



"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."

The Information

MONTHLY PUBLICATION

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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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The Moravian Presence in Cuba

God has never left himself without witnesses. When one speaks of Cuba, it is hardly in terms of the Church. More often than not it is about Communism and Castro and the 50 year embargo imposed by the United States of America on that country. Persons wherever they live and exist always yearn for a Supreme Being. God truly moves in a mysterious way for there were persons in Cuba who read about the Moravian Church and who fell in love with how it started and developed. In particular, it's Mission emphasis and the August 13th 1727 Holy Ghost Revival movement that started the 100 year unbroken prayer meeting. They prayed for the day when they would be able to commune with other Moravians and see it being established in Cuba.

Some years ago when the CCC had a Conference in Cuba contact was made with Moravians in the group and from that initial contact things have blossomed to what we now have as the Moravian Church in Cuba. This was not by accident; it was the Lord's doing. The Moravian Church in Jamaica being the closest in proximity to Cuba was asked to assume the responsibility to work with and develop the work there.

The Moravian Church is presently in various places in Havana and in the Province of Holquin. They do not have any buildings so they are primarily Home Churches and are growing very fast. There are (5) five groups in Havana with a membership of (116) one hundred and sixteen persons. The five groups are located in the following areas:

- Belen in Playa
- The light of the World in Mariano
- Christ the Saviour of the World in Old Havana
- El Amigo in East Havana and
- Betania in Cerro

In the Province of Holquin a number of persons from the Lutheran Church joined the Moravians and they have established themselves in (3) three locations. The total membership in Holquin Province is (125) one hundred and twenty five. The Fellowships established are:

- Christ the King and Emmanuel in Holquin
- Prince of Peace in the rural community of Tomi
- Maranatha in Floro Perez

In Havana as in Holquin, the work has advanced through the instrumentality of the Holy Spirit and the dedication of the brothers and sisters who have a longing and desire for God. With the exception of the fellowship in Tomi, all of the other fellowships meet in Homes.

As the Moravian Church in Cuba thrives and survives it should be it should be a good model to follow with the development of the cell group of house church.

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PEC NEWS

Meditation for PEC devotion by**The Rev. Nasel Ephraim****ARE YOU A FRIEND OF GOD?****Text: John 15:12–15**

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

- **“What a Friend we Have In Jesus”**

- ◇ Loves you unconditionally
- ◇ Tells you the truth
- ◇ There when you need help
- ◇ Encourages you to be a better person
- ◇ Always keep his promises

After These Qualities

Is there one person you call a friend?

Do you really want more than one friend?

Can you truly say you have friends or just acquaintances?

- Jesus is your Best Friend, and He is also the God that created the Universe
- John 1: 1, 14 ¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only,^[a] who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- When we sing “What a Friend We Have in Jesus,” we are ac-

tually singing, “What a Friend We Have in God”

- Did you ever stop to think that God might want you to be His Friend?
- Abraham called the “friend of God” in 2 Chronicles.
- What does it take to be the friend of God?
- Jesus lists three things He is looking for in a friend, and all three were characteristics of Abraham.

- A. **God is looking for a friend that is devoted (v. 13)**

- God wants friends that are willing to give everything for Him and put Him first in their lives
- Mark 12: 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.
- Romans 12: 1 “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual^[a] act of worship.”
- Abraham proved he was God’s friend when he was willing to sacrifice the thing that meant the most to him, his son Isaac.
- Church attendance, tithing, giving.

- Peter do you love me more than these?**

- B. **God is looking for a friend that is faithful (v. 14)**

- If I go to my friends and ask them to do something for me, I know that they will do it
- God wants friends that are willing to do something for

Him when He asks

- 1 John 3: 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.
- Abraham proved he was God’s friend when he left his family and travelled 1000 miles on foot just because God told him to
- Witnessing, ministry, standing up

- Peter Do you love me as a brother? More than these other disciples.**

- C. **God is looking for a friend that is intimate (v. 15)**

- My friends know things about me that you don’t know
- Remember when God was going to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah?
- Genesis 18: 17 Then the LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?”
- God didn’t tell everyone
- Abraham talked to God about the situation and pleaded for the safety of the people
- Prayer, Bible study

- Peter do you Love Me as a friend?**

- When it comes to God, we are either strangers, servants, or friends
- Strangers– Matthew 7: 23 “Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’
- Servants—Luke 17: 7-10
- Friends –John 15: 13–15

PEC NEWS

- Are you a Friend of God?
- Hymn 180 Vs 1

"I've found a Friend, O such a friend!
He loved me ere I knew Him;
He drew me with the cords of love, and
thus He bound me to Him;
And round my heart still closely twine
those ties which naught can sever,
For I am His, and He is mine, forever
and forever.

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The Moravian Presence in Cuba

There are presently (3) three Cuban ordained Pastors and one student for ministry at UTCWI in Jamaica.

