



Bethlehem Herald

Monthly Newsletter of the
Bethlehem Moravian Church



Volume 12, August 2017

"Hear God's Word; Do God's Will"

Submitted by: Bro. David Ince

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name, cast out demons in your name, and done many wonders in your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you who practice lawlessness!'" Matthew 7:21-23

This passage of Scripture in the Book of Matthew (chapter 7) is one of the saddest in my opinion. "Why?", you may ask. Well, it tells me that there are some misguided persons sitting in pews around the world who are in for a big shock. The passage tells us that there are some doing a lot of "church work" that is not **God's work**.

How is that? Well for one thing there are many who are doing what the preacher or pastor or celebrity says, and not what the Bible requires. Listen to the words of Jesus as recorded in *Luke 11: 28*. But He said, *"More than that, blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it!"*

God's blessings are upon those who are prepared to not only hear His Word, but keep it also. What does this mean? The Bereans are a very good example here; *Acts 17:11 - These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these*

things were so. These folks did not simply take Paul at his word, they checked it out for themselves. This, unfortunately is where many churchgoers err, by accepting what is being said from the pulpit or written in the best-selling books without verifying it. **We ought to be doing our own fact checking!** Even with the best of intentions, a preacher or writer can misquote or misinterpret; added to this, there are

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Let's Support!

The Moravian Church - Barbados Conference
Presents

"Men of Excellence"

A concert showcasing our male members

Venue: Sharon Moravian Church

Sunday, 27th August 2017

Start Time - 5:00p.m.

ADMISSION: \$20.00

Talents includes:

Solo vocals, Group vocals

Instrumentals, Poetry

Acting & others

All proceeds from this event will be used for Synod - 2018 expenses

Come see our men in action!

others who deliberately twist or massage the Word to have it say something not intended by the original writers. Examples are the various cults we have seen down through history – cults which claim to use the Bible, such as Jim Jones who in 1978 led over 900 followers to their death in the jungle of Guyana, and David Koresh who after a 51-day standoff with federal agents in Texas died with over 70 others in a resulting fire. This is why Paul so implored Timothy in *2 Timothy 2: 15* ‘*be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth*’. Or, as the King James Version puts it “*study to show yourselves approved*”. Commentaries can, and do help; your preachers, authors and pastors also have a part to play, but your salvation is your own responsibility. That is, only you are capable of accepting God’s gift of salvation for yourself, and only I am capable of accepting God’s gift of salvation for myself. *Romans 10:9* says - that ‘*if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved*’. Your salvation is not dependent upon how much “church work or good work” you have done or is doing, or how closely you follow traditions and practices, rather it is about obeying the Word.

Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:8 ‘*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God*’. I therefore urge you, dear readers, to make sure that you obey God’s Word - church work and tradition have their place and their purpose, but neither can save your soul - to ensure that you will not hear these words *verse 23* “*And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness?*” I urge you today to come to Jesus by obeying the Word, which commands us to believe and be saved.

The Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas what must he do to be saved; the answer is in *Acts 16:31* - So they said, “*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.*” This also applies to us right here, right now, and you can be assured of your salvation **by accepting God’s gift of Salvation**. If you have not yet accepted Jesus as your personal Saviour, I invite you to pray this prayer with me - it is not only the words, but the intent of your heart.

"God, I know that I am a sinner. I know that I deserve the consequences of my sin. However, I am trusting in Jesus Christ as my Saviour. I believe that His death and resurrection provided for my forgiveness. I trust in Jesus and Jesus alone as my personal Lord and Saviour. Thank you Lord for saving me and forgiving me! Amen."

Teen’s Corner

A DIFFERENT KIND OF GIFT

Don’t think that every gift is given to you for your pleasure. Some of God’s gifts to you are for others.

Use the Code Chart below to finish the verse. (eg: K = 24)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
2	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
3	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
4	V	W	X	Y	Z		

“EACH _____
31 27 15

USE
35 21 31 37 25 14

42 21 11 36 15 41 15 34

HE HAS _____ -
17 22 16 36 34 15

TO
13 15 22 41 15 14

35 15 34 41 15

FAITHFULLY
31 36 21 15 34 35

11 14 26 22 27 22 35 36 15 34

GOD’S
22 27 17

IN ITS
17 34 11 13 15

41 11 34 22 31 37 35

16 31 34 26 35

(1 Peter 4:10)

Extract: “More Bible Activities”

This Month's Unsung Hero/Heroine

"A Boy ...and a King"

"A call to reiterate the old values, and to reinforce the disciplines that the Church needs to be committed to."

This month's unsung hero is a boy, and a King. Who is this boy and King - can you name him? He was the son of Amon and Jedidah, and great-grandson of Hezekiah, a pious king of Judah. This young lad succeeded his father as King when he was only eight years old. His name was **JOSIAH** - King of the southern two tribes of Israel and he reigned for thirty-one years, *2 Kings 22:1-23:37; 2 Chronicles 34:1-35:27*.

