

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

June, 2014



The Shunammite woman who stepped out in faith

In the last article in the Information Newsletter for May 2014, I began a two part article on Elisha and the women who stepped out in faith against the odds in 2 Kings 4. The article is concluded in this issue of the Information Newsletter. In this conclusion, we shall look at 2 Kings 4: 8-37.



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

The shield of faith described by the apostle Paul in his letter to the Ephesians is of paramount importance because it is the grace “with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one” (Ephesians 6:16). This is not an uncertain promise. Rather, it is divine assurance that faith

equips us to escape the very extremities of evil. But what is faith?

The Bible defines faith as “being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” (Hebrews 11:1). Thus, faith is *a channel of living trust, that is*, an assurance that stretches from man to God. In other words, it is the object of faith that renders faith faithful.

Furthermore, faith is the assurance that God’s promises will never fail, even if sometimes we do not experience their fulfillment in our mortal existence. Hebrews 11 underscores the fact that we trust God to fulfill his promises for the

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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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Fulfilling the Mandate - Step out in Faith

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future (the unseen) based on what he has already fulfilled in the past. Thus, our faith is not blind, but based squarely on God's proven faithfulness. What then do we make of our text?

Elisha, that man of God, was befriended by a Shunammite woman and her husband. This couple had everything this world could desire. They were comfortable, they were affluent, they were at peace with the world. But they lacked one thing and that was a son. Elisha knew of their great passion and of their tremendous desire. And so he prayed. God heard his prayer and a boy was born into the family of the Shunammite woman and her husband. They so loved Elisha that in their home they made a special room for the prophet when he would pass through their area in his itinerant ministry. The room was called "the prophet's chamber."

One day the boy was running around in the fields when suddenly he grabbed his head. He began to say, "My head! my head!" They picked him up and they carried him to his mother, that godly woman, the Shunammite. She put him on her lap and tried to minister unto him. But in a little while he died. With that, she lifted up his body and carried him up the steps to the prophet's chamber and placed him on Elisha's bed. And she came back down the steps. She saw her husband, and she said to him, "It shall be well." With that, she said, "I'm going to get Elisha."

Elisha sends his trusted assistant Gehazi to take the prophet's walking stick and use it to heal the child. But the woman knows who really has the power, and she won't leave without the prophet himself. Sure enough, we soon learn that Elisha's staff isn't powerful enough. The actual presence of that important man of God is required and, sure enough, when he shows up, the child is raised from the dead. We know this, of course, because the child sneezes seven times, of all the details to include. Seven being the number of wholeness, just adds to the impression that this prophet has it going for him.

From the reaction of the woman it is clear that she did not consider the death of her son as an irreversible reality.

Really, instead of mourning around the child and tell her husband about the death, she put the child on the bed of the man of God and asked her husband to give her a donkey and a young man that she may go to him. Obviously, this woman recognized that her child was a gift that God gave her and that his death was not God's will. Thus she did not accept that the death of her son was a reality that could not change. That's why she rushed to Elisha, and did not say to anyone what had happened. Verses 25-28 tell us what happened when she met Elisha:

"And so she departed, and went to the man of God at mount Carmel. So it was, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to his servant Gehazi, 'Look the Shunammite woman! Please run now to meet her, and say to her, 'Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband? Is it well with the child?'" and she answered, "It is well" Now when she came to the man of God at the hill, she caught him by the feet, but Gehazi came near to push her away. But the man of God said, "Let her alone; for her soul is in deep distress, and the Lord has hidden it from me and has not told me. So she said, "Did I ask a son of my lord? Did I not say, "Do not deceive me?"

Once more we can see that without the Lord telling him, Elisha, as any other man, it was impossible to know in advance what was happening to the woman. The woman was obviously very sorrowful. However, despite her great sorrow, she found the courage and stepped out in faith to leave her dead child at home and visit the man of God. Elisha's reaction was immediate. In 2 Kings 4: 29-31 is instructive:

"Then he [Elisha] said to Gehazi, 'Get yourself ready, and take my staff in your hand, and be on your way. If you meet anyone do not greet him; and if anyone greets you, do not answer him; but lay my staff on the face of the child.'" And the mother of the child said, "As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So he arose and followed her. Now Gehazi went on ahead of them, and led the staff on the face of the child; but there was neither voice nor hearing. Therefore he went back to meet him, and told him, saying, the child has not awakened."

