

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

May, 2015



Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis
Chairman of PEC

What does all this mean?

During the last week of April 2015 two tragic things happened which has caused us to ask, what does all of this mean? The deadly earthquake which took place in Nepal and the death of Freddie Gary and the subsequent demonstrations and violence that erupted in Baltimore, Maryland in the United States. These two events have sent shock waves that have reverberated around the world. Tragedy has happened time and again but one cannot help but empathize and sympathize with the destruction of life and property in both cases.

Algezeera online reports the following on the devastating earthquake in Nepal:

Young men stood on the ruins of a temple in Bhaktapur's old city digging vigorously in the dirt and rubble with bare hands and shovels.

Whenever they unearthed a large stone carving on Thursday afternoon, others quickly crowded around to help lift out the heavy object. One man shouted, "We love our country!" as he did this. Excavated carvings had been placed at the foot of Bhagwati Temple, which had collapsed during the quake.

As Nepal reels after the 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck last Saturday, and with aid only now starting to reach some isolated areas, the full scale of the devastation still remains unknown. The death toll reached 6,254 on Friday morning .

Many of the monuments and temples in Kathmandu Valley, which was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1979, for seven distinct locations, were destroyed in the earthquake.

The Moravian Church exists and plays a very important role in Nepal, so some Moravian Mission Agencies have responded swiftly to the tragedy in Nepal and have already provided some initial financing to help. Judy Ganz, the Executive Director of the Board of World Mission wrote on April 30, 2015:

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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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What does all this mean?

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"In addition to some initial funds sent by BWM, the British and European Mission agencies through the BMB have sent over \$15,000. The Moravian Church Foundation of the Unity has also committed to \$10,000 for relief and development efforts. BWM will coordinate our relief efforts through the British Mission Board."

There is an indication from reports that most of the heritage sites that were destroyed, date back to the medieval period, while others were built as recently as 150 years ago, and the ancient sites are as old as 4,000 years.

Nepal's monuments are not old relics, a local resident, Tuladhar pointed out, but vital centres for religious, cultural and social activities. They are tended to by priests, visited by devotees, and packed during festivals.

"The monuments that were destroyed," he said, "are living monuments. They're not just part of a museum where people visit". They are "directly linked with a very vibrant, cultural, intangible heritage that we have been able to keep alive."

The socio-cultural fallout from this destruction will be significant, he believes. And many standing structures may need to be torn down after conservation experts inspect them.

History and tradition, are very important to any people. If you forget your history, you are prone to repeat mistakes made by your predecessors. Joshua 4: 5-9 speaks very loudly and perceptively as to how we ought to treat such:

"And Joshua said unto them, Pass over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of Jordan, and take you up every man of you a stone upon his shoulder, according unto the number of the tribes of the children of Israel:

⁶ That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones?

⁷ Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever.

⁸ And the children of Israel did so as Joshua commanded, and took up twelve stones out of the midst of Jordan, as the LORD spake unto Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, and carried them over with them unto the place where they lodged, and laid them down there.

⁹ And Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests which bare the ark of the covenant stood: and they are there unto this day."

Tradition is the transmission of customs or beliefs from generation to generation. In other words, tradition is the passing down of elements of a culture from generation to generation, especially by oral communication. Cultural practices are practices preserved by tradition.

All Church organizations have their genesis in a particular historical setting. Why then would anyone want to dismiss his/her upbringing or nurturing? As a Church we need to cherish our roots. We do not have the luxury of remaining there, but we should never seek to destroy it, rather we ought to build on the foundation we met. Scripture declares: I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. (1 Cor. 3:6).

We must always be prepared to declare the reason for our existence. As a Church, may we seek to glorify Christ in all that we do. So when our children ask in time to come, what does all this mean, you have an opportunity to declare the story and so help to Advance the Kingdom.

Scripture is replete with examples like this and it has to be for a very good reason. The people were challenged never to forget where God brought them from. In addition, generations yet unborn must know their salvation history. It must always be kept alive. The following are just a short listing of where scripture speaks clearly of this:

Deut. 29:24- Even all nations shall say, Wherefore hath the LORD done thus unto **this** land? **what meaneth** the heat of **this** great anger?

1 Samuel 4:6-And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, **What meaneth** the noise of **this** great shout in the camp of the Hebrews? And they understood that the ark of the LORD was come into the camp.

1 Samuel 4:14-And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, **What meaneth** the noise of **this** tumult? And the man came in hastily, and told Eli.

1 Samuel 14:15-And Samuel said what meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?

Matthew 12:7-But if ye had known **what this meaneth**, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.

Acts 2:12-And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, **What meaneth this?**

In the United States, Freddie Gary a 25-year-old black man, died on April 19 from a spinal cord injury, a week after he was rushed to the hospital while under police custody for, according to MSNBC's Joy-Ann Reid, allegedly possessing a switchblade.

