



Bethlehem Herald

Monthly Newsletter of the
Bethlehem Moravian Church



To Educate & Outreach

Volume II. No. 11, December 2019

'Ride On King Jesus'

Submitted by Bro. Martin Adams

Read Revelation 19: 11-14

Heaven opens and King Jesus rides forth in power and glory on a white horse, conquering and to conquer. This is the theme of Revelation 19:11-14.

Christ, though absent in flesh, is still King of the earth. He has lost neither interest in nor control of human affairs. Man's attempt to assume control of his own destiny has succeeded only in making himself a slave of sin and human tyranny. Years of history have glorified the warrior, the dictator, and the emperor.

Though often forgotten, the God of heaven still functions effectively on this planet. "The Most High rules in the kingdom of men." (Daniel 4:17).

As we enter Advent, and think of Jesus' mission to the world, we reflect upon the crowds calling upon him to "save now" during his Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem. We can join in their shouts of "Hosanna" with our own shouts of "Ride On King Jesus".

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation – 'Ride On King Jesus'	pg. 1
The Pastor's Desk – 'Celebrating Advent'	pg. 2
...On Your Calendar (Events/Reminders)	pg. 2
Our Moravian Family News	pg. 4
Family Corner:	
- 'Christmas Is Here...'	pg. 6
- International Men's Day	pg. 6
- Helpful Tip: Gifts vs Money	pg. 6
Teen/Youth/Young Adults Corner:	
- Word Search – "It's Christmas"	pg. 7
- 'Our Youth Represented'	pg. 8

PRAYER:

Lord, You are worthy to be praised! We thank You for being Lord over all the circumstances of our lives – our health, our home, our workplaces, Your Church, Your Nation, Your World. Help us not to forget the power You hold, but to place everything in Your hands. Thank You for loving us, and for coming to earth to save us all. Hosanna – Ride on King Jesus. Amen.



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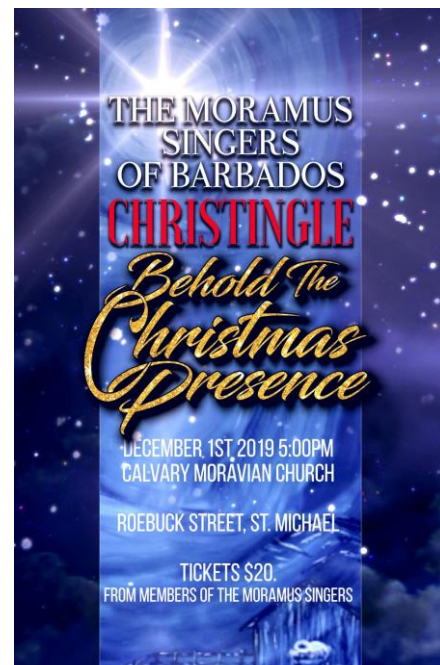
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"Our Lamb has conquered; Let us follow Him"





From the Pastor's Desk

Rev. Roslyn Hamblin

Celebrating Advent

Advent begins the Christian Calendar. The word actually means 'the Coming'. It is a period of four Sundays leading up to Christmas. It therefore focuses on the coming of Jesus Christ into the world. Within the church it is used as anticipation of Christmas and preparation for it.

The First Sunday of Advent is often referred to as 'Advent Sunday'. Because it focuses on the coming of Christ to earth, His mission of salvation also comes into focus. Hence the Triumphant Entry of Christ into Jerusalem, with the crowds shouting Hosanna (*'Save now'*), becomes a focal story for the occasion. Consequently, the Hosanna Anthem is sung in Moravian congregations on this Sunday. (*The other occasion for singing the Hosanna Anthem is Palm Sunday.*)

The focus of the Second Sunday of Advent is the Second Coming of Christ. On that occasion He comes as a Judge and not as a baby. His focus then is not on saving the world but on gathering the saved for eternity with the Lord. The service on the second Sunday of Advent therefore tends to focus on preparation for His return. This may be seen in the Litany for that Sunday, the scripture readings set and the hymns selected.

During the Advent Season you are therefore called upon to reflect on the Return of Christ and your readiness for such a return. Matthew 24:27-44 is a succinct description of the scenario of Christ's return. One songwriter, in speaking about this event, concludes by saying "I wish we'd all been ready". It is, indeed, very important to be prepared and ready for that event.