Gehazi arrived first into the house. But though he did what Elisha told him, the child did not awake. After a while, Elisha and the mother of the child arrived as well: "When Elisha came into the house, there was the child lying dead on

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his bed. He went in therefore, shut the door behind the two of them AND PRAYED TO THE LORD." (2 Kings 4: 32-33).

Elisha PRAYED to the Lord. This was his reaction to the situation. He certainly was in a difficult situation. The child that God promised to this woman through him was dead, and without any sign of recovery even after Gehazi did what Elisha told him. Nevertheless, we do not at any point see Elisha lose his trust in God, or feel frustrated and laid down. Instead, he faced the situation as he should: HE PRAYED TO THE LORD. It is the Lord that is the source of all answers, and Elisha needed to have an answer about what to do with the situation. So he prayed to the only One that knew the answer: to the Lord. As a result, God answered his prayer: *"and he went up and lay on the child, and put his mouth on his mouth, his eyes on his eyes, and his hands on his hands; and he stretched himself out on the child; and the flesh of the child became warm. He returned and walked back and forth in the house, and again went up and stretched himself out on him; then the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes."* (2 Kings 4: 34-35).

All these things that the above passage tells us that Elisha did were not something that came out of his mind. Instead they were done after God's revelation. It is obvious from the result: the child was healed and Elisha gave it back to his mother:

"And he called Gehazi and said, 'Call this Shunammite woman.' So he called her. And when she came in to him, he said, 'Pick up your son.' So she went in, fell at his feet, and bowed to the ground; then she picked up her son and went out. And Elisha returned to Gilgal". (2 Kings: 4: 36-37).

God delivered the woman and reversed the seemingly irreversible fact of the child's death, showing by this that He can really go as far as it is needed to deliver those who seek His delivering power.

This article, as the second of a two part article, I have examined that showed us the delivering power of God when we step out in faith. You are encouraged to study the Word of God for yourself to find more examples. In both cases I have examined and generally in all cases that one can

find by studying the Bible, the lesson that is given is the same: those who trust in the Lord and seek Him will never be ashamed whatever problem they may face. Stepping out in faith, trusting in God, is the key to our deliverance. Our God is a God of deliverance and there is no limit in His delivering power. He can go so far as to fill empty vessels of oil or to raise dead children in order to deliver His people. He is really "able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think". (Ephesians 3:20). In both cases the focus has been on the ability of God to deliver those that seek Him from any problem they may have and also to see how they stepped out in faith.



Synod Bulletin #1

Hosting of the 31st Provincial Synod

The 31st Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province will be held in Antigua from July 10 – 16, 2015 at the Jolly Beach Resort and Spa. The Resort is an all inclusive Hotel.

- ♦ All Members of Staff are expected to be in attendance at the Synod.
- ♦ All Conferences are asked to have their delegates elected and the names forwarded to the Provincial Headquarters no later than February 28, 2015.
- ♦ Delegates will be required to pay US\$570.00 per person for the Synod, while Observers will be required to pay US\$700.00 per person.
Children 3 – 11 years can stay in a room with 2 adults for US \$66 per person per night. Children 0 – 2 stay free of charge.
- ♦ Members of the Moravian Church can begin to frame proposals to forward to Synod for consideration. Once considered and passed, they will become resolutions to guide the administration of the church.
- ♦ Members of the Moravian Church can begin to frame proposals to forward to Synod for consideration. Once considered and passed, they will become resolutions to guide the administration of the church.
- ♦ All Conferences are asked to have their Synod reports prepared and forwarded to the Provincial Headquarters no later than March 01, 2015. The reports will then be duplicated, collated and forwarded to all delegates via email by May 01, 2015, to give persons an opportunity to read and digest the reports, so that our forward planning could be more informed and therefore more intentional. Delegates will collect the hard copy of the reports in booklet form upon arrival in Antigua.

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

For June, the hymn of the month is a new hymn that is not in the current hymnal. It is the hymn **You are wonderful, You are marvellous** and was written by Sis. Albertha Titus, a member of the Memorial Moravian congregation in Trinidad. Sis. Titus has served the Moravian church at all levels: on her local congregational board, as Conference treasurer of the Trinidad Conference and as a member of the Provincial Elders Conference.



