

A COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF PEC - EWI PROVINCE

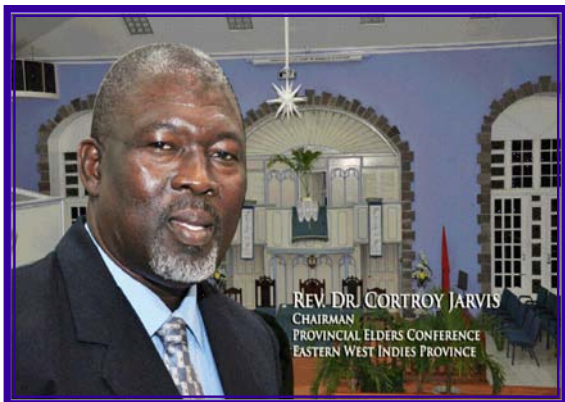
February, 2012

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]

Breaking New Grounds

On Sunday January 15, Hyacinth Taylor and Olga Baird-Joefield, were installed as Missionaries to the Moravian Mission in Grenada. It was a very moving experience as we gathered in the recently constructed building for worship at Mount Tranquil, Vincennes, St. David's Grenada. The service was planned for 3 pm and it was indeed an inspired decision by God, for it rained all morning. The afternoon weather was great. Approximately 80 persons gathered for the event. The Sanctuary was filled to overflowing and at least 20 persons overflowed into the road. The people were excited and ready to claim this movement as theirs.



We were blessed to have had sharing in the worship, the Rev. Hilton Joseph, Rev. Nasel Ephraim and Brother M J Byron from the St. Kitts Conference. In addition, Sisters Betty Duncan and Raynelle Rollocks from the Tobago Conference were there in support. At the

end of the installation Litany, Rev. Joseph, Rev. Ephraim and Rev. Dr. Jarvis surrounded the missionaries and laid hands upon them. I share with you the message that was preached on the occasion.

As we meet for this special occasion, I want to share the following verses from Psalm 25: **Show me your ways O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long. (Psalm 25: 4-5).**

Different people struggle with different things in life. Different people struggle with things like: Anger, bitterness, unforgiveness, unconfessed sin, lusts, greed, adultery, uncontrolled sexual appetite, lack of faith, disobedience, idols in their lives, wrong motives, disregard for others, disregard for God, lack of transparency with God and others.

Notice what our text says, **Show me your ways O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long.**

The Psalmists is in trouble. He is crowded in by his enemies who are seeking to trample and destroy him. He is scared of the impending danger on the one hand, and on the other hand, he expresses hope and confidence in God. He literally testifies about God's faithfulness. Even when the fires of death surrounds us, we need to be able to testify of God's faithfulness. We need to be able to acclaim like the song writer, Frances R. Havergal:

*He will never fail us, He will not forsake,
His eternal Covenant, He will never break
Resting on His promise, What have we to fear?
God is all sufficient, For the coming year.*

Chorus:

**Onward then and fear not, Children of the day
For His words shall never, Never pass away.**

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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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Another song writer echoing the same tone and confidence in God, declares:

**My hope is built on nothing less,
Than Jesus Blood and righteousness.
I dare trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus name.
On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand.
All other ground is sinking sand.**



There are three (3) fundamental requests in the text:
Show me your ways, means to display, exhibit, put on view, parade, reveal, bare, let somebody see, to demonstrate, illustrate, explain, prove, confirm.

Teach me your paths, means to educate, tutor, school, lecture, instruct, edify, coach, train, clarify.

Guide me in your truth and teach me. Guide me, means to direct, show, steer, lead, conduct, channel, funnel, point, pilot, escort. In other words, God you are my manual.

...For you are God my Saviour and my hope is in you all day long.

You are Jehovah Shalom...my peace.

You are Jehovah Rophe...my healer.

You are Jehovah m'kadesh...my sanctifier

You are Jehovah Jireh...my provider.

