



East Jamaica Conference  
of Seventh-day Adventists  
Women, Children & Adolescents'  
Ministries Departments  
presents its

# GEMS

GIRLS OF ELOQUENCE MORALS AND STANDARDS



THEME:  
*Breaking Limits*

**Igniting Purpose  
& Passion  
with Poise**

*Patron &  
Guest Speaker*

Her Excellency  
The Most Honourable  
**LADY PATRICIA  
ALLEN**

SABBATH

APRIL

**11**

2026



**JAMAICA  
COLLEGE  
AUDITORIUM**

189 Old Hope  
Road, Kingston 6

@ 9:00 AM

President  
Executive Secretary  
Treasurer

Women, Children &  
Adolescents' Ministries Director

Pastor Meric Dale Walker  
Pastor Melvin Francis  
Elder Michael Porteous

Elder Claudette Genas

## **GEMS.....The Journey**

The Girls of Eloquence, Morals & Standards (GEMS) Ministry is designed to create channels that encourage young females (mentees), aged 11 and over, to reach their full potential, express their values and beliefs, and minister to others. More importantly, it aims to strengthen their spiritual support base so they will be empowered to witness—especially through their lifestyle—to at least one non-SDA individual daily.

In essence, **GEMS:**

1. Is a ministry geared toward reaching and addressing the needs of young females .
2. Derives its principles from the Word of God, where girls can gain Kingdom knowledge, and are nurtured and empowered to apply biblical truths in governing their lives.
3. Is intended to assist young girls in recognizing and utilizing their innate abilities, while celebrating and affirming their journey from childhood to womanhood and sisterhood.
4. Is designed to help mentees gain knowledge, grow spiritually, and strengthen their faith in Christ and their loyalty to the church.
5. Aims to improve their self-esteem by helping them gain self-respect through the acquisition of new skills.
6. Helps them discover their strengths and skills and build upon them.
7. Seeks to develop self-confidence and interpersonal skills.

Initiated by Elder Claudette Genas in 2011, with a small group of girls at the Shortwood SDA church, it moved on to the New Haven SDA, then other churches. The GEMS Ministries was officially launched on April 14, 2012, at the North Street SDA Church by Dr. Lorraine Vernal, Director for the JAMU Women, Children, and Adolescents Ministries. The GEMS will celebrate 15 years of ministry in April 2026.



**SABBATH SCHOOL**

**THEME: "FROM THE DUST TO THE DISPLAY CASE"**

**HOST: ANDREWS MEMORIAL**

**9:00 am**

Opening Remarks ..... *Andrews Memorial SDA*

Song Service..... *Woodford SDA*

Opening Prayer..... *Andrews Memorial SDA*

Welcome ..... *Washington Gardens*

**9:15 am**

*"The Diamond in the Rough"* ..... *Dramatization*

**9:30 am**

**LESSON REVIEW**

Content Gap SDA

Sandy Park SDA

Penwood SDA

Half Way Tree SDA

Washington Gardens SDA

**10:00 am**

Closing Remarks..... *Andrews Memorial SDA*

Special Music..... *Woodford SDA*



## DIVINE SERVICE

*10:30am*

***THEME: “Breaking Limits: Igniting Purpose”***

*Musical Rendition*

Call to Worship .....Allaire Newman, *Greenwich Town SDA*

Opening Remarks & Welcome .....*Hosts/Macedonia SDA*

GEMS Ideals .....*Led by the GEMS Executive Body*

GEMS President’s Report .....*Gabrielle Davis*

Greetings & Remarks :

Elder Avis Graham, *GEMS Coordinator*

Adriel Dillion ... *BEAMs Executive Member*

Elder Claudette Genas, *Women, Children &  
Adolescents, Ministries Director, EJC*

Dr. Loraine Vernal, *Women, Children &  
Adolescents, Ministries Director, JAMU*

Pastor Meric Walker, *President, EJC*

Testimony .....*Shireka Campbell, Hagley Gap SDA*

Special Song .....*Morant Bay District of SDA*

Intercessory Prayer ..... *Sasha –Gaye Compass Banner,  
EJC Zone 1, Women’s Ministries Coordinator*

Children’s Time ...*Abigail Francis, Stadium Community, SDA*

Offertory ..... *Meisha-Gay Milwood, Hagley Gap*

Praise and Worship..... *Praise Team*

Hymn of Praise .....# 330.....*Imani Palmer, Ephesus SDA*

Scripture Reading ..... *Liah Davis, Kings Chapel SDA*



## DIVINE SERVICE

*Continued.....*

### ***THEME: “Breaking Limits: Igniting Purpose”***

Introduction of Speaker .....Elder Audrey Anderson , *EJC Women’s Ministries Coordinator*

Meditation song ..... *Zone 4 GEMS Choir*

Sermon ..... *Her Excellency, The Most Honourable Lady Patricia Allen*

Consecratory Prayer ..... *Pastor Meric Walker, President, EJC*

Presentation .....*Sasha-Gay Compass-Banner, Coordinator, Zone 1*

Closing Hymn .....*Praise Team, North Street SDA*

Benediction ..... *Gabrielle McCarthy, Heroes Circle SDA*

Recessional .....*Praise Team, North Street , SDA*



**3:30pm**  
**CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE**

Presentations.....Elder Claudette Genas, *EJC Women, Children & Adolescents Ministries Director*

