

A COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF PEC—EWI PROVINCE

December, 2010

The Information

Then the man said, *"Let me go, for it is daybreak."* But Jacob replied, *"I will not let you go unless you bless me."*
Genesis 32 vs. 26 [NIV]

Peace on Earth

"Peace on earth, goodwill towards men", are the words echoed by the angels in Luke 2: 14. These words are not an idle tale, but was indeed good news that the Saviour was born into the world. The Messiah, the one who was destined to preach the gospel to the poor; to heal the broken hearted; to bring deliverance to the captives; the recovering of sight to the blind; to set at liberty them that were bruised, was making a grand entrance into the affairs of men and women. It was a decisive and defining moment in the history of the world. Jesus the Christ was destined to defeat the enemy and allow his light to shine brightly into the hearts of men and women everywhere.



Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis and
Mrs. Pearline Jarvis

The existence of Jesus, the Christ signalled the beginning of a new era, or a new creation. Since this event, 2000 years have passed by and it appears as if there is still no peace. Why?

Peace describes a society or a relationship that is operating harmoniously and without violent conflict. Peace is commonly understood as the absence of hostility, or the existence of healthy or newly healed relationships or international relationships, in matters of social or economic welfare, the acknowledgment of equality and fairness in political relationships. In international relations, peace time is the absence of any war or conflict.

Peace is not just something that is spoken about. It has to be demonstrated in the lives of men and women. Wherever there is injustice, there will be no peace. Wherever there is exploitation or persons are robbed or defrauded of what is rightfully theirs, there will be no peace. Wherever there is anger, hatred, malice, and greed, there will be no peace. Wherever there is unforgiveness, there will be no peace. Wherever there is unrighteousness, there will be no peace. Wherever persons are treated inhumanely and are not accorded the dignity and respect they deserve, there will be no peace. Wherever persons are deprived of proper education and good health care, there will be no peace. Wherever people are hungry and are deprived of proper housing and the opportunity to work, there will be no peace. Wherever there is favoritism and persons advance in life based upon who they know, rather than their ability to perform, there will be no peace.

Peace will be realized when Jesus, the Christ, takes his rightful place in our hearts, our homes, our schools, our Churches, our communities and the institutions where persons are affected. Peace will be realized when we lay down our burdens and allow truth to reign in our hearts and the Prince of Peace takes up residence in our lives.

In many languages the word for peace is also used as a greeting or a farewell, for example, the Hawaiian word Aloha, as well as the Arabic word Salam. In English the word peace is used as a farewell, especially for the dead as in "Rest in Peace", RIP.

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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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Jews and Christians believe that true peace comes from a personal relationship with God. Jesus the Christ, also called the "Prince of Peace" in the Book of Isaiah according to Christian interpretation stated: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14: 27)

The religion of Islam means the way of life to attain peace. The Arabic word "ISLAM" means peace. The word Muslim means the person who submits to Allah in Peace. The submission to Allah, the one and only God is based on humility and an attitude of humility within one's own self, cannot be accomplished without total rejection of violence and an attitude of alliance towards peace.

Inner peace or peace of mind, refers to a state of being mentally and spiritually at peace, with enough knowledge and understanding to keep oneself strong in the face of discord or stress. Being "at peace" is considered by many to be healthy and the opposite of being stressed or anxious. Peace of mind is generally associated with bliss and happiness.

Peace of mind, serenity, and calmness are descriptions of a disposition free from the effects of stress. In some cultures, inner peace is considered a state of consciousness or enlightenment that may be cultivated by various forms of training, such as prayer, meditation, or yoga, for example. Many spiritual practices refer to this peace as an experience of knowing oneself.

As we journey towards another Christmas, peace has still eluded us. There are regular suicide bombings in Afghanistan and Iraq, where hundreds die and scores more are maimed. There is the long standing tension between the Israelis and the Palestinians and one wonders when real peace will be realized in the Middle East. There is the rising tension between North and South Korea. In addition, there is mistrust all around. The release of the American Governments secret documents through "Wikileaks" is bound to create more distrust towards the Americans from other Governments.

I challenge us as we journey in this Advent Season towards Christmas, to listen to the words of scripture again and allow it to make a change in our own lives. St. Paul admonished the Philippians, "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus". (Philippians 4:7).

Bless someone and usher peace in their life. Live righteously and point someone to the throne of grace and let them find peace in Jesus, the Christ.

Peace on earth, goodwill towards men.

Henry Ford once said, "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." A Blessed Christmas and a Spirit-filled New Year, to you my brothers and sisters from my family including my wife, Pearline and our daughters, Dacia and Danielle.



