

# 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

July, 2016



## John Hus, a man of all seasons

The last words of John Hus were that, "in 100 years, God will raise up a man whose calls for reform cannot be suppressed...down to the lowest classes". July 06, 2016 will mark the 601<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the martyrdom of Hus; a Reformer, Leader, Revolutionary, Teacher, Pastor and Evangelist.



**Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis**  
Chairman of PEC

Born in Hussenitz (Bohemia), in 1369, to peasant parents, John Hus trained himself for priesthood, mainly to escape poverty. In 1396, he attained a master's degree from Charles University in Prague and two years thence, became a professor of theology. In 1400, he was ordained to priesthood. In 1404, John Hus received a bachelor's degree in theology. Inspired by the writings and teaching of John Wycliffe, he was of the opinion that the Church was supreme, not the Pope. He felt a need for reforms and modifications, to

eradicate the corruption and abuses of Roman Church. Hus also believed that each person should have a Bible of his own, in a language he can read.

Hus, along with other Bohemian leaders, initiated a decree; according to which Bohemian nation had to have three votes and the foreign nations were to have one vote. This verdict led to the evacuation of many doctors, masters and students from Prague University, in 1409, resulting in the formation of the University of Leipzig. With this, Prague University lost its international repute and turned into a Czech school. The news of the Bohemian heresy spread throughout Europe, thus isolating Archbishop Zbyněk Zajíc. John Hus became the rector of the Czech university.

### 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 - Advance the Kingdom**

***John Hus, a man of all Seasons***  
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A reformer, John Hus condemned various church abuses in his sermons, leading to serious problems between him and the church. Hus directed his thoughts to the faulty disciplines and practices of the church. He discarded the practice of reserving the chalice from the laity, during Holy Communion, for the priest. He wholeheartedly accepted the practice of worshipping in the Czech language, rather than in Latin by the masses. John Hus argued that the lay man also had an important role to play in the administration and leadership of the Church and that Christ was the true head of the Church, not the Pope. His argument that Church officials should exercise spiritual authority, instead of being earthly governors, contributed to the cause of his excommunication, for insubordination, in 1412.

**Pope** Alexander V authorized the Archbishop to give up all the books of John Wycliffe, cancelled his doctrines and ceased his free preaching. Though Hus argued in favor of Wycliffe, all his arguments and wiles went unheard. To cap it all, Hus and his adherents were excommunicated. However, this did not stop Hus or his adherents. With the government on his side, he continued to preach in the Bethlehem Chapel in Prague, Czechoslovakia and his power increased. Hus became fearless in his allegations against the Church,

After the death of Pope Alexander V, a crusade against indulgence started, of which Hus was also a part. Hus delivered a speech in 1412, which is said to be directly taken from the last chapter of Wycliffe's book, *De ecclesia*, and his treatise, *De absolutione a pena et culpa*. He argued that no Pope or Bishop had the right to raise a sword in the name of Church. Hus was of the opinion that man attained forgiveness only by repentance. His followers burnt the Papal bulls and believed that Hus' sayings should be adhered to rather than that of Church.

The Pope ordered the Cardinal of St. Angelo to advance against Hus. Imposed under the great church ban, Hus was seized and delivered to the Archbishop. Even his chapel was destroyed. In retaliation to such cruelties, Hus appealed that Jesus Christ, and not the Pope, was the supreme judge. Though he was forced to leave Prague by Wenceslaus, his exodus did nothing to lessen the

excitement that had built already.

A council was set up in 1414, at Constance, with the aim to put an end to papal schism and reform the Church. John Hus gladly joined the council to put an end to all oppositions. It is evident from the sermons he carried with him that he went with the motive of converting the assembled fathers to his own principal doctrines. For the meeting, the Emperor Sigismund of Luxemburg assured John Hus of safe conduct, apart from his safety for the duration of journey. Taking the words of the King, Hus set off for the journey.

At the trial, Hus was charged with thirty-nine sentences, out of which twenty-six had been excerpted from his book on the Church, seven from his treatise against Páléè and six from the treatise against Stanislav ze Znojma. However, in return, Hus maintained just one argument that he would renounce himself, if his errors were proven to him from the Bible. He asked for a fair trial and some time, so that he could prove his views. Though there were several attempts to make him recant his words and views forcefully, Hus resisted all of them.

He desired only a more fair trial and time to explain the reasons for his views. If his reasons and Bible texts did not suffice, he would be glad to submit. This declaration was considered an unconditional surrender, and he was asked to confess:

1. That he had erred in the theses which he had hitherto maintained;
2. That he renounced them for the future;
3. That he recanted them; and
4. That he declared the opposite of these sentences

He asked to be exempted from recanting doctrines which he had never taught; others, which the assembly considered erroneous, he was willing to revoke; to act differently would be against his conscience. These words found no favourable reception. After the trial, several other attempts were made to induce him to recant, but he resisted all of them.

