration of the road. There is no taxi or minibus service as the road is in such a deplorable state of disrepair that no one wishes to destroy his vehicle travelling this road. Most brothers and sisters are employed outside the home in Demerara while in Berbice just a few sisters work. Many in Berbice work in agriculture related jobs while in Demerara many work in office type jobs of different types.

Georgetown Ecclesia - established circa 1870



Georgetown Sisters' Class

Georgetown ecclesia for most of the 20th century met in a narrow ecclesial hall situated in the garden of sis Kathleen Howard. They now meet in their own hall at Brummel Place. The main meeting hall has an upstairs room for youth and Sunday School activities, and a main hall for the ecclesial meetings downstairs. The ecclesia supports 2 youth circles, Sunday school classes, and sister's classes, in addition to Bible class and Memorial service.

Bro. David & sis. Joan Andrews are members of

Georgetown, but support all 6 ecclesias with exhortations, Bible classes, CYC talks, sisters /brothers and MIC classes, and preaching work. They are a dedicated couple performing invaluable service to all brothers and sisters in Guyana.

David's oldest daughter, sis. Dawne Semple, while raising 2 daughters and working full-time, maintains two CYCs, one composed entirely of youths from her teaching job ("Lively Stones"), the other, youths from the ecclesia. Elisa Howard was the first baptism from her Lively Stones youth group. Dawne has amazing energy and has made her life the ecclesia. She has also been instrumental in organizing an annual sisters' retreat with the able support of other sisters. Atiya N'djelekulu and Elisa Howard are often found at her side.



Sisters Atiya N'djelekulu and Dawne Semple



Sis. Lorraine Mitchell, 91-year old widow of bro. Hugo Mitchell, remains dedicated and energized to preach to all with whom she comes in contact. In fact, sis. Lorraine symbolizes the spirit of the brethren in Guyana - a community of preachers! Whether it is the many large Sunday Schools and CYCs (from which many baptisms have come) or the formal outreach efforts and instructional classes, brethren are always looking for ways to preach the one thing we have to offer to the world: The True Gospel.

energy and enthusiasm that keeps the outreach Sunday school at the Ruimveldt Center growing. They were recently featured on TV when their dramatic Bible presentation was entered into a nation-wide competition and was nominated for an award! The Ruimveldt students all come from extremely poor, non-Christadelphian families.

Eccles Ecclesia

About 75% of the Eccles brethren are either in the Joseph family or Williams family. A core group of young adults coupled with the experience of their elders makes for a strong cadre of workers. A Bible Exhibition held in New Amsterdam the week prior to the Bible school this year was largely spearheaded by bro. Timothy Barnwell with the support of the Demerara Preaching Committee. Several Eccles brothers regularly volunteer to support other ecclesias, especially in Berbice, where there may be no more than 1 or 2 brothers able to exhort. Eccles has more couples in the Truth than any other ecclesia in Guyana. Bro Rayon Agard (not related to the Williams or Josephs), baptized only 7 years ago is very active in the ecclesia, bearing the tragic loss of his fiancé last year with a resolute faith in God. Sis. Candace Harricharran moved to an area across the river from Eccles and promptly started a Sunday school under her house which attracts about 20-25 children.



The Williams family-Aniya, Jenny, Rose, Elaine, Jermaine, Joanne and grandson

Mocha Ecclesia



From left to right: Junior, friend, Derke, Maryln, Waveney, and Darin

Mocha is the smallest Demerara ecclesia. Just a few months ago, they had the most recent baptism in Demerara. Our new sister, Waveney Inniss, is daughter of sis Walterine Inniss and sister to sis. Marlyn Babb. Marlyn & Derek are the only married couple in Mocha and bro. Derek the only speaking brother. Derek's work (Geology & Mines commission) often carries him into the interior of Guyana which means the ecclesia depends on support from Eccles & Georgetown brothers. Since China & Brazil are ravishing Guyana for gold and other minerals, Derek is kept very busy.

This ecclesia has the newest ecclesial hall in Guyana, due to the kindness of the brethren in North

America. Having a hall to provide a place for Sunday School & CYC work, as well as for

outreach work in the area is a great encouragement to the Mocha brethren. They are deeply thankful to their North American brethren for their support. They have already held a series of open-air talks to preach to their neighbors.

