A COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR OF PEC - EWI PROVINCE



The Information

"I must turn aside and look at this great sight..." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses" And he said, "Here I am." Exodus 3 vs 3-4 (NRSV)

Our lamb has conquered, let us follow Him!



Rev. Algernon Lewis
Chairman of PEC

March 1, 2022 will mark to 565th anniversary of the Unity (Moravian Church Worldwide). It is a marked accomplishment for sure, but what does it really mean for us who are members of the Unity? It could be a time to highlight our long legacy with all the evidence of Moravian prowess in the hay days. Or it could be a time for deeper reflection on the call of God to the Moravian Church in a time of changing assumptions of ministry, changing needs of people, and a changing world.

There is consensus that the context in which we do ministry has changed drastically. However, there is much disagreement on the necessity for change to dovetail with the changes around us. There is talk about the need to change until the changes are made. In the face of change, we long for the fleshpots of Egypt (Exodus 16:3). Change is difficult, but it is also necessary and unavoidable. None of us like wear masks for hours on end. However, to improve our chances of survival and not being infected or infecting anyone, we mask up. As church, we need to look at the measures that need to be implemented to more accurately respond to the call of God in this season.

For us as Moravians, there are practices in our usable past that we need to innovate and redeploy in meaningful ways. Innovation at its best is not some product. The best innovations are not entirely new products. They are tweaks on existing products. Check, Amazon, Apple, Google, Netflix and the like. They came to the market and provided the upgrade or the innovation to what was already on the market. As the church of Jesus Christ, we must look to where God is calling us to innovate so that we might faithfully serve our time.

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February, 2022

Our Lamb has conquered, let us follow Him!

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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, Evangelist discipleship and service.

Mailing Address

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Our lamb has conquered, let us follow Him! Continued from Page I

Our spiritual forebears used the slogan, "souls for the Lamb." Zinzendorf believed that Christ pulpit was as wide as the whole earth there Moravians should go to the ends of the earth share the gospel (Vogt, 2019). This was Zinzendorf's interpretation of the Great Commission of Matthew 28: 19-20. Our spiritual forebears took those words to heart and when they heard of enslaved peoples, our people, in St. Thomas, they came seeking souls for the Lamb.

The call comes ringing over the restless waves, "souls for the Lamb," Go therefore and make disciples. That call for the vast majority does not entail going outside our normal sphere of life. If we understand that God has us where we are to be representatives for the kingdom, we get a clearer picture of the call that comes ringing to us. One of the things lacking in our time, is Christ-followers who are consistent in faith and witness. There are lots of fuzzy witnesses in our community. People do not trust church and church people anymore because the same stuff that happens in the world happens in the church. However, God has placed you there to be that witness of someone who knows Jesus and lives the Jesus way.

The Jesus way might sound like being always in a mode or prayer or always being blest and highly favoured. It is good to be those things but we need also to know that we live in a fallen world and there will be days when the fallenness of the world will impact our lives closely. Those are the days when our faith and witness are most required. People need to know what it means to follow Jesus when the bottom of our lives fall out but we can still trust God. People need authentic witnesses who will admit to being wrong, or not knowing what to say or do, or will resist the urge to judge. In other word, there is a need for Christ-followers who keep it 100 real. Superheroes and sheroes need not apply.

Our spiritual forebears hit the ground real and submitted to slavery to win enslaved people, our people. They crossed boundaries to reach people who were not like them because that is what God wanted. There are people who are not like us who work and live around us who are part of the mission God has given to us. The mission is to include them in our community. Don't just meet them and invite them to church unless that is strongly impressed on you by the Holy Spirit. Do not make people your church project. Be the church to them first. Let us show people Jesus and allow the Spirit to do the work in their hearts.

Seeking souls for the Lamb requires that we have a passion for those souls. We must care that people are living their lives without a meaningful covenant connection with God. We must want to see people fall in love with Jesus, like we have fallen in love with Jesus, and want to serve him. Our forebears were not about maintaining the institutional church.

They were focused on growing the kingdom of God. It meant that they grew their own relationship with God and served God from the spiritual and social location.

