



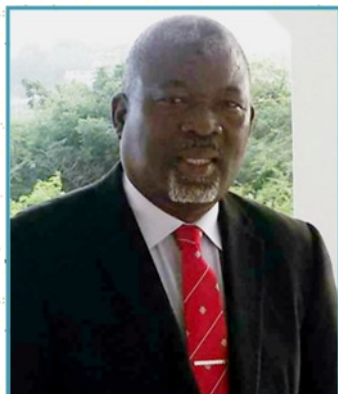
The Information

Moravian World Mission Conference

And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.
Luke 4: vs 4.



December, 2017



Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis
Chairman of PEC

From November 15-20, 2017, 195 Moravians assembled in Cape Town South Africa for the 3rd Unity Mission Conference. They came from every corner of the world where Moravians exists and are involved in Mission. They came from thirty five countries and spoke over 20 languages but we were united by once cause, that of making Christ known and touching the lives of people for good. Though it took some of us nearly two days to get there, it was the ideal place and setting for such a Conference. The friendship, the fellowship, the eagerness to learn from one another and to lift up the name of Jesus was quite evident at the Conference. Of course, we had some time to see a little of Cape Town: the early Moravian settlements of Mamre and Knadendal, Robben Island, Table Mountain, a sight to behold; the Museums, the cultural diversity at the Malls came alive in a real way. The people are warm and friendly. The worship experiences were awesome.

The Planning Committee of the Unity and the local Committee in South Africa must be commended for doing a wonderful job in putting together the entire program and seeing to it that it was successfully executed.

I share with you the message of the President of the Unity Board at the opening of the Mission Conference:

"As Moravians gather from around the world for this Mission Conference, under the theme, MORAVIAN UNITY IN MISSION: GIVING HEED TO GOD'S CALL IN THE 21ST CENTURY, there is urgency for us to do mission and not just talk about it. We have been talking for a long time. We now need to jump into action. From the first Mission Conference in Miami in 1994, to the second Mission Conference in Herrnhut in 2001 and now to Cape Town in 2017, I believe that God is calling us to put our hands to the wheel. The world must feel the impact of the Moravian Church.

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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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"Advance the Kingdom" - Use the Keys

We must bear witness to Jesus Christ in a tangible way so that others will see and know that God has called and preserved this people known as Moravians: to Preach the gospel to the poor; to Heal the broken hearted; to bring deliverance to the captives and recovering of Sight to the Blind; to Set at Liberty them that are Bruised.

Christians today define mission more broadly and variably than ever before. Are we, as the body of Christ, headed in the same direction or are we on divergent missions? I believe that as we meet for this most important Moravian Mission Conference, it is hoped that we will all catch the fever of mission in all of its dimensions. Mission is the heart of the Church and if the heart is missing, there will be no Church. In fact, we will be playing Church and not doing Church. There is therefore that urgency as we meet to have that common understanding of our mission as a Church.

Some argue that the mission of the Church is to confront injustice and alleviate suffering, doing more to express God's love for the world. Others are concerned that the church is in danger of losing its God-centeredness and thereby emphasize the proclamation of the gospel.

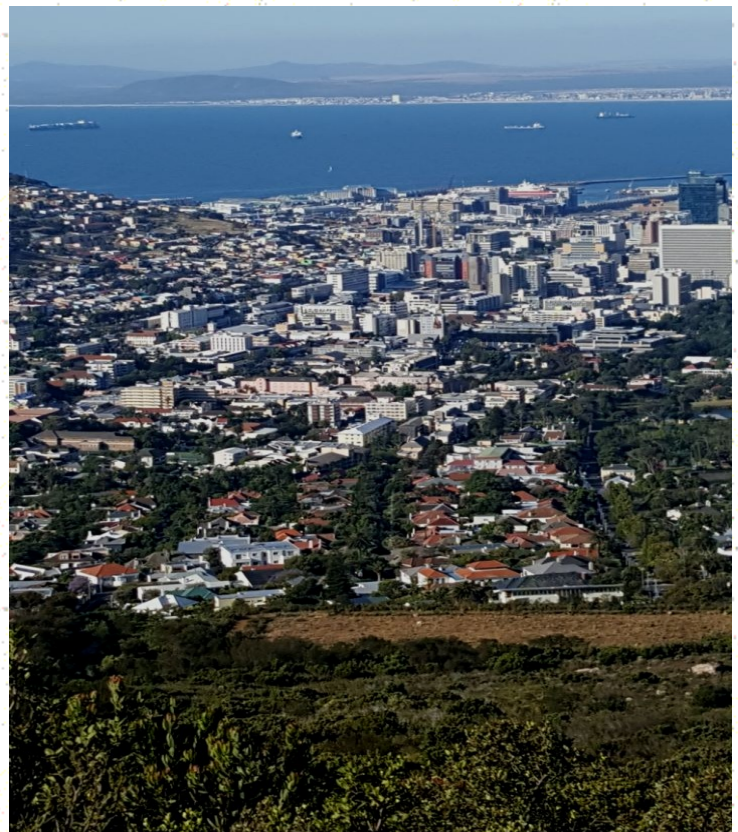
As the Worldwide Moravian Church meets in Cape Town, South Africa, it is my hope that we can agree and employ the right categories and build our theology of mission from the same biblical building blocks.