This hymn was penned in 2009 and captures the nature and character of God. It extols the magnificence of God pointing to the beauty of creation as evidence of God's matchless power. As we sing this new hymn with its simple melody we are reminded that just how excellent, wonderful and awesome is our God. Throughout this hymn we are made to reflect not only on the greatness of God, to which nothing can be compared, but also to recognize that in all of creation, ourselves included, God's hand is at work. This hymn expresses the sentiment of the Psalmist who declared in Psalm 139: 14, *"I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well."* As we celebrate and acknowledge Ascension, Pentecost and Trinity Sundays during the month of June, might this hymn serve as a timely reminder of the greatness of Jehovah God! The hymn was harmonised by Rev. Dr. Ulston Smith. Below are the words for this hymn:

*You are wonderful,
 You are marvelous,
 You are good O Lord to me!
 You are faithful,
 You're incomparable,
 You are good O Lord to me!*

In the annals of creation
 In the history of the world,
 Man has not known nor heard
 Of a God as good as You.

You fill the heavens and the earth,
 You fling the stars in space
 You made us all in Your image
 And there is no God like You.

Your goodness fills all the earth
 And your love surpasses all.
 Unmatchable is Your power;
 Lord, there is no God like You!

You Are Wonderful

Alberta Titus Melody by Alberta Titus;
Harr. Rev. Ulston P. Smith

Refrain

You are won-der-ful, You are mar-ve-lous, You are good, O Lord to me!

You are faith-ful, You're in-com-pa-ra-ble, You are good O Lord to me!

Verse

1. In the an-nals of cre-a-tion in the his-tory of the world,
 2. Fill the heav-ens and the earth, You fling the stars in space
 3. Your good-ness fills all the earth, and your love sur-pass-es all.

Man has not known nor heard of a God as good as You.
 You made us all in your im-age and there is no God like You.
 Un-match-a-ble is your pow-er and there is no God like You.



Significance of Father's Day Festival

Father's Day festival give us the opportunity to express thanks to our Daddy for all their unconditional love and affection. Observance of Father's Day makes fathers feel that their contributions are acknowledged in the society and also by their children. They feel proud of themselves ! Besides by celebrating Father's Day, children come closer to their father. For, most often children take love of their parents for granted. Celebration of Father's Day makes them ponder for a while on the important role their father play in their life. This helps them appreciate the selfless care and protection provided by their father and hence they come emotionally closer to their dad.

Children must therefore take full opportunity of the day and express their gratitude for fathers with all their heart.

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.
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.
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. Rev. Dr. Patmore Smith, Minister of Music for both the Trinidad and Tobago conference will proceed on his assignment in the Tobago conference and will be duly installed on May 07, 2014 at the Montgomery Moravian Church at 6 p.m.



Provincial Youth Camp

The Provincial Youth Camp will be held in Barbados from July 10 - 17, 2014. Let us remember our young people in our prayers as they prepare for the Provincial youth camp.



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 30th Provincial Synod held in St. Thomas in 2012.

The Memorial Moravian Church in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands celebrated its 130th Anniversary of worshipping in its present Sanctuary on Sunday May 18, 2014. Details next issue!

Quote of the Day

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

Mayo Angela

What Happens at Penuel by

Ezra Parris (Rev.)

May 18, 2014

Genesis 32:24-30



*What's in a name? that which we call a rose
By any other name would smell as sweet;
So Romeo would, were he not Romeo call'd,
Retain that dear perfection which he owes
Without that title. - Romeo and Juliet - Act II Scene II*

The above quotation from William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* suggests that a name is not important, rather it is the essence of what is named that is of utmost importance. A study of names in the Bible reveals however that names were vested with meaning, often reflecting the character of the person, the place, or object that was named. So Biblical names for the most part were not random word symbols, rather they were often expressions of the nature of that they signified. There could be much in a name.

This afternoon we have gathered to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the commencement of Moravian ministry in Sweet Vale. And we are going to come back to that name, because when the Moravian work began in this community, as I understand it, they were not talking about Sweet Vale—it began in Sweet Bottom. Somewhere along the line there was a change of name to Sweet Vale.

The point today, however, is about Penuel — A name that we first meet in the Bible in Genesis 32:30 where it says, *And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."* I have not heard why those who have the privilege of naming the mission called it Penuel. But I think that for those of the time there must have been some significance attached to the name as it relates to the work in this location.

As we celebrate this 100th Anniversary therefore, I say to you that this anniversary becomes the opportunity to celebrate and recommit to all that the name Penuel suggests from a biblical perspective.

Penuel is a place of encounter with God.