The Third Sunday of Advent focuses on the work of Jesus Christ in the world whilst He lived on earth. The service on that Sunday therefore tends to focus on the life of Jesus and His activities on earth. Thus the Litany for the Third Sunday in Advent highlights activities of His life on earth, as may the set scripture readings and the hymns.

The Fourth Sunday in Advent focuses on the announcement of Jesus as the Christ. The service

therefore highlights the fact that the Lord has come as the light to the world, bringing with Him peace. The world is thus called to rejoice in Him. Hence the Litany for the Fourth Sunday in Advent emphasises the proclamation of Jesus as Lord, as may the set scripture readings and the hymns.

As we prepare towards Christmas, may we recognise the Christ we celebrate, and give Him the honour that is due to Him for all that His Coming has meant for us. May we also claim the Salvation He came to bring, live in His Light and according to His example, and prepare ourselves for His return as Judge.

May yours be a productive Advent, a Blessed Christmas, and a New Year filled with His Hope!

Worship Hours at Bethlehem:



- ❖ Sunday School: @ 9:00 am (adults); 10:45 am (juniors)
- ❖ Divine Worship: Sundays @ 10:00 am
- ❖ Holy Communion—1st Sunday @ 10:00 am
- ❖ Bible Study — Wednesday at 7:30 pm
- ❖ Prayer Meeting, Fasting — 4th Wednesdays, 7:30 pm
- ❖ Office Hours: Fridays — 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Announcements

- Assisting with this month's Worship experience:
 - ❖ The **Men's Fellowship** with Cleaning and Preparing the Sanctuary.
 - ❖ The **Stewards** with Readings and Prayer.
- **Liturgical Dance Rehearsals** – 3:00 pm on Saturday.
- **Learn to Drum** – Interested? Contact Bro. K. Yarde
- **Women's Fellowship Meetings** – 2nd Tuesday @ 6 pm.
- **Holy Communion to the Sick & Shut-In** – December 3rd
- **Advent to Epiphany Devotionals** (*Reflections on the WatchWord*) **are available** – please make a contribution to defray printing costs. Devotions were penned by members of the Bethlehem congregation, the Faith congregation, as well as the Calvary, Gracehill and Fulnec congregations
- **Candlelight Service** — Sunday, December 8th at 5:00 pm
- **Christmas Sunrise Service** on Wednesday, December 25th at 5:00 am.

Announcements cont'd

- Watch Night Service on Tuesday, December 31st at 11:00 pm.

Reminders

- Pantry Ministry** – Receiving canned food, dried goods and toiletries for the less privilege. The contribution barrel is in the Church. Kindly verify quality and expiration dates.
- Annual Dressing and Undressing of the Church for the Christmas Season is upon us.** Contributions are still welcomed.
- Calendar of Events** (information from all groups for 2020 should have been submitted).
- Church Council Meeting 2020 is approaching** – A reminder to all groups that **Church Council Reports (with Financials)** are due -- December 31st

Tips for Report Preparation:

- Name of Organisation/Committee
- Time and Place of Meetings
- Membership & Average Attendance
- General Programming
- Major Activities/Events
- Anniversary Celebrations
- Difficulties/Problems experienced and how handled
- Major Successes
- Major Projects undertaken, with Evaluation
- Financial Update
- Evaluation of Year
- Projections

Conference Events

- Moravian Voice Broadcast** – LIFE 97.5 FM every Wednesday @ 8:00 pm.
- Christingle Service** – Sunday, December 1st @ 5:00 pm, Calvary (Tickets \$20)
- A Celebration of the Organ: Rededication of 125-yr Organ** – Calvary, Sun. Dec. 15th @ 7:00 pm
- Fulnec's 125th Anniversary Service** - Sunday December 22nd @ 4:00 pm

Upcoming in the New Year:

- Unity Prayer Week** will be observed at Bethlehem from January 6th to 10th, 2020 at 7:30 pm nightly, with continued involvement of the auxiliary groups of the Church. Private Prayer and preparation is encouraged from January 1st.
- Prayer & Fasting** will resume in the New Year on (4th) Wednesday, January 22nd, 2020 at 7:30 pm.
- Church Council Meeting** – Sunday, January 20th, 2020 starting at 10:00 am.