I believe that we will be challenged to explain key concepts like kingdom, gospel, and social justice, In addition, it is hoped that the Mission Conference will help us to get on the same page, united by a common cause, and launch us forward into the true mission of the church. Mission is action. Mission is a very.

It is hoped that the Great Commission, which is our marching orders for Mission will cultivate a culture of discipling among us. It will help every member own the responsibility for helping other believers grow in the faith. Pastors ought to equip the saints for the work

of ministry, says Paul, "so Christ himself gave the apostles, prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up" (Eph. 4:11-12.), which means the work of the belongs to all the saints. The whole body, speaking the truth in love, grows as it builds itself up, each part doing its work. Then in Eph. 4:15-16 Paul says, "Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work". And then in 1 Cor. 12:14, he says, "even so the body is not made up of one part but of many". It speaks on Unity and Diversity in the body of Christ.

Finally, let us pray for the success of the Mission Conference as we continue to pray for the health and growth of our Church. The great Preacher and Evangelists Charles Spurgeon said, "I would rather teach one man to pray than ten men to preach". As we pray, Oswald Chambers said, "We have to pray with our eyes on God, not on the difficulties". This is the Moravian Unity in Mission: giving heed to God's call in the 21st century. God Bless you.





**Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province
Delegation to Mission Conference in South Africa**



"Advance the Kingdom" - Use the Keys



Hymn of the Month for December, 2017

by Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts, Provincial Director of Music



As the year draws to a close, the hymn of the month for December is #45 ***Come raise your voices children***. The hymn was written by Sis. Edris M.V. Roberts from Antigua who is also credited for composing the tune. The arrangement of the tune was done by the late Sis. Isalyn Richards and because of that the tune for this hymn has

been given the name ***Isalyn***. The hymn captures the story of the birth of Jesus Christ and retells it in a manner that makes it appealing especially to children and youth.

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

Come raise your voices children;
A new-born babe is come.
He's lying in a manger,
Far, far away from home!

2 He has no crib or blanket,
No cap or knitted shawl;
He has no shoes upon His feet,
He has no clothes at all.

3 His mom is sweet, fair, Mary,
And Joseph-brave, his dad,
His name is Jesus, Saviour,
And this should make you glad:

4 Because this Jesus, Saviour,
Is 'specially born today,
To bring you love and joy and peace,
That's what the scriptures say.

5 The scriptures, they say lots more
About this special boy,
Just turn the pages day by day,
And take your share of joy.

6 So, raise your voices children,
Sing praise to God above;
He sent this special gift to you,
He did it out of love!

1978, Edris M. V. Roberts.

45

Come Raise Your Voices Children

Edris Roberts

7.6.7.6

Melody, Edris Roberts;
Arr. Isalyn Richards

1. Come Raise your voi - ces Chil - dren A New Born Babe is
2. He has no crib or blan - ket, No cap or knit - ted
3. His Mom is Sweet, Fair, Ma - ry, And Jo - seph Brave, - his
4. Be - cause this Je - sus, Sav - iour, Is 'spe - cially born to -
5. The Scrip - tures, they say lots more, A - bout this Spe - cial
6. So, raise your voi - ces, chil - dren Sing praise to God a -

come shawl, He's ly - ing in a man - ger, Far,
He has no shoes up - on His feet, He
dad, His name is Je - sus, Sav - iour, and
day, To bring you love, and joy, and peace, That's
Boy, Just turn the pa - ges day by day, And
bove; He sent this spe - cial gift to you, He

far a - way from home!
has no clothes at all.
this should make you glad:
what the Scrip - tures say.
take your share of joy.
did it out of love!

