A COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF PEC - EWI PROVINCE

The Information

Jesus answered, "It is written:
'Man shall not live on bread
alone, but on every word that
comes from the mouth of God.
Matthew 4 vs. 4



March, 2018

Walking in Dignity and Respect



basis. On February 28, one of my face book friends posted the following, "A person in authority must treat you with dignity and respect". I thought about it for a while and wondered if I have been disrespecting persons or treating them in an undignified way. In my reflection, I came to the belief that I have done my best to treat people with dignity and respect. I pattern my life on Jesus the Christ and therefore seek to encourage, empower and elevate persons at all times. As children of God, we need to seek out the best in each other and celebrate the good things in each.

It is important for one to keep sharp and informed on a daily

Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis
Chairman of PEC

Dignity means the kind of care, in any setting, which supports and promotes, and does not undermine, a person's self-

respect regardless of any difference or, as one person puts it, 'Being treated like I was somebody'.

Dignity refers to **the state of being worthy or honourable.** As human beings, we should treat everyone with dignity. It does not matter whether that person has a lower status, educational qualification, or even belongs to a different class of people. Dignity is treating others in an honourable manner. The individual can have his flaws, limitations, and mistakes. Nevertheless, he should be treated with honor. When treating another person with dignity, it does not denote that we are respecting that person but recognizing that person with worth.

For instance, some people ill-treat the poor. They believe that they have no dignity and can be treated in whatever way that suits them. This is why they are exploited and abused in most situations. If we treat others with dignity, such a situation does not arise. In other words, we would not exploit and abuse them.

Continue on Page 2

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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Inside This Issue Bishop John E. Knight Golden Walking in Dignity and Pg 6 Hymn of the Month for March Age Facility Respect Pgs 1 & 2 Pg 4 Birthdays and Anniversary **Pg** 7 Furlough, Unity Prayer Day Offering 2018, Theological Rental of Moravian Multipurpose Pg 8 **Pg** 5 A Call to Repentance Education Sunday, PEC Meet-Complex Pgs 3,7 & 8 ing, EWIP Watchword for 2018 "Advance the Kingdom" -Live as Kingdom Citizens

Walking in Dignity and Respect Cont'd from Page 1

Respect refers to admiration for someone because of their qualities or achievements. For instance, we respect people whom we admire such as our parents, teachers, pastors, friends, colleagues, supervisors, etc. In such a situation, we tend to look up to that person, not with the intention of providing a sense of worth as in the case of dignity, but because we admire them.

Respect usually comes from within the individual. It is a way we view another individual. It is not something that can be forced out of another, but should come naturally. Respect however, begets respect. We should not look for respect from others if we do not respect them. Unlike in the case of dignity where a person's worth is recognized and acknowledged, here the individual goes a step further and admires. It is this admiration that results in respect.

As we journey ahead through this Lenten Season, let us treat everyone with dignity and respect, regardless of the class, colour, ethnic background, sexual or religious orientation, educational background or skill level. We were all created in the image and likeness of God. It means that all of us ought to reflect God in our walk and our talk. Former British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill said, "If we open a quarrel between the past and the present, we shall find we have lost the future". We need to lift up and encourage each other every step of the way.

May I challenge us to want what God wants for us? God wants us to be treated as men and women of dignity and purpose. Indeed, he wants us to treat each other with respect. No one is beyond God's redemption. Jessica Cooper once said, "When you want what God doesn't want for you, you experience the consequences God was trying to protect you from".

Now more than ever, race, class, and social status are the dividing lines that prevent unity and progress in our world. Paul, addressing the Galatians sought to let them understand that we are one in the Lord, "So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Gal. 3: 26-29 NIV

Let us show respect to each other and treat one another with dignity and respect. God bless you.



Virtue of the Month: Forgiveness

by Source Staff

Being forgiving is giving someone another chance after they have done something wrong. Everyone makes mistakes. Instead of revenge, make amends.

Forgive yourself, too. Instead of feeling hopeless after a mistake, decide to act differently and have faith that you can change.

You are practicing forgiveness when you:

- * Remember that everyone makes mistakes,
- Share your feelings without taking revenge,
- Stop giving uncaring people the chance to hurt you,
- ❖ Accept people without judgment or criticism,
- * Take responsibility for your own mistakes, and
- Make amends instead of punishing yourself with guilt.