You are Jehovah TSidkenu...my righteousness

You are Jehovah Nissi...my banner

You are Jehovah Shammah...The Lord is present

You are Jehovah Rohi...my Shepherd

The story is told of a Scottish woman who earned a modest living by peddling her wares along the roads of her country. Each day she would travel about, and when she came to an intersection, she would toss a stick into the air. Whichever way the stick pointed was the way she went. On one occasion an old man stood across the road from her as she tossed the stick into the air once, twice, three times. Finally the old man asked, "Why are you throwing the stick like that? I'm letting God show me the way to go by using this stick, she said. "Then why did you throw it three times?" the old man asked. "Because the first two times, He was pointing me in the wrong direction," was her reply. The ultimate purpose of prayer is not to get what we want, but to learn to want what God gives. But that will never happen if we don't surrender our will and put ourselves on God's agenda instead of our own. First Peter 5:7 declares, "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you."

A person whose will is surrendered to God has a relationship with Him similar to the one described in the parable of the vine and branches. It says, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you" (John 15:7). You see, the branch depends on the vine and lives in one accord with it. In return, the vine provides it with everything it needs, and the result is great fruitfulness. There are great benefits to surrendering your Will to God. One is that God promises to answer your prayers and grant your requests. Jeremiah 33:3, 'Call to Me, and



I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.' Another is that we get to receive the power of Christ through the Holy Spirit. Just as the vine and the branches, He flows through us, gives us power and produces fruit.

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Developing an effective prayer life depends on keeping your relationship with God strong and uncluttered by sin and disobedience. **First Peter 3: 12, declares, "The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."** If we strive for righteousness and confess our sins, we can remain close to God, but, maintaining our relationship with Him is an ongoing process. Every day we need to go to God and ask Him to reveal anything that may be hindering our progress.

Sister hyacinth and Sister Olga, as you embark on this Ministry, there are going to be challenges, for the enemy is not satisfied that you have come as heralds of the good



news of Jesus Christ in this community. You have to be steadfast. You have to be strong. You have to surrender yourselves everyday to God and depend upon Him completely. The Psalmists gives us all reason for hope, when he testifies, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over." (Psalm 23:4-5).

Notice the assurance that the Psalmists gives you. When you are surrounded by your enemies, who are ready to devour and destroy you, what more do you want to hear than, "You prepare a Table before me in the presence of mine enemies: you anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over".

God is sitting you down to eat and refresh yourselves, even with your enemies coming after you. You see, when you are Covered by God, you are well covered. Isaiah declares, **"No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn."**

This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD". (Isaiah 54:17). I challenge you therefore as you live and Minister amongst the people here in Grenada, to leave everything into the hands of Almighty God. As you do so, be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. Point the people to Jesus.

Psalm 139: 23-24, contains the Words of David, a man after God's own heart, who had one of the best relationships with God in the Bible:

Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; and see if *there is any* wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting **David overcame some horrible sins in his life to be close to God. He was an Adulterer and a murderer, yet he humbled himself before God and confessed his sins. As a result, that allowed him to come closer to God and it kept growing and building in his relationship with Him.** David is a great model for us to follow. If God was able to forgive him and build a special relationship with him, then He can do the same with us. If we are faithful, God will draw us close to Him. He will answer our prayers.

Are you willing for God to Show you His ways, Teach you His paths and Guide you? Are you willing to say, Lord, I will walk with you wherever you lead me?



Jesus says: Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for Your souls. For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light." (Matt. 11: 28-30).

Amen.

Community Response by Callisha Greenidge of Grenada Moravian Church

On the day of September, 7th 2004, Grenada was devastated by hurricane Ivan which left the people of Grenada crying out for deliverance, forgiveness and direction. A team of missionaries from the Tobago Moravian church came to visit the island. The Mora-



vians were moved with compassion on seeing the country so devastated and continued visiting on a yearly basis. In 2007 they hosted

Vacation Bible School which followed with open air services, Christmas fair, smile Grenada and the birth of a bible study group.

The Moravians are a wonderful family of God and have really reached out to the people of Grenada. The Moravian mission wants to see us walk with Jesus and hold on to our faith. Our hearts are rejoicing to see the good work that God has started in our community.

In an Open Air service, I felt the touch of the Holy Spirit and decided to get baptized. Sr. Kathleen Celestine and I got baptized on May, 28th 2011. This was a stepping stone to the great things that God is doing within us. Our fellow Moravians started a monthly weekend visit for bible study and Sunday worship, and even when they were not there we continued having our regular worship every Sunday.

