

The Information

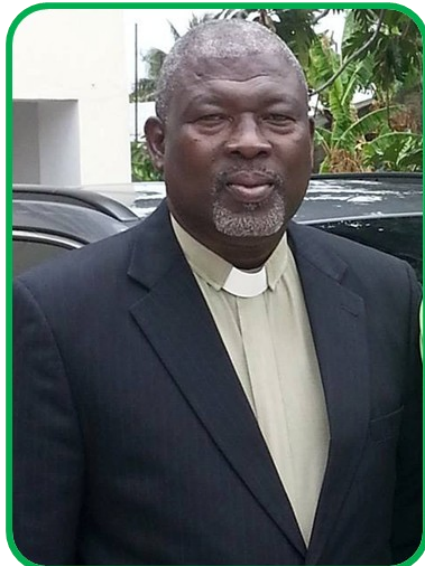
Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction. 2 Timothy 4:2

January, 2015



Advance the Kingdom

Happy New Year! May the New Year bring to you warmth of love, and a light to guide your path towards a positive destination.



Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis
Chairman of PEC

As one year has ended, I wish all the negativity and difficulties also end with this year and 2015 brings success and desired results for you.

As the New Year renews all the happiness and good tidings, I hope the joyful spirit keeps glowing in your heart forever.

Neil Gaiman in reflecting on the New Year says, "I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're Doing Something."

I heard of some men years ago who were on a leaky old ship, in the middle of a rough and stormy sea. And they were actually fearful for their lives. They didn't know whether they were going to sink or not. So one of them went in to see the captain and said, "Captain, are we safe?" He said, "Well, I'll put it to you this way." He said, "The boilers on this ship are very weak and may explode at any moment." He said, "Also, the ship is very old, and she's taking on water." So he said, "To be very honest with you, we may have an explosion, or we may sink." He said, "We may go up, or we may go down, but at any rate, we are going on." And that's the way we are as we face this New Year dear friend. Jesus may come, we may go up. We may die, and go down and then up, but at any rate we are going on. We are going on. We are facing a brand new year, and we don't know what it's going to bring.

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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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It is said that you know the old map makers, before they had the modern instruments that we have, when they would draw maps, they would draw maps as far out as they had been, as far out as they had explored, and then when they reached the other point of their exploration, they had not known what would be beyond. And you can see this on old Maps; they would write on them, "Beyond this, there may be dragons." So far as they were concerned, it was uncharted and unknown and therefore fearful. And that's the way many of us feel about the future.

Frances Havergal in reflecting on how we should face the future and in particular the New Year penned the hymn, **standing at the Portal**.

Standing at the portal
 of the opening year,
 Words of comfort meet us,
 hushing every fear;
 Spoken thru the silence
 by our Savior's voice,
 Tender, strong and faithful,
 making us rejoice.

**Refrain: Onward then and
 fear not,
 children of the day;
 for his word shall never,
 never pass away.**

I the Lord I'm with you
 Be thou not afraid;
 I will help and strengthen
 Be thou not dismayed.
 Yea, I will uphold you
 With My own right hand;
 Thou art called and chosen
 In My sight to stand.

For the year before us,
 O what rich supplies!
 For the poor and needy
 Living streams shall rise;
 for the sad and sinful
 Shall His grace abound;
 For the faint and feeble
 Perfect strength be found.

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

With that in mind, look us look in God's word. Hebrews Chapter 13, verses 5 and 6, "Let your conversation be without covetousness." Now the word conversation here literally means behavior, "and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, "The Lord is my helper, I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

Our Provincial theme for 2015 concludes the three year cycle of Fulfilling the Mandate. The thematic focus is: Advance the Kingdom.

The first step in Fulfilling the Mandate is to Submit to God's Rule. I Submit myself totally to God. There ought to be a complete transformation in my life. Paul speaks in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

Once my life has been transformed, then I will have that boldness to Step out in Faith, i.e., I relinquish fear and focus on God. One cannot Step out in Faith if his/her life has not been surrendered to Jesus. We must be able to stand on the Word and defend it. I can Step out in Faith when what I say and do, are in Alignment with God.