Special Greetings This Month

BIRTHDAYS – DECEMBER

- 01 – Sis. Mona Barrow
- 02 – Sis. Marva Alleyne
- 02 – Bro. Alban St. Hill
- 05 – Sis. Gloria Layne
- 11 – Sis. Cicely Spencer Cross
- 11 – Sis. Claire Edwards
- 14 – Sis. Joan Bramoa
- 14 – Sis. Wendy Evelyn Knight



ANNIVERSARIES – DECEMBER

- 03 – Bro. Omar and Sis. Gena Yarde
- 10 – Bro. and Sis. Paula Mohammed (Bz)

Special Envelopes (December):

- ❖ CHRISTMAS OFFERING
- ❖ OLD YEAR'S OFFERING

WALK-UP OFFERINGS:

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



Remember to call, visit and 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	Golden Towers Nursing Home 246-437-6461
Sis. Cynthia Walcott	246-428-9768
Sis. Odessa Haynes	246-426-8663
Sis. Gloria Layne	246-428-7545
Sis. Muriel La Forte	246-428-7536

Continue in prayer for:

- persons coping with loss of loved ones at this festive time
- our leaders in Government, Business, and the Church
- our children, the schools, and home and community environments

Our Moravian Family News



We thank you for sharing. Continue to share your news with our Moravian Family — Academic, Sports, Entertainment, Career, Other.

Contact Bro. Maurice Quintyne.

DARRIC



Hello Everyone,

Surely hope all is well. I am doing fine so far, while trying to adjust to this new culture. I surely miss the friendly people, nice food and sunny weather of Barbados.

I like my classes very much however; they require long hours studying and dedication. I haven't been able to make new friends so far, but I am sure it's just a matter of time. 😊

I am in close contact with my sister, friends and family, thanks to technology.

My Mom came to help me settle in and we were able to find a Christian Church near my apartment, so I have been attending there. They are very nice and have an active youth group.

Well this is all for now. Thanks for all your inquiries and prayers.

Hope you have a Blessed Christmas.

Greetings from Bro. Darric Taylor Omeir



DAYANNE

Hi,

Just a short note to let you know I am doing well. Canterbury is a very nice town and I live in a centric area, so I can get around easy. My Master's Programme is just as I expected – I am learning a lot and preparing myself to better serve the people with special needs. I am looking forward to spending Christmas with Darric (he lives 3 hours away from here).



Thanks for your prayers.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Greetings from Sis. Dayanne Taylor Omeir

Bethlehem members meet at Hornsey Moravian in the UK

Members of Bethlehem Moravian Church – past and present – met at Hornsey Moravian Church in London, United Kingdom on Sunday, October 27, 2019 for the 11:00 am Divine Worship.



From left are
Sis. Deborah Gibbs,
Sis. Ivy Thorpe. Bro. Earl Alleyne,
Rev. Roslyn



Hamblin,
Sis. Shirley Gibbs,
Sis. Verve Alleyne and
Bro. Victor McCollin.

Shirley and Deborah are daughters of

late pastor, the Rev. Rudolph Gibbs and Sis. Megan Gibbs, who served at Bethlehem from 1997 and retired from active Ministry in 2001. Ivy, Shirley and Deborah sends **Greetings** to the Moravian Family at Bethlehem.

EasySlides Training Workshop

Training in the operation of the EasySlides was undertaken on Saturday, September 7th. The training was facilitated by Sis Jeaneta Waithe and Bro. Mark Howard at Bethlehem. Three (3) young persons attended – two from Bethlehem and one from Faith, and were guided in the manipulation of the EasySlides. The training emphasised the discipline required to maintain focus throughout, and to be mindful of the needs, not only of the congregation/audience, but also of the persons leading the worship experience/event.

Lecture on Alzheimer's Disease, and the Symptoms of Dementia

In November the Calvary Moravian Women's Fellowship hosted a lecture on **"Alzheimer's Disease, and the Symptoms of Dementia"**, at Calvary. The Presenter was Miss Pamela Brereton, President of the Barbados Alzheimer's Association.

