

Bethlehem Herald Monthly Newsletter of the

Bethlehem Moravian Church



To Educate & Outreach

Volume II. No. 7, August 2019

Rebirth

Submitted by: Sis. Michelle Williams

Nicodemus was told by Jesus, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3:3)

Rebirth – The action of reappearing or starting to flourish or increase after a decline. Revival

The Church over time has lost its way in maintaining and attracting new members to their congregations, therefore a comprehensive overhaul of methods, as well as the way the church seeks to inform, educate and ultimately expand membership, should be looked at.

Consideration should be giving to the following.

- The Bible as the fulcrum upon which we apply all theories.
- * The need for transparency in all matters of
- Religious instructions based on the Bible and not man's perceptions or interpretations based on sentiment.
- ❖ Evangelism where we go out and take the message of the gospel to all irrespective of colour, social status, denominational faith, gender or financial influence.
- Extending love to all.



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"Our Lamb has conquered; Let us follow Him"

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My question to us is:

- How and what can we improve?
- What are our faults?
- How must we correct them to initiate a true rebirth?
- Are we in danger of missing out on the Kingdom?

Remember: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

PRAYER:

Most gracious God, we seek your wisdom, direction and understanding as we try to lead persons to you. Let our words and actions reflect your love at all times, seeking to do your will. Cover us with your blood. Show us how to live the 'rebirth' we claim. Heed our humble prayer for your help. Amen.





From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor David Ince

The 32nd Provincial Synod is done and dusted – another mile marker in the

history book. And so begins another triennial intersynodal period. What will be accomplished within this period?

This was my first official Synod and it was a mostly positive experience. What resonated with me coming out of this event was the need for reform – reform not in the message, for that has been settled long ago as we see in scripture -"Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow." James 1:17 – but rather in our methods. It was noted that across the Province attendances are in decline or stagnating, with the youth being the most negatively impacted in most Conferences. It therefore can no longer be business as usual if we are going to thrive as a community.

As a denomination we have a rich legacy, which is lauded and admired by many. Never being a large organization, we have historically punched above our weight providing the communities we served with spiritual and social guidance, through a ministry that was practical and met the people where they were. Our history of providing things like education, safe drinking water and health care in various communities and territories is testimony to this.

What then can we learn from our predecessors as we seek to reignite the Moravian flame here in the EWI Province?

First, they were not fazed by the challenge. On the contrary, it motivated them to redouble their efforts. Remember many did not even have the luxury of a church building. They faced illness and resistance from the ruling class, yet through reliance upon God and perseverance they went on to empower a generation of disadvantaged and underprivileged people. Let us take a leaf out of their playbook. What we are facing is just another challenge in our path, one more hurdle to be overcome.

The second thing our predecessors did was to go to the people; in the villages, plantations and communities. Today, we are in the habit of inviting others to "Church"; the Great Commission is clear on this point. It tells us to "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15. This means we are to intentionally engage others with the

gospel as we go along, preaching with our lips and our lives, both online and offline.

Finally, we ought to stay true to the message of salvation, with the understanding that it will not always be welcomed and some will even find it offensive. In the end, it is the message of Salvation and the Holy Spirit who convict – not our special gifts, powers of persuasion or programmes. – "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." Galatians 1:8

Let us therefore reform by, returning to the form of ministry to which we have been called, rising to the challenge, reaching out to the people, and repeating the message of Salvation.

Our Lamb has conquered let us follow Him.



Worship Hours at Bethlehem:

