



The Information

MONTHLY PUBLICATION

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"And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bare him with sorrow. And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, Oh that thou wouldst bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldst keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested." 1 Chronicles 4 : 9 -10."

VISION STATEMENT

A Church - Transformed,
United, Victorious in Christ

MISSION STATEMENT

By the grace of God, we seek to be faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ; without distinction, we use all that we possess to call all peoples to the truth of the Gospel through worship, evangelism, discipleship and service

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Message from the Chairman of PEC The Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis on the occasion to honour Brothers Dufferin Culpepper and Rudolph Holder

The Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province is pleased to be associated with this wonderful gesture put on by the Barbados Conference to honour Brothers Dufferin Culpepper and Rudolph Holder on March 01, 2009. The Province has been richer for having both Brothers serving and mentoring over the years. They have served well as men of faith. Their life, witness and testimony have blessed many lives and pointed many to Jesus Christ.

The record indicates some similarities about both Brother Culpepper and Brother Holder:

1. They were both ordained as Deacons at Calvary in Barbados.
2. They were both Consecrated Presbyters at Montgomery in Tobago.
3. They were both Ordained and Consecrated by Bishop Peter M. Gubi.
4. They both served the Moravian Church as Ordained Pastors for over forty (40) years.
5. They both served in Five (5) of our six (6) Conferences.
6. They both retired from active Ministry within the Barbados Conference.

Brother Culpepper was Ordained as a Deacon on July 17, 1957 at Calvary in Barbados, while he was Consecrated a Presbyter in August, 1963 at Montgomery in Tobago. A service was held in Barbados on September 17, 1997 to mark the fortieth (40) anniversary of the Ordination of Brother Culpepper. Over the years Brother Culpepper served with distinction in the following Conferences: Antigua, Virgin Islands, Tobago, St. Kitts and Barbados.

Brother Holder was Ordained as a Deacon on August 13, 1959 at Calvary in Barbados, while he was Consecrated a Presbyter on February 27, 1967 at Montgomery in Tobago. A service was held in Barbados on August 13, 1999 to mark the fortieth (40) anniversary of the Ordination of Brother Holder. Over the years Brother Holder served with distinction in the following Conferences: Antigua, Tobago, St. Kitts, Trinidad and Barbados.

Members throughout the Province and in particular the Conferences in which they worked have fond memories of the period they both journeyed in those Conferences.

God has blessed us with two (2) stalwarts of the faith who gave their all to the service of humankind. I thank God for sending them amongst us. I believe that both of them as they served would have prayed constantly this prayer.

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PEC NEWS

Vocation Month

The Month of March is been designated as Vocation Month. The idea is for us to place special emphasis on the call to Ministry in all its forms. We need to challenge our members, especially the youth, to give themselves to the full time Ministry of the Church. Staff Members are therefore asked to make a special effort and emphasize the need for men and women who receive the call, to respond to God.

The emphasis for each Sunday is here presented. The integrity of the emphasis for each Sunday should be maintained however, the text is a suggested one. You are at liberty to use additional scripture passages, as you place emphasis on the topic for the particular Sunday.

Sunday March 01 — Discipleship: The Christian's Primary Vocation

All Christians have a vocation or calling on their lives. It is the vocation of Discipleship. At the start of Jesus' ministry he issued this call '*come, follow me*.' It was a call to discipleship. At the end of his earthly ministry, Jesus commissioned his disciples to now '*go and make disciples*.' Hence the principal vocation of every Christian in the Church is to be a disciple and to make disciples (Suggested Text: *Mark 1:16 – 20*).

Sunday March 08 - My Vocation

Each saint in the Body of Christ is endowed with the gift of the Holy Spirit and spiritual gifts to fulfill his/her vocation. Persons should be challenged to consider what are their spiritual gifts and how they can use these, their personality, talents and natural abilities to find where they belong in

the Body of Christ. The key thought is that my vocation is not for me but for the Body of Christ and the extension of God's Kingdom (Suggested Text: *1 Corinthians 12*).