Miss Brereton pointed out that it was very important to become familiar with the signs and symptoms of Alzheimer's – which she explained was just one of the forms of Dementia. Some easily identifiable signs discussed that night included:

- Loss or lapses in recent memory, and getting lost in familiar places;
- Personality changes, and uncharacteristic mood/behaviour changes; and
- Changes in sleep pattern and appetite (*among others*).

It was recommended that one of the first steps to take would be to seek an appointment with a General Practitioner who would rule out other potential causes and make a referral if deemed necessary, for further assessments, tests, and scans to be carried out. Social interaction with family and friends, as well as exercise and physical activity, were cited as recognised non-medical treatments for dementia.

Submitted by Bro. Earl and Sis. Verve Alleyne

Bethlehem's Harvest Breakfast

Bethlehem's **Harvest Breakfast** was held on Saturday, November 9th and the invited speaker was Rev. Vera Waithe. The MC, Sis. Michelle Louise Williams, shared a testimony on **'Giving Thanks to God'** – the Harvest theme, used also for the Breakfast Presentation. The meal and the overall management of the programme were very well received, as was the presentation by Rev. Waithe. In appreciation, a Gift Basket was presented to Rev. Waithe by Chairman of the Stewards Board, Sis. Eudora Mascoll.

→ At right, Guest Speaker, Rev. Vera Waithe making her presentation to a very attentive audience.

Luncheon & Flea Market at Faith

On October 5th our sister congregation, Faith, held a Flea Market and Cake Sale at the new Church Site in Six Roads (along Four Square Road). Items on sale included fish cakes, cheesecake, clothes, household items and novelties.

On Sunday, November 3rd, Faith hosted their Annual Luncheon, also on the Church Grounds. The delicious meal was catered by one of Faith's members, Sis. Claudette Holder.

Independence Day Service – Bethlehem and Faith

The Pastorate of Bethlehem and Faith celebrated with the Nation on Sunday, November 24th, 2019 with a special Independence Service at both congregations – in Maxwell and in Six Roads.



The Faith congregation mounted a display table (see picture above↑) with Barbadian artefacts, which provided an opportunity for some to reminisce and others of the younger generation to learn, observe and discuss a little about things their parents and grandparents used when they were still young.

Both Services, at Bethlehem and Faith, closed with the National Anthem and God's Blessing. In addition, at Faith, the children said the National Pledge before the Anthem.





*Christmas is here:
We are celebrating the
Coming of our Lord and
Saviour, Jesus Christ*

‘Advent’ – the period of preparation for the promised Messiah or Saviour of Mankind – will be celebrated from December 1st. We, the citizens of Barbados, celebrate this month with activities in all our Christian families, in our churches and in Government institutions.



During November, we celebrated the 53rd year of our achievement of National Independence from former colonial governance by Britain. This has meant for us a focus over these 53 years on becoming self-sufficient in an increasing number of development areas such as education, health, child care, economics, agriculture, physical, and environmental. We celebrate our achievements in these areas, with God’s help as a Christian nation, and plan for improvements each year.

In celebrating December, the month of Christ’s coming on earth to share in our life experiences from birth to death, many of us share birthdays in Jesus’ birth month. In some families, members may also be born on December 25th, when we celebrate this day which we call “Christmas”. The term “Christmas” itself is associated with giving thanks and praise to God, for sharing his beloved Son, Jesus Christ, with us on this day. Christmastime recognises an act of great love for us, a great love that provides an example for us of how we ought to love each other (Biblical reference John 3:16 & 17).

In my family we have many birthday celebrations in December. I will be celebrating my 80th birthday on December 2nd and on Sunday, December 1st, I will celebrate this achievement with family, friends, Church members and associates at our Bethlehem Moravian Church Service at 10:00 am.

I will also celebrate “in memoriam” my Dad’s birthday on December 14th, my mother’s birthday on December 25th (Christmas Day), and their marriage on December 5th. They each passed into the nearer presence of their Lord in the month of December as well.

Have a Happy and Blessed December, and Christmas Day, and enjoy all of our cultural celebrations.