Baltimore has been roiled by escalating protests since Gray's death. Riots broke out on April 27, after Gray's funeral, when demonstrators began throwing objects at police and looting, police reportedly responded with tear gas. In response to the violence, Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake imposed a city-wide 10 pm curfew that will last at least one week, starting on April 28.

Gray's death follows several police killings over the past year, including the deaths of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, and Eric Garner in New York City, which led to nationwide protests over racial disparities in police use of force and the criminal justice system.

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Cloud of Witnessess

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 biography of Gaveston Soldano David (1914-2008)

Gaveston Soldano David was born on March 19, 1914 to Letitia and Simon David on the island of St Thomas. Both of his parents were Moravians and they both belonged to the Nisky Moravian Church. Nisky was about a five mile walk from the top of Solberg Hill, where the family resided. It was a considerably shorter distance to the Memorial Moravian Church, but Nisky was where both paternal and maternal relatives belonged. Gaveston was baptized at Nisky. At the satisfactory completion of the first year of classes, he was received into membership and from there went on through the second year in preparation for confirmation. He confirmed his baptismal vows on May 25, 1927 at Nisky.

Bro David was privileged to be a member of the first confirmation of Rev Peter Gubi (later Bishop). Classes were started by Rev A.B. Romig and were taken over by Bishop Ernest Weiss when he died, and concluded by Peter M. Gubi, who replaced Rev Romig at Nisky.

Bro David began his formal education at the George Washington School. In 1926 he moved to the Lincoln Junior High School. In 1927 he attended the then Charlotte Amalie High School in St Thomas and then complete his secondary education in 1935. While attending High School he was also learning a trade of stone masonry which was to become his profession for over twenty years. Twenty years of building with stone may justly be construed as a print indelibly made upon the life's agenda of anyone, and there is little doubt that with him this was the case. In the providence of God however it seems as if the acute stone builder was destined for building at another level. From the work of fashioning structures out of stone, he was called to structure lives in character, strength and discipline, like unto stone.

In the mid-thirties following graduation from High School Br David accepted the role of Sunday School teacher for a class of junior boys and served for about five years. He bypassed the young men's guild and joined the Men's fellowship, thus possible becoming the youngest member ever.

Membership in the fellowship provided him with a very meaningful experience to be among and associated with

and be a part of senior men who lived for nothing but Christ and the Church. The relationship was great and rewarding.

During 1939, his membership at Nisky was disrupted as he went to work on St John. There, he became affiliated with Bethany congregation. While a member of Bethany, he worked extensively with the Sunday School, helping to build and strengthen its program.

He was recognized for introducing Sunday School rallies and organizing and directing the first one almost singled-handedly. It was a tremendous success. The little Church was filled and there was standing room on the outside and it seemed as all the members of the other two churches on the island were in attendance.

Another significant "first" was the first evening wedding, on September, 1942. Much to the displeasure of the officiating Pastor, Rev Colin Williams, who later forgave him for his determination, the tradition of all day time wedding was shuttered by their evening wedding under kerosene lamps when he took in marriage the hand of Miss Lucia Agatha Richards. Bro David promised before God and man to build in union with her a family fashioned in God's image and likeness. That marriage became flesh when the Lord blessed their union with three children: Rodger and Rudolph in their early marriage and Judy, 25 years later.

Bro David worked for the Federal government for three years prior to marriage and served in the United States Army in Puerto Rico, the United States mainland, and Hawaii from 1944 to 1946; but it was the family-oriented social work and pastoral minister which were to make the greatest impact on his life.

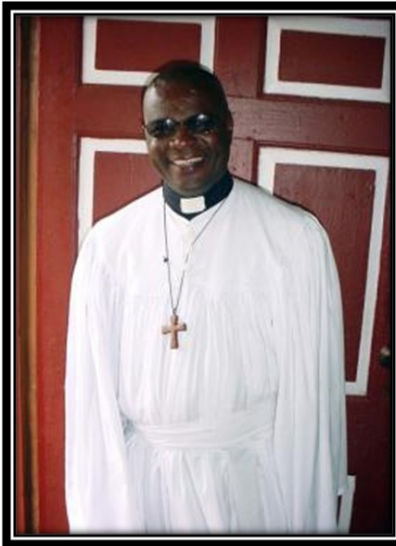
Between 1946 to 1952 he worked with the Department of Social Welfare in St Thomas. In 1952 he attended Atlanta University School of social work for the primary purpose of improving his skills in social work. He relocated to St Croix and continued his social work giving hope to the lives of hundreds of boys and girls to whom society had given little scope for improvement. He spent thirty-three(33) years in social work.