Encountering the Moravians gave me the zeal to spread the good news to others and see our community transformed and renewed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

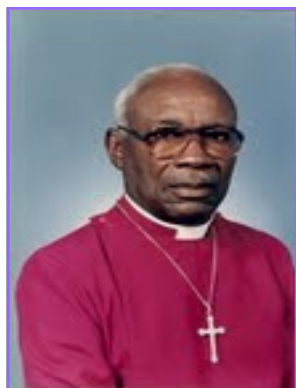
My constant prayer was that God provide a church where we can worship in spirit and in truth. God has answered our prayers, I am overwhelmed to see the wonderful church that God has erected in our community. With this church in our community, I know many more will be called to repentance, and so may the grace and peace of Almighty God be ours in full abundance, through the knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord.





Condolences

Bishop Neville Cleofoster Brown was born in Newfield, Antigua on April 27, 1926. Following his training for the Ministry he met and married Ida Lyons on January 16,



1953 at the Moriah Moravian Church in Tobago. The Union produced six children 2 preceded him in death. He is survived by his Wife Ida Brown his children Sylvester who was born in Trinidad, Lennox, who was born in Antigua, Louise, who was born in St. Kitts and Rawle, who was born in Antigua.

He was ordained a Deacon on April 11, 1951 at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua. (60 years)

He was consecrated a Presbyter on May 19, 1959 at the Estridge Moravian Church in St. Kitts. (52 years)

He was consecrated Bishop on November 11, 1993 at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua by Bishop(s) Neville Neil, John Wilson and Stanley Thomas. (18 years)

He served in the following places:

Antigua:-1950-1952; Tobago:-1952-1954;
Antigua:-1954-1956; St. Kitts:-1956-1961;
Antigua:-1961-1970; Trinidad:-1970-1980;

He was the Chairman of the Provincial Elders Conference (PEC) from 1978-1984.

He was Superintendent in the Antigua Conference in 1984 and Pastor of the Greenbay/Five Islands Pastorate from 1984-1993.

In July of 1993 He Retired, He was elected Bishop and Consecrated Bishop on November 11, 1993 in Antigua and Pastor of the Cana Moravian Church from 1993—1999..

Bishop Brown served God and the Church with distinction. We have lost a Soldier in the Army of the Lord.

A Thanksgiving Service for the Late Bishop Neville Brown will be held on Friday February 03, 2012, at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua at 11:00 a.m. Burial will take place at the Newfield (Enon) Moravian Church Cemetery in Newfield.

The International Ecumenical Peace Convocation met in Kingston Jamaica in 2011. At the end of the Convocation, this message was sent out.

“Glory to God and Peace on Earth”

We understand peace and peacemaking as an indispensable part of our common faith. Peace is inextricably related to the love, justice and freedom that God has granted to all human beings through Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit as a gift and vocation. It constitutes a pattern of life that reflects human participation in God's love for the world. The dynamic nature of peace as gift and vocation does not deny the existence of tensions, which form an intrinsic element of human relationships, but can alleviate their destructive force by bringing justice and reconciliation.

We, nearly 1,000 participants from more than 100 nations, called together by the WCC, have shared the experience of the International Ecumenical Peace Convocation (IEPC), a gathering of Christian churches and their inter-religious partners dedicated to the pursuit of Peace in the community, Peace with the Earth, Peace in the market place and Peace among the peoples. We met on the campus of the University of the West Indies (Mona) near Kingston, Jamaica from 17 through 25 May, 2011.

As we gathered in Jamaica, we were keenly aware of events in the world around us. Stories from our churches remind us of local, pastoral and social responsibilities for people who must deal daily with each of the issues we discussed. The aftermath of earthquake and tsunami, in Japan raises urgent questions concerning nuclear energy and threats to nature and humanity. Governmental and financial institutions face the necessity of taking responsibility for their failed policies and the devastating impact on vulnerable people. We witness with concern and compassion the struggle for freedom, justice and human rights of the people in many Arab countries and other contexts where brave people struggle with global attention. Our love for the peoples of Israel and Palestine convinces us that the continued occupation damages both peoples. We renew our solidarity with the people of divided countries such as the Korean peninsula and Cyprus, and people yearning for peace and an end to suffering in nations like Colombia, Iraq, Afghanistan and the Great Lakes region of Africa.

