

The Information

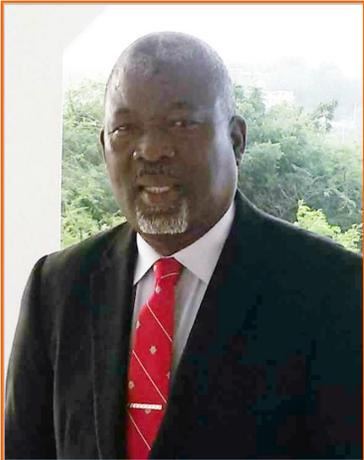
Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction. 2 Timothy 4:2

June, 2016



Impacting others for the Lord

Companies often spend millions of dollars to influence the public. Along with money, a lot of thought, energy, and strategy go into designing ad campaigns and public relations events that will capture people's interest.



Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis
Chairman of PEC

As believers, we are involved in a much more important endeavour, that of capturing hearts with the truth of the gospel through godly living. If we are to have an impact on others, we need to present a consistent witness before them.

Having a strong conviction about God's Word is the foundation of a godly influence; we must believe the Bible is true and practical in our daily lives. A reflection on the life of Daniel indicates that he had the opportunity to influence four Kings and their Kingdoms with Godly principles. Remaining true to God often meant

putting himself in danger, but he never once wavered in his convictions. The record of his life shows us what is required of someone who wants to have a godly impact around him.

Complete confidence in the Lord's ability to protect and provide empowered Daniel to make bold decisions. He delivered bad news to the Kings, even though such an act could have gotten him killed (Dan. 2:26-44; 5:17-28). What's more, he challenged a law requiring him to violate God's command to worship only Him (Dan.6: 7-11):

“All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counselors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.

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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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Impacting others for the lord
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⁸ Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

⁹ Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.

¹⁰ Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

¹¹ Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God”.

Daniel wasn't intent on being popular; he was committed to doing what was right in the eyes of the Lord.

When he had to face consequences for choosing the unpopular course of action, he did so with calm and Christ like spirit. Offering no complaint, Daniel accepted the punishment of being thrown into a den of lions. He had in fact broken the law.

It is so tempting to think that if we do what is right, we should be rewarded or at least protected. But we live in a broken world, and sometimes doing what is right will get us punished. How we respond to the consequences of our obedience is actually as important as carrying out God's will. Our reaction is being watched and evaluated by those in our sphere of influence, who want to see if we really believe our claim that the Lord is in control. God is using our experience and our witness to reach others for the Kingdom.

Following the Bible's instructions is not usually a matter of life or death. But doing so can nevertheless place us in uncomfortable situations. If we are to have a godly influence, we must be committed to our convictions. A believer's life is often the only example of scriptural principles other people will see. So, like Daniel, we must make up our mind to follow God, regardless of the circumstances. Like the people in Daniel's sphere of influence, those you touch will see the work done for the Lord and glorify Him (Matt. 5:16). We are therefore challenged to so live our lives that others will be impacted and give themselves to Jesus. Jesus is calling you to Ministry. Say yes!

The PEC Met with the Joint boards of Emmaus and Bethany at Bethany in St. John.





HYMN FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 2016

Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts

Director, Provincial Hymnal Committee.



With the arrival of June, we are one month closer to the arrival and the eventual launch of our new hymnal – *Caribbean Moravian Praise*. In anticipation of the new hymnal, we continue this month to focus on another new hymn entry. As was mentioned last month, our goal in this exercise is to

draw attention to these new entries so that we will have a better appreciation for the hymns that have been penned by our own Moravian brothers and sisters. For June, the new hymn that will be highlighted is *My brother come stand by me*. The original lyrics and music for this hymn was written by the Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts in 1993.

This hymn was originally penned as the theme song for the 1993 Provincial Youth Camp. The focus for the camp that year was in keeping with the wider Provincial emphasis on families. In a very simple and direct manner, this hymn highlights the priority that, as believers, we ought to give to Christian families. The opening stanza draws attention to the solidarity and sense of unity that should be evident especially among believers as members of the family of God. In the second stanza, there is a call to be on the defence against the forces that are at work to destroy the human family structure as established by God. More than twenty years later, these words are more poignant in today's world. For we now live in a society in which there has been a measure of legal success to redefine the traditional biblical marriage and family structures which are foundational to all civilization.