At this time of celebration, we need to check our spiritual location. Is there anything that separates you from Jesus? How closely are you following the Lamb? Peter was following from a distance – close enough to know what was happening but not close enough to be impacted (changed) by Jesus. If this Moravian Church is to be a viable, spiritual entity, our souls must be anchored in Jesus and be available for Jesus.

People who are anchored in Jesus must pay attention to the great commandment to love God with your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself (Mark 12:30-31). The command to love is not new for us. We have been reading and memorizing this passage for years. Our spiritual forebears represented love each time they came to the Caribbean on mission of God. They laid their lives on the line. They fully accepted that once they left Herrnhut, there was no guarantee they would return. Love for God and neighbor was their motivation.

Our history books tell us that the Moravians taught the enslaved people to read. That seems like a logical move now, but it was revolutionary then. It was like bringing your dog inside the house back in the day – it was not done. Black people were not considered fully human by the planter class, and they were thought of as being unteachable. The missionaries saw opportunities to build up and empower and they followed the lead of the Spirit.

How will we embody love for God and neighbour? Is it a thing to be done? There is an intentionality that is required in this time that might not have been as evident as before. There is so much hurt and pain all around. Loving people is about being open to accept them without judgment like Jesus did; to journey with someone through the difficult space; to pay attention to the people the Holy Spirit brings in our path to share moments and memory with so that our connection brings hope. Loving our neighbour should cause us to look beyond our interest to the interest of others (Phil. 2:4). That is a countercultural act. However, we are called to be a countercultural people. Jesus was a radical who started a radical movement – love God, love people.

When love becomes our distinguishing mark, we become a place for refuse for the hurting and hopeless. When love our neighbour like Jesus loves us, we will begin to see where Jesus is active in our communities and join him there.

*Continued on Page 6**

Women's Healing and Empowerment Seminar

EMPAC Counselling and Consultancy led by Mrs. Billie Sterling -Lewis, wife of the Rev. Nevin Lewis of the Moravian Church Tobago Conference, invites our women to the third annual Women's Healing and Empowerment Seminar. This Seminar will provide women with the skills and tools to identify and use practical strategies to address and overcome the debilitating psychosocial, emotional, and spiritual issues they face.



The seminar is scheduled for March 8, 9, and 13. This year's seminar includes two masterclasses that are scheduled for March 8 (International Women's Day) and, 9, and the grand conference scheduled for March 13th, under the theme, Releasing the Oil - Building a legacy of Holistic Wealth. Masterclass presenters are singer and Minister Easlyn Orr and Business development specialist, Mr. Dedan Daniel of Tobago. Seminar speakers are Dr. Cheryll Holmes and Billie Sterling-Lewis. This seminar will be delivered by a blended platform for participants. A such, participants will have an option for in-person or online attendance.

The following is a breakdown of the costs for the programs:

- 1. Complete WHE 3 package (2 Masterclasses and Seminar) is \$450.00 TTD or \$64.00USD
- 2. Seminar only cost is \$300.00TTD or \$43.00USD
- 3. Individual Masterclass cost is \$100.00 (each) or \$14.00 USD. Participants can take advantage of the Early bird special (February 1 – 10) on the complete WHE package of \$30.00 off and a copy of Billie's newest book, Envision Me.



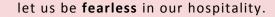
Payment options

Persons wishing to participate in the WHE Seminar have a few payment options. Please see the options below:

- 1. Face-to-face cash payments. Cash or check payments should be made in TT dollars. Cheques should be made payable to EMPAC Counselling & Consultancy- Payments can be made at EMPAC the Therapy Store, upstairs Pennysavers Shopping Plaza, Milford Court.
- 2. Direct bank deposits- participants can make direct bank deposits to
 - 1. Scotia Bank branch- Account number- 1203378; Transit number: 12005; EMPAC Counselling & Consultancy
 - 2.Republic number Bank-Account 020001302831; Saving Account; Billie Sterling-

In order to complete your registration, a completed registration form must be submitted along with proof of payment, either in person, via email address: empacchangeconcepts@gmail.com or via WhatsApp to (868) 294-3444.