When we Step out in Faith, we will have the boldness to Advance the Kingdom. Why is it that some of us do not have the confidence to Witness about our Faith in Jesus Christ? Why is it that we cannot stand up and defend the reason for being who we are? Is it that we do not know the Word of God?

The word **fulfill** carries with it a number of meanings: Complete, Accomplish, Execute, Do, Discharge, Realize, Carry Out, Implement, Finish.

The word **Mandate** carries with it the following meanings: Order, Command, Directive, Instruction, Authorization, Permission, go ahead.

Fulfilling the Mandate therefore means that we must complete or accomplish the Order or Command. The question is whose Command or whose Order or Command we must complete or accomplish? As Children of God, we are under the Command or Orders from one person and one person only and that is Jesus Christ.

I challenge, even as I encourage us, to prepare for any eventuality ahead. The enemy is never happy to see anyone advancing the Kingdom. He is going to seek to put all sorts of stumbling blocks in our path/way. We have a mandate as we enter into 2015, to lift high the cross of Christ so that others will be drawn into the Kingdom. Permit me therefore to encourage you as Paul encouraged the Corinthian Church, that in spite of all of the vicissitudes of life, you are covered by Almighty God. Not only are you covered, but you are favoured by God. The word of God says, "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;

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Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;" (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

Make 2015, the year when you walk boldly into your destiny. "Remember this, a person who walks in purpose doesn't have to chase people and opportunities. Your light causes people and opportunities to pursue you." We have the tasks to advance the Kingdom. Let us do this knowing that we will never be alone. God will take care of every situation.



600th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of John Hus

July 06, 2015 will mark the 600th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of John Hus. In keeping with the historical significance of this celebration which will be observed throughout the Moravian Unity, the PEC proposes that the EWI Province participate in celebrating the legacy and memory of John Hus.

The PEC proposes the following:

Date of celebrationSunday July 05, 2015
Proposed theme Courage to Stand
Celebration format	Conference Combined Worship Service	

Worship and Music Resources:

- ▶ 600th Anniversary Hymn
- ▶ Introit and anthem
- ▶ Special Anniversary Litany and suggested hymns
- ▶ A short (10 minutes) dramatic presentation by the youth

It is hoped that these resources will be provided by April 01, 2015 or before. Information will be forwarded to you from time to time.

The PEC proposes that the celebrations in Antigua be varied due to the 31st Provincial Synod. The Opening Service of Synod will be held on the morning of Sunday

July 12, 2015, and emphasis will be placed on the John Hus Anniversary during the service.

On July 05, 2015, the congregations in the Antigua conference, as they celebrate Holy Communion, should place some emphasis on the John Hus Anniversary.



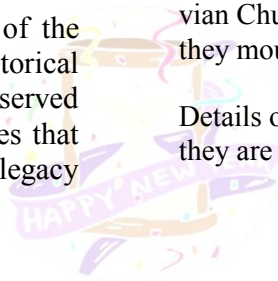
Condolences



We have received news that Sis. Megan Gibbs, the wife of the late Rev. Rudolph Gibbs, died in a Hospital in London, England. Sister Gibbs passed into the nearer presence of God on Monday, December 22, 2014.

Sister Gibbs and her family served with Rev. Gibbs in the St. Kitts, Antigua and Barbados Conferences of the Moravian Church. Let us remember the family in our prayers as they mourn the passing of Sis. Gibbs.

Details of the Funeral arrangements will be shared once they are received.