An Italian clergyman pronounced the sentence of condemnation for Hus. Even at that time, he said that he would only be convinced once he has been given proof from Holy Scriptures. As a result, he was enrobed in priestly vestments and asked to recant. Still, he refused.

***Continue on Page 5***



## HYMN FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2016

Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts

Director, Provincial Hymnal Committee.

It is with a sense of joy that I share this great news that the hymnals have been shipped and the long journey from China to the Caribbean has begun. To God be the glory! If all goes as planned, the books should

be in the region by the end of July. For the month of July, I wish to draw attention to the hymn *Spirit of faith, be thou my guide*. In the new hymnal it is #335 and was written in 1846 by Anne Brontë. The name of the applied tune is *ARMAGH*. This hymn is just one example of the many hymns that profoundly captures and expresses spiritual truths. Yet for whatever reason, many hymns like these have remained unknown and unsung during our worship experience. One of the primary goals of these monthly articles is to address and correct this shortcoming within our congregations across the Province.

Faith is foundational to Christian living! It is so vital an ingredient in our spiritual growth that Hebrews 11: 6 states it boldly, “...*It is impossible to please God without faith*...” This hymn is centred on the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. However, from the outset, it addresses the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of faith. It is within that vein that we then see a series of actions that are accomplished when we allow ourselves to be under the total control of the Spirit of faith. So when we allow the Holy Spirit to hold our hands and to be our guide as we journey through this life, the results are clearly evident: we are comforted by an abiding presence; our gaze shifts from the toils of earth to the bliss of heaven; we are empowered to live beyond the mundane experience of earth; even in the face of pain and death, we can still be joyful; and because of the guidance of the Spirit of faith, ultimately we will be shepherded to taste first-hand the joys of a heavenly home.

I pray that as we sing the words of this hymn that our faith in God will be strengthened. Might we surrender ourselves to the Third Person of the Trinity so that the work of God’s Spirit will continue to be perfected in

our lives. Then the world will see the results of believers who are being guided by the Spirit of faith.

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

1

Spirit of faith, be thou my guide!  
O clasp my hand in thine!  
And never let me quit thy side;  
Thy comforts are divine.

2

Pride scorns thee for thy lowly mien:  
But who like thee can rise  
Above this toilsome, sordid scene,  
Beyond the holy skies?

3

Meek is thine eye, and soft thy voice,  
But wondrous is thy might,  
To make the wretched soul rejoice,  
To give the simple light.

4

And still to all who seek thy way  
This mystic power is given,  
E’en while their footsteps press the clay,  
Their souls ascend to heaven.

5

Through pain and death I can rejoice,  
If but thy strength be mine;  
Earth hath no music like thy voice,  
Life owns no joy like thine.

6

Spirit of faith, I’ll go with thee,  
Thou, if I hold thee fast,  
Wilt guide, defend and strengthen me,  
And bear me home at last.

1846. Anne Brontë.

Music on Page 4



# Spirit Of Faith Be Thou My Guide

ARMAGH  
C.M.

1846, Anne Brontë

J. Turtle, 1863

1. Spir - it of faith, be thou my guide! O clasp my hand in thine!  
 2. Pride scorns thee for thy low - ly mien: But who like thee can rise  
 3. Meek is thine eye, and soft thy voice, but won - drous is thy might,  
 4. And still to all who seek thy way this mys - tic power is given,  
 5. Through pain and death I can re - joice, if but thy strength be mine;  
 6. Spir - it of faith, I'll go with thee, thou, if I hold thee fast,

8  
 And nev - er let me quit thy side; thy com-forts are div - ine.  
 a - bove this toil - some, sor - did scene, be - yond the ho - ly skies?  
 to make the wretch - ed soul re - joice, to give the sim - ple light.  
 e'en while their foot - steps press the clay, their soul a - scend to heaven.  
 Earth hath no mu - sic like thy voice, life owns no joys like thine.  
 wilt guide, de - fend and strength - en me, and bear me home at last.

## STATUS UPDATE ON CARIBBEAN MORAVIAN PRAISE HYMNAL

The historic publication of the first Caribbean Moravian hymnal – Caribbean Moravian Praise – is near completion. Upon completion of the hard cover hymnal, each congregation will also receive a database that will contain a reference to the hymn tunes. In this database the music for the new hymns will be provided. However, in cases where the tune for the hymn is unchanged the actual music for that hymn will not be provided. Instead the database will indicate the name of the tune and the number of that hymn in the current music edition. By so doing, it is our desire that the new hymns will soon be incorporated into the congregation's hymnal repertoire since the tunes will be at the congregation's disposal.