Jacob is making his way from Haran, from under the influence of his father-in-law, returning to the land of his father Isaac—Canaan (Genesis 31:17-18). He has had some difficulties with his brother Esau and so he anticipates that his return was not going to be easy. He makes his preparations, including sending his family, his servants and possessions across the Jabbok River ahead of him (32:22). He spends the night alone on the Northern bank of the river.

We are told that as he was there alone in the night a man wrestled with him until day break (v. 24). At some point in that prolonged struggle, it became apparent to Jacob that he was wrestling with God himself. Perhaps it was at that point when he felt that damaging blow to his hip—no man could hit like that!



Then Jacob held on for dear life— v. 26, *he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"* When the event was over, Genesis 32:30 tells us, . . . *Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face.* What that says to me about Penuel is that it is a place of encounter with God.

My challenge to you who make up this congregation today is to make Penuel a place of encounter with God. A place where God is given the opportunity to touch hearts. A question that has intrigued me is who started the fight Jacob had at the crossing of the river? My reading of the story is that it was God who first put his hand on Jacob—it was God who came to him Verse 24 says, . . . *a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.* Jacob was at the point where he was ready for God—when he recognized that it was God he was dealing with, he held on for a blessing.

At Penuel, hearts must be moved and stirred to recognize our spiritual poverty and so be prepared for an encounter with God. So Penuel becomes a place where men and women wrestle with matters of faith; a place where people develop a yearning for the things of God—for his blessing.

Penuel is also a place of blessing.

Jacob held on when he recognized that he was wrestling with God. Genesis 32:26-29, *And He said, "Let Me go,*

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Scenes from the Trinidad Moravian School Teachers' Retreat



After years of suggesting that a retreat be hosted in Tobago, the Moravian Church, Trinidad, finally materialized the plan. All teachers from both schools – Gloster Lodge Moravian and L'Anse Noire Moravian responded favourably and on Friday 09 May, 2014, we gathered at Works' Conference Hall, Shaw Park, Tobago, to host this memorable event under the theme "Promoting Values at the Center of School Policy and Classroom Practice".

The morning commenced with breakfast prepared by the Moravian Church, Tobago Conference for the teachers who travelled from Trinidad. Following breakfast was an awesome time of devotion lead by Rev. Onita Kareen Samuel who concluded with having us label a tree with the persons in our lives who could be considered fruits, branches and the trunk.

Rev. Esther Moore Roberts, Superintendent of the Moravian Church, Tobago welcomed us to Tobago. Rev. Adelyn Mgonela, Chairman of the Moravian School Board of Management, expressed thanks to the Tobago Conference for their preparation and especially to Miss Claudette Governor who was very instrumental in ensuring everything was in place for the retreat. She also extended welcome to all especially the Moravian teachers of Tobago.

The formal session was chaired by Rev. Liselle Roberts. The lively featured speaker Dr. Verleen Bobb-Lewis, Educational Consultant, gave us much food for thought as we discussed the importance of teachers modeling good values especially being denominational schools. She encouraged us to work as a team to continue spreading the moral principles of the Moravians in our schools.

Among us were members of the Moravian School Board of Management, a representative from the Division of Education, Tobago House of Assembly along with six Moravian teachers who serve in other schools on the island.

After the formal sessions, teachers were treated to ice cream and a tour of the island which was sponsored by our male teachers in honour of Mother's Day.

It was indeed a day full of worship, enlightenment, camaraderie and fun!



Fulfilling the Mandate - Step out in Faith

MORAVIAN CHURCH – UNITAS FRATRUM

Office of the Unity Business Administrator



MESSAGE TO THE UNITY

To the members of the worldwide Moravian Church, we greet you in the name of Christ Jesus, our Lord and Chief Elder.

The Unity Board met in Kigoma, Tanzania, 6 to 11 May, 2014, and we were welcomed by the Lake Tanganyika Province, which provided wonderful hospitality. Many of us arrived by way of Burundi, where the Moravians also welcomed us with great enthusiasm. We rejoice that our Savior continues to bring growth to many provinces. The Moravian Church in Zambia, formerly a Mission Province, was received as a Unity Province. Burundi was recognized as a Mission Province, Iringa (Tanzania) and Eastern Congo are new Mission Areas, and Angola and Ruvuma-Njombe were recognized as Prospective Mission Areas.

As we listened to reports we had no doubt that Moravians continue the tradition serving those often neglected by others. Provinces continue to minister to refugees, and in Africa some present-day growth is a direct result of Moravian work during times of civil conflict and genocide. Around the Unity congregations and provinces supplement what governments provide in education and health services. Social justice is a priority, especially confronting gender violence and caring for victims of HIV/AIDS.

