

The Information

²⁸“Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”²⁹“Come,” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!” Matthew 14: 28 - 30

August, 2014



Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis
Chairman of PEC

The Role of the Church in Emancipation

When we think of Emancipation the words freedom and deliverance come to mind and people often think of the positive role played by local churches.

This perception of the influence of the church is due in part to the perception of the planters of the early 19th century. In their minds, the missionaries working among the people were responsible for the series of rebellion and revolt, which preceded the 1834 Act of Emancipation.

The Moravian Church was the first to have begun missionary work among the people kept as slaves and was already 102 years in the Eastern West Indies Province at the time of Emancipation on August 01, 1734.

However, the way they perceived the influence of the local churches on Emancipation and how they were perceived by the planters, has not been as much the subject of attention.

Writing at the time of the centenary celebrations, 20 years after the Act was promulgated, J.H. Buckner, who was then minister of the Moravian Church at Fairfield in Jamaica, noted: The Baptists and Methodists ministers were loudly accused of being instigators. ...Our Moravian missionaries were likewise suspected and openly accused by the planters and the House of Assembly of having occasioned discontent and insurrection. The private conversations or speaking which the missionaries held with the slaves were especially obnoxious to the proprietors, and they accused the Moravian Brethren of using these to instill evil disposition into the minds of the people. (Buckner, The Moravians in Jamaica (1854),p. 85.

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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 Role of the Church in Emancipation
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Likewise, the people who were kept slaves seemed to have been of the general impression that the change that eventually came in their condition was to be ascribed to the influence of the Gospel and the labours of the missionaries. [See Buckner, 115].

According to Missionaries, before their arrival in the Caribbean, heathenism was rampant in both the white and the black population. There were missionary groups, including the Methodists, the Baptists, the Moravians and many others. There is no consistency in any of their experiences. Sometimes the Caribbean people accepted them warmly, and sometimes they did not. The Missionaries attempted to convert two groups of people to their version of Christianity: the white elite/slave owners and the black slaves. An important note is that the different groups never attempted to work together as Christians to convert the people of the Caribbean, which makes one wonder about their agenda. And one cannot ignore the fact that in addition to the many honest Missionaries doing what they thought was right, there were many corrupt and dishonest Missionaries.

Many of the Missionaries came to the Caribbean with preconceptions about the nature of the people whom they were attempting to convert, whether white or black. A few Missionaries took pity on and understood the situation of the slaves, but many more thought that the slaves were ignorant beasts incapable of lifting themselves through education, much less to being saved.

To the Missionaries, the practice of religious cultures brought from Africa was more than shocking and the use of bones, feathers and superstitions was sacrilegious. The Missionaries felt that the slaves were living "without hope and without God in the world," because there were no official, legal marriages and that having a concubine was acceptable. The missionaries' opinion of the whites was not much better. Evangelists believed that as soon as the whites left Europe, they left their profession of Christianity behind. The whites were also considered heathens by the missionary groups as they too had concubines. They were not attending church and generally they were living an unchristian lifestyle.

The Missionaries did not always have an easy task, for they were not readily accepted by all the Slave Owners/Massa.

The whites were the most inconsistent in their reaction to the Missionaries. Many whites strongly resisted the acceptance of the different missionary groups. One of the reasons is that they did not want their slaves to be educated because it was easier to oppress them when they were uneducated. The whites feared that Christianity would give the enslaved hope and provoke thought, and then once the slaves started thinking they would become more rebellious. Also they did not want to give their slaves time off to worship in the evenings and the mornings.

The whites were sometimes brutal when it came to oppressing the work of the Missionaries. They passed religiously intolerant laws, forbidding the missionaries from preaching and giving serious punishments to anyone found preaching. It is said that these laws were later dropped, but they took a toll on the ability of the Missionaries to Christianize the islands in the way that they had wanted. On other occasions churches were defaced while the police turned their heads and took no legal action against the criminals.

Although many whites tried to stop the progression of missionary work, some whites accepted and supported the Missionaries. They opened their homes to the Missionaries and their families, and they donated money to help build meeting houses, churches and schools. There were slave owners that requested that the Missionaries come to their estate to preach to them and their slaves. They would give the slaves time off to hear the sermons, and in some cases, would insist on and pay for the baptism of all of their slaves. As generous and Christian as this may seem, the master and the preacher actually had a hidden agenda. The Massa thought that once the slaves were baptized they would have no interest in actually practicing Christianity, thus avoiding the issue of education, literacy and critical thinking for the slaves. This was an intelligent theory on the part of the Massa, because many slaves did not go to sermons once they had been baptized.