"Advance the Kingdom" - Use the Keys



Meeting of Ministers of Music in Barbados

From Sunday November 26 to Friday December 1, 2017 the two ministers of music in the Province Bros Patmore Smith and



Mikie Roberts met in the Barbados Conference.

During that time they continued their work on the music edition of Caribbean Moravian Praise. The main task at this time is checking the text and punctuation of the music to ensure that they match the version in the words only edition. Attention is also being given to other important details like the metrical and alphabetical indices.

While the ministers of music were engaging in their work, the hymns that have already been completed were distributed to the various Pastorates in the conference. Members of choirs and from the congregations within each pastorate reviewed the hymns that were assigned to them and submitted any corrections that they noted. It is the intention to continue that editorial process within the Barbados Conference until the work on the musical edition is completed.

We are thankful for the support offered by the Barbados Conference, those who hosted us and provided daily meals. Special thanks to the superintendent Bro Ezra Parris for leading the local organization as well as Sis Marlene Griffith who serves on the Provincial Hymnal Committee.

All things being equal, we hope that the music edition should be press ready by mid 2018. The music edition is the third phase of our hymnal project now that the words only version and liturgy book have been printed.

We crave your prayers as we continue working on this the third phase of our hymnal project.

Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts Provincial Director of Music

Why is advent important for the Christian?



December 03, 2017 marked the beginning of Advent. I had the opportunity to worship and sing the *Hosianna Anthem* in Dutch; *joy to the world* in English and *Mi confiansa ta den Cristu* in Papiamentu. It was a wonderful worship experience.

Advent is the official beginning of the new liturgical year. It is a special season of the church year can be dated back to the fourth century. The liturgical color of Advent is purple or violet or blue. The color purple stands for royalty.

Why do we need the season of Advent? **One reason we need the season of Advent is it is a time of spiritual discipline and emphasis.** The season of Christmas, as we know, has become an almost exclusively secular or commercialized one. Advent, on the other hand, with its emphasis upon scripture readings, hymns, and spiritual virtues, reminds us of the spiritual reason of the season. The season of Advent helps keep us grounded and gives us an alternative to the commercialized holiday madness.

We need the season of Advent because it is a season of waiting and longing. Historically and traditionally, the Jewish people were waiting and longing for a Messiah, a deliverer, to be born. The early Christians picked up on that idea, and saw in Jesus a form of that long-awaited Messiah. And so, early on Advent was a season to wait and long for the coming of the promised Messiah: past, present and future. It traditionally was a time to think about Jesus' coming as a Bethlehem baby; his present coming in spirit to all who open their hearts to him (as that beloved Christmas hymn, "O Little Town of Bethlehem" phrases it: "Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in); and his future coming as the bringer of God's Kingdom on Earth. Such was the traditional focus of Advent waiting and longing.

We might compare Advent as a season of waiting and longing to the engagement before the wedding. How important is the period of engagement, so that the bride and groom to be can plan, anticipate, and long for that special day to come. So it is with the season of Advent. The season of Advent as a time of planning, anticipation, and longing helps keep the month of December from becoming a pre-Christmas, commercialized period of time. So if we have embraced the opportunities that Advent presents to us, we should approach Christmas day somewhat spiritually refreshed and feeling good about how we spent the month of December.

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*Why is advent important for the Christian
Cont'd from page 5*

We need the season of Advent because of its contrast between darkness and light. It is no accident that Advent and Christmas fall during the darkest time of the year. During the darkest time of the year when light is so important, the early Church Fathers thought it appropriate that the birth of Jesus "the Light of the world", be celebrated.

During Advent, we are given occasion to reflect on the themes of darkness and light, which can become a metaphor for those spiritual times of darkness and light in our lives, and the many ways that Light becomes a wonderful gift to us.

We need the season of Advent because of its emphasis upon hope. If the season of Advent is anything, it is a season of hope. It is appropriate that the first candle of the Advent Wreath is the candle of hope, as hope is the prevailing mood throughout the season. Advent hope prods us to long for, dream about, and do what we can to usher in a better world. Each Advent season brings with it the rekindling of hope that greater goodwill, greater understanding, and greater compassion among all people will take root and grow. The Advent hope leads us to be more sensitive to the homeless, needy, suffering, and oppressed of our world. It leads us to give a little bit more, and to step out of our comfort zone to be kinder and gentler to those in our lives.

We have the four Sundays of Advent to lead us to think upon these and related matters. We have the four candles of the Advent wreath to remind us of the importance of those spiritual virtues of hope, peace, love, and joy. We have those special Advent hymns to help us reflect in ways that we would not otherwise do.



