

THE VOICE OF ZION

A Monthly Communication of the Zion Moravian Church



Zion Moravian Church
Established 1777
241 years of Christian Witness
Rev'd Hilton J. Joseph - Pastor



October 2018
Volume 10
Issue 10
Celebrating 10 years

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Rev Hilton J Joseph

PARKER PALMER'S REFLECTION ON SEASONS (cont'd)

Autumn

Autumn is a season of great beauty, but it is also a season of decline: the days grow shorter, the light is suffused, and summer's abundance decays toward winter's death. Faced with this inevitable winter, what does nature do in autumn? She scatters the seeds that will bring new growth in the spring – and she scatters them with amazing abandon.

In my own experience of autumn, I am rarely aware that seeds are being planted. Instead, my mind is on the fact that the green growth of summer is browning and beginning to die. My delight in the autumn colours is always tinged with melancholy, a sense of impending loss that is only heightened by the beauty all around. I am drawn down by

the prospect of death more than I am lifted by the hope of new life.

But as I explore autumn's paradox of dying and seeding, I feel the power of metaphor. In the autumnal events of my own experience, I am easily fixated on surface appearances – on the decline of meaning, the decay of relationships, the death of a work. And yet, if I look more deeply, I may see the myriad possibilities being planted to bear fruit in some season yet to come.

In retrospect, I can see in my own life what I could not see at the time – how the job I lost helped me find work I needed to do, how the "road closed" sign turned me toward terrain I needed to travel, how losses that felt irredeemable forced me to discern meanings I needed to know. On the surface it seemed that life was

My family in Christ, this month's article of 'From The Pastor's Desk' is a continuation of last month's article, where I shared portions of the document that guided the Spiritual Retreat that was held for our church workers with the hope that it would prompt persons to reflect on their journey with God.

Yours in Pastoral Love,
Hilton J. Joseph

Provincial Theme
"Advance the Kingdom:

Thematic Focus
Live as Kingdom Citizens"

Conference Theme
*"Pursuing the Blessing:
Empowered to do Ministry"*

Motto:

In Essentials
Unity

In Non Essentials
Liberty

In All Things
Charity

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK CONT'D

lessening, but silently and lavishly the seeds of new life were always being sown.

This hopeful notion that living is hidden within dying is surely enhanced by the visual glories of autumn. What artist would ever have painted a season of dying with such a vivid palette if nature had not done it first? Does death possess a beauty that we – who fear death, who find it ugly and obscene – cannot see? How shall we understand autumn's testimony that death and elegance go hand in hand?

For me, the words that come closest to answering those questions are the words of Thomas Merton: "There is in all visible things...a hidden wholeness." In the visible world of nature, a great truth is concealed in plain sight: diminishment and beauty, darkness and light, death and life are not opposites. They are held together in the paradox of the "hidden wholeness."

In a paradox, opposites do not negate each other – they cohere in mysterious unity at the heart of reality. Deeper still, they need each other for health, as my body needs to breathe in as well as breathe out. But in a culture that prefers the ease of either-or thinking to the complexities of paradox, we have a hard time holding opposites together. We want light without darkness, the glories of spring and summer without the demands of autumn and winter, and the Faustian bargains we make fail to sustain our lives.

When we so fear the dark that we demand light around the clock, there can be only one result: artificial light that is glaring and graceless and, beyond its borders, a darkness that grows ever more terrifying as we try to hold it off. Split off from each other, neither darkness nor light is fit for human habitation. But if we allow the paradox of darkness and light to be, the two will conspire to bring wholeness and health to every living thing. Autumn constantly reminds me that my daily dyings are necessary precursors to new life. If I try to "make" a life that defies the diminishments of autumn, the life I end up with will be artificial, at best, and utterly colourless as well. But when I yield to the endless interplay of living and dying, dying and living, the life I am given will be real and colourful, fruitful and whole.

Winter

The little deaths of autumn are mild precursors to the *rigor mortis* of winter. The southern humourist Roy Blount has opined that in the Upper Midwest, where I live, what we get in winter is not weather but divine retribution. He believes that someone here once did something very, very bad, and we are still paying the price for his or her transgression!

Winter here is a demanding season – and not everyone appreciates the discipline. It is a season when death's victory can seem supreme: few creatures stir, plants do not visibly grow, and nature feels like our enemy. And yet the rigors of winter, like the diminishments of autumn, are accompanied by amazing gifts.