Affirmation

I am forgiving of myself and others. I am willing to give and receive amends. I learn from my mistakes. I have the power to keep changing for the better.

QUOTE OF THE DAY





Ash Wednesday Service 2018 Moravian Church Antigua Gracebay Moravian Church Text: Jonah 3: 6-10

"When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal

robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh:

"By the decree of the king and his nobles:
Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish."

When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

As a Conference we are gathered to commence our journey to the cross, and for many individuals the season of Lent is traditionally used to deepen their relationship with God, by committing themselves to praying and fasting, as they deliberately abstain from activities and behaviors they love, have grown accustomed to, or considers to be not in line with good Christian character and witness. And although some never make it to the end of the 40 day period, others have continued faithful in service for God thereafter.

But while some may consider today February 14th 2018 a mere coincidence, as both Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day are celebrated. I remind us that wrapped up in the story of the cross and valentine's is the full expression of Gods' Love. This love that is forgiving, Sacrificial, Self- Denying and Self-Giving. The Lenten season begins for us as a Church on Ash Wednesday and climaxes on Easter Sunday with the triumphant resurrection of Jesus.

In our text for reflection, we get a glimpse of the expression of God's love at work, as Jonah the Prophet of God finally and Reluctantly

makes his way to the great city of Nineveh and proclaims the word of destruction God gave him for them

As a true Jew, Jonah was well aware of the history of the people of Nineveh. After all Nineveh was the economic power house of the Assyrian region.

As a true Jew, Jonah knew that Nineveh was the enemy of the Jews who were constantly being attacked and oppressed by the Assyrians. And as a true Jew, Jonah knew that Nineveh was known as the city of the Gentiles, where other gods found their place, and all practices contended.

In verse 4 of the text, we hear Jonah, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown. But upon hearing of the impending destruction the King of Nineveh summons his entire Nation to prayer and fasting as they collectively repented for their sins.

Can I suggest to us then sisters and brothers, as we begin this season of Lent, there are some lessons we can learn from those who we consider our enemies.

Thus, as we begin this season of Lent, we hear God summoning us as a Nation, not only to pray and fast, but to also repent and turn from our ways which have longed placed the interest of party over the lives of our people.

As we begin this season of Lent, sisters and brothers we too can hear God summoning us as a Church not only to pray and fast, but to repent and turn from our ways, which have longed left some feeling dissatisfied, and empty with what we offer as a community of faith.

As we begin this season of Lent, sisters and brothers we too can hear God summoning us as individuals not only to pray and fast, but to repent from our ways which have longed robbed each other of the value found in human life.

Tonight as we begin this journey to the cross, we hear God summoning us back into right relationship with

Hymn of the Month for March, 2018 by Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts, Provincial Director of Music



The hymn for the month of March is # 598 – *O that we all could quite fulfil*. It was written in 1778 in German and was later adapted in 1789 by J. Miller. The tune *Melcombe* has been applied to this hymn.

This hymn is intended to be sung as a covenant hymn. The text highlights the Christian ideal that we aspire to as

Moravian brothers and sisters, that is, to love each other sincerely. Yet in the opening verse we confess that this is only possible when our hearts have been captured first by Jesus' love. The second develops that theme further by pinpointing the powerful symbolism of members being connected by "heart and hand." As a result, our love for each other is manifested in our walking and working together. Once we journey together then we hold each other accountable ensuring that as members of the faith community we are always ready for Christ's return. The third verse captures and expresses the hope of each member within the Body of Christ. Ultimately, it's the believer's aspiration to see Christ as He is. We await that day when the union begun on earth will be consummated in heaven.

We hope that this hymn will be added to the memory bank as an option for our covenant hymns as we exchange the right hand of fellowship and renew our covenant with each other and the Lord.

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

O that we all could quite fulfil Our Saviour's testament and will: To love each other we desire; Come, sacred love, our hearts inspire.

2 We join together heart and hand, To walk towards the promised land; For his appearance may with care Each member day and night prepare. 3 Till we the Lord our righteousness Shall see in glory face to face, The bond of peace may we maintain, And one with him, our Lord, remain.

598 O That We All Could Quite Fulfill



FURLOUGH

• 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 - April 29th, 2018



PEC MEETING

The PEC will meet in the Barbados Conference from April 5th - 8th, 2018.