- o Sunday School: @ 9:00 am
- O Divine Worship: Sundays @ 10:00 am
- Holy Communion every 1st
 Sunday @ 10:00 am
- Prayer & Bible Study this month at 7:30 pm
- Prayer Meeting, Fasting 4th Wednesday, 7:30 pm
- Office Hours: Fridays 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
- Assisting with this month's Worship experience:
 - The Women's Fellowship with Cleaning and Preparing the Sanctuary.
 - o The Choir with Readings and Prayer.
- ☐ Liturgical Dance Rehearsals 3:00 pm on Saturdays.
- ☐ Holy Communion to Sick & Shut-In August 6th.
- Women's Fellowship Meetings − 2nd Tuesday @ 6 pm.
- Sponsored Walk Saturday, August 10th to assist with this year's Summer Youth Programme.
- Bethlehem's Anniversary Sunday August 11th. Celebration at 10:00 am
- ☐ Heritage Railway Tour Friday, August 23rd.
- District Walk-Through Saturday, August 24th.
- Deeper Life Services August 26th to 30th, 2019 (5 nights) at 7:30 pm nightly. Preacher/Teacher Rev. Suzette Husbands. Theme: "Standing on Biblical Principles".
- The amount outstanding to Conference by Bethlehem with respect to the hosting of Synod has been reduced to \$850.00. Sincere thanks for your efforts.
- Next Elder's Meeting September 3, 2019 at 7:30 pm.
- Upcoming Mission Breakfast, Mission Rally & Mission Festival. (*More details later.*)

Conference-wide Events

- Moravian Voice Broadcast LIFE 97.5 FM every Wednesday @ 8:00 pm.
- Police Band Concert at Faith, August 11, 2019 at 4 pm
- Vacation Bible School at Faith Moravian from August 12-23, 2019 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm daily. No charge.

Synod News - July 2019

The 32nd Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church – Eastern West Indies Province, met at the Duncan C. Moore Centre at Sharon, St. Thomas in Barbados from July 15 to 19, 2019. Synodals were accommodated at the Halcyon Palm Hotel, and Travellers Palm Apartments in Sunset Crest, St. James, and Sunbay Hotel on Maxwell Coast Road, in Christ Church. The Opening Service was held at Calvary in Roebuck Street, and the Closing Service of Holy Communion at Sharon in St. Thomas. A total of seventy-two (72) Delegates and thirty (30) Observers attended.



The collage above captures Delegates, Observers, Choirs performing, the Congregation at the Opening and Closing Services, Synod in Session and at lunch.

The election of the PEC to serve for the ensuing inter-synodal period took place during the Synod. Their responsibilities were subsequently agreed upon.

b			
Elected Officers	Responsibilities		
Bro. Algernon Lewis –	Administration, Staff Relations,		
Chair	Church Redevelopment,		
	Fraternal Relations and Finance		
Bro. Errol Connor -	Mission and Evangelism		
Vice-Chair	O		
Bro. Adrian Smith -	Ministry, Theological Education and Social Media Relations		
Secretary	and Social Media Relations		
Bro. Anselm Richards –	Development		
Lay Member	1		
Sis. Karen Challenger-	Christian Education, Youth and		
George – Lay Member	Communication		

Sis. Elisa Hodge was re-appointed to serve as Interim Treasurer. The Synod also held elections for another Bishop, however after 14 ballots, there was no election.

My Reflections As An Observer

The Delegates and Observers from the six Conferences of the Province [ie: Antigua, Barbados, St. Kitts, Tobago, Trinidad, Virgin Islands (including Tortola of the British Virgin Islands), as well as pastor from the Grenada Mission] were all welcomed at 7:00 pm on Monday, July 15, 2019 at the Opening Service. At this Service, the Governor General of Barbados - Dame Sandra Mason, the Prime Minister -Hon. Mia Amor Mottley, and the Leader of the Opposition – the Hon. Joseph Atherley were in attendance, with other members of the local religious fraternity. Fraternal Delegates to the Synod were from the Jamaica Province and the Board of World Mission (of the Moravian Church in North America), as well as the St. Maarten Mission which is jointly served by the Suriname Province and the EWI Province. Registration of the official delegation took place earlier in the day, along with the Synod Retreat.