Please see the flyer for more information or contact the host Billie Sterling-Lewis via WhatsApp at 868-294-3444. or Rev. Dr. Annette James at (868) 788-0944. Emails may empacchangeconcepts@gmail.com. We look forward to your presence and active participation in this year's WHE Seminar.





You Who Casts Out Fear

You are the God from whom no secret is hid, and so we tell before you our great fear:

- ♦ We have fear down to our toes because of the danger of the COVID-19` virus.
- We have fear up to our ears from vio lence all around us;
- We have fear for the fragility of our economy and our place in it;
- We have fear for the threats our democracy faces;
- We have fear before the surge of too many immigrants among us;
- We have fear that causes us loss of sleep;
- We have fear that skews our vision and distorts our judgment.

We have fear that skews our vision and distorts our judgment.

We know that fear is contagious; it passes among us; it flows from issue to issue, and our negative adrenalin is magnified.

Our fear evokes our worst selves and summons us to shriveled, demeaned, and demeaning lives.

But then You! You as perfect love;

You who crowds in against our deep fears:

Cancel our fears! Veto our anxiety;

Nullify our uneasiness!

O perfect love, cast out our fear;

Cast out our parsimony,

that we may become generous in self -giving,

that we may gladly risk more and more of who we are and what we have.

O perfect love, cast out our fear;

Cast out our anger,

that we may become more forgiving, that we may more readily transform circumstances of threat into venues for shared wellbeing.

O perfect love, cast out our fear;

Cast out our guarded isolation,

that we may be more welcoming of the "other" in our midst,

that we may be more accepting of those unlike us.

O perfect love, we turn to you so that we are not eaten alive by our fear.

In your presence we move toward fearlessness; let us be **fearless** in our generosity;

let us be fearless in our forgiveness;

Let us put ourselves down in your deep embrace that holds us closely, along with all those whom you love.

We pray in the fearless name of Jesus. Amen.

Walter Brueggemann Columbia Theological Seminary December 9, 2021



Provincial Notice

The Provincial Board makes the following announcements:

- 1. The Rev. Esther Moore-Roberts of the Tobago Conference has resigned as the Superintendent of the Conference. The Provincial Board extends sincerest thanks to Sis. Moore-Roberts for her eighteen years of dedicated service to the Tobago Conference and the EWI Province. We pray great grace and favour upon Sis. Moore-Roberts as she continues to serve the Tobago Conference and the Province as a Minister of Christian Education.
- 2. The Rev. Nigel Daniel, pastor of the Spring Gardens and Bethesda congregations in Tobago, has accepted a call to serve as the Acting Superintendent of the Moravian Church Tobago Conference. This appointment takes effect from February 1, 2022. Congratulations to Bro. Daniel on his appointment.
- 3. The Rev. Liselle Roberts, Minister of Christian Education in the Tobago Conference, has accepted a call to serve as the Associate Pastor of the Spring Gardens and Bethesda Moravian congregations in Tobago while continuing to serve as a Minister of Christian Education. This appointment takes effect from February 1, 2022.

Please pray for Bro. Nigel Daniel, Sis. Esther Moore-Roberts, and Sis. Liselle Roberts and their families as they answer the call of God to serve the Mission of God.



Theological Education Sunday

Sunday March 20, 2022 is Theological Education Sunday. Our focus on this Sunday is the call of God for people to dedicate themselves to gospel ministry. Jesus continues to call his disciples to follow him to serve the kingdom. Are you among the called?

Special prayers are also requested for our Warden/Tutor at the United Theological College of the West Indies (UTCWI), Rev. Neilson Waithe.

If you sense God calling you deeper in service, continue praying about it and talk with your pastor or a mature Christian as to how you might respond to the prompting of God. The call to ministry has many branches.

Last year you gave EC\$24,888.58 toward theological education. The Province spent about EC\$58,662.05. On March 20 2022, a special offering will be received for theological education. Please give as the Lord allows.