What is the message which this young King brings to us today? As Josiah grew, after seven years as King, he began to seek God for himself (the God of his forefather David). He chose to follow the good examples of kings like David, Jehoshaphat and Hezekiah, and he devoted himself to God. **Will you seek God for yourself and devote yourself to Him, His Word and His Way? Will you seek to follow good examples, or bad?**

While Josiah was still a teenager, having recognized the state of the people - worshipping false gods and bowing to idols, he did a brave thing. Josiah goes out with his men and begins the mission of rooting out false worship from the land. No other king stands foremost among all the kings of the line of David for unswerving loyalty to Jehovah and commitment to destroying every vestige of idolatry out of the land. (*2 Kings 23:25*). **The question is, what have you recognized as behaviour dishonouring God and done nothing about, not even prayed? Will you be brave enough to speak against it or will you be silent for your skin's sake, popularity sake, or 'seemingly' your friend's or family's sake? What about God's sake, God's purpose?**

The temple there had become sorely dilapidated, given time and violence (*2 Kings 22:3, 5, 6; 23:23; 2 Chronicles 34:11*). It was in the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign that he proceeded to repair and beautify the temple (under a special commission); appointing three men to manage the project. **Will you see God's work in a state of disrepair and 'pull your hand away from the plough'?**

Let's look back at what happened when they started the work on the temple - the high priest Hilkiah found something very important - the entire Pentateuch.

Pentateuch simply means "five books" - these are the books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. What is the significance of these five books - they contain some of the oldest and most famous records in the Bible, including those of Adam and Eve, Jacob and his brothers, and Moses, as well as some of the oldest codes of law known, including the Ten Commandments. This very important and significant document had been "tucked away", lost to the benefit of the people for many years - **unopened, unread, not shared, not taught!**

When the document was read to King Josiah, and he recognized how far away the people were from keeping Jehovah's law, he became so sad that he tore his clothes apart - recognizing how angry God must be with all of them because the fathers did not keep the laws written in this book. **There is a significant, 'not to be neglected' role of our men, our fathers of our people, in keeping and teaching the Word, the Law. The Word guides as to whether we are near or far away from God's Way.** It is important to note that the tearing of one's clothing is a public and powerful expression associated with mourning, pain and loss; and at times accompanied by other signs of humility and grief, such as shaving one's head (*Job 1:20*), throwing dust on oneself (*Job 2:12*), and wearing sackcloth (*2 Samuel 3:31*). It is an ancient Jewish tradition, however, more important than outward shows of grief are true sorrow for sin and genuine repentance of the heart.

Being one of the 'responsible' men himself, Josiah wanted to know what God's punishment would be like for them, and so he commanded the high priest Hilkiah to find out. Hilkiah goes to the prophetess, Huldah, and she gives him the message from Jehovah to take back to Josiah. 'That message was that Jerusalem and all the people will be punished because they have worshiped false gods and the land has been defiled. However, because of the good that Josiah, had done, this punishment will not come until after Josiah's death. **For the acts of one man, the wrath of God would be held back.'**

This month we show appreciation for our 'National Heroes' - named such as "Bussa", and unnamed Heroes and Heroines - countless others who were instrumental in our Emancipation as a People - resulting in our freedom as blacks to not only live and associate with our families and friends, but also to learn about and truly worship Almighty God. Today, you are free to stand up and be counted, but what are you standing up for? When last did you take up the Word of God and read for yourself, and meditate, and pray that God would teach you what he wants you to learn

from it? The work of others has resulted in us today hearing the Word in our own language (John Hus taught that worship should be conducted in the language of the people). The work of others has resulted in us today having access to the printed Word of God (William Tyndale, often referred to as the father of the English Bible, was responsible for translating the Bible from the original Hebrew and Greek texts into English for all to read). We give thanks for all these efforts.

From today's various texts we see how Josiah stood up for God, stood up for what was right, and in so doing aided in stemming the tide of judgement on an entire people.

As we approach Mission Month, and as we intensify our efforts towards Mission work, will we take up the Word for ourselves, dust it off if necessary and delve into it and follow it, and thereby save ourselves, save our families, save our Church, community and Nation. Look at Josiah, just one individual can accomplish this and more. Will that be you? Can you be counted?

“Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity” (*Joel 2:13; cf. Psalm 34:18*).

Thank you for your example young King JOSIAH - a call to reiterate the old values, and to reinforce the disciplines that individuals, and the Church, need to be committed to.

BLESSED EMANCIPATION DAY!

August 1st, 2017: In 1834 the British Parliament **enforced the Act of Emancipation** that



put an end to slavery in the British colonial territories, and removed the

foundation on which the old plantation economy was based. The West Indian system of slavery had reduced the slave to the status of property, of being a ‘thing’, a piece of equipment or stock. The emancipation achievements were triggered by **a repeated number of slave revolts**, the largest in 1816 led by “**Bussa**”, who died in the revolt.

FREE!

I'm Free.

**Free to lift my hands, Free to say “AMEN”,
Free to know that someday I can smile again.**

I'm free.

**Free to laugh, not cry; Free to live, not die
Because of your love, LORD**

I'm free. *Lyrics by: Kirk Franklin*

DO YOU HAVE A RECIPE YOU WANT TO SHARE?

It is summer, the children are on holiday, you have a bit of ‘down’ time. Try some **MORAVIAN**



SUGAR CAKE!
An unusual coffee cake, the **MORAVIAN SUGAR CAKE** hails from the Winkler Bakery of Winston-Salem, N.C.

Below is the recipe and above is what it should look like when you are done!