While on St Croix, he became a member of the Friedensthal congregation. He served on the Church committee and Board of Elders. He was elected the first delegate from Friedensthal to the Virgin Islands Conference. In 1963 he attended his first Provincial Synod on the island of Tobago.

Upon retirement Bro David accepted a call to full-time ministry in the Moravian Church and was ordained on June 17, 1979. He pastored the Friedensfeld (Midlands) Moravian Church where he served for 10 years. He passed in 2008.

Moravian Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands Elects New Bishop

The Moravian Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, meeting at its 74th Synod at the Bethlehem Moravian College, elected the Reverend Devon Anglin as the 5th native bishop of the Moravian Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.



Anglin, who was born on June 15, 1962, is from the Beeston Spring community in Westmoreland, and candidated for pastoral ministry within the Moravian Church from the Salem Moravian Church, Westmoreland.

He is a graduate of the University of the West Indies with bachelor's and master's degrees in theology, a diploma in theology from the United Theological College of the West Indies, and a diploma in education from the Bethlehem Moravian College.

The Synod also elected the seven-member executive board, with The Reverend Dr Paul Gardner re-elected

as President. The other members re-elected are the Reverend Jermaine Gibson, the Reverend Phyllis Smith-Seymour, the Reverend Joan Smith and Bro. Lowel Morgan-Treasurer. The Reverend Kevin Marshall was the newly elected executive member.

At the opening service of the Synod, using the theme 'My God, My Church and I in Mission', Gardner called on the church to take more seriously its commitment to seeing to the transformation of lives and communities.

He said the church exists to serve God, and the world expects the church to make a critical difference in the transformation of our society.

Gardner alluded to the climate of crime and violence and the abuse of our women and children in the society. He said that for far too long, too many of us have remained silent and indifferent in the face of these atrocities.

Earth Quake Disaster In Nepal

For several days, the earth quake disaster in Nepal has been breaking news. At this point in time, more than 5000 people are reported dead, and more than 10.000 injured.

There is a Moravian presence in Nepal, which is part of the South Asia Moravian Mission Area, supervised by the Moravian Church British Province. Two brief reports from the British Mission Board are attached to this e-mail for further information.

The British Mission Board has established a fundraising campaign within the British Province and in order to assist the people of Nepal through our Moravian brothers and sisters.

As we are one church, one body, I hereby take the opportunity to share the information with the worldwide Unity.

This will give the worldwide Unity an opportunity to remember the people of Nepal, including especially our

Moravian brothers and sisters in Nepal in prayer.

We are thankful that some of the Mission Agencies apart from the British Mission Board, including HMH and ABWM are already engaged in raising funds for the Nepal, please also pay attention to their efforts.

Thank you for paying attention to the situation in Nepal. May we all walk in God's calling, also to remember Nepal in our prayers in these difficult days and may we all listen to any call from our Lord to assist the efforts in Nepal to help the victims of the disaster, for example by donating money through the above mentioned account.

A Special offering will be taken in each congregation to assist the people of Nepal on Sunday May 31st, 2015. Kindly forward all offering to the Moravian Provincial Headquarters in a timely manner so that we can forward same to the British Province.

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

As we continue then in this Easter season our hymn of the month for May is **Light of the World**. This hymn was written by the late Dr. A. W. Howell Rock in 1965. Dr. Rock was one of Antigua's premiere musicians whose musical ability was applauded beyond the shores of Antigua. He was an extraordinary music teacher who left an unforgettable mark on his students. Thankfully, he also penned some timeless hymns and composed music for the same which are still in use and appreciated to this day. This hymn is without doubt his most well-loved and best known.



Though at no point throughout the hymn, the name of Jesus Christ is not mentioned, this hymn is Christ-centred in its theology. The hymn itself is a prayer to Jesus – the Light of the world (John 8: 12). In the opening stanza the prayer is for that divine Light to both “dispel” our individual darkness. But the words quickly shift from the individual to the world so that this same Light will break through darkness wherever it may be found giving light to all. The second verse continues in the same vein but compliments the image of Christ as the Light with that of Christ as the giver of “Eternal Life.” We are called to embrace the truth that the benefits of this “Eternal Life” are not only to be realized in the after-life. This eternal life allows us to experience victory even in our earthly struggles. The image of Christ as the Good Shepherd (John 10:11) is introduced in verse three. However, this Shepherd is also the Light and so we can have complete trust in that we will be guided in “paths of right” and will be comforted along the way. In the final verse, Rock climaxes the hymn by underscoring that those whose lives have been deeply touched by Christ possess a rock-solid faith which keeps them “safe from death.” In a few lines he affirms the position of the believer as expressed in Romans 8: 35 – 39. Little wonder then that once we avail ourselves to the “Light of the World”, regardless to what comes our way in life – even in face of death, we can declare that we are “complete.” This hymn is a very powerful prayer which is set to music that highlights the beauty and gravity of the text.