We realize that Christians have often been complicit in systems of violence, injustice, militarism, racism, casteism, intolerance and discrimination.

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We ask God to forgive us our sins, and to transform us as agents of righteousness and advocates of Just Peace. We appeal to governments and other groups to stop using religion as a pretext for the justification of violence.

Peace in the community

Churches learn the complexities of Just Peace as we hear of the Intersection of multiple injustices and oppressions that are simultaneously at work in the lives of many. Members of one family or community may be oppressed and also the oppressors of others. Churches must help in identifying the everyday choices that can end abuse and promote human rights, gender justice, climate justice, economic justice, unity and peace. The churches need to continue to confront racism and casteism as dehumanizing realities in today's world. Likewise, violence against women and children must be named as sin. Conscious efforts are required for the full integration of differently abled people. Issues of sexuality divide the churches, and therefore we ask the WCC to create safe spaces to address dividing issues of human sexuality.

Peace with the Earth

The environmental crisis is profoundly an ethical and spiritual crisis of humanity. Recognizing the damage human activity has done to the Earth, we affirm our commitment to the integrity of creation and the daily lifestyle it demands. Our concern for the earth and our concern for humanity go hand in hand. Natural resources and common goods such as water must be shared in a just and sustainable manner. We join global civil society in urging governments to reconstruct radically all our economic activities towards the goal of an ecologically sustainable economy. The extensive use of fossil fuels and CO₂ emissions must be reduced urgently to a level that keeps climate change limited.

Peace in the marketplace

The global economy often provides many examples of structural violence that victimizes not through the direct use of weapons or physical force but by passive acceptance of widespread poverty, trade disparities and inequality among classes and nations. In contrast to unfettered economic growth as envisioned by the neoliberal system, the Bible signals a vision of life in abundance for all.

The churches must learn to advocate more effectively for full implementation of economic, social and cultural rights as the foundation for "economies of life."


It is a scandal that enormous amounts of money are spent on military budgets and toward providing weapons for allies and the arms trade while this money is urgently needed to eradicate poverty around the globe, and to fund an ecologically and socially responsible reorientation of the world economy.

Peace among the peoples

History, especially in the witness of the historic peace churches, reminds us of the fact that violence is contrary to the will of God and can never resolve conflicts. It is for this reason that we are moving beyond the doctrine of just war towards a commitment to Just Peace. It requires moving from exclusive concepts of national security to safety for all. This includes a day-to-day responsibility to prevent, that is, to avoid violence at its root. Many practical aspects of the concept of Just Peace require discussion, discernment and elaboration. We continue to struggle with how innocent people can be protected from injustice, war and violence. In this light, we struggle with the concept of the "responsibility to protect" and its possible misuse.

In our journey towards Just Peace, a new international agenda is of the utmost urgency because of the scope of dangers surrounding us. We call on the ecumenical movement as a whole, and particularly those planning the WCC Assembly of 1023 in Busan, Korea, with the theme "God of life, lead us to justice and peace", to make Just Peace, in all its dimensions, a key priority.

All thanks and praise to you, O Triune God: Glory to you, and peace to your people on earth. God of life, lead us to justice and peace. Amen.



**Forgive the heart that
hurts you and cherish
the heart that loves
you.**

-Mehernosh Kapadia

Renewal Services at Mount Tabor Moravian Church in Barbados

Sonia Burgess-Haynes presents a gift to the Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis on behalf of the Mount Tabor Moravian Church, Barbados, at the conclusion of the week of revival services. The services were held from January 8—13, 2012. The services were held under the theme: "Walk in His footsteps."



Robert - the Post man from Mount Tabor Moravian, he ushered every night at the services. Thanks Robert. Be Blessed.



Where There Is Love

by Helen Steiner Rice

*Where there is love the heart is light,
Where there is love the day is bright,
Where there is love there is a song
To help when things are going wrong,
Where there is love there is a smile
To make all things seem more worth-
while,
Where there is love there's a quiet peace,
A tranquil place where turmoils cease...
Love changes darkness into light
And makes the heart take "wingless
flight"--
Oh, blest are they who walk in love...
They also walk with God above,
And when man walks with God again
There shall be Peace on Earth for men.*

**If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the
Spirit. Galatians 5:25**

**Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore
love is the fulfilling of the law. Romans 13:10**



On February 14, 2012



The PEC Congratulates Mr. and Mrs. Nevin Lewis who were united in Marriage on January 5, 2012. The Wedding Ceremony took place at the Zion Church of God on North Street, St. John's, Antigua.