As we celebrate this 180th Anniversary of Emancipation from slavery, let us be grateful and recognize that there were those who suffered for our freedom. The Church, one may argue could have done more but that is hindsight. Let us together see what we can do so that such heinous acts will never be perpetuated again in the history of humankind. As Paul said to the Galatian Church, "For freedom Christ has set us free, therefore let us not return to the yoke of bondage again" (Galatians 5:1).

Provincial Youth Camp (PYC) 2014

Eastern Caribbean Bible Camp
 Ruby House
 St. Philip, Barbados
 July 10-17, 2014
 Rev. Eulencine Christopher
 Provincial Director of Christian Education



Theme: iLaunch: Log In, Upload, Surf, Save As, File Sent

Exceptional Young people from the six (6) Conferences across the Province, Grenada and Canada converged on the shores of beautiful Barbados for what was a powerful seven (7) days of worship, study, fellowship, challenges, fun, food, laughter and love. We were particularly blessed to have shared fellowship with three campers from Grenada and two from Canada.

The theme song was “Jesus, You’re My Firm Foundation”. Facilitators sought to give campers the tools needed to build and strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ by exploring specific topics with reference to the Theme Studies such as: Hard Drive Secure, Copy and Paste, Install Updates, Antivirus, Password Protected and Update your Apps.

The Camp Director, Rev. Bonnie Williams-Smith and Co-Director, Rev. Esther Moore-Roberts executed their responsibilities with distinction, leading to a very successful camp.

The foundation for the camp was laid under the leadership of the Local Supervisor, Rev. Julie Joefield-Parris, along with her dynamic, dedicated and hard working committee: Bro. Stephan Harewood, Sisters Jeaneta Waithe, Crystal Worrell, and Khelia Best.

The camp was highly charged spiritually. With the move of the Holy Spirit, the Chief Counselor, the Rev. Eulencine Christopher along with her team of counselors from the various conferences, had their hands full.

A special word of thanks to Sis. Krystal Baynes of Trinidad, Sis. Monique Richards of the V.I., Bro. Chessley Williams, Bro. Oneale Whattley, Bro. MJ Byron who stepped up to the plate during those charged moments.



I am very grateful for the wise counsel and commitment of Sis. Kerry-ann Doughty and Sis. Betty Bowen of the Barbados Conference, Sis. Holliette Valentine, Sis. Launée Richards and Bro. Jamal Bright of the Antigua Conference, Bro. Allon Williams of the Tobago Conference and Sis. Lucy Bishop of Grenada.

Camp Pastor, the Rev. Liselle Roberts, attended to the camp family and took care of the flock with due diligence, preaching, visiting of the sick and hospitalized, mentoring, counseling, or being a friend and sister.

The Music Ministry under the leadership of Sis. Monique, along with her talented team of musicians was exceptional. Using the Keyboards, percussions, tumba drum, and violin they all played a vital role in the worship experiences.

This chosen generation is deeply spiritual, extremely gifted and are on fire for The Lord. Over the seven (7) days, these ninety-one (91) individuals became a loving family. They have returned to their Conferences with a resolve to impact their families, congregations and communities, and with a determination to shame the devil. We must keep them cover under the blood of Jesus.

A special word of thanks to Superintendent, the Rev. Vera Waithe and The Barbados Conference for successfully hosting PYC 2014.

To God Be the Glory.

Hymn of the Month
for August, 2014
Mikie Roberts (Rev.) Chair,
Provincial Hymnal Committee.

For the month of August we continue to give attention to new hymns that are not in the current hymnal. The hymn



for the month of August is **Christians hail the King of glory** which was written by Rev. Roslyn Hamblin. Sis. Hamblin is an ordained Moravian minister now serving in the Barbados Conference. Throughout her years of ministry, Sis. Hamblin has served the Eastern West Indies Province in the Barbados, Antigua, Tobago and Virgin Islands Conference. She also served on the Provincial Elders' Conference as Chair of the

Province.