Ingredients

- 1 large or 2 small potatoes, boiled, peeled and mashed. Or you can use instant potatoes or leftover mashed potatoes
- 1/2 cup solid shortening
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 2 packages dry yeast
- 3/4 cup warm water, reserved from cooking potatoes (or just warm water if using instant potatoes)
- 4 scant cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 stick melted REAL butter
- About 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- Ground cinnamon - to taste

Directions

1. Grease one 11” x 7” x 2” pan, plus one 8” square pan, or three 8” square pans
2. Place 1/2 cup hot mashed potatoes in a large bowl. Add shortening and sugar and combine. Add beaten eggs and combine. Set aside.
3. In a separate medium bowl, dissolve yeast in lukewarm potato water. Add sifted flour and salt and combine. Mix yeast mixture into potato mixture. It will resemble bread dough. Place batter in large bowl, cover with a damp cloth and let rise in a warm place until doubled in bulk, 20-30 minutes.
4. Pat dough out in prepared pans to 1/2” thick. Cover with damp cloth and let rise again in a warm place for one hour.
5. Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit (375° F)
6. Make indentations in dough with a wooden spoon handle or your finger about every inch and a half or so, and fill the holes with the melted butter.
7. Crumble a generous amount of brown sugar over the top and sprinkle with cinnamon. Bake for 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted comes out clean.

Great as a dessert or with coffee in the morning. Enjoy!

Source: <http://www.hhhhistory.com/2015/03/the-moravian-church-and-moravian-sugar.html>



*Happy 53rd
Anniversary
Bethlehem*

**MINISTERS SERVING AT BETHLEHEM
MORAVIAN CHURCH, BARBADOS**

Rev. R. G. Athill	-	1963 - 1964
Rev. David Bratsch	-	1964 - 1965
Rev. A. Cuthbert Pilgrim	-	1965 - 1968
<i>(Pastor Emeritus)</i>		
Rev. Donald Fulton	-	1968
Rev. M. Errol Grant	-	1968 - 1972
Rev. Robert Cuthbert	-	1972 - 1973
Rev. Peter Gubi	-	1973
<i>(Interim)</i>		
Rev. Theodore Wilde	-	1973 - 1975
Rev. Dr. Charles Peters	-	1975 - 1977
Pastor Tyrone Lewis	-	1977
<i>(Student Pastor)</i>		
Rev. Tyrone Lewis	-	1977 - 1978
Rev. E. Alexander Graham	-	1981 - 1986
<i>(Lay Pastor)</i>		
Rev. Dufferin Culpepper	-	1986 - 1990
Rev. Neilson Waithe	-	1990
<i>(Interim)</i>		
Rev. Derick Forrester	-	1990 - 1994
Rev. Lillette I. George	-	1994 - 1996
Rev. N.C. Roslyn Hamblin	-	1996 - 1997
<i>(Interim)</i>		
Rev. Rudolph Gibbs	-	1997 - 2001
Rev. Nasel Ephraim	-	2001 - 2008
Rev. Andrew Roberts	-	2004
<i>(Associate)</i>		
Rev. Winston S. Jones	-	2008 - 2015
Rev. Delroy R. Burley	-	2015 - Present

**SPECIALISED MINISTERS AND LAY SUPPORT
DERIVING FROM BETHLEHEM**

Specialised Ministers

Sis. Joyce Walters, Minister of Counselling
Sis. Lenore Worrell, Provincial Development
Officer

Lay Support:

Bro. David Ince, Acolyte

**THE SPIRITUAL BAPTISM OF
THE MORAVIAN CHURCH**

**August 13, 1727
290 Years Ago**

The Confirmation Service of August 13, 1727 saw the Moravian community at Herrnhut baptised by the Holy Spirit so that a new and different experience visited the membership. Being filled with a new love, they readily forgave each other and all their bitterness was washed away by tears. They embraced each other in this new-found love. Peace and brotherly love permeated each heart and changed each personality.

The members were so drawn in love and so overwhelmed by the experience that they found it difficult to separate after the Service. They lingered in the Church yard in groups and reflected on their experience. They even continued to engage in prayer and the singing of hymns. Count Zinzendorf, noticing their desire for further fellowship, sent them bread and juice from his house 'in order for them to be able to stay undisturbed together'.

**THIS MONTH IN MORAVIAN HISTORY
AT BETHLEHEM IN BARBADOS**

‡	<u>1962</u> August 13 th	Church Service held at the Club Randall, Gall Hill which requested the establishment of a Moravian Congregation in Christ Church
‡	<u>1964</u> August 13 th	Special Outdoor Service at "Bellehaven" for the purpose of announcing "Congregation" status.
‡	<u>1964</u> August 16 th	Start of Outdoor Sunday School at Sayers Court
‡	<u>2004</u> August 15 th	40 th Anniversary and Appreciation Service held under the theme "Praise and Thanksgiving"
‡	<u>2014</u> August 14 th	50 th Anniversary celebration "Uplifted" : An Evening of Music held at the Frank Collymore Hall under the Patronage of the Hon. Justice Peter Williams, CHB, QC.

**MEMBERS FROM BETHLEHEM WHO
SUPPORT MINISTRY AS PASTOR'S SPOUSE**

- ‡ Sis. Lorna Miller (*née* Harris)
- ‡ Sis. Francina Harewood (*née* Charles)
- ‡ Sis. Geraldine Roberts (*née* Carmichael)

This Month in Moravian History



Image: Church in Berthelsdorf near Herrnhut.