Bro. Nevin Serenading his Wife.



Mr. & Mrs. Lewis getting ready to cut the cake



Bro. Nevin feeding his Wife



Family Members of Bro. Nevin Lewis



Contingent from the Moravian Church, Tobago Conference, and friends



Provincial Hymnal Committee Update February 2012

All are reminded that for the Hymn of the Month for February 2012 is #79 **Jesus, good above all other** found in the section *The Son of God: His Life On Earth*. The recommended tune is the set tune **HQUEM PASTORES LAUDAVERE**. The text of this hymn draws attention to the person of Jesus and reminds us not only of his birth but also the purpose of his coming. It is hoped that in the singing of this hymn we will



begin to prepare ourselves for the observance of Lenten season.

As we move ahead and look towards the compilation of the final hymnal, an appeal is being made to all congregations to submit their top **10 – 15 worship songs/praise choruses**. The Committee intends to give consideration for the inclusion of the same in the hymnal. However, so as to ensure that we secure the necessary copyright permission, these submissions must include the following:

The title of the song and the complete text.

The name of the author and/or arranger.

The name and address of the copyright holder.

We have not yet decided how many of these will eventually be included in the hymnal. However, the Committee is making this appeal at this time as we attempt to ensure that the content of the hymnal reflects traditional and Caribbean hymns as well as contemporary worship songs and praise choruses. It must be emphasized that because the latter is most likely still under copyright ownership and not in the public domain that we need to have the copyright information as part of whatever submissions are made. In the process of compiling the hymn, we are deliberately seeking to avoid

any copyright infringement since this will have some legal ramifications.

Submissions must be made by **MARCH 15th 2012** to either of the following emails: moravianhymnal@gmail.com or rmikie@hotmail.com. On behalf of the Provincial Hymnal Committee, I express thanks for the continued support of the Province as we seek to carry out the task that has been assigned to us. We fervently crave your prayers.

Mikie Roberts (Rev)

Chair,
Provincial Hymnal Committee.

PEC Meetings Before Synod

The PEC met in the St. Kitts Conference from January 27-29, 2012. The next meeting will convene from April 27 - 29, in St. Thomas, just before the 30th Provincial Synod to be held in St. Thomas from July 13—19, 2012.



Superintendents Conference 2012

All Superintendents met in the St. Kitts Conference from January 30-31, 2012, following the PEC Meeting.



Prayer Requests

Our prayers are requested for:

- Rev. Romeo Challenger who is still a patient at the Mount St. John Medical Centre in Antigua.
- Rev. Dufferin Culpepper who is now a resident at the Bromswood Retirement Home for the Elderly in Barbados.



Birthday Greetings for the month of February is extended to:

Bro. Dufferin Culpepper	01
Sis. Adelyn Binta Mgonela	03
Bro. Cortroy Jarvis	07
Sis. Shirley Joseph	08
Bro. Sean Roberts	10
Bro. Willard Prout	10
Sis. June McMillan	17
Bro. Errol Connor	21
Bro. Adrian Smith	21
Sis. Esther Moore-Roberts	24



Anniversary Greetings for the month of February is extended to:

Bro. Ray & Sis. Shirley Joseph	07
Bro. Kingsley & Sis. Maureen Lewis	19



Fun Corner

A man dies and goes to heaven. St. Peter meets him at the pearly gates.

St. Peter says, "Here's how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you've done, and I give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was.

When you reach 100 points, you get in."

"Okay" the man says, "I attended church every Sunday"

"That's good," says St. Peter, "that's worth two points"

"Two points?" he says. "Well, I gave 10% of all my earnings to the church"

"Well, let's see," answers Peter, "that's worth another 2 points. Did you do anything else?"

"Two points? Golly. How about this: I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for homeless veterans."

"Fantastic, that's certainly worth a point," he says. "hmm...", the man says, "I was married to the same woman for 50 years and never cheated on her, even in my heart."

"That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth three points!"

"THREE POINTS!!" the man cries, "At this rate the only way I get into heaven is by the grace of God!"

"Come on in!"