UNITY PRAYER DAY OFFERING 2018

Sunday March 4, 2018 is Unity Sunday. A special offering will be taken in all Moravian Churches worldwide, to purchase a piece of land for a church office, the first to be owned by the Moravian Church in Peru. The Moravian Church Peru is one of the newest mission areas in the worldwide Unity.

The Unity Prayer Day Offering 2018 will therefore support the witness of the Moravian Church in Peru and will help to further the mission of the Moravian Church in Peru.

Monies received shall be sent no later than the end of June 2018 to the Unity Office [Unity Board Administrator].

For further information, please mail the UBA: boytler@ebu.de



THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION SUNDAY

Sunday March 25, 2018 is Theological Education Sunday. On this day annually we remember in prayer our Warden/Tutor and all of our ministers in training.

At present, there is one (1) Minister in Training: He is: **Bro. David Ince of the Moravian Church, Barbados Conference.** Our Warden/Tutor is the Rev. Neilson Waithe. Let us remember them especially in our prayers.

A special offering will be taken on March 25, 2018 to go towards the continuing Education of our Minister in Training.



PROVINCIAL WATCHWORD FOR THE EWIP FOR 2018

The Provincial Board of the European Continental Province (ECP) has drawn the Watchword for each Province and Unity Undertaking for 2018.

The watchword drawn for the Eastern West Indies Province (EWIP) is the one assigned for December 13th, 2018. It reads:

"I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you". Isaiah 44:22



UNITY PRAYER WATCH 2018

The Eastern West Indies Province will participate in the Unity Prayer Watch from 12.00 am April 03 – Midnight April 17, 2018. The Schedule is as follows:

Name of Conference/ Mission	From	To
Grenada Mission	12:00a.m. April 03	8:00a.m. April 03, 2018
Tobago	7.59a.m. April 03	2:00p.m. April 05, 2018
Trinidad	1:59a.m. April 05	2:00p.m. April 06, 2018
Barbados	1.59a.m. April 06	2.00a.m. April 09, 2018
Virgin Islands	1:59a.m. April 09	11:00p.m. April 11, 2018
St. Kitts	10:59a.m. April 11	3:00a.m April 14, 2018
Antigua	2.59a.m. April 14	Midnight April 17, 2018

Conferences are asked to observe the time allotted for our members to engage in the unbroken prayer chain. This prayer meeting began on August 13, 1727 when the Moravian Church had its Pentecost experience. The Church was so much on fire that the Prayer meeting lasted for 100 unbroken years. Let us therefore encourage our members to be in prayer, as we continue to seek God's guidance and direction for our Church and indeed our lives.

In our first article we introduced the Global Moravian Community to the Bishop John E. Knight Golden Age Home Project (JEK Project).

We gave you the history of the project and the difficulties encountered, our vison, status of works and a comprehensive overview of the features of the facility. We provided a ren-

dering of the layout of the facility and told you that the facility had a male and female wing, a day-care centre, a commercial kitchen & laundry and an extensive courtyard for the residents to explore and do some backyard gardening. We also told you that the project was approximately 80% complete.

In this month's article we want you to get up close and personal with the facility and have provided some pictures to demonstrate that we are serious and are well on the path to completion.



BISHOP JOHN E. KNIGHT GOLDEN AGE HOME FACILITY However we are in need of



However we are in need of your financial support and we are asking for a contribution from you to assist us in completing our project.

PLEDGE REQUEST

The biblical admonition to honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you (Exodus 20:12) should reso-

nate with each of us because ours is a graying/aging society. The number of seniors who need some type of assistance due to advancing age and related factors is increasing exponentially. Longer life expectancies, greater financial need, health care costs, and isolation from family members exacerbate this problem.

Our mission is "To provide compassionate and affordable elderly care in a purpose built, supportive and nurturing environment, fostering independence and offering meaningful activities." The goal is the enhancement of the Antigua Conference of the Moravian Church's Missionary Outreach Programme and the ability to provide appropriate and affordable care to elderly Moravians within the Conference and other elderly persons residing in or retiring to Antigua and Barbuda.

It has been said that "A nation's greatness is measured by how it treats it weakest members." More specifically how we treat our weakest members – the elderly, the sick, the needy, the handicapped and the children really define who we are, what we value, and how we serve the least among us.