Unity Prayer Watch, 2022

The Unity Prayer Watch is a special service to the world, offered by the worldwide Moravian Church. The Eastern West Indies Province will participate in the Unity Prayer Watch from Midnight, April 03 - Midnight April 17, 2022. The Schedule is as follows:

Conferences are asked to observe the schedule the time for members to engage in the unbroken prayer chain.

| | 0 0 | |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Name of | From | То |
| Confer- | | |
| ence/ | | |
| Mission | | |
| Tobago/ | Midnight, April 03 | Midday, April 05, 2022 |
| Grenada | | |
| Mission | | |
| St. Kitts | 11:59a.m. April 05 | Midnight, April 08, 2022 |
| Trinidad | 11:59p.m. April 08 | Midnight, April 9, 2022 |
| Barbados | 11:59p.m. April 09 | Midnight, April 12, 2022 |
| Antigua | 11:59p.m. April 12 | Midnight, April 15, 2022 |
| Virgin | 11:59p.m. April 14 | Midnight April 17, 2022 |
| Islands | | |

This prayer meeting began on August 13, 1727 when the Moravian Church had its Pentecost experience. The Spirit of God ignited a passion for prayer that gave birth to a prayer meeting that lasted for 100 unbroken years. Let us keep that passion alive as we seek the face of God for direction for the Church, the world, and our lives.

33rd Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province

The Provincial Board has set the date for the 33rd Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province for July 18-22, 2022. Living within this period of uncertainty necessitates that Synod be held using a hybrid/virtual model. Mindful of the local pandemic protocols, each Conference in the Province is asked to prepare for the event by doing the following:

- **1.** Elect Synod delegate(s) in accordance with the provisions of the Book of Order paragraph 4.4.7.
- 2. Submit the names of all delegates by March 31, 2022.
- **3.** Prepare all reports for submission to the Provincial Office by April 29, 2022.
- **4.** Prepare and submit to the Provincial Office all proposals to be considered at the 33rd Provincial Synod by April 15, 2022.

Information will be circulated later with pre-synod processes and procedures.

The Provincial Board has appointed Rev. Adelyn Mgonela to serve as the Synod Chaplain. The Rev. Dr. Jeremy Francis has been appointed Chairman of Synod. The Rev. Onita Samuel-Warner has been appointed Secretary of Synod.

One of the businesses of the 33rd Provincial Synod is to approve the updated Book of Order 2020. This document has been circulated to Pastors for onward circulation to members for reflection, discussion, and amendments where needed. Please take time to review this document that governs our operations and share your feedback.

Making the SHIFT for the 33rd Provincial Synod means that we must re-imagine Synod. The presentation of reports, Committee meetings, worship, elections, and participation of delegates and observers will be adjusted to suit the virtual platform. We have the benefit of learning from others who have gone this way before us.

Please add the 33rd Provincial Synod to your prayer list that God's will be done among us.

Advance the Kingdom ~ S.H.I.F.T



Birthday Celebrants February 17th—24th

| Sis. June Mcmillan | 17 |
|----------------------------|----|
| Bro. Adrian Smith | 21 |
| Bro. Errol Connor | 21 |
| Sis. Billie Sterling-Lewis | 22 |
| Sis. Esther Moore-Roberts | 24 |





Birthday Celebrants March 7th—9th

| Sis. Alicia Ross | 7 |
|-----------------------|---|
| Sis. Gwendolyn Jacobs | 8 |
| Bro. Jeremy Francis | 9 |



Anniversary Celebrants

Bro. Kingsley & Sis. Maureen Lewis February 19
Bro. Ralph & Sis. Rosalind Prince March 2



Unity Prayer Day Offering 2022

March 06, 2022 is Unity Sunday. At this time of year, we remember the birth of the Unitas Fratrum, the Moravian Church, on March 1, 1457. We ask for your continued prayers for the work and witness of our Church.

A special Unity offering will be taken in all Moravian Churches worldwide on Sunday March 6, 2022. This offering will go towards constructing a multipurpose hall in Malawi in Africa.



