

# The Information

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

February, 2014



## Take the first step in faith.

Martin Luther King Jr in speaking of faith opines that, “Faith is taking the first step even when you don’t see the whole staircase”. Martin Luther, the great German Reformer says,



**Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis,**  
Chairman of the Provincial Elders Conference

“Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree.” Martin Luther had his own struggle to find peace with God. He fully dedicated himself to monastic life, the effort to do good works to please God and to serve others through prayer for their souls. Yet peace with God escaped him. He devoted himself to fasts, flagellations, long hours in prayer and pilgrimages, and constant confession. The more he tried to do for God, it seemed, the more aware he became of his sinfulness.

the Bible. This study convinced him that the Church had lost sight of several central truths. To Luther, the most important of these was the doctrine that brought him peace with God.

With joy, Luther now believed and taught that salvation is a gift of God’s grace, received by faith and trust in God’s promise to forgive sins for the sake of Christ’s death on the cross. This, he believed was God’s work from beginning to end.

The controversy that broke loose with the publication of his 95 Theses on the door of the Wittingburg Chapel, placed even more pressure on the reformer to study

### 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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He said, "We are saved by faith alone, but the faith that saves is never alone."

Stepping out in faith really means to do what God said to do without knowing the outcome of it. It is simply obeying the voice of God without a clue as to what will happen.

Abraham stepped out in faith when God told him to leave his relatives and go into a land that God told him to go. Abraham went out not knowing where he was going. He did not leave before he heard from the Lord. This is stepping out on faith.

When we say that we are stepping out in faith without first hearing from God, that is, we are doing what we want to do and it is called being proud. God will resist it.

\*\*\*We are supposed to follow the Lord, which means He is ahead of us and not us being in front of Him. When we put our will above Him, we will never achieve an expected result.

Stepping out in faith sounds good and make us think that we are righteous but we need to ask ourselves if this is what God desire for us to do. Stepping out in faith calls for us to wait upon God, for stepping out in faith without first hearing from God is actually stepping out of faith, because we are doing what we want to do. He is able to tell us what He wants us to do, so why not wait for His instructions.

**When an Army came out against David and the men with him and took their Wives, Children and their possessions, David enquired of the Lord and asked should he pursue after them. The Lord answered and said, pursue, for surely you shall recover all. David did not pursue this Army because he was a righteous man and it seemed like the right thing to do. He did not step out in faith before he got a word from God and because he waited on Him, he had good success.**

**"6 And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.**

<sup>7</sup> And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's

son, I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod. And Abiathar brought thither the ephod to David.

<sup>8</sup> And David enquired at the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.

<sup>15</sup> And David said to him, Canst thou bring me down to this company? And he said, Swear unto me by God, that thou wilt neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring thee down to this company.

<sup>16</sup> And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah.

<sup>17</sup> And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, which rode upon camels, and fled.

<sup>18</sup> And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives.

<sup>19</sup> And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any thing that they had taken to them: David recovered all." 1 Samuel 30: 6-8; 15-19 (KJV)

Stepping out in faith is good but we have to know it is the will of God so to do. We do not have to know exactly what we will do or where we are going; only that God is leading us.

We might want to do something and to our natural eyes, it is all good but God does not approve of it. We will still need to wait for Him to tell us to do it or not to do it. As I am writing this article, there is something that I would like to do, I can only see good in it, but I have not gotten a word from the Lord telling me to do it. I have presented it to Him but I have not yet received His word on it, so I know that I must not do it now. If He says to do it, I will gladly obey Him, but if His answer is no, I will still praise Him because He is right and He has another plan for me.

Some People think that if they have not heard from God in a certain amount of time then it is their right to proceed.

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



As was stated last month, for the next three months the hymns will be taken from the portion of the hymnal that contains hymns that are primarily geared towards the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Though we usually observe this sacrament only once monthly, the theology of these hymns merits them being sung other than at a Communion service. It is with that thought that we entrust the hymns for January, February and March to you with the hope that they will

also be sung at times other than during Holy Communion.

The hymn of the month for February is entitled simply **Communion Hymn**. This hymn was the result of the collaboration of attendees who participated at one of the many regional Caribbean music workshops that were hosted by the Caribbean Conference of Churches during the early 1980's. This particular hymn emerged from a workshop that was held in Jamaica. The tune is an adaptation of a Vincentian folk song. The melody is very simple and repetitive making it easy to learn. The rhythmic tempo which reflects our Caribbean culture should also lend itself to the hymn being easily taught to our congregations.

The simplicity of the music matches quite well with the text which is also simple and direct in its approach. The first verse focuses on the singing congregation as it comes to the Lord's Table. The second verse draws attention away from us to the Lord as our sharing in Communion is a reminder of the price paid for our sins. The third verse points to present and future realities in that as we share in Communion, we are transformed, a process that even though it has begun is not yet ended. In theological terms, this last verse proclaims the eschatological element of Holy Communion for the faith community.