Sunday March 15 - The Call of Samuel – 1 Samuel 3: 1 – 10

Understanding God's call and the specifics of that vocation can often be challenging. Perceiving the voice of God and discerning the call of God in the midst of all that's taking place around you is not always easy. The call of Samuel teaches us how important it is to have around us the '*elders*' of the faith whose wisdom and spiritual insight can help to crystallize God's call.

Sunday March 22—Theological Education Sunday

This is an opportunity to explore the Church's Vocation and Ministries (Pastor, Ministry of Christian Education, Ministry of Counseling, Ministry of Music, Lay Pastor, Acolyte, etc). Prayers are to be said for those currently engaged in Theological Education: **Bro. Nevin Lewis, Sis. Cherice Job-Lewis, Sis. Liselle Roberts, Sis. Onita Samuel, Sis. Camille James and Bro. Martin Taylor.** A special Theological Education offering is also received (Suggested Text: *1 Timothy 4: 6 – 16*).

Sunday March 29 - This is My Story

A testimony can encourage and illuminate the path for one who is struggling with God. Each minister is encouraged to share on how he/she first heard God's call and the struggle to understand and eventually carry out that calling/vocation. Others in the congregation can also be encouraged to likewise share their testimonies as they too would have answered God's call for Lay ministry (Suggested Text: *Acts 22:3 – 16*).

Meeting of the Provincial Evangelism & Mission Committee

The Provincial Evangelism and Mission Committee met in Antigua on February 13 -14, 2009.

Provincial Synod

The 29th Provincial Synod will convene at the Bird Rock Hotel in St. Kitts on July 10, 2009 and will conclude on July 18, 2009.

The Synod Retreat will take place on Friday July 10, 2009, from 7:00 p.m – 9: 30 p.m.

The Election of the Officers of Synod and the appointment of Committees will take place on Saturday July 11, 2009. In addition, a Government reception will be held for Synodals on the evening of July 11, 2009.

Hospitality Sunday will be held on July 12, where Synodals will worship in different Churches and be hosted for lunch by an assigned family.

The opening service for Synod will be held on July 12 at the Zion Moravian Church at 6:00 p.m.

All Staff members are required to wear either PREACHING or ACADEMIC GOWN for the opening service of Synod. Lay Delegates and Observers are required to wear Black.

The Synod Communion service will take place at the Estridge Moravian Church. The NEW PRESBYTERS are asked to bring along their Surplice, as they will serve the elements during the communion.

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Unity News

Is God calling you to use your musical gifts and talents through

Antioch Mission Service?

The Antioch Project of the Board of World Mission is seeking **TWO** Antioch Mission Servants to teach at the School of Music and Worship (EMA) in Limón, Costa Rica.

- * Antioch Mission Servants should exhibit the following characteristics:
- * A recognition of God's presence in their lives and in the lives of others.
- * A leadership style that operates from a spirit of humility.
- * A passion for service coupled with a desire to assume a simple lifestyle.
- * A willingness to discover and share gifts and talents.
- * The ability to be flexible and adapt to new environments.
- * The desire to learn and a willingness to be stretched beyond their comfort zones.
- * Good interpersonal and community building skills.

Applicants for the position at the **School of Music and Worship** should be able to teach basic **music theory, guitar and / or keyboard**. Experience in other instruments and vocal skills are also helpful.

Classes at the School of Music and Worship will begin **August 3, 2009** and end **May 31, 2010**. The complete year of Antioch service is from **August 1, 2009 to July 31, 2010**

Antioch Mission Servants receive compensation for travel, room and board as well as a small monthly stipend. The total yearly budget will be approximately \$15,000 - 17,000. Half of the support for the year (or \$7,500 - \$8,500) is to be raised by the Antioch Mission Servant (with guidance from the Board of World Mission) and the other half is provided by the Board of World Mission.

Applicants would use the summer months (June, July 2009) for fundraising and orientation / preparation. However, it is possible for the applicant to have a summer job somewhere else while this process is taking place.

Applications, resumes and references from pastors should be submitted by March 1, 2009

Please contact Lisa Mixon (lisa@mcnp.org 610-868-1732) or Sam Gray (sgray@mcspp.org 336-773-1732) for a full job description and additional information.