Hymn of the Month for January,
2015
Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts
Director, Provincial Hymnal Committee

It is almost impossible to believe but here we are once again giving God thanks and praise for the dawn of another year. It's 2015! With the start of a new year we tend to do two things. First, we look back and remember



the past and second we tend to look ahead with anticipation to the future. In looking back, we are often tempted to recall the moments of failure where things didn't go as we had planned. However, we can also choose to dwell on the many ways that we have been blessed over the years of our lives. Rather than engaging in one or the other, it is healthy

to do both for by so doing we see that in spite of our failures God has remained faithful to us. It is with a sense of conviction that God's presence will abide with us continually that we can boldly step ahead into the unknown future.

The hymn of the month for January captures this sense of deep gratitude to God for all that God has done in the past while at the same time expresses a faith that declares that God will continue to journey with us. The hymn is ***O how kindly hast thou led me*** and was written by Thomas Grinfield in 1836. In our current hymnal it is #32 and the tune that has been designated is ***STUTTGART***. In this hymn we are reminded of the many ways that God has been leading, blessing and providing for believers throughout their lives. This litany includes food, clothing, shelter and friends. But in this hymn we also recall those moments when God would have chasten and discipline us. After all Hebrews 12: 6 says "***For the LORD disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child.***" Once we accept the Lord's chastening, then we also accept that even God's discipline is an expression of his eternal love for us. We are confident that God's provision will remain with us throughout our lives and that God's presence will lead and cover us continually in this life's journey even to that day when we go to be with the Lord in heaven. Below are the words and music for the hymn of the month for January:

O How kindly hast thou led me,
Heavenly Father, day by day!

Found my dwelling, clothed, and fed me,
Furnished friends to cheer my way!

Didst thou bless me, didst thou chasten,
With thy smile, or with thy rod,
'Twas that still my step might hasten
Homeward, heavenward, to my God.

O how slowly have I often
Followed where thy hand would draw,
How thy kindness failed to soften!
How thy chastening failed to awe!

Make me for thy rest more ready,
As thy path is longer trod;
Keep me in thy friendship steady,
Till thou call me home, my God!

O How Kindly Hast Thou Led Me

1836. Thomas Grinfield

STUTTGART
87.87

Adapted by H.J. Gauntlett d 1876
from a melody by F. Witt,
1715. arr by K.D. Smith b 1928

1. O How kind - ly hast thou led me, Heaven - ly Fa - ther, day by day!
2. Didst thou bless me, didst thou chas - ten, With thy smile, or with thy rod,
3. O how slow - ly have I of - ten fol - lowed where thy hand would draw,
4. Make me for thy rest more rea - dy, As thy path is lon - ger trod;

5
Found my dwell - ing, clothed, and fed me, Fur - nished friends to cheer my way!
'Twas that still my step might has - ten home - ward, heaven - ward, to my God.
How thy kind - ness failed to sof - ten! How thy chaste - ning failed to awe!
Keep me in thy friend - ship rea - dy, Till thou call me home, my God!

Cloud of Witnesses

By Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts

This monthly feature is to re-tell the stories of ordained Pastors who served in the Eastern West Indies Province in recent past. It is intended to inform us of the life and witness of these ministers and their spouses so that we can better appreciate the sacrifices they have made. Moreover, it is hoped that both the ordained and un-ordained will be inspired to continue our ministry diligently knowing that our labour will never be in vain in the Lord.



The following biography of The **Right Reverend George Oliver Maynard (D.D.)** August 1st, 1934 - September 11th, 2005 was submitted by his children Mark and Joy Maynard.

Bishop Oliver Maynard was born on August 1st, 1934 in Bridgetown, Barbados. His father was headmaster for the Moravian School. Bishop Maynard lived on the church premises with his parents and four siblings. In 1952, he graduated from Harrison College, a high school set up by British planters, and went to work for a telegram company, called Cable and Wireless. Bishop Maynard was sent to British Guiana by his superiors as a representative of the company. His task was to ensure that the lines of communication were kept open between British Guiana and England. While there, Bishop Maynard saw overt poverty for the first time. Many of the indigenous people were either foraging through garbage for food or sleeping on the sidewalks. It was at this time he felt the need to do something for these desperate people.