The hymn ends in the third verse with an invitation for united prayer beseeching God to so work in our families that the declaration made by Moses' successor, Joshua, is also true for us. In chapter 24:15 of the book that carries his name, Joshua boldly declares, "*But as for me and my house we will serve the Lord.*"

The refrain of this hymn underscores that the bold declaration serves somewhat of an anchor to the three verses. Through this declaration, we are proclaiming that the members of our natural families as well as our faith families have been claimed by Jesus Christ.

This hymn captures the heart's desire for all families: the desire for Christ to truly be the Lord of each family and each home.

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

My brother, come stand by me,
We're part of God's family;
My sister, I come to you,
You're part of God's fam'ly too.

*Together we will declare
To all people far and near;
Our fam'lies for Christ we claim,
Praise His name.*

God gave us a family
To bless all humanity.
But fam'lies are being attacked,
We cannot stand back and watch.

So come now and join with me
As we pray for our families;
Believing that Christ will come
To make our hearts His home.

1993. Mikie A. Roberts

My Brother Come Stand By Me

Rev. Mikie A. Roberts

Rev. Mikie A. Roberts

1. My bro - ther, come stand by me, We're part of God's fa-mi-ly; My sis - ter, I
2. God gave - us a fa - mi - ly to bless - all hu - ma - ni - ty. But fam - lies are
3. So come - now and join with me as we pray for our fa - mi - lies; Be - lie - ving that

5
come to you, Your part of God's fam - ly too. To - geth - er we will de - clare
being at - tacked, we can - not stand back and watch.
Christ will come to make our hearts His home.

10
to all peo - ple far and near; Our fam - lies for Christ we claim, Praise His name.

STAUS 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.



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 43rd 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 12th - 19th, 2016 at the Hilton Rose Hall Resort & Spa, Rose Hall, Montego Bay, St. James, Jamaica.



Minister in Training Retreat

Our Ministers in Training at UTCWI arrived in Antigua Monday on May 30th, 2016, in preparation for their Annual Retreat. The Retreat took place at the Provincial Headquarters at Cashew Hill on May 31st and June 1st, 2016. At the end of the Retreat, the Ministers in Training proceeded to their two (2) months assignment as they seek to understand the dynamics of Ministry on the ground and outside of the class room.

They have been assigned as follows:

Bro. Daniel Mark - Moravian Church, Barbados Conference
Bro. Kevin St. Hill - Moravian Church, Virgin Islands Conference

Let us remember them in our prayers.

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 Rev. Leon Matthias was submitted by his spiritual son the Rev. Dr. Errol Connor.

Sunday 8th December 1946 heralded the birth of an 8lb baby boy to George and Ethel Matthias, whom they named Leon Henson. Leon received his primary education at the St James' Government School in Cedar Grove. He later graduated from the Antigua Pilgrim High School in 1963. In September 1967, he entered the teaching profession and was appointed as an uncertified teacher at the St James' Government School in Cedar Grove – his Alma Mater. At the age of 21, he was appointed Leader of the 4-H Club in Antigua and later represented his country at the inaugural CADEC meeting in Barbados.

The family were all members of Gracefield Moravian Church in Cedar Grove; where his grandfather Adrian Joseph was the sexton. Bro Joseph took his responsibility seriously and took his grandchildren to church every Sunday. It was at this church that Leon had his first thrust into a leadership role. At the age of 19, Leon was elected as chairman of the Board of Stewards, while his mother Ethel served as secretary. The members of the congregation encouraged him as they recognized that God was calling him to a special task in His church.

September 1968, Brother Leon submitted his application to be considered for training as a Minister of the Gospel. The Provincial Elders' Conference accepted his application and he began his theological training on the Island of Trinidad in 1970. A year later, Brother Matthias entered the United Theological College of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica to continue his education and completed the Licentiate in Theology in 1974. After graduation; he served as student pastor in Antigua under the tutelage of the Rev. Rudolph Holder at Spring Gardens Moravian Church. In September he was transferred to the Tobago Conference and worked at Bon Accord and Spring Gardens Moravian congregations for a year.

On August 24th 1975, Brother Matthias was ordained as a Deacon by Bishop Selvin Hastings. A week later on September 1st he began his first appointment as a Moravian Pastor in St Kitts. Rev. Matthias served many congregations in Antigua, St Kitts and Tobago and in 1981; he was consecrated as a Presbyterian in the Moravian Church.