The tune *All things Bright* has been chosen as the tune of choice for this hymn. In this hymn we are reminded of the blessings that are at our disposal once we heed God's word. There are three promises from God's word that are highlighted in this hymn. The second verse reflects the promise that is recorded in Luke 6: 38, "**Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.**

For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." In the third verse we are reminded of another of the promises of God's Word in Matthew 7: 7 which captures this promise: "**Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you**".

The final verse follows in the same trend as the others in that it too mirrors another of the promises of God's Word. This time we are reminded of Psalm 37: 4, 5 which declares: "**Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this.**" Undoubtedly, the promises that are ours in God's Word are many! However, in this hymn we are encouraged to faithfully pursue God's Word and by so doing we lay hold of the promises that are ours through Jesus Christ. Below are the words for this hymn:

Christians, hail the King of glory
 Jesus Christ your Lord!
 Now pursue the blessing daily
 Of his promised word.

"Give", He said, and 'twill be given
 Greater measure more;
 Those who serve the needs of others
 Will be blessed for sure.

Ask – the Lord has said He'll give you;
 Seek – and you'll find rest;
 Knock – the door He'll open to you:
 Enter and be blest.

Now your way commit unto Him;
 Trust Him to inspire.
 Those who in the Lord delighteth,
 Find their heart's desire.

Roslyn Hamblin

Christians, Hail The King Of Glory

Roslyn Hamblin

ALL THINGS BRIGHT
 85.85

F. A. G. Quseley, 1881

1. Chris-tians, hail the king of glo-ry Je-sus Christ your Lord!
 2. Give, he said, and 'twill be giv-en great-er meas-ure more;
 3. Ask-the Lord has said he'll give you; Seek-and you'll find rest;
 4. Now your way com-mit un-to him; Trust him to in-spire.

5
 Now pur-sue the bless-ing dai-ly of his pro-mised word.
 Those who serve the need of oth-ers will be blessed for sure.
 Knock-the door he'll o-pen to you: en-ter and be blest.
 Those who in the Lord de-light-eth - Find your heart's de-sire.

Quote of the Day

It is not fair to ask of
 others what you are not
 willing to do yourself.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Staffing

The PEC makes the following announcements:

1. Sister Hyacinth Taylor, Missionary, will come to the end of her assignment in Grenada on August 15, 2014. The Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province is eternally grateful for the unselfish and dedicated service rendered by Sis. Taylor. We pray God's continued blessings upon her as she seeks to be faithful to His leading in her life. As a token of appreciation the service on August 10th, 2014 at the Grenada Mission, will be one in which we will show appreciation to Sis. Hyacinth Taylor for the sacrificial service she has given to the development of the mission.
2. Rev. Devon Mannix, Pastor of the Moriah and Evangel congregations in the Tobago conference, has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Grenada Mission with effect from August 15, 2014. Bro. Devon Mannix and Family will arrive in Grenada on August 11, 2014. An Installation service has been planned for Wednesday August 13, 2014 at 6.00p.m.
3. Rev. Nigel Daniel, Pastor of the Cedar Hall and Cashew Hill congregations in the Antigua conference, has accepted call to serve as Pastor of the Spring Gardens and Bethesda congregations in the Tobago conference, with effect from August 01, 2014.
4. Rev. Belinda Manswell-Daniel, Pastor of the Gracebay and Urlings congregations in the Antigua conference, has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Moriah and Evangel congregations in the Tobago conference, with effect from August 01, 2014.
5. Pastor Moise Jean has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Cedar Hall and Cashew Hill congregations in the Antigua conference, with effect from August 01, 2014.
6. Pastor Yvonne Jean has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Gracebay and Urlings congregations in the Antigua conference, with effect from August 01, 2014.
7. Pastor Erwin Warner has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Bethesda and New Dawn Congregations in the St. Kitts Conference, with effect from August 01, 2014.
8. Pastor Catherine Governor has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the L'Anse Noire congregation and Minister of Christian Education in conjunction with all other members of staff in the Trinidad conference, with effect from August 01, 2014.
9. The Rev. Winston Jones, Pastor of the Bethlehem congregation and the St. Phillip Fellowship, has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Bethlehem congregation with effect from September 01, 2014.
10. The Rev. Roslyn Hamblin has accepted a call to serve as Pastor to develop the St. Phillip Fellowship, with effect from August 01, 2014.
11. The Rev. Mikie Roberts requested and was granted furlough from June 16 to October 09, 2014.
12. The Rev. Eulencine Christopher has been appointed Acting Superintendent of the Virgin Islands conference with effect from September 01, 2014. Please remember our sister in prayer as she responds to the call of God and prepare to assume this new responsibility.