New Amsterdam Ecclesia & the 2013 Bible School

New Amsterdam, an ecclesia of 2 brothers and 8 sisters, hosted the Bible School this year. It was the largest Bible school in the history of Guyana with 160 in attendance! About 70 of these were brethren, and the rest young people and children. Preparation for the Bible school was immense as accommodations had to be found for about 60 visitors from Demerara and 14 from Tobago. Much of the coordination of this fell on sister Bibi Rupenarine. Sisters Grace Cooper, Dilean Rupenarine, Leila Noble and brothers Deo Budhan and Shaheed Rasheed were well-



Sis. Bibi Rupenarine

organized, each with differing tasks. A team of sisters (Bonita Arjune, Esthelle David, Shamo Phillips & Mohani Rasheed) woke up at 4:00 am each morning to cook lunch and an afternoon snack. (Lunch is the main meal of the day in Guyana.) These hardy and dedicated sisters labored to provide tasty meals served on time. The snack was half savory and half sweet with a homemade fruit drink. These same sisters also prepared a supper for those not accommodated in homes of brethren. Theirs truly was a labor of love. A wonderful sisterly camaraderie was enjoyed as they labored together. A couple of brothers were occupied transporting the food and water to the Bible school site, as it was prepared in the home of a sister several miles from the BS site. However, sadly, many missed out on the spiritual food. Trying to figure out a way to allow hosting brethren to fully partake of the spiritual food is a challenge that we have yet to resolve. This is especially acute in Berbice where the Bible schools tend to be bigger.

Bre. Gary Cousens and Ted Sleeper shared the speaking duties. The classes were well received and many conversations were had at lunch and into the night, sharing with one another the lessons heard in the classes. Those 13 years and older were in the adult classes. Those under 13 were in a children's class taught by sis. Dolores Sleeper, with the invaluable assistance of bre. Ben & Rob Cousens. The children were very attentive, especially considering there was a 3-hour morning block and 2-hour afternoon block held 3 of the 4 days of the school. The last morning was a bit chaotic as the glue that had been purchased turned out to be defective and small cutouts began to blow everywhere! Rob salvaged the day with a roll of masking tape from his backpack. More than half of these eager children were from the Plegt Anker Sunday School.

New Amsterdam ecclesia is in desperate need of a mature couple to train the 2 brothers in the ecclesia, to augment Sunday school work, to establish a viable CYC and to spearhead preaching work. Both brothers are young in the Truth and have limited education, although both work faithfully to maintain the ecclesial light-stand. New Amsterdam has existed since the 1960s, due largely to the preaching of Harry Whittaker, Will Watkins, Ron Abel, and several others affiliated with CBMUK. New Amsterdam depends heavily on the labors of bro. David & sis Joan Andrews from Georgetown and monthly rotating speakers from Eccles. If you might be willing to help with this need be sure to contact bro. Ted & sis Dolores Sleeper (CBMC links) or bro. Don Luff of the CBMC council. Thanks be to God for the baptism of Ryan Anamayah in August. As he grows in the faith he will be able to help out in the ecclesia but he could certainly use nurturing now so that he does grow. He is now married to sis Dilean Rupenarine. May God richly bless this young couple. Ryan has recently begun his medical practice while Dilean has started at the University to earn her

Kilcoy Ecclesia - Established mid-1970's

The Sunday after the Bible school, Kilcoy hosted a joint Berbice breaking of bread service that served just over 100. Kilcoy ecclesia has 5 brothers and 6 sisters. Three of the brothers are able to take on speaking duties. Once again a wonderful spirit of cooperation and camaraderie was seen among the sisters who gathered at 6 am behind the hall to prepare lunch for all. The Plegt Anker bus carried about 50 from Plegt Anker, most of them Sunday school children. The hall had been cleaned and attractively prepared for the joint service.



N'djelekulu family-Jermaine, Rose, Gilbert, Faideh, Atiya, Abedi, Bawili, Arriette

Kilcoy ecclesia was the most active and largest ecclesia in Guyana in 1982. It had a core of young brothers and sisters eager to preach, teach Sunday school and grow the ecclesia. Then Canada opened immigration to self-sponsorship and everyone who had a skill emigrated leaving the ecclesia with less than 10 members. It experienced a bit of a revival in the late 1990s and again in the mid 2000s. When the last of the Naidu/Hart family (founding members of Kilcoy) emigrated, the N'djelekulu family immigrated from Congo with their 5 children. They have been a true God-send to the ecclesia. Their 2 oldest daughters are baptized. Sis. Rose is married to a Guyanese brother from Eccles. They have a new born son. Sis. Atiya recently has started medical school studying to be a doctor. She lives in Georgetown and is a very hard-working and devoted laborer in the ecclesia there. Bro. Abedi and bro. Ray share the responsibilities of managing the ecclesia, working as a team.