Below are the words and music for the hymn of the month for May:

Light of the world
Shine thou upon my heart;
Dispel the dimness that envelopes me.
Open mine eyes;
Let me behold the Light
That lieth all wherever they may be.

Light of the world!
Quicken my sleeping soul,
That I may manifest eternal
Life.

Eternal Life!
So wonderful, so free,
Lift me triumphant o’er all
earthly strife.

Shepherd so kind!
Lead me in paths of right
That I may love Thee and
within Thee find
My Gentle Guide,
Yet One so strong and brave;
One who can lift and hold me at
His side.

So shall I be
Forever safe from death.
Nor heath, nor depth can ever separate
Thy love from me.
My Light, My Life, my All,
This is my Joy, my Strength, I am complete.

1965. A. W. H. Rock

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**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 celebration	Sunday July 05, 2015
Proposed theme	Courage to Stand

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I believe that we are in different times and therefore different scenarios will unfold. In the case of the violence and riots in Baltimore, history has shown that the people of colour have faced injustice over and over again as evidenced by the Civil Right Movement in America.

It means that many things are just lying beneath the surface ready to explode. It is really detestable what persons have done to their own community, but the history does not give them the belief that they are in the land of hope and opportunity. For many it seems a hopeless situation and so destruction of property, even though it's for one of their black brothers, doesn't mean much to them for they feel alienated. The people of Baltimore should put their trust in God as they reflect on their ancestors struggle in the Civil Rights movement and endeavor to be motivated to non-violent actions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to advance their cause.

Light Of The World

1965, A. W. Howell Rock

A. W. Howell Rock, 1965

1. Light of the world! Shine Thou u - pon my heart; dis - pel the dim-ness that en - vel -
 2. Life of the world! Quick - en my sleep - ing soul, that I may ma - ni - fest e - ter -
 3. Sheph - erd so kind! Lead me in paths of right that I may love Thee and with - in
 4. So shall I be for - ev - er safe from death. Nor height nor depth can ev - er sep -

7

- opes me. O - pen mine eyes; let me be - hold the
 - nal Life. E - ter - nal Life! So won - der - ful, so
 Thee find my Gen - tle Guide, yet One so strong and
 - a - rate Thy Love from me. My Light, my Life, my

11

Light that ligh - teth all wher - ev - er they may be.
 free, lift me tri - umph - ant o'er all earth - ly strife.
 brave; One who can lift and hold me at His side.
 All! This is my Joy, my Strength; I am com - plete.

THE 31st PROVINCIAL SYNOD

The 31st Provincial Synod will be held in Antigua from July 10-16, 2015 at the Jolly Beach Resort and Spa. The committees have gotten together and the Conference is in need of your support in prayer and hands on deck for smooth execution.

The PEC has also requested prayer for the election of another Bishop.

The opening service of Synod will be on July 12th at 9.00 am at Spring Gardens. A Synod Programme will also be held on the evening of July 12 at 7.00 pm at Spring Gardens Moravian Church, St. John's, Antigua. The Synod closing service and Holy Communion will take place on July 15th at 7.00 pm at Cedar Hall. Moravian Church in Jennings.

Members of the Church can attend Synod as casual observers as space is available or as official observers in which case a cost is attached.



MCRC MEETING

Your prayers are requested for the Moravian Church Regional Conference as they meet in the Jamaica province from May 12 - 18, 2015.

The meetings will be held at Deep Dean Moravian Hostel in St. Elizabeth, Jamaica.

Anniversary Greetings for the Month of May is extended to:



Birthday Greetings for the Month of May is extended to:



Banker was Schocked at what a Blonde Woman asks for. Her response was Genius.

Right before close on a Friday afternoon, an attractive blonde woman walks into a Wells Fargo bank in New York City before going on vacation and asks for a \$6,000 loan.

The banker asks, "Okay, Ma'am, is there anything you would like to use as collateral for your loan?"

The woman says, "Yes, Sir. I'll use my Rolls Royce."

The banker, stunned, asks, "A \$250,000 Rolls Royce? Are you sure?"

The woman is completely positive. She hands over her keys, as the bankers and loan officers laugh. They check her credentials, to make sure she is the title owner. Everything checks out. They park her car in their underground garage for two weeks.

When she comes back, she pays off the \$6,000 loan as well as the \$17.41 interest.

The loan officer says, "Miss, we are very appreciative of your business with us, but I have one question. We looked you up on Google and found out that you are a multi-millionaire. Why would you want to borrow \$6,000?"

The woman replies, "Where else in New York City can I park my car for two weeks for only \$17.41 and expect it to be there when I return?"



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- ◆ Meetings
- ◆ Seminars
- ◆ Weddings
- ◆ Banquet
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Conference Center & Apartments



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