On behalf of the Province, the PEC expresses heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing Superintendent of the Virgin Islands conference, the Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts.

You Are Cordially Invited to
REJOICE
 An Evening of
 Original Songs/Arrangements
 In Total Praise to God

Presented by Ulric V. Smith Jr.
 With Members of the Moravian Family, Antigua Conference

Date: Sunday 10th August, 2014
 Time 6:30p.m.

Place: Cana Moravian Church, Swetes Village

An offering will be collected, which will go towards the development of the Cana Moravian Pre-School.

Memorial Moravian Church

St Thomas, VI

“130 years of sowing spiritual seeds and reaping untold blessings”

Many times I observed from the pulpit how people arriving after the beginning of the service stopped at the door, looked around to find a seat and when they did not find one, put their hats back on. They either listened outside or they left and went home. Others who do not belong to our Church told me: Why would I go to the Moravian Church? We won't find any place there anyway and even if we go early, we have to sit closely packed together which is unpleasant in the heat. Therefore we would rather stay at home.

These are the words of Rev. Johannes Hastings who, after his call to serve the Charlotte Amalie congregation in 1877, realized that the Town Church had long outgrown the mission room in Back Street and it was time to move. Under his watch, a new building was constructed at Norre Gade and was dedicated on May 16, 1884. 130 years later the Memorial Moravian Church gives God thanks for bringing us this far by faith.

The following is a summary of the week of celebrations hosted by the congregation.

The anniversary week was launched on Mother's Day during the Sunday morning worship on May 11, 2014. The Rev. Dr. Errol Connor, Vice-Chairman of the PEC, gave a timely and illustrative message on 1 Corinthians 9:8-16. He challenged the congregation to be vigilant in planting but patient in awaiting the fruit from its labor.

The Rev. Dr. Paul Peucker, Moravian archivist at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania presented a thorough and insightful lecture on the Monday evening. He traced the story behind the construction of the Sanctuary which enabled the attentive audience to better appreciate its architecture and aesthetics. Dr Peucker also enlightened and reminded us of the vision and the challenges of the Moravian mission in Charlotte Amalie.

The anniversary hosted an appreciation breakfast for the staff of the Moravian School, Memorial Campus on the Tuesday morning. This was well received and appreciated.

On the Tuesday evening the Leona Roberts Fellowship hall could not fit crowds that attended our Estate Planning presentation. No one could hold back the laughter during the drama

presentation of the play *“I leaving everything for my children.”* Written by Pastor Winelle, the play depicted the unfortunate scenario of a senior man who informed his children that he will leave everything to them without writing a will. Following the play, Attorney Karl Percell outlined the ways in which we can plan for the future.

There is no Moravian celebration without singing. Hence, on Wednesday evening our anniversary choir, led by Pastor Mikie, presented an evening of *Hymns and Stories*. The familiar hymns and songs which were shared between the choirs and congregational singing lifted the spirit of all who attended. The Sanctuary was filled with God's majesty and glory.

It was an awesome cultural display in the Fellowship Hall on the Thursday evening. Drawing from members of the congregation, we were treated with our cultural dancers, community choirs, gospel bands, poetry and other musical presentations. A display of “Sunday Best” outfits by some Memorial models brought the evening to a fitting climax.

May 16 was the Anniversary Day and the highlight of the week of celebration. An Anniversary Gala honoring long-standing stalwarts was held at the Marriott Frenchman's Reef Hotel. The honorees were Bro. Allen Canton, Sis. Edris Brathwaithe, Sis. Juta Lewis, Sis. Emelda Nicholson, and Sis. Doris Industrious. We were graced with the presence of our Chairman The Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis and his wife Sis. Pearlina Jarvis. Bro Jarvis greeted the gathering on behalf of the Province. It was an elegant and celebratory evening.

A March of Witness was held on the Saturday morning from the Church to Charlotte Amalie High School. Following this, there were games and activities for the youth and children led by the Christian Education committee.