Submitted by: Sis. Marva Alleyne

***Helpful Tip**
Christmas Gifts vs Christmas
Money – Planning for next year!*

A smart idea for ‘saving’ money on Christmas gifts, and not feeling like you are spending all your pay cheque in just one month is:

- ❖ Every pay day purchase a single Gift Card (February to November) and then use those Gift Cards for either your Christmas shopping or as Christmas Gifts.

International Men’s Day 2019

On November 19th International Men’s Day was celebrated (worldwide) under the theme “**Making a Difference for Men and Boys**” (since 1999). This initiative was conceptualised to promote the positive value men bring to the world, their families and communities. The organisers seek to highlight positive role models whilst raising awareness of men’s well-being and the challenges they face – physically, emotionally and psychologically.

This platform is used to remind people everywhere to take a moment to appreciate and celebrate the men in their lives, and the contribution they make to society for the greater good of all.

On a national/global scale, methods of celebrating International Men’s Day have included public seminars, conferences, fundraisers, classroom activities at schools, radio and television programs, church observations, prayer meetings, award ceremonies, special retail promotions, photos and film competitions, music concerts and art displays, and peaceful awareness marches.

International Men’s Day can also be celebrated at an individual-level or family level, by spending special time with the men in your life, in appreciation of how they enrich the lives of those around them.

Extract: <https://internationalmensday.com/>





Word Search
"IT'S CHRISTMAS"



R V C N S U S E J U G J U G W
L X I B K R N P F B W O I M S
S I S V S L O R A C T S N O S
S D L L T V I E F H Y E K A C
K B L E A N T S S E L P L H Z
Y A E N R O A E K O O H P I Y
B E B C U R R N Y I K R E R U
M E K Z M S O T N E V D A W A
A M Q R R D C S A L F M C O Q
O C N K U B E T H L E H E M S
R Z P S B T D D P R L E A V J
O C T V T U N G I J I N A M M
Q Q I I M Z M F P X G X P P S
Y M A N G E L F E E H M V J E
V K Y S S I R L R J T P V K C

ADVENT	CAROLS	TURKEY
CAKE	HAM	MANGER
EPIPHANY	LIGHT	STAR
JUG JUG	SORREL	BETHLEHEM
PRESENTS	PEACE	DONKEY
MARY	BELLS	JOSEPH
ANGELS	DECORATIONS	POINSETTIA
JESUS		
REMEMBER JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON!		



Teen/Youth/Young Adults Corner

Our Youth Represented

Unity Expressions continues to make its contribution in the Church. The group is dedicated to the arts, especially the worshipping of God through its Dance Ministry.

The group's most recent performance was at the **Harvest Festival** which was held on 17th November.

At this event the group performed two group pieces and one solo dance. The dances were well received. Members of the congregation/audience smiled and moved their body to the popular beat of **"I'm Alive"**. The other group dance was called **"Give Him Praise"** and saw the dancers beautifully dressed and thoroughly enjoying themselves as they performed.

The solo-dance **"Defender"** was beautifully choreographed and equally performed by dancer Charlene

who also found time to perform a solo in song, **"Hallelujah"**.



Submitted by Sis. Clauzel Forde

Above (↖ from top left) is Charlene, Caitlyn, Misha, Kayla and Kiasha and (at right ↗) is Charlene, Kayla, Kiasha, and Misha (notably missing is Jade who was ill). (↙ Below-

left) Our young adults (males and female) were also represented at the Harvest Programme. Sis. Analacia Yarde sang lead and alto, and Bro. Kevin Yarde sang lead and tenor in a beautiful rendition of **"We Give You Thanks"**. Bro. Kevin also accompanied, playing chords on the keyboard, supported by Bro. Shane Alleyne rendering bass on the keyboard.



Thank You to all children and young people, guest performers and guest speaker, Sunday School, Harvest Planning Committee, Elders and Stewards Boards, Men's Fellowship and Women's Fellowship, Chairpersons, Choir and Organist, and all other persons who assisted with the preparation for, and/or participated in, the recently-concluded **Harvest Thanksgiving celebrations, decoration of the Church and CPM Hall, Serving of Refreshments or Sale of Produce, and clean-up after the activities.**

Wishing You and Your Family a Blesséd Advent Season!

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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

"Advance the Kingdom : Live as Kingdom Citizens"