Unity Synod

Unity Synod will be held at High Leigh Christian Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, Herts from 27 July (arrivals day) until 7 August.

It is now clear that there will be no accommodation available for observers on site, but if anyone would like to attend as a day delegate, you are asked to let Lindsey Newens at Church House know exactly which dates you would like to attend. The day delegate rate is £26 per day and includes coffee, lunch, tea and evening meal.

All visitors are to be pre-booked both for catering and security reasons and will be required to sign in and out. It is not possible to know in advance when Synod will meet

in plenary session and when in committee. The middle weekend will have no sessions and Synodals will not be on site for much of the time.

Unity Sunday

Sunday March 01, 2009 is Unity Sunday. It was on this day 1457 that the Moravian Church was born. We ask for your continued prayers for the work and witness of this Church that will never die.

A special offering will be taken in all Moravian Churches worldwide to go towards youth work within the Unity.

World Day of Prayer

On Friday 6th March 2009 World Day of Prayer Movement celebrates its annual Day of Prayer. The Theme: ***'In Christ there are many members yet one body.'*** The service comes from Papua New Guinea a country often described as a South Pacific Dream. It has an extremely diverse culture, with more than 600 islands, 800 distinct and totally unrelated languages, and 1000 dialects which makes this year's theme - ***'In Christ there are many members yet one body'*** appropriate.

In 180 countries people will be celebrating this Day of Prayer. I hope you will be able to attend a service this year in your area.

Message from the Chairman continued from Page 1

Teach us, good Lord,

to serve thee as thou deservest;

To give, and not to count the cost;

To fight, and not to heed the wounds;

To toil, and not to seek for rest;

*To labour, and not to ask for any reward,
save that of knowing that we do thy will.
Amen.*

On behalf of my family and I, and on behalf of the PEC, I offer heartiest congratulations to Brothers Culpepper and Holder for a job well done. I pray God's continued blessings upon them and their families. The Province records with gratitude your tireless work amongst our people. Your work has not gone unnoticed.

A special word of thanks and commendation goes out to the Barbados Conference, for having the vision and foresight to have organized this service of appreciation to honour our two (2) Brothers. God Bless you.



The Rev. Glenvil Gregory recently completed his training as Chaplain in the U.S. Army and was deployed on February 22, 2009, to Kuwait, after which he will proceed to his final destination for duties.

The PEC request the prayers of the Province as he embarks on this mission. The PEC acknowledges the contribution of Bro. Gregory to the US Army as he performs his role as Chaplain.

The journey is long and as Bro. Gregory stands as a support to the men and women in uniform it is critical for us to prop him up with our prayerful support. God bless you Bro. Gregory.

Theological Education Sunday

Sunday March 22, 2009 is Theological Education Sunday. On this day annually we pray for and remember all of our ministers in training and at the same time challenge others to answer God's call to Ministry.

At present, there are six (6) Ministers in training: They are:

Cherice Job-Lewis,

Liselle Roberts,

Nevin Lewis,

Camille James,

Onita Samuel and

Martin Taylor.

Let us remember them specially in our prayers. A special offering will be taken on March 22, 2009 to go towards the continuing education of our Ministers in Training.

Provincial Synod Continued from Page 2

The Frigate Bay Beach Hotel which is relatively close by will be used as a spill over location for the Synod, at no extra charge. The goal is to put the observers at the Frigate Bay. Day passes are also being put in place to cater to persons who are observers, accommodated at a private residence and want to spend time at synod. The daily cost will be EC\$ 150.00 per person.

The Synod Registration fee being paid by Delegates and Observers is an all inclusive fee, to include, accommodation, meals, transportation and the like.