The Anniversary Service, held on Sunday morning, May 18, 2014, was spirit-filled and joyful. The Rev Dr Cortroy Jarvis used the text from 1Corinthians 3:5-9 to remind us that there the Church must continue the task of sowing as there is much work left to be done. He encouraged the congregation to be careful to pass on to the next generation the skills and knowledge that has brought it this far.

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Youth Fest Opening Service Zion Moravian Church in St. Kitts



Fulfilling the Mandate - Step out in Faith



**Birthday Greetings for
the month of
August is extended to:**

Sis. Winelle Kirton-Roberts	20
Bro. Reuben Vessup	22
Sis. Anique Elms-Matthew	22
Bro. Conrad Specer	29
Sis. Angela Frederick	30



**Anniversary Greetings for the
month of August
is extended to:**

Bro. Winston & Sis. Bernadine Chase	12
Bro. Matthew & Sis. Jasmin Crooks	13
Bro. Selvin & Sis. June McMillan	20
Bro. Dion & Sis. Eulencine Christopher	29



**Memorial Moravian Church
St Thomas, VI**

"130 years of sowing spiritual seeds and reaping untold blessings"

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the memory of the late Bro. Antonio Hodge was held in the afternoon. It was a refreshing evening time as the three Steel Orchestras (Junior, Youth, Adults) displayed their creative talents. Along with their featured performances, they played along with the Memorial Adult and Junior Handbells, the Ensemble, and the Anniversary Choir.

All in all, we can sincerely say that God has been good to the Moravian Memorial Church in St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands. The ever-growing congregation, especially among Youth and children, continues to be a place where many come to receive from the hands of the Lord. We certainly cannot be comfortable with where we are but look forward to the great things the Lord has in store for us.



Farmer Joe 's Day in Court

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armer Joe decided his injuries from the accident were serious enough to take the trucking company (responsible for the accident) to court. In court, the trucking company's fancy lawyer was questioning farmer Joe. "

Didn't you say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine?,' questioned the lawyer.

Farmer Joe responded, "Well I'll tell you what happened. I had just loaded my favorite mule Bessie into the....."

"I didn't ask for any details," the lawyer interrupted, "just answer the question. Did you not say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine!'"

Farmer Joe said, "well I had just got Bessie into the trailer and I was driving down the road..."

The lawyer interrupted again and said, "Judge, I am trying to establish the fact that, at the scene of the accident, this man told the Highway Patrolman on the scene that he was just fine. Now several weeks after the accident he is trying to sue my client. I believe he is a fraud. Please tell him to simply answer the question."

By this time the Judge was fairly interested in Farmer Joe's answer and said to the lawyer, "I'd like to hear what he has to say about his favorite mule Bessie."

Joe thanked the Judge and proceeded, "Well as I was saying, I had just loaded Bessie, my favorite mule, into the trailer and was driving her down the highway when this huge semi-truck and trailer ran the stop sign and smacked my truck right in the side. I was thrown into one ditch and Bessie was thrown into the other. I was hurting real bad and didn't want to move. However, I could hear ole Bessie moaning and groaning. I knew she was in terrible shape just by her groans.

Shortly after the accident a Highway Patrolman came on the scene. He could hear Bessie moaning and groaning so he went over to her. After he looked at her he took out his gun and shot her between the eyes. Then the Patrolman came across the road with his gun in his hand and looked at me. He said, "Your mule was in such bad shape I had to shoot her. How are you feeling?"





Moravian Multipurpose Complex

- ◆ Conferences
- ◆ Meetings
- ◆ Seminars
- ◆ Weddings
- ◆ Banquet
- ◆ Dinner

Only ten minutes away from the stores, shops and banks in St. John's.

Our International airport is also just ten minutes away.

Our balcony provides a refreshing view of undulating hills and valleys.

The conference center has a seating capacity for 200 persons.

We are situated on a hill overlooking the picturesque outskirts of the city of St. John's, Antigua.

There are **EIGHT LARGE APARTMENTS** which are available for rental. Each room is self contained with kitchenette. The rooms are air-conditioned with Available internet and cable TV. All utilities are included with the exception of telephone.



Conference Center & Apartments



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Fulfilling the Mandate - Step out in Faith