Some provinces have business enterprises to provide employment and generate funds for mission, including several environmental projects. One province has an avocado project, another “Efforts in Trees.” The delegate from South Africa made a special presentation to other delegates on how to establish effective business enterprises. And, of course, the Moravian Church Foundation reported of substantial income for theological education and projects from its many business enterprises.

Provinces continue to share leadership. A Czech Moravian serves in Peru, a Danish couple serves in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a Swiss volunteer is in Tanzania, and many youth are engaged in volunteer service, especially through the American provinces’ “Antioch Servant” program.

Are the Unity and its provinces facing difficulties as we expand our horizons in fulfilling the Great Commission of our Lord? Yes, just as individuals and congregations do. We rejoice in steps toward reconciliation brought about by the Holy Spirit in some areas (reconciliation is possible!) and we still wait for such steps in other areas. But often it is in our mistakes that we find God’s guidance and grace. Furthermore, in the midst of difficult conversations we as Unity Board members have found both mutual respect and mutual guidance.

We find great joy and privilege in our service and we remain in prayer for continued growth in numbers, ministry, and dedication to our Lord.

Unity Board of the Unitas Fratrum
Kigoma, Tanzania, 10 May 2014

2014 UNITY BOARD MEETING

It was a long journey. It was a long anticipated visit to the African continent. It was a journey filled with expectations of the growth of the Moravian Church in Tanzania. Tanzania is the place where more than half of the number of Moravian Christians in the world, reside. There had to be something to learn about the culture and the method of evangelization of the people called Moravians in this East African Nation. Did I learn anything?

The people have a burning desire to make Jesus known. They not only have the desire, but they immerse themselves and move from desire realization. They go. They do the hard work. They organize their Evangelists, who are not ordained persons, but who are sold out on Christ. Secondly, their Choirs are used as powerful instruments of evangelism. The Choirs use lots of music and dance as they share the gospel in a dynamic way. The message they bring and share is exciting, inviting and palatable. There is a powerful message in everything they do. One is left to asked, what has excited these people so much? If they are Christians and filled with so much Joy as they worship then I want that Joy as well. Choirs are organized for children, youth, young adults, women and or a combination of some or all groups. These groups know their role and will go to any length to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ. In addition to all of this, there is a warmth and genuineness about their fellowship in worship. This warmth and genuineness is so inviting that when persons visit the worship, they will always want to return.

It was quite evident that the leadership of the Church is very much respected. There seems to be a healthy relationship between leaders and followers which augurs well for any organization.

The growth of the Moravian in Tanzania is phenomenal. There are now 6 Unity Provinces in Tanzania and a 7th is looming. In addition, it is from Tanzania that there are now Unity Provinces in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Zaire), Zambia and Malawi. In addition, Burundi has just received the status of a Mission Province. Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda are seen as Prospective Mission Areas. Exploratory work has already started in these areas. The DRC is also exploring work in Angola. God has been gracious and the prayer is that all these areas will be receptive to the gospel in the midst of some hostile environments. The map in this article will give a clearer idea of the work of the Moravian Church in East Africa.

The Journey to Tanzania was long and sometimes tiring. I left Antigua on Saturday afternoon May 3, 2014 and travelled through New York to Qatar in the Middle East. I flew all night and arrived in Qatar Sunday afternoon at 6. 30pm.

Having spent the night in Qatar, I arrived at Doha International Airport next morning at 5.15am for the onward journey. We passed through Uganda, Rwanda where I change planes and arrived in Burundi at 4.15pm on Monday afternoon. All of the overseas delegates assembled in Burundi where we spent the night at Mount Sion Catholic Retreat Centre. We were treated to dinner that night by Vice Minister NSABIYUNVA EVARISTE (a Moravian who is a Junior Minister in the Government of Burundi). It was truly a sumptuous feast and the fellowship was awesome. The Pastors and the other persons who met us and interacted with us in Burundi were heart-warming. They did a lot to make us feel welcome and at home. In addition, they ensured our safety and security while being there. Burundi was a breath of fresh air.

We drove all day without eating. We arrived at our destination, Lake Tanganyika Hotel, Kigoma, Tanzania at 8.00pm on the Tuesday very hungry. The meal was good and so we all ate, relaxed and had a good night's rest. The Hotel was a mere 100 yards away from the Lake. It was always refreshing every morning to look upon the large body of water and the wonder of God creation.