In 1953, Bishop Maynard studied theology at the Theological Seminary and University College of the West Indies in Jamaica. He graduated in 1957, (Magna Cum Laude), and on July 17th, of that same year, was ordained a minister of the Moravian Church. The ordination took place in Barbados. Bishop Maynard was twenty-three. After his ordination, he went to Tobago, then Trinidad where he taught at Queen's Royal College. From there, Bishop Maynard travelled to south Trinidad, to teach in St. Andrew's Theological College. In 1960, Bishop Maynard married Daphne Neé Smith. Their union produced two children, Joy and Mark. Bishop Maynard and his family moved to Antigua where he was pastor of Spring Gardens Moravian Church and also Secretary of the Provincial Elders' Conference (PEC), in 1960-61.

In 1961, the world Council of Churches offered scholarships to "third world" theologians in an effort to have them study in larger Universities of the world. Bishop Maynard was offered said scholarship to study abroad. Bishop Maynard felt strongly that the Moravian Church needed to know its history and development. The church needed to know where it was heading from its missionary status. Many of the churches were unsure where they stood because of their independence from Britain and Germany.

In 1963, Bishop Maynard returned to Antigua, after being elected to the position of Chairman of the Province of the Eastern West Indies. He served three terms from 1961-1969.

In 1964, Bishop Maynard represented the Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province on the board of Governors and the Education Council of Union Theological Seminary. This was made up of Moravians, Methodists, Presbyterians, Congregationalists and Disciples of Christ, U.S.A. together, Bishop Maynard negotiated with Calabar Theological College (Baptists), St. Peter's Theological College (Anglicans), and the University of the West Indies to become the United Theological College of the West Indies and the faculty of Theology of the University of the West Indies with the full authority to confer degrees in theology on successful graduates.

Bishop Maynard was granted a scholarship from the Moravian Church to study at the Moravian Theological Seminary in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He spent many hours in the archives researching the history of the Moravian Church. In 1967, Bishop Maynard received his Doctor of Divinity upon completion of his work.

In 1969, Bishop Maynard wrote **A History of the Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Prince, 1732-1914.** This book outlines the development of the province from its beginning to 1969.

In 1969 he was elected Bishop of the Moravian Church and was also Chairman of the P.E.C. His consecration was an historical event for two reasons. Not only was he the youngest Bishop at the age of thirty, he was also the first West Indian to become Bishop in the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province.

In 1970, Bishop Maynard and his family moved to Canada. They first lived in Grand Proire, Alberta and then Calgary, Alberta. In 1982, Bishop Maynard and his family relocated to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands where he pastored at Memorial Moravian Church. In 1982, Bishop Maynard also wrote his second Book titled, **The Moravian Church Among the Churches: Pioneer in the Oecumenical Task: 1732-1982.** He was commissioned by the P.E.C. to write the book in celebration of the 250th anniversary of Moravian Missions.

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Cloud of Witnesses

By Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts

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In 1984, Bishop Maynard and his family relocated to Antigua. As chairman of the P.E.C., once again, he represented the Moravian Church in the Caribbean, as a Commissioner, with the Commission, working for peace with justice and reconciliation. It was during this time, that the civil war was taking place in Nicaragua and Honduras.

In 1987, Bishop Maynard returned to Canada. He first stayed in Southdown, Aurora, Ontario, then studied African and Native Indian Mythology at Wycliffe College, Toronto, Ontario. He also remarried, (Doreen). In 1989, Bishop Maynard was Pastor for the United Church in Holland Landing, Ontario for a four year probationary period. In 1993, he was received into the United Church and accepted a call to Kirkland Lake, Northern Ontario. Bishop Maynard pastored the Trinity United Church from then until his retirement in 2001. He relocated to Mississauga, Ontario at that time.