‘We learned to love’: August 13, 1727

The events of August 13, 1727, when at the conclusion of a Holy Communion service in Berthelsdorf the residents of Herrnhut united into the Renewed Brethren’s Church, are traditionally considered the spiritual birthday of the Moravian Church. Here, in a modern English translation, is the full description of those events as they were recorded in the Herrnhut diary:

“August 13, 1727. The profound and highly uplifting Communion was held on August 13. Beforehand, as we were on our way to church, everyone was talking with each other and here and there pairs were found among the Brethren, willing to unite. The Church service started with the hymn: “Deliver Me, My God,” whereby a wicked person, watching the ceremony, was totally overcome. Afterwards Pastor Rothe, supported by the congregation, bestowed a true apostolic blessing upon the two confirmands. Then the congregation fell down before the Lord, and started to cry and sing at the same time: “My Soul Before Thee Prostrate Lies.” One could hardly tell whether we were singing or crying, but it happened with such grace that the officiating Minister (because Pastor Rothe celebrated Communion among the congregation) was also totally perplexed by it.

After the hymn was finished some of the Brethren prayed with divine power, laying before the Lord the plight of the congregation and especially that they were at a loss at what to do with those who had left us, doubting they would succeed without sectarianism or separatism, since both are not the right way for the Lord’s house.

We also prayed childlike and modestly, that He should teach us the true nature of His Church and how to live and walk in His law; that we remain unsullied and inoffensive, so that we don’t become solitary but fruitful, and neither violate the loyalty and obedience sworn to Him and His Word nor injure the common love through trivialities. We prayed that He would fully bestow on us the holy order of His grace, and not allow our souls to be led from the blood and-cross theology, on which our sole salvation depends. We laid before Him especially the worrying circumstances of our neighbouring Brethren and of hundreds of souls that were awakened through our household, but now are partly led astray, partly fail to grow in the spirit and only want to burden themselves with knowledge.

Afterwards, as a great anointment flowed over us and we felt not far from Him, we prayed in faithful assurance that He should let our two Elders, Christian David and Melchior Nitschmann (who were in Sorau with good intentions but with a tragic ending), be powerfully drawn into our fellowship and experience what we were experiencing. Following the absolution, communion was held with humbled and strengthened hearts, and each of us went home, feeling quite beside ourselves. On the way back to Herrnhut a wasp flew at the overseer [Zinzendorf] with rage and stung him hard on the hand just as he was in the process of trying to win over a separatist. We spent this day and the following in calm and joyful composure and learned to love.

August 28. Christian David and Melchior Nitschmann came back from Sorau and at once asked us what we had been doing on the morning of August 13. They had been in the orphanage at Sablatt and at 10 o’clock in the morning they received a strong urge to pray. They went up into the house’s small tower with David Schneider, threw themselves down before the Saviour, and were overcome with hundreds of tears and sweet thoughts of the congregation. They had never felt like that in their entire lives; they thought, what is happening in our congregation? If they could only know our circumstances!”

Sources: Herrnhut diary, quoted in Hans-Christoph Hahn and Hellmut Reichel, eds., Zinzendorf und die Herrnhuter Brüder: Quellen zur Geschichte der Brüder-Unität von 1722 bis 1760 (Hamburg 1977), 106-108.

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From the Pastor's Desk

Rev. Delroy Burley

Judges 16: 1-8

*'Talent is not the same as character,
as character is not the same as talent.'*

Great people are not only remembered for what they have done, but for the indelible impact they have made on the minds of people. Their influential status comes as one that grabs your attention leaving you completely fascinated by what they have done. Great people are deemed to be 'great' simply because they have learnt the art of using their character to complement their talent. Character and Talent – both are important, but they are not the same. ***Talent is not the same as character, as character is not the same as talent.***

Author and Pastor, John C. Maxwell says "*Talent is a gift, but character is a choice*". According to the English Dictionary, character is the mental and moral qualities distinctive to an individual, such as their personality, disposition and temperament, etc. Talent is a special, natural ability or aptitude – a gift from God, such as the gift of singing, dancing or acting. When someone stands to sing, dance, or act, however, it is not the talent that we see first – it is their disposition, their character. Their character guides us to observe the talent being displayed. **Character** can be seen as the 'door' which opens up to the **talent** that is later seen. It is not what someone does that lends to his/her talents, but the character with which he/she presents the talent that lends a great deal to one's memory of the event/act. Often emphasis is placed on talent development, with little or no attention paid to character development – addressing values, ethics, emotional maturity, and a sense of civics.

Judges 16:1-8 presents a well-known story, familiar to many of us – the strongest man, Samson. Samson was indeed a gifted man with great strength, but his character can be questioned as he was promiscuous in his behaviour. We learned that he slept with a prostitute in the town of Gaza of Israel, and later slept with a woman named Delilah in the valley of Sorek. The word '**later**' in the Scripture suggests that it could be relative, which means that it could have been shortly after his engagement with the prostitute that he slept with Delilah. We would not know the full extent of Samson's love-life, but for what we know, according to Scripture, he had been with two women – a short distance apart.