This hymn was drawn from the Caribbean Hymnal – **Sing A New Song No. 3** which was published by the Caribbean Conference of Church. It will be a new addition to our Caribbean Moravian hymnal.

1.

We come now to your table Lord,  
You are the Living Bread.  
We come now to your table Lord,

Let every soul be fed.  
You are the Living Bread,  
Let every soul be fed,  
And now may every soul be fed,  
With Living Bread.

2.

We drink the cup, it was for us  
Your sacred blood was shed,  
We drink the cup, it was for us  
You suffered pain and bled;  
Your sacred blood was shed,  
You suffered pain and bled,  
We drink the cup it was for us  
Your blood was shed.

3.

A holy feast transforming us,  
The sacred Bread and Wine,  
A holy feast transforming us,  
That makes our lives divine;  
The sacred Bread and wine,  
That makes our lives divine,  
A holy feast transforming us  
This Bread and Wine.

*C.C.C. Jamaica Workshop*

***Taking the first step  
Cont'd from Page 2***

Do not be deceived; remember Saul lost his Kingdom because he did not wait on Samuel, the man of God who was to do the sacrifice. Samuel was delayed in coming to King Saul, he had a crisis on hand, and because Samuel was delayed, Saul offered up the sacrifice, which cost him the Kingdom.

The lesson we should learn from the incident with Saul is, not because it seems like the right thing to do; if it is not sanctioned by God, it is destined to fail. We could suffer dire consequences for stepping out in faith when God has not told us or instructed us so to do.

Let us walk boldly into the future, knowing that with faith in God we can accomplish anything.



## Address By President Nelson Mandela To The Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church in South Africa, 10 July 1998

*(Excerpts from the Moravian Messenger of January 2014)*

Allow me to thank you most sincerely for inviting me to be with you on this occasion. It has a special meaning for me, because, as you will know, I decided in 1995 to rename my official residence in Cape Town after Genadendal, where the first Moravian mission in south Africa, was established.

You have just marked the 261st Anniversary of the Moravian Church in South Africa. You can look back with pride on over two and half centuries of contributing to the development of our people, both spiritual and social. In more recent times, too, the Moravian Church played an important role in the struggle against apartheid.

As a product of a mission education myself, I know personally how important the churches have been in a country where the government took no responsibility for the education of the majority of the population.

All of us know, too that the noble values which are strengthened by such an education, the principles of justice, mutual respect and tolerance, do not become a part of our social reality without struggle.

It was perhaps inevitable that even a church such as yours would experience the separation amongst its members that our country's history brought everywhere and in every sphere of life.

It was also natural that when the Moravian church decided a few years ago to become one church again it would also have to overcome the effects of many years of introduction and enforced separation.

It requires much hard work and respect for each other to turn the variety of language and culture in our country into the source of strength that it really is, rather than an instrument for creating division and mistrust that apartheid made it.

It is therefore a particular joy to learn that you have just accepted and adopted a new constitution, entrenching and protecting the unity of the church.

South Africa has seized the chance that freedom brings to begin building a better life for all its people. Such a process brings a fundamental social and political transformation that is bound to awaken anxieties and concerns in all communities, whether it be African, coloured, Indian or White.

We appreciate the concerned efforts of your church to overcome within your own body the divides that our social and political past created. It is a practical and valued contribution to nation-building, and strengthens us for the even greater tasks of today and tomorrow.

As I said: religion helped us as a people to keep alive the vision of a better society. Today it is called upon to help realize that vision in practice. It has a particular role to play as a partner in rebuilding the morality of our society.

The Moravian passion for welfare work, the profound understanding of the importance of education and training, and the dedication to spiritual and social development are invaluable assets as we face these challenges.

We take inspiration from the fact that the Synod's theme is "A New Beginning". It tells us that our nation does have a tried and trusted partner in our efforts to turn South Africa into the country of our dream.

**Jane Hutchings writes:** Genadendal, six kilometers outside Greyton is the first and oldest mission station in South Africa. Genadendal ('Valley of Grace') was founded by Georg Schmidt, an early worker of the Moravian Missionary Society in 1738. On 1st February 1995 President Nelson Mandela announced that his official residence in Cape Town had been renamed Genadendal. On 10th October 1995 he paid the mission station an official visit.

*Material supplied by Edna Cooper*

### Condolences

The PEC expresses sympathy on the passing of Sir. Adolphus Freeland who passed into the nearer presence of God on Saturday January 11, 2014.

Sir. Adolphus Freeland was a former Government Minister and a dedicated member of the **Potters/Zion Moravian Church in Antigua**. He was a former lay preacher and delegate to Island

Conference. He represented the Antigua Conference at Provincial Synod on several occasions. He was also Chairman of the Synod Planning Committee in 1984 and 1999 when the Synod was held in Antigua. In addition, he chaired the Committee which planned the Unity Synod in 1988 which was held in Antigua.



The Thanksgiving Service for the life of Sir. Adolphus Freeland took place on Thursday January 30, 2014 at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua.