During Bishop Maynard's "retirement" he took on the task of revising Edmund De Schweinitz' Book, "The History of the Unitas Fratrum". Almost 300 pages were typed prior to his passing. He was supply Minister and Advisor to New Dawn Moravian Church. Bishop Maynard preached his last sermon at New Dawn a few weeks, also, prior to his passing.

Bishop Maynard was an avid musician. He played the piano and organ. Bishop Maynard sought no recognition for all the work that he accomplished and the book that he was written. He was a man of integrity, respect, dependability and trustworthiness. Bishop Maynard was a humble servant of God.



PEC and Superintendents' Meeting

The PEC will convene its first meeting for 2015 during the period February 03 - 04 in Antigua.

In addition, the Superintendents Conference for 2015 will take place in Antigua from February 05– February 06, 2015.

Please bear up the members of the PEC and Superintendents in prayer.

Provincial Theme 2015

As we journey towards the end of 2014, I submit to you the Provincial Theme for 2015. The theme is **Fulfilling the Mandate**. The Thematic focus is, "**Advance the Kingdom**". The theme emphasizes the mandate of Developing God's Church – Teaching, Reprimanding and Empowering God's people. The foundation texts are Acts 1:8, Matthew 28: 16-20 Romans 15:20; 2 Timothy 4:2.



Central Choir Tours Antigua



Sunday, December 28, was the first of two concerts presented by Central Moravian Church Choir during their 8-day tour of Antigua. The celebration of Christmas music started at 6:00 p.m. at Gracehill Moravian Church. This programme featured classical pieces by Beethoven and Mozart, and contemporary pieces by composers such as Alice Parker and André J. Thomas. Items were rendered by the Antigua Conference's Moravian Mass Choir and the Gracehill Moravian Steel Orchestra. It was wonderful concert, performed to a packed and appreciative congregation.



Central Moravian Church Choir, under the direction of Rebecca Kleintop Owens for the past 12 years, has toured Austria, Germany, the Czech Republic, Jamaica, New York and North Carolina. Over the years, the choir has produced four CDs. Central is the oldest and largest congregation in the Northern Province of the Moravian Church in America, dating back to December 1741 when Count Zinzendorf gave the small mission community in Pennsylvania the name Bethlehem. Bishop Hopeton Clennon currently serves as Senior Pastor.



The second concert will be presented at Spring Gardens Moravian Church on Friday, January 2, at 6:00 p.m. This second performance by Central Choir will include compositions by Bach and Handel, along with several organ solo performances by Rebecca Kleintop Owens as well as her own arrangement of a Moravian Music Medley. The concerts will include items by the Antigua Conference's Moravian Mass Choir and The Hellsgate Steel Orchestra. We are truly thankful that the Central Moravian Choir has graced us with their presence and wonderful music.



Financial Management Tips for the Church

By

Sister Elisa G. Hodge
Provincial Treasurer



As we reflect on the past year and look forward to the New Year 2015, let us give God thanks for his many blessings. Whether we wish to live a healthier lifestyle or to be more financially sound, a new year is an excellent opportunity to make changes and start fresh.

The Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province is not immune from the current economic crisis facing many individuals and businesses. As our churches continue to experience financial challenges, it is necessary for us as a Church to be strategic and manage our financial resources so that we can meet our obligation and “Fulfill our Mandate” through the accomplishment of the Church’s mission.

Many church financial problems can be avoided by good planning, strong budgeting and accountability for spending. The following are some Financial Management tips compiled from a various sources that can help us navigate the economical storms:

- 1) **Strategic Planning** – As a church, we must stop doing things “because we’ve always done it”. We must start being strategic and intentional about everything, every expenditure by having a good, legitimate reason for making it. Change is not easy, but it is necessary if the church is to survive.

Most Conferences and even some congregations have begun formal strategic planning. This is an important step in overcoming financial challenges and regaining our focus as a church. The value in developing a strategy is that it takes all aspects of the church operations into consideration and allows for designating resources toward those critical areas that will sustain and grow the ministry.