The key thing remembered of Samson is his incredible strength, with little or no memories of his relationships with women – women who were 'uncircumcised Philistines'. If we go back further in the book of Judges, *chapter 14:3*, we will see that his parents were counselling him against this. Although a Judge for many years, Samson cannot be characterised as one who was seen in light of his mental and moral qualities. In recognising his

weakness, his wives were used as a 'secret' weapon towards his defeats. He was gifted with physical strength, but his potential was squandered in self-indulgent, sinful living – he was lacking in character. Samson had his own agenda, and it involved pleasing himself (*Judges 14:3*).

For a man whose birth was foretold by an angel, who was dedicated as a Nazarite, who served as a Judge, he displayed disregard for God's law as recorded in the Book of Deuteronomy. In *Judges 16: 6-9* he hid from his parents what he did not do that he should have according to the Law set out in *Deuteronomy 14*. *Judges chapter 15* records how he disobeyed another command (*Deuteronomy 32:25*) – doing what he should not have done (take revenge into his own hands). It was Samson's character flaw that landed him in the predicament that later cost him his life. Our talent and skill must be submitted and subject to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Without a strong character, there will always be another agenda – one's own agenda!

As we read these accounts, whether to be entertained, to use the information to make informed decisions for ourselves, or simply to be in a position to 'entertain' or share useful information with others, we must remember that talent and character are not the same.

Character helps us to mirror ourselves, and how we are perceived by others. We should not be afraid to 'show off' our talents and character in a meaningful way for Christ. Let our innate abilities display that Christ lies on the inside, and as a result 'our inside' will be spoken of well, long afterwards.

In contrast, this does not mean that we will obtain the gift of winning at all times, but it does aid us in demonstrating our talent and character in a positive way for God. Let God be the reason for our character; let Him be the instrument on which we play our talent today, unlike Samson! It is imperative that we merge talent and character which are the root elements of being strong, courageous, bold, persuasive and articulate. It is only when we use both talent and solid character that we succeed in what we do, and in honouring God. Jesus emulated talent and character (*Matthew 11:29; Luke 23:34; John 13:4-5; Galatians 6:1; 1 Peter 2:23*), and came out as a success in His Ministry, honouring His Father. Let Christ-like example encourage you to emulate His character and talent to imprint positively upon the lives of others.

Talent usually only regulates our world on the outside, while character controls our inner world before God. Character carries us through this life and into the next. The choice is yours – if and when you decide, let God's light be seen in you. May God be with those who display 'talent and character' for His glory; and so may their efforts 'pay off' eternally.

Prayer: O God, forgive us of the sin we have done or left undone. Instil in us Lord your character, and let us, with humility and courage, display to the world our talents to serve you right, Amen.



RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Mark 12: 28-34; Romans 15:4-11

What is hospitality? Radical hospitality is learning to share our faith and to be intentional about asking people to come to be a part of our community of faith.

In an article by Lewis Parks titled “Who is Visiting Small Churches These Days” he sees a wooing by the Spirit of five types of persons who may need a small church these days: persons seeking substitute family, those seeking an alternative to the anonymity of the work place and public square, those weary of self-absorption and in search of a corporate story into which they can jump, those who have a score to settle with God, but want to settle it in a safe environment, and those who are looking for a place to give back for the blessings they have received. All of these are people seeking relationships and care. People are “spiritually yearning, but institutionally reluctant” (Tom Bandy).

Ordinary hospitality uses a committee or particular group, or person to extend hospitality. Radical hospitality sees a need for training of certain people, but also realizes that it is part of the whole Church culture that everyone lives out and “welcome others as we would want to be welcomed”, “treat others as we would want to be treated”, so that together we can love God with every fibre of our being. We all need to reach a level of maturity that moves from “they ought” to “I will”, with each person taking responsibility for welcoming people and seeing them as Christ sees them. These attitudes and behaviours cannot be purchased or bought with a staff or forced upon us.

Radical hospitality is a priceless treasure in the life of a Church. With radical hospitality there is a willingness to try new things, risking new ministries with no assurance of success; ministries that may attract people to come and meet new people, to come and see what the Church has to offer. Radical hospitality means we might change locations of events, and that we think of things that others might enjoy even if it is not our ‘cup of tea’. For instance, we need to spiritually market our Church within communities and seek to advertise and promote our events “within” and “without” the walls of the Moravian Church.

Invitation and welcome is about inclusion, wanting someone to become a part of the community of faith. Radical hospitality goes far beyond “we’re

glad you’re here”, “we want you to be a part of this community”. Paul describes this as complete harmony, oneness, and the spirit of unity that God desires for His people.

Radical means being rooted in the life of Christ which becomes manifested by things that are outside the norm, or are different; going the second mile with joy and a sense of calling. It shapes all ministries, even our worship services. Schnase writes that the Trustees might consider “Our purpose is to ensure that these facilities serve the highest purposes of Ministry in Christ’s name, and we dedicate ourselves to the highest standards of excellence as we make the facilities as useful, inviting, friendly and open as we possibly can (Page 24).”

There was a story of a pastor, and someone came to his Church for a meeting and he e-mailed him to say that he had noticed that the building was immaculate. What a compliment! What a reflection that says how we feel about God and people.

God has provided all we need to grow in our radical hospitality. The Scriptures teach us, as they give us encouragement, endurance, and support so that we will have hope. We pray and we study together. The more people who come and participate will help this congregation to grow, and to be vibrant and fruitful. Good intentions are not enough. We cannot keep doing things the way we always have, but let us also remember that little changes have big effects.