URSULA NATALIA KRIGGER

Ursula Natalia Krigger (nee Millin) was born on April 22, 1902. She is affectionately known to all as Aunt Sula. She is the oldest of her siblings and has survived all but one of them. One may think that Aunt Sula was a Moravian from birth but that is not so. Her mother, Madeline Natalia Moolenaar was a Roman Catholic. Aunt Sula was baptized an Anglican. Her mother's sister – Terecita Mooleenaar, whom she calls Aunt "Tan Tan" was a staunch Moravian; and a choir member at Nisky.

Aunt Sula was afflicted with typhoid and was very sick as a child. She was so sickly that it was felt that she would not live long. Her attending physician was the distinguished and well remembered, Dr. Knud Hansen. A deep chuckle is heard as she recalls with endearing affection his care of her. She also recalls that Rev. Benjamin Romig of the Moravian Church used to visit every other day. One day, Rev. Romig asked her mother if she would allow (Aunt Sula) to come to the Moravian Church, if Aunt Sula lived. Well, that is how Aunt Sula started attending the Nisky Moravian Church.

Aunt Sula completed her schooling at the age of 13. The highest and final grade at the time was the sixth grade. Rev. Romig gave her a job as a teacher at Bonne Resolution in St. Thomas. This was one of the schools that were still in the hands of the Moravians. She was 15 years old. She taught first, second and third graders. Her monthly salary was \$3.00. She explained that one pound of meat was 8 cents and a heap of tripe was 2 cents, and that a person could live on about 50 cents a week in those days.

At 108 years, Aunt Sula is the oldest Nisky member and one of the oldest persons in the Virgin Islands. She has suffered the loss of her vision but her memory is as fresh as the morning dew. Her mental faculty is very sharp. She is a blessing, not only to Moravians, but the entire community. God's faithfulness is so evident in her life and her witness to his goodness ever strong. It is such a joy to visit with her. As her pastor, I join in saluting Sister Ursula Krigger – Aunt Sula.

Bethel Tobago Churches in Action

Bethel (Hebrew word for “House of God”) has become known for everything else except God. There is a growing drug problem in the community, a rise in delinquency and a growing disregard for order. This is evident by the number of reported drug busts, high level of drunkenness, break ins (SDA church was robbed and a manse was robbed), prevalent gambling and a few young men have been charged and convicted for serious crimes. Certainly, we don’t live in chaos. Bethel is still very peaceful but we see signs that can seriously alter our way of life.

At every age group, men are adversely affected. Consequently homes and families have found themselves in almost generational instability.

The churches in the community have seen enough. We believe that with 7 churches (seventh day Adventist,



three spiritual Baptist churches, two Pentecostal churches and one Moravian

(Montgomery) that we must reclaim

our community, reclaim our name (bethel) and restore right, Godly, community living.

Our churches have decided to put aside our small differences in this

effort and so we gathered on the theme “Bethel, we are well

able’. For one week, we gave



worshipped together, ate together and had fun together. The highlights of the week included a ‘Jericho’ march around the whole community. It was an awesome experience.



Each pastor preached and taught at a church other than their church. We had a lovefeast and an award

ceremony as we closed the week.

We know that just having a week of activities isn’t the “silver bullet”. Fundamental change is hardly instantaneous. It is more than often arduous and long. So we intend to implement

local church programs and community programs in the effort to save our men, our



women and community. We are in it for the long haul.

If the great support we had during the week is an indication of things to come, we are convinced we are well able to turn around this situation and with God’s help we certainly can.





The EWIP Congratulates **Sis. Zoie Hamilton** of the St. Kitts Conference for writing the Best Short story in the region in English A for the May/June 2010 Caribbean Secondary Examination Certificate (CSEC) examinations.

Sis Zoie is a student of the Washington High School and her story entitled —Grasping Death□ was her perspective of dealing with the death of a teacher who collapsed while teaching her class.

In recognition of her achievement, CXC will present Sis Zoie and other students with awards at ceremony to be held in the Turks and Cacos Island on Thursday 2 December 2010.

The price package includes a full scholarship to the University of the West Indies, monetary prizes, plaque and books.

The Leadership and Members of the Zion Moravian Church congratulates Sis Zoie Hamilton and her parents, Glenford and Sonia Hamilton on her outstanding performance. Sis Zoie continue your good work and remember to give God the glory for *He is able, through his mighty power at work within you, to accomplish infinitely more than you might ask or think... Ephesians 3:20*



Prayer Conference

The **Annual Prayer Conference** in St. Kitts will be held **13-16 January 2011**. The Speaker will be **Rev. Angella Williams** from the **Woodbrook Pentecostal Church in Trinidad**.