Business proceedings started on Tuesday, July 16 under the management of the appointed Chairman, Rev. Dr. Adrian Smith, with elected Vice Chairman as Rt. Rev. Dr. Conrad Spencer. Recording Secretaries were Rev. Denise Smith-Lewis and Rev. Onita Samuel-Warner (Asst). The Synod proceedings were also serviced by appointed Chaplain – Rev. Neilson Waithe (Moravian Warden/Tutor at UTCWI), and Advisor – Rt. Rev. Dr. Kingsley Lewis, as well as Sis. Barbara Cooke-Alleyne, QC, of the Barbados Conference

The Synod was very well organised by the Barbados Coordinating Committees under the leadership of our Superintendent, Rev. Ezra Parris, assisted by the staff of the Barbados Conference, and volunteers. This included:

*Management

*Meals

*Transportation

*Liaison Services

- *Ushers and Pages from among young Moravians
- *An efficient Secretariat
- *Ambience and Technical Support

Several Proposals were discussed by the relevant Committees comprised of official Delegates and Observers, and as an output of their collaborative work 12 Resolutions and 8 Recommendations were approved by the general body. Particularly of note for me were:

Recommendation #6 – Constitution Committee. It was resolved that the statistical format in the Barbados Report for the inter-synodal period be adopted by Province as the format for all Conference Reports to Synod.

Resolution #4 – Social Action Committee Pertaining to violence among youth, it was resolved that the Church seek to reach into their membership and out to their communities and take action that is preventative, transformative, and curative (therapeutic). A proposed Guideline for the implementation Resolution was also provided under four broad areas as identified – Target, Train, Teach, and Transform.

<u>Selection of a Bishop</u> – an Agenda item. Synod was unsuccessful in the election of a Bishop and this item was deferred to the 33rd Synod for further action.

The Moramus Singers of Barbados did us proud at the Opening and Closing Services, and the Synod Song Book with lovely songs and our vibrant singing kept the Synod in high spirits.

Submitted by Sis. Marva Alleyne

13h Moravian Women's Conference

The 13th Moravian Women's Conference, coordinated by the Interprovincial Women's Board of the Moravian Church in North America, was convened during the period June 20 to 23, 2019. The Women's Conference was held at the Embassy Suites in downtown Winston-Salem, North Carolina, under the theme "Unleash your power", with Ephesians 3:20 as the theme verse. Fifteen (15) ladies from the Barbados Conference were in attendance at this inter-provincial conference, held every 4 years.

The opening Service of Holy Communion was held on Thursday night at the Calvary Moravian Church. The Lovefeast and Candlelight Service was held at the Home Moravian Church on Saturday night, and featured a choir from the Women's Conference. It was preceded by music from the home Moravian Church Brass Band, and followed by community singing in the Square (led by the Women's Conference).

Many participants had the opportunity to visit the historic town of Old Salem, an early Moravian Settlement. This Moravian Settlement houses the Moravian Board of World Mission. Many of the original buildings are intact and functioning in other capacities. The Salem College is in the original Single Sisters' House.

Keynote Speakers were Rt. Rev. Kay Ward and Rev. Christie Melby-Gibbons on Friday and author Sarah Bessey on Saturday. A Gala/Dinner was held on Saturday night. With more than 430 women in attendance, several 'break-out groups' referred to as "Imagine Sessions" were established. The Closing Worship Session was held at the Hotel on Sunday morning.

Bethlehem's Special Greetings This Month

BIRTHDAYS - AUGUST

- 01 Sis. Muriel Chase 02 Sis. Sisoleen Layne
- 06 Sis. Patricia Perch 08 Bro. Trevor Lynch
- 08 Anaiya Yarde (*Infant*) 27 Bro. Kyle Alleyne

30 – Sis. Miriam Trotman

ANNIVERSARIES – AUGUST

- 10 Kevin & Analacia Yarde
- 13 Bethlehem Moravian Church (1964)
- 13 Spiritual Baptism of the Moravian Church (1727)
- 23 Joyce & Colbourne Walters
- 27 Andrew & Carol-Ann Edwards