Quote of the Day

"I've decided to stick with Love. Hate is too great a burden to bear"

-Martin Luther King Jr.-

Condolences



The Provincial family expresses condolences to:

- Rev. Julie Joefield Parris on the death of her Mother Sis. Olga Baird-Joefield. A service of Thanksgiving was held on February 17, 2022 at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Tobago.
- Rev. Jeremy Francis on the death of his sister Judith Ward-Hall on January 20, 2022. Ms. Ward-Hall is a native of St. Croix and died in Miami, Florida.



Please Pray for All the above Families as they journey through the valley of grief and loss. May the Comfort of God surround them.

Our lamb has conquered, let us follow Him! Continued from Page 2

We will begin to care about social justice, homelessness, human trafficking, political abuse, mental health issues, environmental destruction, and the myriad of other obstacles that block the abundant life Jesus came to give. It is a risk but it is the way of Jesus and its the road our forebears walked. Why else would we celebrate if it is not to magnify the action of God among us and in us. If we are not celebrating what God has done and is doing, then we celebrate in vain.

As March 1, 2022 rolls around (the 565 anniversary), let this be a time to check ourselves against the great commission and the great commandment. The survival of the church is dependent on us aligning with the Holy Spirit and being open for where we are led, being ready to be changed.

ALL the words listed below are in the puzzle - left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and click its first letter then its last letter to highlight it. After you have found all the words, click the leftover letters to form the *Mystery Answer*.

| Antiphonal, | Horn, | Psaltery, |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Banquets, | Instrumental, | Religious, |
| Bass, | Instruments, | Sounds, |
| Bugle, | Israelites, | Spiritual, |
| Castanets, | Kings, | Tabernacle, |
| Choirs, | Lamentation, | Tambourine, |
| Cymbals, | Merrymaking, | Timbrels, |
| Dance, | Minstrel, | Trumpet, |
| Dirge, | Moses, | War, |
| Faith, | Musicians, | Worship |
| Fife, | Orchestra, | 1 |
| Harmony, | Percussion, | |
| | | |

| Н | K | G | L | Α | Р | M | U | S | ı | С | ı | Α | Ν | S |
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| Α | G | I | S | T | K | N | Ν | I | S | Ε | W | L | 0 | В |
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| W | U | U | Ε | Р | ı | 0 | M | M | Н | В | ı | Ν | R | Y |
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| D | ı | R | G | Ε | Α | L | Α | U | Т | ı | R | ı | Р | S |



1. What is the shortest verse in the Bible?

| 2. | Why did Jesus weep in that verse? |
|-----|--|
| \ | |
| 3. | How much bread and fish did Jesus use to feed more |
| | than 5,000 people? |
| 4. | True or False: Jesus' said washing hands is never |
| | important. Why? |
| | |
| 5. | True or False: Jesus asked the children to stay back |
| | while he was teaching important things to grown-ups. |
| | |
| 6. | What did Jesus do at the Last Supper to his disciples? |
| | |
| 7. | What did the woman pour on Jesus' feet at the home |
| | of Simon the Leper? |
| 8. | Name the disciple who betrayed Jesus. |
| | |
| 9. | True or False: Jesus didn't know that he was going to |
| | be arrested and killed in Jerusalem. |
| | |
| 10. | Which disciple denied Jesus three times? |
| 11. | What happened after Jesus was buried in the tomb? |
| | |
| 12. | What was rolled away from the entrance of the tomb? |
| | |
| 13. | How many books have the name John in them? |
| | |
| 14. | Name the person who received the 10 Command- |
| | ments from God? |
| 15. | What is the 1st commandment? |

Moravian Multipurpose Complex



Conferences

Weddings

Banquets

Meetings

Dinners

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 cable TV. All utilities are included with the exception of telephone.

PSALMS

Mystery Answer

14. Moses 15. You shall have no other gods before me. 13. Four. 12. A large stone 11. He rose again 9. False. He knew and told his disciples before it happened. Judas Iscariot. 10. Peter 7. A lar of expensive perfume False-Jesus welcomed children. 6. Washed their feet. False. He said dirty hands don't make a person spiritually unclean. You can still get germs! 3. Five loaves of bread—and two fish 2. Because his friend Lazarus died. John 11:35 Jesus wept.

Bible Trivia Answers

Conference

Center

Ro

Apartment

 \mathcal{C}_{Ω}