PEC MEETING

- ♦ The PEC will meet in the Antigua Conference from January 25 - January 28, 2018.
 - ♦ The Superintendents conference will convene on January 29 - January 30th, 2018.
- Please bear up the members of the PEC and the Superintendents of the various conferences in prayer.

Other meetings for 2018 are as follows:

- ♦ Barbados Conference April 5th - 8th
- ♦ Tobago Conference July 5th - 8th
- ♦ St. Kitts Conference October 18th - 21st.

FURLOUGH



- The Rt. Rev. Dr. Conrad Spencer, Pastor of the the Faith Congregation on St. Croix, Virgin Islands Conference, has been granted four (4) months furlough from September 01 - December 31, 2017.
- The Rev. Ulric V. Smith Pastor of the Cana Moravian Church in the Antigua Conference, has been granted four (4) months furlough from September 1 - December 31, 2017.
- The Rev. Hilton Joseph, Superintendent of the Moravian Church St. Kitts Conference and Pastor of the Zion Moravian Congregation in St. Kitts, has been granted four (4) months furlough from January 29th - May 29th, 2018.



VIRTUE OF THE MONTH CARING by the Family Connection

Caring is giving love and attention to people and things that matter to you. When you care about people, you help them. You do a careful job, giving your very best effort. You treat people and things gently and respectfully. Caring makes the world a safer place.

You are practicing caring when you:

- Show care for others, yourself and the earth,
- Look at people and listen closely, - Handle things carefully,
- Are gentle with people and things placed in your care,
- Treat your body with respect, and
- Work with enthusiasm and excellence.

Affirmation:

I care for others and myself. I pay loving attention. I give my best to every job.

The Family Connection was established in 2005 by the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands as an early childhood initiative. The mission of TFC is to strengthen the community child care and early education infrastructure in the USVI by building awareness of the importance of early learning and development for success and working with community agencies to promote quality care and education.

One of its efforts is the Virtues Project, an international initiative focused on building peaceful and caring communities.

"Advance the Kingdom" - Use the Keys



Birthday Greetings for
the month of
December is extended to



Bro. Ulric Smith	02
Sis. Eloise Stephen	02
Bro. Alban St. Hill	02
Sis. Liselle Roberts	08
Sis. Bonnie Williams-Smith	10
Sis. Cicely Athill-Horsford	12
Bro. Hilton Joseph	18
Bro. Vankys Isaac	18
Sis. Maureen Lewis	23
Bro. Alvin Barker	25
Bro. Matthew Crooks	25
Sis. Olga Baird-Joefield	25



Anniversary Greetings
for the month of
December is extended to:

Bro. Cortroy Jarvis & Sis. Althea Jarvis	07
Sis. Alicia Ross-Floyd & Bro. Myron Floyd	08
Bro. Ulric & Sis. Bonnie E.B.W. Smith	10
Bro. Algernon & Sis. Denise Smith-Lewis	20
Bro. Errol & Sis. Joycelyn Connor	22
Bro. Patmore & Sis. Jovanca Lewis-Smith	27
Bro. Hilton & Sis. Sharon McCardy Joseph	29



Quote of the Day



Christmas is the perfect time to celebrate the love of God and family and to create memories that will last forever. Jesus is God's perfect, indescribable gift. The amazing thing is that not only are we able to receive this gift, but we are able to share it with others on Christmas and every other day of the year.

Joel Osteen



The Optimist

Little Susie had been born with a sunny disposition, and was the most optimistic kid anybody had ever seen.

She loved people and animals, and no matter what happened, she always saw the bright side.

She was also an artistic girl. So one Christmas, her parents got her a big bag of clay for making pottery. They put it on the back porch next to a bag of horse manure for the garden.

On Christmas Eve, dad wrapped the presents. It was a little dark on the porch, and as you may have guessed, he wrapped the manure by mistake, instead of the pottery clay.

On Christmas morning, Susie was so excited to see what Santa had brought her. When she finally got to unwrap her big present, her parents watched with anticipation to see how much she liked her clay.

When Susie opened the package, and then the bag, inside were several pounds of stinky horse manure, the parents were aghast. But before they could apologize, Susie said,

“Oh boy! I got a pony!”

"Advance the Kingdom" - Use the Keys

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Moravian Multipurpose Complex



Conference Center & Apartments



Conferences Weddings
Meetings Banquet
Seminars Dinner
Graduations

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 out-skirts 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.

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