Provincial Announcements

- The Rev. Denise Smith-Lewis, Pastor of the Cedar Hall and Cashew Hill Congregations in the Antigua Conference requested and has been granted four (4) months furlough in two parts (January 10-14) August 15 to December 12, 2019.
- The Rev. Dr. Ulston Patmore Smith, Minister of Music of the Trinidad and Tobago Conferences and Superintendent of the Trinidad Conference, has accepted a call to serve as Minister of Music and Superintendent of the Trinidad Conference, with effect from August 1, 2019. Rev. Dr. P. Smith has also accepted a call to serve as Provincial Director of Music, with effect from June 1, 2019.
- The Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts, Pastor of the Memorial Moravian Congregation on St. Thomas, requested and was granted four (4) months Furlough from August 1 to November 30, 2019. Additionally, Rev. Dr. Kirton-Roberts has been granted Leave of Absence until November 30, 2021. The Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis (immediate past Chairman of PEC) will serve as Interim Pastor of the Memorial Moravian Congregation on St. Thomas during the Furlough period from August 1 to November 30, 2019.
- Plans for filling the position of Pastor of the Memorial Moravian Church are currently being addressed.
- Sis. Judy Winspeare-Philip who recently completed theological training at the United Theological College of the West Indies in Jamaica and who will serve in the Supplementary Ministry, has accepted a call to serve as Associate Pastor of the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua, with effect from August 1, 2019.
- Sis. Marleen Browne has been accepted as a candidate for the fulltime Pastoral Ministry of the Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province. Sis. Browne will enter UTCWI, Jamaica (August 2019) to commence her preparation for the Ministry of the Church.
- Sis. Astrigt Schalkwijk-Hermilijn, a Lay member of the St. Maarten Moravian Church, will be ordained a deacon in St. Maarten on Sunday, August 18, 2019.
- ❖ The Rev. Nevin Lewis, Pastor of the Montgomery and Buccoo Congregations on Tobago, has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Montgomery Congregation on Tobago, with effect from September 1, 2019.
- The Rev. Belinda Manswell-Daniel, Pastor of the Moriah and Evangel Congregations on Tobago, has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Buccoo Congregation on Tobago, with effect from September 1, 2019.
- The Rev. Andrew Roberts, Pastor of the Fulnec Congregation on Barbados, has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Moriah and Evangel Congregations on Tobago, with effect from September 1, 2019.
 - The Rev. Dr. Adrian Smith and Rev. Delroy Burley will assume pastoral responsibility for the Fulnec Congregation in the new pastorate of Calvary/Gracehill/Fulnec with effect from September 1, 2019 until January 31, 2020.
- Rev. Dr. Cicely Athill-Horsford has been re-appointed to serve on the Executive of the Barbados Christian Council as 1st Vice President.

Let us remember our sisters and brothers in prayer.



It's Summer Time!!

PART II



The Summer Vacation is upon the

Family for yet another four (4) weeks or so, and the traditional Hurricane Season runs for another three (3) months until November. In the midst of the 'fun and frolic' our families must prepare because emergencies can arise at any time. We conclude this two-part series with a look at Hurricane Season preparation and other emergencies.

Hurricane Season

Preparing for the Hurricane Season requires "all hands on deck" in the family. Help parents and grandparents prepare and implement the family list of things to be done in the event of a hurricane or bad weather affecting the island. Identify the things from the list that you and your siblings (sisters and brothers) can do for the family's safety and do them, with guidance, keeping your family abreast of what you have done. Listen to the media, read the newspapers or seek official help – contact the Department of Disaster and Emergency Management and ask for information or Google and visit their websites. Help get your family and your home hurricane ready.

- Power Outage

If the **Power is out at night** (hurricane or no hurricane) – **do you know where to find**:

* Torches * Batteries * Radio?

These are things everyone in the family should know. Help make a list of the basic items for your family's disaster supplies kit:

- ✓ Water (one gallon per person, per day, for three days) for drinking and sanitation
- ✓ Food (at least three day's supply of non-perishable foods (tinned products, biscuits, etc)
- ✓ Manual Can Opener for tinned-foods
- ✓ Battery powered radio
- ✓ Flashlights (large and small)
- First Aid Kit (well stocked with basic needs, and those needs that are specific to your families)
- ✓ Extra batteries (for radio, flashlight, etc.)
- ✓ Whistle (to signal for help)
- ✓ Dust mask to help filter contaminated air
- ✓ Tarpaulin, duct tape and cable ties to help keep shelter in place after the storm
- ✓ Moist Towellettes, Toilet Paper, and Tissues
- ✓ Garbage Bags and plastic ties
- ✓ Basic tools (ie: wrench/pliers, screwdrivers)
- ✓ Cellphone with charger and extra power source (back-up battery charger)

What about the **elderly or immobile persons in your district**? Do you know them? How can you help them?