Plegt Anker Ecclesia - A Brief History

The Plegt Anker ecclesia came to birth through God's blessing and bro. Fred & sis. Alberta Hammond's labors of love. The Hammond's were brought from Ghana in 1985 to live on & manage a farm about 20 miles outside of New Amsterdam, the nearest ecclesia. They spent about 24 years devoting themselves selflessly to building an ecclesia through patient, long-term Sunday school work, often also teaching



Bro. Oris, Sis. Shinela and Junior

the rural children to read as well. They emigrated to join their daughter and family in Canada in 2009, but their heart remains with their brethren in PA.

This small ecclesia of 6 brothers & sisters boasts the largest Sunday school in Guyana! It is the most isolated of the 6 ecclesias. It is about 2 hours, sometimes more, from New Amsterdam, the nearest town and nearest ecclesia. The area is mainly a farming area, but without reliable transportation to bring goods to market, it has

become economically very depressed. The infrastructure we consider to be foundational does not exist here. There is no electricity, no indoor plumbing, no phone service (very limited cell service in one area), no shops, no schooling past about grade 3. Just over 10 years ago CBMUK partnered with Meal-A-Day UK to provide funds to dig a well. This provides water for the youth camp building that serves as the ecclesial hall, as well as for the residence. It is the poorest ecclesial area in Guyana. In August the ecclesia was deeply grieved at the unexpected death of sis Carmen Tennessee just a week after her son bro. Joel was married and came back home with his new wife, sis Ronique.

A strong sense of ecclesial community exists here despite the fact that they are separated into 2 groups by 6 miles of unimproved road. The newly purchased 34-seat bus has been a great boost and blessing as it has allowed the Sunday school and CYC to revive and has greatly encouraged the spirit of the brethren. They are all so very thankful to CBMC for this bus. On Sundays it is packed with brethren and their families and Sunday school children, often over 40! The Sunday school here is like a nursery where instead of chicks, brethren are raised and nurtured. If the government improves the road, thus making the area economically viable again, many of the chicks will be able to remain. Bro. Oris is one of those returned chicks.



A new bus for Plegt Anker

Year End Financial Appeal

The CBMA and CBMC are planning our 2014 Budgets, and we could use your support!

Many exciting things are happening in the Mission Field, and we want to be able to tackle the new projects with enthusiasm without leaving the existing Mission areas uncared for.

Our goal is to build Ecclesias, not just baptize individuals. A program like this requires consistent, diligent support. To provide for a Missionary Family in a foreign country is all of our responsibility.

Included in our Budget for 2014 is:

- Continued support for our Missionary families in Mexico, Bolivia and right here in the United States
- An exciting **NEW Truth Corps Program** in the Caribbean
- Continued support of the extremely successful www.thisisyourbible.com website that reaches thousands of interested contacts all around the world

In addition, we continue to provide assistance to the Mission workers in more than a dozen countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

All of this good work is costly, and our Combined Budget exceeds **\$700,000!**

This is where you can help out right now... We know that many of you are reviewing your annual giving goals at this time of year, and we would like to ask that if you are looking for an opportunity to give a little bit more this year that you consider the Bible Mission. Our current programs, and what we hope to accomplish with God's blessing in 2014, are dependent on the thoughtful donations of people like you. **If you postmark your donation by December 31st, it will still count as part of your 2013 Deductions.**

Q3 2013 Financial Report

	CBM America		CBM Canada	
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
01/01/13 Opening Balance (Unrestricted Funds)		\$197,000		\$220,000
Individual Donations	\$90,000	\$115,000	\$74,000	\$46,000
Ecclesial Donations	\$94,000	\$97,000	\$80,000	\$81,000
Other Donations	\$75,000	\$87,000	\$6,000	\$10,000
Other Income	\$0	\$32,000	\$10,000	\$11,000
FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$259,000	\$331,000	\$170,000	\$148,000
Proclamation	\$83,000	\$79,000	\$52,000	\$44,000
Pastoral	\$78,000	\$57,000	\$110,000	\$97,000
Welfare	\$7,000	\$5,000	\$26,000	\$26,000
Missionary Support	\$84,000	\$82,000	\$84,000	\$81,000
Buildings / Vehicles	\$0	\$4,000	\$11,000	\$45,000
Administration	\$7,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$8,000
FUNDS SPENT	\$259,000	\$237,000	\$288,000	\$301,000
Advances from Reserves	\$0	\$0	\$118,000	\$100,000
09/30/13 Ending Balance (Unrestricted Funds)		\$291,000		\$167,000
Restricted Funds Balances				
- Disaster Relief Fund		\$104,000		\$100,000
- Designated Funds		\$94,000		\$343,000

Includes additional funds spent to improve Trinidad Hall. The CBMC continues to draw down on Legacy Donations in order to meet Budgeted Expenses.



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