## Onrdination Service

Sis. Onita Samuel will be ordained a Deacon in the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province on Tuesday February 4, 2014 at the Cedar Hall Moravian Church in Antigua at 7 pm.



## PEC MEETINGS

The scheduled meetings for the PEC in 2014 are as follows:

January 31– February 01 in Antigua

April 24 – 26 in St. Kitts

July 03 – 05 in Trinidad

October 02 – 04 in St. John

In addition, the Superintendents Conference for 2014 will take place in Antigua from February 02 – February 03, 2014.



## Watchword for 2014

The Watchword assigned to the Eastern West Indies Province for 2014, is the one drawn for February 26, 2014: *The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the Lord shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed. (1 Sam.2:10)*



## Unity Sunday

**Sunday March 02, 2014 is Unity Sunday.** A special offering will be taken in all Moravian Churches worldwide, to go towards “**Ministry in the interior of Suriname**”.

## Theological Education Sunday.

**Sunday March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014, is Theological Education Sunday.**

Please remember in prayer our Warden/Tutor and all of our ministers in training at this time.

At present our Warden/Tutor is the Rev. Neilson Waithe and our seven (7) Ministers in training are:

Erwin Warner	Christian Education Ministry/ Youth Ministry	Final year
Catherine Governor	Christian Education Ministry	Final Year
Yvanne Jean	Christian Education Ministry	Final Year
Moise Jean	Pastoral Ministry	Final Year
Elva Richards-Huggins	Pastoral Ministry	Year 02
Daniel Mark	Pastoral Ministry	Year 01
Kevin St. Hill	Pastoral Ministry	Year 01

On this Sunday a special offering will be taken to go towards continuing Education. Let us pray that our Warden/Tutor and our Ministers in Training remain faithful to God and fulfill His purpose for their lives.

It is also a time when we challenge our young people, to listen to and respond to the call of God and to offer themselves to the fulltime Ministry.



## Unity Prayer Watch 2014

The Eastern West Indies Province will participate in the Unity Prayer Watch from Midnight March 31- – Midnight April 14, 2014. The Schedule is as follows:

- ❖ Grenada - Midnight March 31- 12.00a.m April 02, 2014
- ❖ St. Kitts - 12:00a.m. April 02 -11:00a.m. April 03, 2014
- ❖ Trinidad - 11:00a.m. April 03- Middy April 04, 2014
- ❖ Barbados - Middy April 04 - Midnight April 06, 2014
- ❖ Virgin Islands - Midnight April 06 – 6.00am April 10, 2014
- ❖ Tobago - 6.00a.m. April 10 - 6.00p.m April 11, 2014
- ❖ Antigua - 6.00p.m. April 11 - Midnight April 14, 2014

Conferences are asked to observe the time allotted for our members to engage in the unbroken prayer chain. This prayer meeting began 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.



**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. Willard Prout	10
Bro. Junior Sean Roberts	10
Sis. June Mcmillan	17
Bro. Adrian Smith	21
Bro. Errol Connor	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



**Book of Order 2012**

Copies of the New Book of Order are now available and can be purchased from the Provincial Headquarters for EC\$20.00 or US\$8.00 or BDS\$16.00 or TT\$48.00.

The Book of Order has been revised and updated with all the new resolutions from the 30<sup>th</sup> Provincial Synod held in St. Thomas in 2012.

**Let Go**



man named Jack was walking along a steep cliff. He accidentally got too close to the edge and fell.

On the way down, he grabbed a branch, which temporarily stopped his fall. He looked down and to his horror saw that the canyon fell straight down for more than a thousand feet.

He couldn't hang onto the branch forever, and there was no way for him to climb up the steep wall of the cliff. So Jack began yelling for help, hoping that someone passing by would hear him and lower a rope or something.

"Help! Help! Is anyone up there? Help!"

He yelled for a long time, but no one heard him. He was about to give up when he heard a voice.

"Jack, Jack. Can you hear me?"

"Yes, yes! I can hear you. I'm down here!"

"I can see you, Jack. Are you all right?"

"Yes, but who are you, and where are you?"

"I am the Lord, Jack. I'm everywhere."

"The Lord? You mean, God?"

"That's Me."

"God, please help me! I promise if, you'll get me down from here, I'll stop sinning. I'll be a really good person. I'll serve You for the rest of my life."

"Easy on the promises, Jack. Let's get you down from there; then we can talk. Now, here's what I want you to do. Listen carefully."

"I'll do anything, Lord. Just tell me what to do."

"Okay. Let go of the branch."

"What?" asked Jack.

"I said, Let go of the branch. Just trust Me. Let go!"

There was a long silence.

Finally, Jack yelled, "Help! Help! Is anyone else up there?" Have you ever felt like Jack?

We say that we want to know the will of God, but when we find out what it is, we can't handle it. Sounds too scary or too difficult, and we decide to look elsewhere.

When He says, "Let go of the things that stand between you and Me, and trust Me with your life," it sounds pretty scary.

But when we let go, we find freedom and safety in His hands.

Let Go





## 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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