Other Emergencies

Avoid creating emergencies such as *Fire in the home and environs*. Avoid tampering with the stove or other flammable fixtures in the home. These can get out of hand very quickly, create panic, and sometimes very serious consequences can arise. Do you think you know what TO DO in the event of a Fire? Don't delay – find out for sure! Families should draw their own exit/evacuation plan for the home: eg.



For *Medical Emergencies*, do you know what NOT to do in the event of electrical shock? This is important information. Do you know exactly what TO DO if someone is choking? There are also some myths and misinformation about the care for someone during an epileptic seizure. Be proactive – find out these facts. Other *Emergency Situations* will arise from time to time. If you smell gas, do you know NOT to turn on a light switch? Do you know the hotline emergency numbers?

* 211 - POLICE * 311 - FIRE * 511 - AMBULANCE You can help your family prepare for some emergencies.

Everyone must have a plan for the Hurricane Season, and everyone should also be aware of what to do in the event of other types of emergencies, especially the more common ones. Sit together and plan for specific emergencies so that you all know what each person should do, and can respond with confidence should that event occur.

Submitted by: Sis. Marva Alleyne

Remember in Prayer our Sick/Shut-In/Recovering:

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. Cynthia Walcott	246-428-9768	
Sis. Marjorie Worrell	246-437-1805	
Sis. Odessa Haynes	246-426-8663	
Sis. Gloria Layne	246-428-7545	
Sis. Muriel La Forte	246-428-7536	

- ✓ Our newly elected Provincial Elders' Conference
- ▼ The Barbados Conference as it seeks to address all remaining hosting expenses
- ✓ Our children, particularly this Summer holiday

Teen/Youth Corner

WORD SEARCH 'Disaster Preparedness'



ANTISEPTIC	FLASHLIGHT	PRECAUTION
BATTERIES	FOODSTUFF	RADIO
DISASTER	HURRICANE	SANITATION
DOCUMENTS	BACKPACK	STORM
EVACUATION	CELLPHONE	SURVIVAL
FIRST AID	PLAN	WATER

SUMMER NEWS!! Young people we want to hear from you! Tell us how you are spending summer.



The flight was great! This was my first trip to the UK, but not my first flight ever.



I am having a wonderful time and would love to stay, except for when it rains it can get very cold. I'm standing here with the Coca-Cola London Eye in the background (on the South Bank of the River Thames in London). Already I have visited an Adventure Park. The most fun!

Jade





Charlene

I really didn't want to go to Summer School, so when I found out I would be attending it, my heart dropped. After a few weeks now Summer hasn't been that bad. I have made some friends along with my previous friends from school. The food is good but most Importantly, I have been understanding my work a lot more clearly now with these extra Hours of work. Even though I am enjoying my Summer I'm not slacking off, and it will hopefully Pay off in the long run.



Come Join Us!

YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAMME: The youth of Bethlehem and Faith will tour on the St. Nicholas Abbey Heritage Railway on Friday, August 23rd, 2019. The Tour climaxes Faith's VBS and is a special Youth Summer Programme for Bethlehem. Even though it is targetting the youth, all ages are invited to join the Tour.

In an effort to raise funds towards this Tour, a Sponsored Walk has been planned. The Walk begins at Bethlehem at 6:30 am on Saturday, August 10th, ending at Long Beach in Christ Church. Please take your Sponsored Walk Sheet and join the Walk.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

CLAUZEL FORDE, VERVE ALLEYNE, ANALACIA YARDE, MARVA ALLEYNE, MAURICE QUINTYNE & REV. ROSLYN HAMBLIN

"Advance the Kingdom: Live as Kingdom Citizens"