Work on the musical edition has been ongoing and is in the advanced stages. It is hoped that its completion should be finalized within 12 – 16 months. The compilation of the musical edition entails giving attention to some details that are not required in the words only edition of the hymnal. For example, in addition to the authors and translators index, there must also be added an index for hymn tunes and composers as well as the alphabetical listing of the hymn tunes. Furthermore, we have to once again negotiate with international copyright holders to secure permission for the printing of the tunes for the hymns that are still under copyright.

Mindful that this process may be lengthy, the provision

of the hymn tune database will therefore serve as a temporary but necessary measure until the musical edition of the hymnal is completed.

The other component of the provision of worship material for the Province that has also begun is the production of the Liturgy Book. We anticipate that this volume will be published locally. It will contain the revised Liturgies, Litanies and Orders of Public Worship. The publication of this volume will be the second worship resource we intend to have available within the Province. We anticipate that it will follow not too long after the publication of soon to be released words only hymnal.

The final phase of the work that will be engaged will be the provision of the hymnal and Liturgy books in an electronic downloadable format. There has been numerous request for the materials to be presented in this format and we are seeking to meet that request.

However, we currently do not possess the resources (financial and human) to give attention this matter.

In summary, there are four phases to the overall mandate of the Provincial Hymnal and Liturgical Committees:

- (1) Hard copy words only hymnal;
- (2) Prayer Book with Liturgies;
- (3) Musical edition;
- (4) Electronic format of hymnal and Prayer Book.

**John Hus, a man of all Seasons**  
**Cont'd from Page 2**

At this, all his ornaments were taken and his priestly tonsure was destroyed. Hus was deprived of all rights and was delivered to the secular powers.

At the execution ground, Hus spread his hands and prayed aloud. After undressing him, the executioners tied his hands behind his back with ropes. His neck was tied, with a chain, to a stake around which wood and straw had been piled up, in such a way that it covered him up to the neck.

Count Palatine asked Hus for the last time whether he wanted to recant and save his life or die. Hus preferred to die and was thus, burnt at the stake on July 06, 1415.

After Hus' death, his followers known as the Hussites expanded into all of Bohemia and Moravia as a decidedly popular movement. Almost the entire population became Hussites, including many Germans. At its beginning, the Hussite movement was very dynamic both spiritually and socially. But certainly after years of war-like and spiritual struggling with powers of the counter reformation, the Hussite movement weakened inside and out. The Hussites turned to so-called Utraquism, a reformed church created with a strongly conservative character, but still one in which a serious impulse toward biblical Christianity was never abandoned.

It was John Hus that inspired the founding of the Moravian Church which started 42 years after his death.

There were many great reformers during the Renaissance in Europe. They compared the scriptures to their church's teachings and discovered significant problems. When the movement began, most of them were in the clergy of the Catholic Church, which was the only Christian Church there at that time. Nearly every one of them wanted only to "reform" the church, to get it back to the original principles, but when that effort met incredible resistance, the many Protestant churches began to form.

We thank God for bringing the Moravian Church into being. We truly thank God for using human instruments like John Hus to blaze the trail for the beginning of the Moravian Church on March 01, 1457.

Let us together as one Church declare like the song writer William F. Sherwin:

**Sound the battle cry! See, the foe is nigh;  
 Raise the standard high for the Lord;  
 Gird your armor on, stand firm every one;  
 Rest your cause upon His holy Word.**

**Refrain**

**Rouse, then, soldiers, rally round the banner,  
 Ready, steady, pass the word along;  
 Onward, forward, shout aloud Hosanna!  
 Christ is Captain of the mighty throng.**



**STAFF CHANGES**

The PEC makes the following announcement:

- ◆ The Rev. Alicia Ross-Floyd has accepted a call to serve as Associate Pastor of the Nisky Moravian Congregation in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, with effect from July 01, 2016.
- ◆ The Rev. Adelyn Mgonela, presently serving as Superintendent of the Trinidad Conference and Pastor of the Memorial congregation, has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Estridge and Bethel congregations in the St. Kitts Conference, with effect from August 05, 2016.
- ◆ The Rev. Catherine Governor, presently serving as Pastor of the L'Anse Noire congregation and Minister of Christian Education in the Trinidad Conference, has accepted a call within the Trinidad Conference, to serve as Pastor of the Memorial congregation, in addition to her role as Minister of Christian Education, with effect from August 05, 2016.
- ◆ The Rev. Dr. Ulston Patmore Smith, in addition to his role as Minister of Music in the Trinidad and Tobago Conferences, has accepted a call to serve as Acting Superintendent of the Trinidad Conference, with effect from August 05, 2016.
- ◆ Sis. Elva Richards, presently serving as Associate Pastor of the Zion, Estridge and Bethel congregations in the St. Kitts Conference, has accepted a call to serve as Associate Pastor of the Spring Gardens congregation in the Antigua Conference, with effect from August 05, 2016.

