



Stewardship Department

DIRECTOR: Pastor Thomas Bryan

When the Conference started in 1961 there was no Stewardship Department in operation, but as the need for expansion and church building became larger the Conference adopted the Stewardship Programme from higher organization. Through the work of the Department the Conference experienced phenomenal financial growth. In 1962, the Conference made its budget to operate for the entire year on a mere forty-three thousand four hundred and seventy-eight pounds, and by the eighties its budget of income and expenditure is recording some 3 - 4 million dollars. Recognition must be paid to those leaders who have served in this department under God. They are Pastor S.A. Grant, Elder Gackenheimer, Pastors D. Kennedy, D. Kent, D. Tracey, H. S. Walters, F. Mighty and others.

During these years the Conference has been blessed by gifts that members and friends have willingly donated for the advancement of the work of the Lord. In the seventies through the effort of the late Pastor B.E. Hurst, the Conference received almost 300 acres of land from Mr. Verley on which the present site is located. This has indeed been a blessing for the church. Many other members left gifts in their wills for the church, while others gave donations while they were alive. Sis Allison-Baker of Clarendon in 1987, left the United States in her illness, came to Jamaica, gave her house in May Pen to the Conference, went back and went to her grave in peace.

The contribution of all the members has helped significantly to the building of schools, churches and the expansion of the Conference Office in the late 1970's. In the sixties more church buildings were completed in Central Jamaica Conference than any other Conference in Jamaica under the slogan of the 3C's adopted by the Conference - Commitment, Continuation, and Completion. Even with the economic crises and the rising cost of building materials in the 70's and 80's our faithful members continued to build and furnish churches to the glory of God.

The rapid expansion of the Conference has outstripped the availability of funds to complete many buildings; our resources have stretched to the limit. In 1962 there were 141 churches today there are approximately 260 with the need for many more. The

Conference has contributed steadily over the years to the local church building programme. In 1987 alone over \$100,000 were given to churches for their completion.

Despite all the challenges during the first twenty five years, we have completed and dedicated churches such as; May Pen, Brown's Town, Royal Flat, Christiana, Coleyville, Knockpatrick, New Port, Old Harbour Bay, Grove Town, Ocho Rios, Moneague, St. Ann's Bay, Islingrton, Rosend, Dean Pen, Clermont, Aucembeddie, Berry Hill to name a few.

Today the people of God can praise Him for the things He has done!