The other activities include:

- ◆ Teaching Seminar – Estridge on Thursday 13 at 7:00pm
- ◆ Teaching Seminar – Bethesda on Friday 14 at 7:00pm
- ◆ Prayer Revival Service – Zion on Sunday 16 at 5:00pm

Provincial Hymnal Committee

Mikie Roberts (Rev), Chair

As we come to the end of 2010, the Provincial Hymnal Committee wants to update the members



of the EWI Province of the progress made so far on the compilation of our first Provincial hymnal. It is hoped that for 2011, to have monthly updates via this medium.

Come December 31, 2010 another deadline of the Provincial Hymnal Committee would

have passed as we seek to fulfil the mandate of the 2009 Provincial Synod to have a trial hymnal prepared in time for the 2012 Synod. Each Conference was asked to review the list of recommended hymns that the Provincial Hymnal Committee presented as part of the first phase. The goal was to garner a feedback from each Conference to determine which of the recommended hymns were known and to what tunes.

The work of compiling a hymnal for God's people to sing is an awesome undertaking. We do not take the charge lightly for by our actions we are shaping the faith of the people of God. Very often, Christians express the substance of what they believe through the words of the hymns they sing. Our desire is to include not just the hymns that are known for their popularity but also to highlight old hymns that need to be revived and to include new hymns that speak to our own context and experience as Moravians serving Christ in the Caribbean.

We crave your prayers therefore as we meet in January 2011 to make some further final decisions about the Provincial hymnal. Keep looking in the monthly **INFORMATION** for regular updates from the Committee as we forge ahead.

CALLS

- ♦ **The Rev. Vankys Isaac** has accepted a call to serve the Emmaus and Bethany Moravian Congregations on St. John, Virgin Islands, with effect from January 01, 2011.
- ♦ **The Rev. Belinda Manswell-Daniel**, having been accepted as a Minister within the Moravian Church, received and has accepted a call to serve as Associate Pastor of the Cedar Hall and Cashew Hill Moravian Congregations in Antigua, with effect from January 01, 2011. Rev. Manswell-Daniel is the wife of the Rev. Nigel Daniel, the Superintendent of the Antigua Conference.

Let us remember our Brother and Sister in prayer as they engage in their assignments.



Birthday Greetings for the Month of December is extended to:

Bro. Alban St. Hill	2
Bro. Ulric Smith	2
Sis. Eloise Stephen	2
Sis. Liselle Roberts	8
Bro. Leon Matthias	8
Sis. Lucia David	9
Sis. Bonnie E.B.W. Smith	10
Sis. Cicely Athill-Horsford	12
Bro. Hilton Joseph	18
Sis. Nasel Ephraim	18
Bro. Vankys Juan Isaac	18
Sis. Maureen Lewis	23
Bro. Frank, Alvin Barker	25
Bro. Matthew Crooks	25
Sis. Olga Baird-Joefield	25
Bro. Rudolph Holder	31



Anniversary Greetings for the month of December is extended to:

Bro. Cortroy & Sis. Pearline Jarvis	7
Bro. Ulric & Sis. Bonnie Smith	10
Bro. Winston & Sis. Karen Jones	13
Bro. Algernon & Sis. Denise Lewis	20
Bro. Errol & Sis. Joycelyn Connor	22
Bro. Patrick Cadogan & Sis. Nasel Ephraim	22
Bro. Patmore & Sis. Jovanca Lewis Smith	27
Bro. Hilton & Sis. Sharon McCurdy Joseph	29
Bro. Samuel & Sis. Gwendolyn Jacobs	31

FUN CORNER

Martha decided to move with the times and try the delights of microwave cooking. Whereupon, her devoted husband Archie went out and bought her a brand new top-of-the range Sharp Microwave oven. Christmas approached and Martha got out her Christmas pudding recipe and assembled the ingredients. She proceeded along traditional lines and even got each member of the family to stir the mixture 'for luck'. When Martha consulted the microwave's manual for the cooking time, she could not believe that ten minutes would be enough for a traditional Christmas pudding. Consequently she decided to substitute her normal cooking time of 50 minutes. As Martha was in the lounge watching her favourite T.V. programme she did not see the pudding spitting in the microwave oven, nor did she hear the mini-explosions. When she finally extracted the pudding from the microwave after nearly an hour of cooking on 'High', it smelt of burnt sugar and looked like a ball of tar. Naturally, the Christmas pudding was a disaster, so much so, that Martha could not even prod it with a fork. In fact the black ball stuck to the bottom of the bowl and Archie had to get a screwdriver to prize it from its base. In a fit of pique, Martha threw the shrivelled Christmas pudding to Togo her St Bernard puppy.

After a few days she could see the funny side, and Togo loved his new indestructible toy, which amused him until the next Christmas.