The Mount Tabor Moravian Congregation in Barbados has taken up the mission challenge of sponsoring one of the Pastors in Cuba. This is a commendable effort by this congregation and we give God Thanks for the willingness to allow themselves to be used by God in this way.

Let us challenge ourselves and pray for the expansion and growth of the Moravian Church.

Bethesda - "House of mercy or House of grace":

28 April 1819

Celebrating 190 years under the theme, "Rededicating our lives for God's service."

In 1796, John Renatus Verbeck from the Unity Elders Conference arrived in St Kitts and on a visit to Cayon decided to establish a station there. At that time, there were already 500 converts of the Moravian Church living there. However, it was not until 1819 that a foundation for a mission house was laid. As

membership increased, it became necessary to have a place of worship. By December 1819, the mission house was used as a place of worship, although incomplete.

The foundation stone for the church was laid on 1 March 1820 and it was dedicated on 27 February 1821. The first resident missionaries were Brother and Sister Christian F Kaltophen. Under their leadership, the membership increased to 874.

From the very beginning, to educate its members was one of the goals of the Moravian congregations. Classes had already begun in the church for over 100 students and in January 1838, the congregation drew plans for building a school. It was built adjacent to the Church. The School was officially opened on 11 June 1839 and by 1894, there was a total enrollment of 294 students.

In 1914, because of financial constraints, the school was turned over to the Government. The Schoolroom is no longer used full time by the government, the Church, however continues to give support in education, and up to present day the schoolroom is used as an examination center.

Over the 190 years, 54 missionaries/ministers have walked through the doors of Bethesda as shepherd of the flock, beginning with the Kaltophens and presently Rev Nasel W Y Ephraim – all with the same vision –

to see the Church grow and move from strength to strength.

St. Maarten Sanctuary Dedication

The St. Maarten Moravian Church will dedicate its new sanctuary on Mothers Day 2009 (May 10). Prior to Easter Sunday 2009 (April 12), the place of worship was the St. Peter Methodist Church building. The prayers and support of the people of God are requested for the Church in St. Maarten, that it will be a beacon of hope as it seeks to make Jesus known in that country.



Sisters Liselle Roberts and Cherice Job-Lewis, along with Bro. Nevin Lewis, three of our Ministers in training, will graduate from U.T.C.W.I on Wednesday May 13, 2009. The Ceremony takes place at the University Chapel, Mona, Jamaica. Sis. Liselle Roberts has been called to serve in the Trinidad conference, while Sis. Cherice Job-Lewis and Bro. Nevin Lewis, have been called to serve in the Tobago Conference. Let us remember them in our prayers.

Ministers in Training Retreat

Sisters Camille James and Onita Samuel, along with Bro. Martin Taylor will attend the annual Ministers in Training Retreat in Antigua from May 18 - 20, 2009. Following the retreat they will proceed on their Summer Assignments as follows:

Birthdays/Anniversaries

Sis. Camille James - Antigua
 Sis. Onita Samuel Samuel - St. Kitts
 Bro. Martin Taylor - Virgin Islands

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 PRESBYTERERS are asked to bring along their Surplice, as they will serve the elements during the communion.

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 per-

sons who are observers, and will be accommodated at a private residence and want to spend time at synod. The daily cost will be EC\$ 150.00 per person.



The PEC extends congratulation and best wishes to Bro. Nigel and Sis. Belinda Manswell Daniel on the birth of their third child, **Natania Hope Olivia Daniel**, who was born on Sunday April 05, 2009 in Antigua.



The PEC extends congratulation and best wishes to Bro. Sean and Sis. Paula Roberts on the birth of their second child, **J'adore Abia Joanna Roberts**, who was born on Wednesday April 8th, 2009 in Trinidad.

PRAYER REQUEST

Your prayers are requested for Sis. Sonia Spencer, the wife of Bro. Conrad Spencer who was recently re-diagnosed with breast cancer after being cancer free for 10½ years. Sis. Spencer is now in the United States to undergo treatment.

Your prayers are hereby requested for Bro. Dion Christopher. Bro. Dion fell ill during his worship service on Sunday May 3, 2009 and was taken to the Emergency Room. He has subsequently been released from the hospital and is pursuing further medical attention at this time.

Sis. Eulencine informed me that he is doing much better and continues to ask for our prayers.

Congratulations

To

Memorial Moravian Church, St. Thomas, as they prepare to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the dedication of its Sanctuary on May 17, 2009. This sanctuary was erected in Charlotte Amalie to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the arrival of Moravian Missionaries on St. Thomas. The first two Missionaries, Leonard Dober and David Nitschmann arrived in St. Thomas on December 13, 1732.



Birthday Greetings for the month of May is extended to:

Bro. Samuel Jacobs	8
Bro. Patmore Smith	10
Sis. Ivy Vessup	10
Sis. Karen Bowers-Jones	21
Sis. Deborah Challenger	27



Anniversary Greetings for the month of May is extended to:

Bro. Adrian & Sis. Andrea Smith	14
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