On August 28th 1976, Rev. Leon made another important decision in his life. He was joined in matrimony to Mabel Hall in Jamaica. God blessed their marriage with three wonderful boys, Lennox, Leon Jr and Lucien(Richard).

Rev. Leon was awarded a scholarship by the Caribbean Conference of Churches to study Christian Education in Virginia; where he obtained a Master of Arts Degree. Rev. Leon used his tremendous energy, leadership skills and educational abilities to focus on youth development and later directed the First Provincial Youth Camp in Antigua in 1982. He returned to St Kitts Conference as Superintendent. Later he was transferred to the Virgin Islands Conference and served as Pastor of Friedensberg, Memorial and Tortola Fellowship. He was appointed the Superintendent of the VI Conference.

Rev. Leon participated in an oral history workshop in the US Virgin Islands in 1990. This opened a vast new field of enquiry which he pursued vigorously to document unwritten folk history of his people. His interest led to his edition of many publications and writing six books between 1995 and 2008.

In 1993, Rev. Leon was elected by the Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indian Province as a member of the delegation for the 1995 Unity Synod in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. He made numerous lasting friendships during his journey through London, Tanzania, Johannesburg and Cape Town in South Africa. In 2002, Rev. Leon achieved a Master of Science Degree in Library Studies.

His ministries with Grace and Tremont Moravian Congregations in New York, brought him immense enjoyment; particularly his work with the youth population; which expanded outside the boundaries of New York. He is credited as being the driving force behind the formation of the Metro Moravian Youth Council with its now well established Annual Youth Ministries Weekend and will always be associated the unofficial anthem of that event: Moravians For Jesus. He was triumphant in the face of illness and faced the significant challenges without complaint right until he responded to his higher calling in the early hours of Monday, September 23rd, 2013.

A warm Welcome to the Browne Family from the Executive Board and Members of the Moravian Church, Virgin Islands Conference /Tortola Fellowship



L to R Rev. Erflin Browne, Sis. Evannie Jeremiah, Sis. Elisa G. Hodge, Sis. Marleen Browne

Appreciation Service of the Floyd's Family with Members of PEC and the Tortola Fellowship.



L to R Sis. Elisa G.Hodge, Bro Myron Floyd & Rev. Alicia Ross-Floyd, Rev. Dr. Kirton-Roberts & Rev. Dr. Errol Connor



L to R Bishop Conrad Spencer, Sis. Evannie Jeremiah, Rev. Eulencine Christopher, Rev. Erflin Browne and Sis. Elisa G. Hodge



Sis. Hodge, Rev. Ross-Floyd, Sis. Smith-Barry



Happy Birthday for the month of June to:

Sis. Stacey Herbert-Mannix	2
Sis. Sharon McCarty Joseph	5
Bro. Nigel Daniel	5
Sis. Bernadine Chase	7
Bro. Calvin Isaac	13
Sis. Joycelyn Connor	17
Bro. Selvin McMillan	25
Sis. Elva Richards	25
Sis. Jasmin Crooks	26
Sis. Karen Challenger-George	26
Sis. Roslyn Hamblin	29



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



Quote of the Day

The face is the mirror of the mind, and eyes without speaking confess the secrets of the heart.

Saint Jerome

Mathematics Enrichment Program!!

If you are a fourth or fifth form student in Antigua and need to sharpen your skills in mathematics, help is on its way. The Moravian Church will once again be conducting its Mathematics Enrichment Program geared specially for you. It will run from 8th to 19th August, 2016 at Tim O'Reilly Auditorium on St. John's Street from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. 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 which includes a non-refundable registration fee of \$10. The committee organizing the event may give concession to households with two or more students enrolled in the program. Kindly register by 15th June.



Nun Joke

Sister Mary was truly a religious woman. Besides her duties as a nun, she was also very active in various hospitals visiting sick patients and taking care of all their needs. So it was no surprise that one day when she ran out of gas, the only container she could find to put the gas into was a bedpan. Sister Mary happily walked two blocks to the closest gas station filled up the bedpan with gas and headed back to her car. Luck would have it that as Sister Mary started tipping the gas into the fuel tank, the traffic light turned red and she had quite a large audience witnessing the spectacle. Just when she finished pouring in the last drops of gas a fellow opened up his window and hollered,

"I swear! If that car starts I'm becoming a religious man!"



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Conference Center & Apartments



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Fulfilling the Mandate - Advance the Kingdom