The Unity Board meetings ran from morning until night, with breaks for lunch and snacks. The meetings were very good, though very challenging at times. Reports were presented from every Unity Province, Mission Province, Mission Areas and Prospective Mission Areas, President of the Unity Board, the Unity Business Administrator, Moravian Church Foundation, Star Mountain, Unity Archives, Unity Mission and Development Fund and Unity Committee on Theology. In addition, special reports had to be given in areas where there are conflicts and the progress in seeking to reconcile. Very pertinent questions were asked as the reports were presented and appropriate answers given. I came away from the meetings feeling a sense of accomplishment and refreshment.

In the midst of everything, we squeezed in some time to visit a Museum and the Gombe National Park accessible only by the Lake Tanganyika in Tanzania. The experiences were wonderful. Travelling on Lake Tanganyika for 4 hours was a real adventure, especially as the wooden boat was taking in water and the workers on the boat had to be using buckets to bail water out both ways. Most of us had our life Jackets on all the way. The winds picked up very strong on our way back from the Gombe National Park, which had the boat rocking from side to side.

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2014 Unity Board meeting Cont'd from page 9

The Park had a number of Chimps and lots of Velvet red-tailed, blue -tailed, red Colobus monkeys, baboons and forest pig (Wild hogs), antelope and a variety of tropical birdlife. Twenty six Resolutions were passed.

AFRICA | MIDDLE EAST



Thanks to our brothers and sisters in Burundi and Tanzania for a memorable experience! To God be the glory, great things He has done!



getting ready for dinner in Burundi



l to r Rev. Dr. C. Jarvis, Vice minister, nsabiyunva Evariste, Rev Dr. P. Gardner



Other Unity Board delegates before dinner



Getting ready to board the Bus in Burundi



on our way to Tanzania



Fulfilling the Mandate - Step out in Faith

What Happens at Penuel Cont'd from Page 7

for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" 27 So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." 28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." 29 Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there.

Jacob received a blessing at Penuel. His name was changed—in fact his name was elevated from grasping supplanter to prince with God.

Let me challenge you Penuel, to make this church a place where men and women are blessed. A place where names are changed, where those whose names have been published with a poor report may come to the transforming grace of God—For we serve a God of second changes and new names.

Let me challenge you Penuel to make to church a place where men and women, like Jacob, see the face of God and live! A place where names are written down for glory; For we have the assurance that those who come to him *he will in wise cast out*. Unto them is given the gift of life eternal. 1 Peter 2:6 says, *Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame."* Make Penuel a place of blessing.

One hundred years becomes the opportunity to celebrate and recommit to all that the name Penuel suggests. It may mean that we have to do some things differently—the habits of 100 years could really grow on us, we can become set in our ways. The change of the name from Sweet Bottom to Sweet Vale should be a signal to us—times have changed, the community around us has changed. So there will be a need to do some things differently, that we may be the church that we need to be, that we fulfill our mission.

One thing you must give to Jacob—he was willing to try something. He had an elaborate scheme to save his own skin . . . God however intervened and saved him from himself. It is such persons who God uses.

Penuel, my exhortation to you today is to go with God.



Anniversary Greetings for the month of June is extended to:

Bro. Reuben & Sis. Ivy Vessup	01
Bro. Kirk & Sis. Nicole Barker	24

Happy Birthday!



Birthday Greetings for the month of June is extended to:

Sis. Sharon Mc Cardy-Joseph	05
Bro. Nigel Daniel	05
Sis. Bernadine Chase	07
Bro. Calvin Isaac	13
Sis. Joycelyn Connor	17
Bro. Selvin McMillan	25
Sis. Jasmin Crooks	26
Sis. Roslyn Hamblin	29

Fun Corner



t a local Burger King an elderly couple came in and ordered one burger, one order of fries and one coke with two glasses. When they got to their booth, the man placed a napkin in front of himself and one in front of his wife, then proceeded to divide the fries, cut the burger in half and divided the coke equally.

A gentleman nearby noticed and offered to buy them another burger, fries and coke.

The woman then said, "No you don't understand. We've been married over 50 years and all our life we agreed to split everything right down the middle."

Her husband then began eating, as she sat with her hands in her lap.

The gentleman nearby noticed and asked the lady why she wasn't eating.

She replied, "As I said before, we split everything right down the middle, and it's his day to use the teeth first."



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