- 2) **Budgeting** – Budgeting is critical for successful financial management. Most Conferences prepare annual budgets and this is an important

step; however, it is important to ensure that Revenue projections are realistic and attainable and that budget is adhered to and that each expenditure is justified. Periodic reporting of actual versus budget Revenues and Expenditure is recommended for accountability considerations.

- 3) **Accountability** – It is important once a budget is developed that there is accountability for the Church not to spend funds on items that are not budgeted. The Conference Financial team similar to the Congregation Finance/Audit Committee can be helpful in monitoring spending by reviewing actual versus budget financial reports for revenues and expenditures.

- 4) **Communication** – Communication of challenges and not just soliciting donations is important in overcoming financial challenges. Annually, the PEC presents its budget and annual audited financial statements to the Conferences as required by the Book of Order. Similarly, the Conference should be sharing its annual budget and financial statements with congregations. This should be done, if this is not being done. Many times church members have great ideas for reducing costs and fundraising.

As we prepare to claim the prosperity that God has in store not just for his Church, but his people as well, it is my prayer that you will step out on faith and allow these financial management tips provided guide you in your financial endeavors as we continue to navigate the current economic challenges.

May God Richly Bless and Prosper You in 2015 and Beyond!

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



Sis. Margaret John	04
Sis. Jovanca Lewis-Smith	05
Sis. Sonia Spencer	11
Bro. George Ramsay	27
Bro. Ray Joseph	27
Sis. Andrea Lorde-Smith	29

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



Bro. Nevin Lewis & Sis. Billie Sterling Lewis 05



The PEC offers its congratulations to:

1. The Rev. Nigel Daniel who graduated from Oasis University in Trinidad on November 30th 2014, with a Masters Degree in Organizational Leadership. Rev. Daniel is Pastor of the Spring Gardens and Bethesda congregations in the Tobago Conference of the Moravian Church.

2. The Rev. Mikie Roberts who graduated from Birmingham University in England, with a PH.D degree on December 12, 2014. His thesis was entitled: "Hymnody and Identity: *Congregational singing as a construct of Christian Community Identity.*"

The Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts is the Provincial director of Music, Minister of Music in the Moravian Church, Virgin Islands and Associate Pastor of the Memorial Moravian Church in St. Thomas.

**Barber Thinks He's Found the
Dumbest Kid Ever.
But What He's doing
is actually Genius.**

A young boy enters a barber shop...

...and the barber whispers to his customer, "This is the dumbest kid in the world. Watch while I prove it to you."

The barber puts a dollar bill in one hand and two quarters in the other, then calls the boy over and asks, "Which do you want, son?" The boy takes the quarters and leaves.

"What did I tell you?" said the barber.
"That kid never learns!"

Later, when the customer leaves, he sees the same young boy coming out of the ice cream store.

"Hey son! May I ask you a question?"

Why did you take the quarters instead of the dollar bill?"

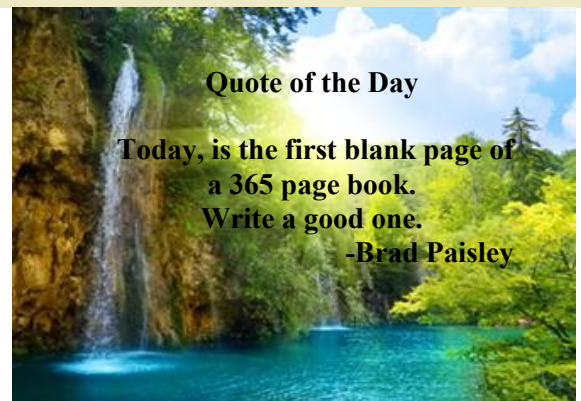
The boy licked his cone and replied,

"Because the day I take the dollar, the game is over!"

Quote of the Day

**Today, is the first blank page of
a 365 page book.
Write a good one.**

-Brad Paisley





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



Contact us

Tel: (268)560-0185

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Fulfilling the Mandate - Advance the Kingdom