All Staff Members within the Trinidad Conference will share in the Ministry of the L'Anse Noire congregation.

Let us remember our brother and sisters in prayer as they assume their new responsibilities.

# The Moravian Church EWIP

## Presents A

Mathematics Enrichment Program"August 8 - 19 2016.  
at the Tim O'Reilly Auditorium, St. John's, Street, Antigua.

9:00a.m. - 12:30p.m

The lecturers will include

Antiguan born Dr. Vanere Goodwin and the Rt. Rev. Dr. Conrad Spencer,  
both professors of mathematics.

The course fee is only \$110.

**This Program is geared toward  
Fourth and Fifth Formers**



### *With Sincerest Sympathy*

I hope you will understand  
Although these words are few  
Our Sympathy is sincere  
Our thoughts and prayers with you.

Your loss is shared by many  
Who knew your loved one well  
So, caring thoughts are with you  
Much more than words can tell

Just some words to let you know  
How very much we care  
May you feel the strength of God  
As we hold you close in prayer.

The PEC expresses condolences to the  
Rev. Erflin Browne and Family  
on the passing of their Father  
**Eithel (Emmanuel Browne**  
Who passed into the nearer presence of  
God on June 07, 2016  
A Service of Thanksgiving was held on  
Thursday June 30th, 2016  
at the Gracebay Moravian Church  
in Old Road at 2.p.m.





|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| Sis. Ida Brown         | 03 |
| Sis. Movelle Kellman   | 05 |
| Sis. Yvanne Jean       | 07 |
| Bro. Winston Chase     | 08 |
| Bro. Neilson Waithe    | 10 |
| Bro. Ralph Prince      | 11 |
| Bro. Colbourne Walters | 14 |
| Sis. Frances John      | 15 |
| Bro. Kirk Barker       | 21 |
| Bro. Dion Christopher  | 23 |
| Sis. Earleen Simmons   | 25 |
| Bro. Rudolph Roberts   | 28 |
| Bro. Andrew Roberts    | 28 |
| Sis. Althea P. Jarvis  | 29 |
| Sis. Elisa G. Hodge    | 29 |



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



*Happy Anniversary*

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Bro. Collin & Sis. Anique Elmes- Matthew          | 04 |
| Bro. Nigel & Sis. Belinda Manswell-Daniel         | 06 |
| Bro. Neilson & Sis. Vera Waithe                   | 07 |
| Bro. Willard & Sis. Lynda Prout                   | 14 |
| Sis. Karen Challenger George & Bro. Dave George   | 15 |
| Bro. Moise & Sis. Yvanne Jean                     | 20 |
| Bro. Devon & Sis. Stacey Herbert-Mannix           | 21 |
| Bro. Andrew & Sis. Geraldine Roberts              | 22 |
| Bro. Mikie & Sis. Winelle Kirton-Roberts          | 24 |
| Bro. Walton & Sis. Angela Frederick               | 26 |
| Bro. Junior S. Roberts & Sis. Paula James-Roberts | 30 |



## UNITY SYNOD 2016

The year 2016 has begun, and for the Moravian Unity it means that we have seen the beginning of an important year, namely the year of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Unity Synod of the Moravian Church Unitas Fratrum (the 27th Unity Synod of the Renewed Church). It is our task to keep the Unity Synod in the Unity Synod during the coming months!

The Unity Synod is scheduled to be held from August 12<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the Hilton Rose Hall Resort & Spa, Rose Hall, Montego Bay, St. James, Jamaica.



### PEC MEETING

The PEC will meet in the St. Kitts Conference form July 21 to July 23, 2016.

Please bear up the members of the PEC in prayer.



### Two Donkeys



Two donkeys were walking down the road in Jerusalem one day, One of the donkeys said "wow".. Yesterday i was carrying Jesus on my back, people were hailing me and screaming.

People even spread their clothes for me to

Walk on. But today, no one even recognizes me" The second donkey smiled and said "Hmmmmmm..

Don't you know that you're nothing without Jesus?"



### Quote of the Day

You can't help someone get up a hill without getting closer to the top yourself.

H. Norman Schwarzkopf



## Moravian Multipurpose Complex



### Conference Center & Apartments

- ◆ 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 over-looking 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



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