We therefore make an appeal for contributions to break through to the end. There is an urgent need to raise approximately EC\$1,009,000 (US\$375,000). These funds will be deployed as per the following - medical equipment and supplies – US\$50,000, kitchen and laundry – US\$121,000, fixtures and furnishings – US\$200,000. Every contribution, no matter how small, moves us closer to the actuality of the beautiful vision of a purpose built, excellent facility for our elderly and those recovering from major illnesses.

Please visit our website at <u>www.bjekhomeandmission.com</u> for more information and to make your donations. Thank you for being part of God's mission in the world.

The end is in sight and we need your help to cross the finish line!

A Call to Repentance Cont'd from page 3

Him and with each other by acknowledging the Simplicity of Repentance: Verse <u>6</u> and 7 of the text tells us When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. <u>7</u> This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh:

"By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink.

When the King Recognized the crisis his nation was in. He left his throne, his seat of pride and influence. He took of his robe, his symbol of royalty and he covered himself with sackcloth, and sat down in dust/ ashes. A symbol of shame and humility. He decreed that neither humans nor animals should eat or drink anything.

You see, sometimes we can get so caught up with our positions, and we hide behind our intellect. We hide behind technology and we hide behind our titles, that we forget the simple ABC of our faith and our salvation.

Sometimes we can get so caught up that we forget that all that is required for us to repent is for us to Admit that all of us are sinners in need of God's grace. Believe in Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Confess that Jesus Christ is Lord of our lives.

Sometimes when we get so caught up it requires for God to Strip us of our mask in order for us to accept that neither us, nor our positions can save us.

That is what happened to the King and people of Nineveh, when they came face to face with the word of God. They in essence declared, God we acknowledge that we are a great city, but our greatness can't save us right now. They in essence declared, God we acknowledge that we are well known, we are full of resources but none of it can save us right now. We acknowledge that we are all sinners in need of grace.

One can only imagine the scenes in Nineveh as the King left his throne, followed by his bodyguards, and behind them were his nobles, then the other workers, then the entire city. Every man, woman, boy, girl, and the family pets, the Dogs, Cats, Birds and Turtles.

As they made their way through the streets, we can hear the Church choir singing

"Just as I am, and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot; To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!"

As no one can tell the difference because from King to Pauper they were covered in sackcloth and ashes.

You know, the problem with repentance is so simple, that we often take it for granted but the text says that when the King heard the warning from the Lord, he arose from his seat and took off his royal robe.

God has been warning some of us for a long time but we are still sitting in our seats and taking God's grace for granted and I can hear God saying to us I am fed up of the same thing over and over.

In a recent conversation with a young man, he was saying to me Pastor I know that there is a God and I know God has been speaking to me through my dreams and through some of the experiences I have been having, but I'm not ready as yet, so right now I am just going hard and if I live then that is the Father's will and if I die that is also the Father's will for me. There are many of us today who operate like that young man and refuse to surrender our lives to God.

When our cars need fixing, we take them to our mechanics. When our computers need repairs, we take them to the computer technician. When our hearts are broken, we go to a counselor. So when our lives need fixing, we must give them to God. It is God who created us and you see, when God fix us, we are well fixed

Tonight as we begin this journey to the cross, we hear God summoning us back into right relationship with Him and with each other by acknowledging the **Simplicity of Repentance.**

Secondly, as we begin this journey to the cross, we hear God summoning us back into right relationship with Him and with each other by Living out the Sincerity of Repentance: Hear what verse 8 of the text tells us but let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence.

A Call to Repentance Cont'd from page 7

Many of us sisters and brothers believe that we can continue to do as we like and just ask God forgiveness, but that is not repentance. Repentance is when we consciously and deliberately make the effort to cease from sinning.

Watch the text with me because it says to us let everyone urgently call on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence.

Let them call on God and acknowledge that they are evil. Let them call on God and acknowledge that they are violent.

Then let them cease from being evil and violent and do good and live in peace.

- Tonight my sisters and my brothers let us not be ashamed to call on God and acknowledge that there are some evil ways in us.
- Tonight, let us not be too ashamed to call on God and acknowledge that we have often fought with and against each other.
- Tonight, let us not be too ashamed to call on God and acknowledge that we have not always acted in each other's best interest.
- Tonight, my friends let us not be too ashamed to call on God and acknowledge that we have not always acted justly, loved mercy, and walked humbly with our God and with each other.

The writer of Psalm 51: 17 declares My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

I submit to us, sisters and brothers that sincere repentance leads to a change of Heart.