.....Sis. Avis Graham, *EJC GEMS Coordinator*

Logo recipients .....Elder Audrey Anderson

Outstanding GEMS.....Elder Claudette Genas

**4:00pm**  
**AY PROGRAMME**

**Theme:** “Shining for Jesus: A Legacy of Praise”

**Preliminaries:**

- ◆AY Laws
- ◆Song Service
- ◆Opening Prayer

**Scripture Focus:**

**Isaiah 60:** 1 “*Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.*”

Welcome & Purpose Statements..... *Hosts*

**Symbolic Presentation**.....“POLISHED UNDER PRESSURE” Part 1


Testimonies

Special Music

Zonal Declaration and Commitment

Closing Thoughts / Prayer





**Mantra**  
**GEMS! Yes we can; yes we must.**  
**Yes we will.**  
**We will rise higher!**  
**Girls together; GEMS forever!**  
**Going to the kingdom together!**

### **GEMS PLEDGE**

By the grace and power of God, I pledge to be a girl of eloquence,  
morals and standards, and I will:  
Honour God in whatever I choose to behold.  
Honour God in whatever I choose to listen.  
Honour God in the choice of places to which I go.  
Honour God in my choice of associates.  
Honour God in my speech.

### **MENTOR'S PLEDGE**

*By the grace of God we will remain faithful to our assignment to assist in nurturing you, our mentees, so that you will be assets to society and GEMS for God's kingdom .*

### **SONG**

Make a difference in me  
Make a world of difference  
From the inside out, let it show  
Make a difference in me  
Make a world of difference  
Change me so the world will know  
Change me Jesus, let your love shine through.  
Change me Jesus, make me more like you!  
Make a difference in me  
Make a world of difference  
Change me so the world will know (Repeat)

## CREED

*We won't let our parents down, They brought us up.  
We will be humble enough to obey, for we may give orders someday  
We will choose companions with care,  
For we will become what they are.  
We will guard our thoughts, for what we think, we will become.  
We will choose our friends wisely who will make us good mates.  
We will be masters of our habits,  
For our habits will become masters of our character.  
We won't be show-offs when we drive,  
For it is in safety that we will arrive.  
We won't let the crowd pressure us.  
We will stand up for the right even if the heavens fall.*

### ***Finally Parents and Mentors-***

*Whatsoever things are honest!  
Whatsoever things are just!  
Whatsoever things are pure!  
Whatsoever things are lovely!  
Whatsoever things are of good report!  
Those things which we will learn, receive and see in you -  
We will think on and model those things.  
For we know that higher than the highest human thought can reach is  
God's ideal for us.  
Godliness, godlikeness will be our goals*



***Some key words:***

***Self-esteem***

*The way you feel about yourself*

***Self-concept***

*What you see when you look at yourself*

***Emotions***

*Your feelings*

***Goals***

*Those things that you want to achieve in Life*

***Character***

*Who you are in the dark*



## ***The GEMS Journey Continues....***

The East Jamaica Conference (EJC) Girls of Eloquence, Morals and Standards (GEMS) Ministry had its genesis in 2011, initiated by the Women's Ministry Director, Elder Claudette Genas. It was then launched in April 2012 by the JAMU Women & Children's Ministry Director Dr. Lorraine Vernal. GEMS, the youth arm of Women's Ministry, has grown immensely since its inception, claiming many churches that now have formalized GEMS mentorship and GEMS Ministry in EJC.

On April 18, 2026, the GEMS will celebrate fifteen years of GEMS Ministry in EJC. Hats off to our beloved Aunty Karen Watson, first EJC GEMS Coordinator (we hope to meet her in the earth made new) and our first EJC GEMS President, Deniel Larmond 2011 to 2014. Hats off to Dr. Yvette Castell who accepted the mantle in November 2014 and blazed the trail with Sis. Taneisha Goodlitt accomplishing several significant milestones with the EJC GEMS and their coordinators as they became involved in the spiritual, physical, mental, and social dimensions of Ministry. Elder Avis Graham accepted the baton in 2025 and has continued the trajectory to lead the team of mentors and mentees on its ministry passage to achieve the objective of eloquence, morals and standards, juxtaposed with **poise, posture and purpose.**

### **GEMS Mantra;**

*Girls together, GEMS forever; Going to the kingdom together*



## THE TACT OF SILENCE

Tactful silence is a medicine.

When silent, you formulate your best thoughts.

Some persons proverbially are great talkers;  
They would rather talk and say the wrong thing  
Than be silent for two consecutive minutes.  
The ability to keep silent is of immense value.

You can sometimes overcome a serious difficulty  
By the exercise of tactful silence.

The tact of silence will save you from common mistakes  
And will elevate you in the eyes of those who admire self-restraint.  
It is a rare faculty to be a good listener, and it is well worth cultivating.

The Bible reminds us when to be silent:

Be silent when you don't have the facts — Prov. 18:13

Be silent when you have not verified the story — Deut. 17:6

Be silent if your words will offend a weaker person — 1 Cor. 8:11

Be silent when it is time to listen — Prov. 13:1

Be silent when you are tempted to make light of holy things — Eccs. 5:2

Be silent when you are tempted to joke about sin — Prov. 14:9

Be silent if you would be ashamed of your words later — Prov. 8:8

Be silent if your words will convey the wrong impression — Prov. 17:27

Be silent if the issue is none of your business — Prov. 14:10

Be silent when you are tempted to tell an outright lie — Prov. 4:24

Be silent if your words will damage someone else's reputation — Prov. 16:27

Be silent if your words will damage a friendship — Prov. 16:28

Be silent when you are feeling critical — James 3:9