We will limit “Dear God letters”, we might want to write when “we develop maturity in Christ so that we will be able to get along with each other as well as Jesus gets along with us all. *Romans 15:7*.” The visual Paul gives us is that we become a choir, singing hymns together; outsiders and insiders rejoicing together to praise and celebrate God. We all give God hearty praise with one voice together singing a stunning anthem, heartily praising God through Jesus Christ.

We are the Church! Let us as Christians become ‘Agents of change’ for this Church and our community, by the way we do Ministry. Let us change the image that others have of us and be genuine, “Bearing Fruit” as our 2016 Mission Motto challenged us, but through Radical Hospitality. Thank you.

Parks, L. (2009). *Preaching in the small membership church*. Nashville: Abingdon Press. & Schnase, R. (2008). *Five Practices - Radical Hospitality*. Nashville: Abingdon Press.

Greetings, Information & News: From Home & Abroad

OUR JOURNEY TO SYNOD 2018 CONT'D

WORLDWIDE UNITY

Why does knowing about the Worldwide Unity matter?

As Moravians, **we are part of what is called a Worldwide Unity that consists of more than a million people in more than 40 countries around the world.**

The Worldwide Unity is how Moravians, or the Unitas Fratrum, organize the Worldwide Moravian Church. The whole Moravian Church is broken into Provinces. Provinces of the Unitas Fratrum are found in many areas of the world, and are among many races, and of many tongues. **The Provinces of this Worldwide Unity thus offer a wide variety of economic, social and political development. Yet all are one, without distinction, in their membership in the Unity.**

Church Order of the Unitas Fratrum (COUF) #7.

<http://moravianmission.org/global-work/worldwide-unity/>

EWI PROVINCIAL SYNOD BULLETIN # 1

The convening of a Provincial Synod is very important in the life of the Moravian Church. **It is at this meeting that important policy decisions are made and included in The Book of Order.** It is at Synod where the **Provincial Elders Conference (PEC) is elected and Bishops are elected if necessary.**

The constitution of the Moravian Church or the **Book of Order is a document which can be amended at every Synod.** These changes, to make the Church more relevant to our times, can be initiated by members of the various congregations and approved by the Synod, if it is viewed to be of significance to the life of the Church.

It was fourteen years ago now that the Barbados Conference hosted the 27th Provincial Synod of The Moravian Church - Eastern West Indies Province. The 32nd Provincial Synod is now scheduled to take place in Barbados from July 5th to July 12th, 2018.

Interestingly, this Synod, when compared with the previous one in 2003 which was for 10 days, will run for a shorter period (8 days, with 2 days being the travelling days), and will be having approximately 120

participants. Synodals must come prepared to 'go the extra mile' in order to complete the Synod Agenda within the stipulated timeframe.

The Delegation to Synod is made up of elected representatives (laity) from each Conference within the EWI Province, all Ministerial staff in active Service, fraternal delegates (clergy from within the Unity) and observers. Delegates will meet to make decisions on matters of great importance for the administration and mission of the Moravian Church in the inter-synodal period (*usually three years*) and beyond.

Provincial Synod, when duly constituted and in session will **have authority to make far-reaching decisions – decision which are consistent with its own constitution and the provisions of Unity Synod by which all Provinces are guided.**

Please remember to place Synod 2018 high on your prayer list.

Adapted: Joseph E. Tull, Chair, Synod Planning Committee

SYNOD SUB-COMMITTEES

Sub-committees have been set-up to support the management of the upcoming Synod 2018. They are:

- Finance and Fundraising
- Protocol and Public Relations
- Transport
- Hospitality
- Health Care and First Aid
- Secretariat
- Media and IT
- Worship and Music

In this month, "Herald" will share with you a snippet on the **Finance and Fundraising Sub-Committee:**

- **Coordinator: Bro. Glyne St. Hill**
- **E-address: <ggpete288@gmail.com>**
- **The Mandate:** Prepare a draft Budget, raise funds to support Budget, monitor all funds, and prepare and present up-to-date reports before and after Synod.

Initiatives thus far include:

- the Mothers' Day Concert,
- 'All Male' Concert; and
- Conference Walkathon (Sponsored Walk)

All Moravians - please give your full support.

Helping Hands - Our Mission Fields

✓ **Church Quota and Arrears** – In an effort to help lower our debt to the Conference, it would be prudent for us to pay an additional \$500 each month towards our quota arrears, while maintaining our monthly quota payments. As a result, to aid in achieving this target, each member is encouraged to contribute towards this amount on the 4th Sunday of each month. Any amount donated will be appreciated.

✓ **Greetings/Birthdays/Anniversary Cards** – Strengthen our fellowship in Christ as we welcome visitors and help celebrate special occasions in the life of members and visitors. You can make a contribution of any amount to Sis. Diana Yarde or Sis. Anthea Barrow.

✓ **The 32nd Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province** is scheduled to be held in Barbados from July 6-14, 2018. The Barbados Conference has begun to make preparations for this event, including fundraising. Members and friends of the Moravian Church are asked to make a weekly contribution of \$1.00 towards those costs for which the Conference will be responsible. This contribution will be collected on 3rd Sundays.

