

CHURCH OF GOD, A WORLDWIDE ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 457, KINGSTON 10.

July 28, 2017

Greetings,

The 2017 Feast of Tabernacles will be at the Jewel Runaway Bay Beach & Golf Resort in Runaway Bay, Jamaica. Plans are progressing at an acceptable pace. Based on the information I have received, we should have in the region of 350 (plus or minus) in attendance.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE INFORMATION

By contractual arrangement with the hotel, Jamaica Tours will be responsible for ground transfers from the Montego Bay Airport to the hotel and return. In order to ensure as little delay as possible in this exercise, please send your flight arrival and departure information to Mr. Newton Wholas; email address: <u>new-ton@jamaicatoursltd.com</u>; telephone: **876-371-2095**.

Please take note: When you arrive at Montego Bay Airport, look for the **Jamaica Tours desk** or **Jewel Resorts** just outside the customs hall. A staff member will assist you to your bus that will take you to the Jewel Runaway Bay Beach & Golf Resort. The trip will take approximately one hour.

FESTIVAL SERVICES

All services will be held in the Sunstone meeting hall, on the upper floor of the building that houses the hotel's reservation desk. The room is air conditioned, so regular Sabbath attire as worn in North American congregations is appropriate.

The inaugural service will begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 4. There will be one service on the first holy day, Thursday, Oct. 5 (start time 2 p.m.) and one service on the regular Sabbath also at 2 p.m. On the Last Great Day, Thursday, Oct. 12, we will have two services at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

For those of you who are interested in participating in the Festival choir, please contact Miss Madge Thompson at <u>yvonnemt22@hotmail.com</u>.

DAY OF ATONEMENT SERVICE: Those of you who will be arriving at the Resort before the Day of Atonement, please send me an email so that I can determine the best arrangements for services that day.

ACTIVITIES We would appreciate if you would indicate the activities you and your family are likely to participate in. The list of planned activities is on the next page.

GREEN GROTTO CAVES AND ATTRACTIONS: This trip is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 6 at 1 p.m. Green Grotto Caves are linked to the island's history and is a major natural attraction for both local visitors and tourists who crave adventure. You will definitely want to experience this attraction, which is ideally located on Jamaica's scenic North Coast.

Previously known as the Runaway, Dairy, Rum, Hopewell and Dry Harbour Caves, Green Grotto Caves are said to have provided shelter for Jamaica's fist inhabitants, the Taino Indians. The Caves are located just off the main North Coast road some 3.2 km east of Discovery Bay or 4 km west of Runaway Bay and just over 3 km from the spot where Christopher Columbus landed in 1494. The caves are said to have been a haven for runaway slaves in the 18th century, and were sought after as a hideout by the Spanish during the takeover of the island by the English in 1655. Between the two World Wars, the caves were used by smugglers running arms to Cuba . In more recent times, sections of the caves were used as a rum storehouse.

A tour of the Green Grotto Caves will take you on an out-of-this-world journey into the heart of Jamaica's "inner world." In just under an hour, your guide will take you through a maze of sturdy, majestic stalactites and stalagmites and other exquisite dripstone formations. Continue through the interconnected passageways and chambers, some 37 meters down to the cave's innermost cavern, where you will come upon the grotto with water as translucent as nothing you have seen before.

Here are the entrance fees: US\$20 for adults aged 13 and older; US\$10 for children aged 4-12. Those of you who are interested, please inform Mr. Fisher as soon as possible. Depending on the number, a group rate may be arranged. There will be a cost for transportation both ways. As soon as we have that cost, you will be notified.

FAMILY FUN SHOW: A combined Family Fun Show (Talent Show) is being organized for the Feast. The popular Feast Talent Show is planned for Sunday, Oct. 8, from 8 - 10 p.m. The members of the Jamaica congregation will present this activity. We would love the participation of as many of you as possible in this show; please send details of the items you would like to present to the Festival coordinator, Mr. Herchial Fisher at <u>herchial.fisher@cwjamaica.com</u>. The Fun Show will end promptly at 10 p.m. A limited number of acts will be accepted.

FAMILY FUN DAY is planned for Tuesday, Oct. 10, from 2 - 5:30 p.m. The venue will be announced later. Games will be organized for the whole family. If you would like to assist with this activity, please contact Mr. Fisher.

AN AFTERNOON OF FUN AT DUNN'S RIVER FALLS AND OCHO RIOS SHOPPING is planned for Wednesday Oct. 11, from 1:30 - 5 p.m. This activity will include bus pick-up from the hotel to Dunn's River Falls and a refreshing climb up the magnificent World Famous Falls. The cost for this tour is US\$50 per adult and US\$40 per child aged 2-11. This rate includes round-trip transfers, guide and entrance to Dunn's River Falls. Those participating should bring beach shoes for the climb up the falls. You can pay for the tickets when you arrive at the hotel. Those interested should contact Mr. Wholas of Jamaica Tours at <u>newton@jamaicatoursltd.com</u>; telephone: **876-371-2095**.

I hope you have a spiritually profitable and enjoyable Feast of Tabernacles.

Warm regards,

Herchial "Paul" Fisher Pastor