Sincere repentance leads to change in our behavior, attitude and relationship.

If you plan to give up the same thing you gave up last year, I'm begging you tonight find something else to give up, because repentance leads to change.

If you plan to give up the something for just the 40 day period, then pick it up after, I'm begging you tonight

don't bother to give it up, because repentance leads to change.

Thus, as we go through this season of Lent may we pray to see genuine change in our nation, and not just a change in government, but a change in our moral and spiritual values.

As we go through this season of Lent may we pray to see genuine change in the life of our Church as we surrender to God's Spirit.

And as we go through this season of Lent may we pray to see genuine change in our individual lives as we embrace the Image of God in each other.

Thirdly, as we begin this journey to the cross, we hear God summoning us back into right relationship with Him and with each other by Embracing the Sacredness of Repentance. The text says "When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened".

You see, unlike us and Jonah, the God we serve is a merciful God.

Unlike us and unlike Jonah, God's mercy is extended to all who respond to His offer of grace.

Unlike us and unlike Jonah. God's mercy has no boundaries, no color and no nationality; no party color and no M.P so whenever we respond to God in sincerity, God has no other choice but to be merciful to us.

You see, the very nature and character of God, allows for God to be faithful to us, even when we are unfaithful.

So when God sees an entire nation, turning from their evil ways, God is moved with compassion and cannot help but to receive them.

If God can do that for those who were considered outside of God's love, God's grace and God's mercy; imagine what God will do the those who have been redeemed in Christ.

In 2chroinicles 7:14. God declares "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked

A Call to Repentance Cont'd from page 8

ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

No amount of investment can bring healing to our land. No amount of polices can bring healing to our land.

Today if we were to turn from our evil ways and turn to God, then God will hear us, and bring change to our land.

You see the problem with us as human beings is, some of us don't know who we are and who we belong to, and some belong to all Three, Four, and Five different individuals. So we don't know who to call on and who to turn to for help.

Tonight, I encourage us to call on God, 1 John 1:9 tells us, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness".

And let me remind us, Sisters and Brothers, you see when we experience God's mercy, it propels us to invite others to come and experience even when we <u>did</u> not deserve it.

Tonight as we embark on our journey to the cross, God maybe summoning you to give up something that you have been holding on to and turn to him.

Maybe it is a relationship that has brought you much pain. I invite you to give it up to God and allow God to make you whole again.

Maybe it is your job, your family or it can be your very life, and you feel like your life is going nowhere. I invite you to give your life over to God, and allow God to bring real change to you.

Nineveh moved from being a symbol of shame, to one of redemption and so can you through God's grace.

Tonight as we begin this journey to the cross, we hear God summoning us back into right relationship with Him and with each other by: Acknowledging the Simplicity of Repentance, Living out the Sincerity of our Repentance and by Embracing the Sacredness of Repentance. Amen



Birthday Greetings for the month of March is extended to

Sis. Alicia Ross-Floyd	7
Sis. Gwendolyn Jacobs	8
Bro. Jeremy Francis	9
Sis. Eulencine Christopher	18
Bro. Kingsley Lewis	20
Sis. Denise Smith-Lewis	20
Sis. Vera Waithe	29
Bro. Edgar Gonsalves Barriero	29





Anniversary Greetings for the month of March is extended to

Bro. Ralph & Sis. Rosalind Prince

2

NOT EVEDVILING

NOT EVERYTHING DESERVES YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION

An elephant took a bath in a river and was walking on the road. When it neared a bridge, it saw a pig fully soaked in mud coming from the opposite direction. The elephant quietly moved to one side, allowed the dirty pig to pass and then continued its onward journey.



The unclean pig later spoke to its friends in arrogance, "see how big I am; even the elephant was afraid of me and moved to one side to let me pass ". On hearing this, some elephants questioned their friend, the reason for

its actions, was it out of fear? The elephant smiled and replied, "I could have easily crushed the pig under my leg but I was clean and the pig was very dirty. By crushing it, my leg would have become dirty and I wanted to avoid it. Hence, I moved aside".

This story reveals: Realized souls will avoid contact with Negativity not out of fear but out of desire to keep away from impurity, though they are strong enough to destroy the impurity.

You need not to react to every opinion, every comment or every situation. Kick the drama and keep going ahead. Choose your battles wisely.

Not everything deserves your time and attention.