✓ **The Cuthbert Pilgrim Memorial (CPM) Hall** is available for rentals – Conferences/Seminars, Meetings, Wedding Receptions, Graduations, etc. Just off the Maxwell Coast Road, minutes away from the Airport, it is situated within a quiet residential area, with ample parking available. To view/book, contact CPM Hall Manager, Sis. Eudora Mascoll (246-428-4784) or Assistant, Sis. Desma Linton (246-428-2962).

✓ **Bethlehem's Beautification Project** (Church and Grounds) is an on-going project. Lend your support.

✓ **This Newsletter - The Bethlehem Herald** is a monthly publication. Send ideas and articles are to <bethlehemmoravianchurch@gmail.com>

Remember In Prayer

❖ Our Sick & Shut-In/Recovering:

Shut-in Communion/Visitation – 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

NAMES	CONTACT NUMBERS
Sis. Boothe Chase	246-428-6068
Sis. Mavis Chase	246-428-6258
Sis. Emily Forde	St. Philip Family Care 246-622-1897
Sis. Gracie Maynard	246-428-3678
Sis. Dorothy Waite	246-428-2877
Sis. Marjorie Worrell	246-437-1805
Sis. Odessa Haynes	246-426-8663

❖ The families of the **late Rev. Tyrone Lewis** and the **late Sis. Marva Patricia Williams**, and other persons grappling with the **loss of loved one**.

❖ Preparations for **Synod 2018**

❖ **Chairman of the Unity**, Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis

❖ **The Jamaica Province** and the entire **Moravian Church** in this crisis.

Financial Status

Target: \$ 9,000 monthly

Bethlehem's monthly Quota to Conference: \$4,796.67

Quota Arrears: \$75,631.83

Special Envelopes (AUGUST & SEPTEMBER):

MISSIONARY OFFERINGS

"...They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God." Philippians 4:18b

Please give to God what He truly deserves

<u>Income for July 2017</u>	\$
Envelopes	3,250.75
Loose Offering	999.05
Sunday School	14.00
Funeral Fees	250.00
<u>Other Monies raised July 2017</u>	
CPM Hall - Rental	1,000.00
Donations to Gas	3.53
To Fundraising – Fair & Family Day	300.00
<u>Sub-Total</u>	5,817.33
<u>Other funds collected</u>	
'Quota Arrears' to Conference	457.30
'Caribbean Moravian Praise' Hymnal	280.00
"Youth With A Mission" Outreach	103.70
'2018 Synod Walk-Up' to Conference	80.00
'Honoraria' to Conference	10.00
'Convention' to Conference	185.00
<u>Sub-Total</u>	1,116.00
TOTAL	6,933.33

Walk Up Offerings

- 1st Sun. Bethlehem's Building Fund
- 2nd Sun. "Youth With A Mission"
- 3rd Sun. 32nd Provincial Synod Prep.
- 4th Sun. Bethlehem's Quota Arrears

Sincere Condolences



On behalf of the Church family at Bethlehem, we also extend sincere condolences to the family, Ministerial staff, and other friends of the late **Rev. Tyrone Lewis (former Minister at Bethlehem)** whose **Service of Thanksgiving** took place on Friday, July 28th @ 3:00 pm @ the Mount Tabor Moravian Church in St. John, followed by the Interment at Sharon in St. Thomas.

Mark Your Calendar - AUGUST

- Bethlehem's Hours of Worship:**
 - **Sunday School** : Sundays @ 9:00 am
 - **Divine Worship** : Sundays @ 10:00 am
 - **Mid-Day Bible Study** : Wednesdays @ noon
 - **Evening Bible Study**: Wednesdays @ 7:30 pm
 - **Pastor's Office Hours** : Fridays, 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm (*by appointment*)
- Rev. Delroy Burley** will be on vacation from **September 17 to October 14, 2017**. During his absence, Rev. Roslyn Hamblin will have pastoral oversight of the congregation. Rev. Hamblin may be contact *via* 428-4193.
- Assisting with the Worship experience this month:
 - **The Elders' Board** will be assisting with Cleaning and Preparing the Sanctuary.
 - **The Teen/Youth** will be assisting with Readings and Prayer
- Women's Fellowship Meetings** every second Tuesday @ 6:00 pm.
- The Choir** will be on vacation during the month of August.
- Dance Ministry: Liturgical Dance Classes** on Saturdays @ 4:30 pm. All interested persons are invited.
- Shut-In Communion** will be administered on Tuesday, August 8 starting from 10:00 am. Please be guided accordingly.
- There will be a meeting of the **Evangelism Outreach Committee** on Wednesday, August 23, 2017 immediately following Prayer Meeting.
- Stewards' Board Meeting** on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 7:30 pm.
- Joint Board Meeting** on Thursday, August 10, 2017 at 7:30 pm.
- There will be a '**Service of Appreciation**' for **Bro. David Ince on Sunday, August 20, 2017 at 4:00 pm** at Bethlehem.
- Elders' Board Meeting** on Thursday, August 29, 2017 at 7:30 pm.
- Bethlehem and St. Philip Fellowship will share in a **Workshop on 'Preaching'** on Saturdays during the month of September from **10:30 am to 12 noon at Bethlehem**. All members are encouraged to attend. Registration Forms are available.
- This year's **Auction at Bethlehem** has been cancelled.