Delegates fee is US\$500.00

Observers fee is US\$600.00

UNITY PRAYER WATCH

The EWI Province will participate in the Unity Prayer Watch from 12:01 a.m. April 01, 2009 – Midnight April 14, 2009. The Schedule is as follows:

- Antigua -12:01a.m. April 01 – Midnight April 04
- Barbados - 12:01a.m. April 05 – Midnight April 07
- St. Kitts -12:01a.m. April 08 – Midnight April 08
- Tobago -12:01a.m. April 09 – Middy April 10
- Trinidad -12:01a.m. April 10 – Middy April 11
- Virgin Island—12:01p.m. April 11 – Midnight April 14

Conferences are asked to observe the time allotted for our members to engage in the unbroken prayer chain. This prayer meeting developed on August 13, 1727 when the Moravian Church had its Pentecostal experience. The Church was so much on fire that the Prayer meeting lasted for 100 unbroken years. Let us therefore encourage our members to be in prayer, as we continue to seek God's guidance and direction for our Church and indeed our lives.

Celebrating the Birth of the Moravian Church

March 01, 1457 marked the beginning of the Moravian Church in Kunvald, Bohemia in Czechoslovakia. It had its humble beginnings, but since then the Church has mushroomed and spread throughout the world, empowering, ele-

Birthdays/Anniversaries

vating, enriching and enlivening the lives of people everywhere. The Moravian Church has long being in the **area of Missions** and continues to touch the life of men and women in a Holistic way. This is a church called out by God and will never die.

On March 01, 2009 we mark 552 years since our Church was established. This church has gone through many challenges, especially severe persecution at the hands of the Roman Catholic Church. Today we thank God for the men and women who had the fortitude and stood firm on Jesus Christ, in the midst of death and burning at the stake. Today, we stand on their shoulders and proclaim: **“Our Lamb has conquered, let us follow Him.”** Let me invite you to journey with me as we examine the structure of the Moravia Church.

The Moravian Church has always operated on the principle of simplicity. Apart from the normal furniture and decoration for particular events, things like ornaments, figurines, statues and the like are not a part of Moravian customs and practices. The structure of the Church from top to bottom is interwoven at every point. In order to fully understand the workings of the Moravian Church, one needs to understand its structure. What then is the structure?

The Unity Synod is the constitutional body representing the whole Moravian Church, where representatives are drawn from every Province and Statutory Institution of the Church. The Unity Synod meets every seven years. During the period between Synods, the Unity Board runs the affairs of the World Wide Moravian Church. The

Unity Board is made up of one member from each Province of the Moravian Church and such other members as the Board deems fit to invite. The Unity Board is entitled to meet three times between each Synod or in the Intersynodal period, however, if business demands, the Board may call other meetings, especially in cases of emergency. The next level is that of Provinces. There are 16 Independent Provinces, 3 Affiliate Provinces and 6 Mission Provinces. The Provinces are based on geographical location and size. Within each Province there are Conferences or Districts which helps to decentralize the operations and make administering the Province more effective. Within each Conference or District, there are Congregations.

What are the functions of the Unity Synod? The Unity Synod represents the Moravian Church in all matters which concerns the Unity as a whole.

- ◇ It decides on official statements of the general principles of the Moravian Church in regard to constitution, doctrine, congregation life and the ministry and then the spread of the Gospel.
- ◇ It determines matters touching the constitution of the Unity as a whole and to assign to each Province its constitutional rights within the Unity.
- ◇ It upholds and further the fellowship of the several Provinces as parts of the Unitas Fratrum or the Moravian Church.
- ◇ It determines the boundaries of the several Provinces of the Unity and their respective spheres of work.
- ◇ It determines spheres of work of the Unity and lay down the guiding principles for such work.

- ◇ It determines the principles governing the relations of the Unity as a whole and its Provinces to the other parts of the universal Christian Church, and to further the cause of Christian Unity.
- ◇ It fosters a common responsibility in regard to the problems of contemporary life and to further a spirit of mutual understanding and peace among the nations and the races.



Birthday Greetings for the month of March is extended to:

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Bro. Derick Forrester | 4 |
| Sis. Alicia Ross | 7 |
| Sis. Elva Kitson | 7 |
| Bro. Jeremy Francis | 9 |
| Sis. Eulencine Christopher | 18 |
| Bro. Kingsley Lewis | 20 |
| Sis. Denise Smith-Lewis | 20 |
| Sis. Vera Waithe | 29 |



Anniversary Greetings for the month of March is extended to:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Bro. Ralph & Sis Rosalind Prince | 2 |
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