

**Guyana Missionary Baptist Church
Annual Report 2022– 2023
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Guyana Missionary Baptist Church – Lott Carey
Georgetown, Guyana**

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Salutation

The Guyana Missionary Baptist Church –Lott Carey (GMBC) extends best wishes to the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention (Lott Carey) on its 126th Annual Session taking place in Greensboro, North Carolina under the theme, “Go! (Matthew 28:19-20).” We extend greetings to The Reverend Dr. Gina M. Stewart, President of Lott Carey; The Reverend Emmet Dunn, Executive Secretary-Treasurer; and all Lott Carey officers and participants. We pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to empower and direct the Lott Carey global family as we recommit ourselves to God’s missional mandate for the Church. It is my distinct privilege to provide Lott Carey with the GMBC Annual Report for 2022-2023.

Origins and Present Focus

The Reverend A. Carlyle Miller, B.A., M.D. and The Reverend Ermeline “Erma” Miller, M.S. founded GMBC in 1960 in the context of doctrinal disputes in the Guyana Congregational Church. GMBC is important to the Christian witness today because it continues to empower congregations and communities to remain true to the Christian gospel and relevant to the people we serve.

GMBC congregations minister to approximately one thousand persons weekly, additionally, our medical clinic serves about four hundred patients weekly. Through the years our approach has evolved, and our various professional relationships have helped us to expand our reach globally, for example, as our primary supporting partner Lott Carey continues to support us in our efforts to be “The Church at Work in Today’s World” in ways that are relevant and fitting for our context. GMBC partnership in the global Lott Carey family provides opportunities for reciprocal mission engagement and provides practical and concrete examples of what it means to be a part of the church Universal. GMBC’s core values are community, care, compassion, and generosity.

This report includes highlights of our activities together during this reporting period.

Community

- **Weekly Corporate worship** continues to be an important part of the GMBC community. During our reporting period our churches met weekly for Sunday gatherings. Attendance at our Sunday Services continue to grow, we are especially grateful to God for growth that is taking place in our congregations as they continue to recover from the negative impacts caused by the church closures due to the COVID 19 pandemic.
- **GMBC Annual Women’s Conference** (March 2023) GMBC Women in God’s Service (WINGS) hosted their 6th Annual Women’s Empowerment Conference. This Hybrid event took place under the Theme: “We Are One In Jesus Christ #Embrace Equity (Galatians 3:28).” Approximately 150 women attended this event. The Reverend Nicole Smith, co-pastor of the Harmony Wesleyan Church, West Coast Demerara, served as the Keynote Preacher, other conference speakers and presenters included Ms. Sherrian Munro, Vice-President of the Caribbean Baptist Women’s Union, Rev. Colleen Anthony, GMBC Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Vedawattie Ram, Director of Catalyst Consultancy; and Ms. Lateicia Stuart, National Consultant for Pan American Health Organization. We are incredibly grateful for their willingness to share with us. The GMBC community expresses our deepest appreciation to Deacon Donnette Daniels-Franco, President of the GMBC Women’s Council, and other members of the GMBC Women’s Council, who under the direction of the Holy Spirit worked arduously to ensure that each participant was inspired, educated, uplifted, and challenged to make a positive impact in their respective community.

2. **Care**

- **Bible Studies** – Bible studies are taking place weekly in person or via various social media platforms. In our rural our congregations bible studies take place on Sundays immediately before worship service.
- **Prayer Gatherings** –Prayer meetings continue to be a virtual event on what's app and zoom. Pastors and deacons also visit homes, and hospitals, to pray with families as needed.
- **Sunday School** - All our congregations have resumed in-person Sunday School gatherings. This continues to be a rebuilding process as we adjust to developing post pandemic in-person gatherings. We give God thanks for our resolute and diligent Christian educators. Who continue to inspire and encourage our children and youth to live for Christ.