Announcements

Plans for **Bethlehem's Mission Month (Sept. 2017):**

- **Theme:** "Re-energised for Mission : Use the Keys"
- **Target:** \$6,000 (tins are available)
- **Mission Fields:** (*Regional*) Haiti, (*Conference*) St. Philip Moravian Fellowship, (*local*) community Projects (persons experiencing hardships)
- **Months of Prayer** – August into September 2017
 - **Prayer & Fast** – August 23 & September 13, 2017
 - **'Meet & Greet & Share' District Walk-Through** – Saturday, September 2, from 9:00 am.
 - **Missionary Rally** — September 10th
 - **Missionary Service** — September 19th
 - **Deeper Life Services** – September 20th, 21st & 22nd
- The Moravian Voice Broadcast** airs on LIFE 97.5 FM every Wednesday @ 8:00 pm. Tune in.
- Evangelism Explosion Training** on Mondays at 5:30 pm. Interested persons are invited.
- Rev. Winston Chase** retired from active service effective July 31, 2017.
- Rev. Bonnie Smith and Rev. Devon Mannix** will be consecrated as Presbyters on August 13 in Antigua.
- Calvary Brotherhood's T-Shirt Rally** on August 19 at 5:30 pm.
- Meeting of **Island Conference on August 26, 2017** at 10:00 am at Sharon (re: Synod Fundraising).
- All Male Concert** to raise funds for Synod 2018 to be held on Sunday, August 27, 2017 at Sharon Moravian Church at 5:00 pm. Cost: \$20.00
- St. Philip Fellowship's Mission Rally and Mission Festival on September 3 and 17, 2017 at 4:00 pm.**
- The Walkathon** to raise funds towards Synod 2018 will be held on **September 30th** – travelling from **Sharon to Folkestone in Hometown starting at 5:30a.m.** Sheets are available, Registration - \$10. Please lend your support.



Other Reminders

- Order your copy of the new "**Caribbean Moravian Praise**" Hymnal - COST: \$70.00
- Church Membership/Confirmation Class** for persons (adults and teens) interested in becoming full members. Registration forms are available from the Church Office.

Celebration Time

BIRTHDAYS – AUGUST

06TH – Sis. Patricia Perch 27TH – Bro. Kyle Alleyne
08TH – Bro. Trevor Lynch 30TH – Sis. Miriam Trotman

ANNIVERSARIES – AUGUST

10TH – **Bro. Kevin & Sis. Analacia Yarde**
13TH – **Bethlehem Moravian Church (53);**
Spiritual Baptism of the Moravian Church (290)
23RD – **Bro. Colbourne & Sis. Joyce Walters**
27TH – **Bro. Andrew & Sis. Carol-Ann Edwards**

HURRICANE AWARENESS SEASON CONT'D – DISASTER SUPPLY KITS

PROTECTING YOURSELF AND FAMILY:

Listed below are the most important items for your personal Disaster Supply Kit. Stock up gradually from today and replenish as necessary. Stocking-up should be done annually and especially just prior to the traditional start of the Hurricane Season (June 1):

- Two-weeks supply of prescription medicines.
- Two-weeks supply of non-perishable/special dietary foods.
- Drinking water in containers: 1 gal per person/per day for two weeks.
- Flashlights and batteries for each member of the family.
- Portable radio and (7 sets) batteries.
- First Aid book and kit including bandages, antiseptic, tape, compresses, non-aspirin pain reliever, anti-diarrhea medication.
- Two coolers (one to keep food and one for ice).
- Plastic tarp for roof/window repair, screening, tools, nails, etc.
- Water purification kit (tablets, bleach, chlorine (plain) and iodine).
- Infant necessities (medicine, sterile water, diapers, ready formula, bottles)
- Clean-up supplies (mop, buckets, towels, disinfectant).
- Non-electric can opener and plastic trash bags.
- Toilet paper, paper towels and pre-moisturized towelettes.
- Fire extinguisher.
- Complete set of clothes, shoes, gloves, etc.; and personal sanitary items.
- Important documents (stored in water-tight plastic bags).

PROTECTING YOUR PETS & ANIMALS:

Pets are not allowed in public emergency shelters so it is advisable to make prior arrangements to shelter pets. Bring pets inside if you remain at home or release them inside the house. Do not leave any pet outside or tied up during a hurricane.

- Leave plenty of water.
- Remove toilet tank lid and raise toilet seat so pet can drink. Brace bathroom door to stay open.
- Have plenty of newspaper for sanitary purposes.
- Feed pets moist or canned food to preserve water.

If you go to friends or relatives, and if it is OK to take your pets; also take your **Pet Survival Kit** as well.

- Proper ID collar and rabies tag/license*
- Carrier or cage
- Leash
- Ample food supply (at least two weeks)
- Water/food bowls
- Any necessary medication/s

PROTECTING YOUR HOME:

- Fill as many containers as possible with water and store in refrigerator. Fill bathtub and washing machine with water. (You may need this supply when you return.)
- Shut off water and electricity at their main switches. Do not touch any electrical equipment unless it is in a dry area or you are standing on a piece of dry wood with rubber footwear and gloves.
- Shut off valve on propane gas tank. Leave outside and anchor securely.
- Lock windows and doors
- Take small valuables and the following important papers but travel light: Driver's license or other identification, bankbook/cards, insurance policies, property inventory and photos, device to convey special medical information.

ADAPTED: <http://www.weready.org/hurricane/media/Barbados%20hurricane%20shelters.pdf>

“Supporting the work of Ministry”

“Advance the Kingdom: Use the Keys”