3. **Compassion**

- **The A. Carlyle Miller Health Center and Cottage Hospital** – this facility continues to provide invaluable service to the people of Long Creek and its environs. This clinic offers stellar service in maternal and child health and provides general primary care services for patients. We give God thanks for the medical team and are grateful for their hard work and committed service. However, we are concerned that the ministry of health has chosen to appoint a part-time attending-physician to this site. Currently the physician only visits the site once a week. Currently nurses and home health visitors are executing the day-to-day patient care.
- **GMBC Learning Clubs** continue to provide academic support for primary and high school children that were preparing for our national and regional exams. These clubs have resumed meeting in person. In addition to academic support these clubs also provide nutritious snacks for participants. We are learning from parents/guardians that our students are thriving at school because of the help they are receiving at our learning clubs.
- **Breast Cancer Awareness** - GMBC WINGS hosted its fourth annual breast cancer awareness forum. We kicked off this event with a five mile walk and a prayer breakfast in the national park. Our keynote speaker was Dr. Denicia Williams, M.D., Government Medical Officer, Guyana Ministry of Health Guyana. Her presentation was highly informative. She also used the opportunity to encourage participants to make it their priority to get a breast cancer screening.
- **Food Distribution Centres** – GMBC congregations continue to serve as distribution centres for Guyana's Food for the Poor. We provide food hampers, clothing, school supplies, and household items for families in the communities where GMBC churches are located. Abrams Creek Baptist church is extremely grateful to the Bethlehem Baptist Church in McKeesport, Pennsylvania for supporting its food and nutrition program at Abrams Creek. Because of their financial support over fifty people receive hampers with essential food supplies.

4. **Generosity**

- **Stewardship-** GMBC values every resource soul that God has placed in our care, therefore, under the leading of the Holy Spirit, we continue to invest time and resources to ensure the holistic development of all things in our care.
 - **Long Creek Project** – Our founding leaders made GMBC the beneficiary of 551 acres of land at Long Creek. On this land we have established Camp Sommerville, Long Baptist Creek Church and the A. Carlyle Miller Health Center. However, the majority portion of land remains undeveloped. The government of Guyana has notified us that unused land will be confiscated if we are unable to show that we can develop and appropriately utilize this portion of land since this region is airmarked for for major development and. GMBC leaders met to explore how we can avoid losing this land and we agreed that our first order of business is utilize two hundred acres to establish a coconut farm. GMBC churches pooled their resources together and we were able to clear the first fifty acres to begin this process. We solicit the help of our global Lott Carey family to complete this project.

- **Partnership** -GMBC is grateful for its various partnerships. These partnerships are mutually beneficial to all participants since they unify and strengthen our Christian witness.
 - **Lott Carey** - We are grateful to the Global Lott Carey family for your partnership through the years. Our partnership promotes a unified Christian witness and provides unique opportunities for Lott Carey global family to learn from, encourage, support, and inspire each other for kingdom building. We are grateful that a wide cross section of GMBC members were able to participate in the Lott Carey's 123rd annual session because these sessions were available through various social media platforms.
 - **Ministry of Public Health** – we are grateful for the ongoing partnership with the Guyana Ministry of Public Health at the A. Carlyle Miller Clinic. Because of this partnership thousands of people receive quality health care benefits.
 - **Imago Dei Leadership Development Center Inc** (Imago Dei). We express thanks to churches and people in the Imago Dei networks for supporting GMBC special projects. This partnership has helped to sustain Camp Somerville, and our Christian education program.
 - **Fellowship**
 - **Caribbean Baptist Fellowship** - GMBC leaders are actively serving this body in the following capacities:
 - Rev Brenda Harewood Serves on the executive committee and as the second vice-president of this Body.
 - Sis Donnette Franco is executive member of the Caribbean Women Baptist Union (CBWU) and serves as Editor for the CBWU newsletter.
 - Minister Shaunessy Profitt serves as President of the CBF Youth Department.
 - Dr Denicia Williams serves as Vice-President of the Youth Department .
 - Sis Fhenise Garraway serves as Member at Large of the Youth Executive Committee.
5. **Opportunities for Special Projects and Prayer Partnerships**
- **Special Projects**
 - Infrastructure Development of Long Creek Project
 - Building maintenance for all GMBC churches
 - Truck for Long Creek
 - A Bob cat for long Creek Project
 - Sports center at Camp Somerville
 - Expanding Camp Somerville
 - Building nursing home for the elderly
 - Tertiary Scholarships opportunities
 - Computers for our learning clubs
 - Tablets/Laptops for to facilitate online learning.
 - **Prayer Partnership**
 - Financial Independence.
 - Equipping and empowering our Christian leaders
 - Rising of a new generation of Church planters
 - Empowering the Christians leaders to embrace advocacy work across the nation and in the global community.
 - Race relations in Guyana
 - Integrity of our Government
 - Train and empower more leaders.
 - Guyana's ecumenical community

6. **Conclusion**

We continue to be grateful that our Lott Carey global family for its unwavering support, encouragement, and prayers. We pray that God will continue you to bless you abundantly and empower your efforts to touch lives with the transforming love of Christ.