One gift is beauty, different from that of autumn but perhaps more beautiful still. I am not sure that any sight or sound on earth is as exquisite as the hushed descent of a sky full of snow. Another gift is the reminder that times of dormancy and deep rest are essential to all living things. Despite all appearances, of course, nature is not dead in winter – it has gone underground to renew itself and prepare for spring. Winter is a time when we are admonished, and even inclined, to do the same for ourselves.

But, for me, winter has an even greater gift to give. It comes when the sky is clear, the sun brilliant, the trees bare, and the first snow yet to come. It is the gift of utter clarity. In winter, one can walk into woods that had been opaque with summer growth only a few months earlier and see the trees clearly, singly and together, and see the ground that they are rooted in.

A few months ago, my father died. He was more than a good man, and these months have been a long, hard winter for me. But in the midst of the ice and loss, I have found a certain clarity that I lacked when he was alive. I see now what was concealed when the greenness of his love surrounded me – how I counted on him to help me cushion life's harsher blows. He cannot do that for me now, and at first I thought, "I must do it for myself." But as time has gone on,

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Ministries Within

The Church

Leadership

Board of Elders
Board of Stewards

Zion Youth Ministry

Youth Fellowship
Sunday School
Girls' Brigade
ZMC Dancers
Feed My Lambs

Ministry In Music

Zion Junior Choir
Zion Youth Choir
Zion Senior Choir
Zion Combined Choir
Zion Gospel Singers
Praise & Worship Team
Youth Praise Team
ZMC Steel Band

Other Church Ministries

Women's Fellowship
Dorcas Ministry
Zion Outreach Ministry
Bus Ministry
Bible Study
Health Care Team
New Believers Class
Moravian Senior Club
Zion Ushers Ministry
Zion Missions' Team
Multimedia Team

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GROW WITH GOD



On 31 Friday August 2018, the scene was set for Zion's Spiritual (Leadership) Retreat, under the theme "Grow with God". The retreat which would run for three days culminating on Sunday 02 September 2018, was open to all church workers and anyone who felt that such a retreat could be spiritually beneficial to them. The speaker for the weekend was Rev. Ulric V. Smith Jr., a Bahamian native, who is currently the pastor of the Cana Moravian Church located in Swetes, Antigua.

On day one, attendees entered the church yard, which was transformed into a warm, inviting, picturesque garden setting. The lush greenery of potted plants and palms helped to further cement the idea of growth through God's nurturing power. The evening began with a time of devotion during which, we were favoured with two items in song by Ms Jamie Simpson and brief words of meditation by Pastor Jeremy Thomas. He cautioned us that in order to Grow with God we had to cultivate a kingdom mindset, be willing to grow well and willing to be uncomfortable as is often necessary for growth to take place.

As the session got on the way Rev Smith awakened us to the idea that we are God's **BFF**. He said that during the course of the weekend he would reveal to us what each letter of this acronym stood for. During that first session we learned that the letter B represented the word **BEAUTIFUL**. He pointed out that beautiful did not only mean pretty or pleasing to the eye but as in Ezekiel 3:10-11 it also meant *fit* or *suitable for*. He showed us that God has made us suitable/fit for the time we are living in just as He made all human beings; past and present, fit for the times they live or have lived in. Rev Smith reminded us that God functions in eternity; past, present and future. The session ended with the participants highly anticipating day two of the retreat.

Our second session, which was held at the Solid Waste conference room, was about becoming God's **F-FRUITFUL** People. Becoming God's fruitful people meant manifesting the character of God which could only be done through the aid of the Holy Spirit as shown in Galatians 5:22-23. In order for us to live Godly lives, the Holy Spirit must cultivate these godly characteristics in us, which means we would have to be humble, have a teachable spirit be obedient and willing to yield to the leading of the Holy Spirit. The day ended with each participant receiving a seed in a cup of soil to nurture and grow into a (fruitful) plant.

The culmination of the retreat was encapsulated in our time of corporate worship on Sunday 02 September 2018. Rev Smith pointed out that we are to aim to become God's **F-Faithful** people. He demonstrated that Christ is the source for a successful Christian walk and in order for us to become faithful we must remain connected to the source as in the analogy of the vine and the branches in John 15. God's life-giving love enables us to become more faithful. This faithfulness requires us to develop an intimacy with Him that strengthens our faith. He showed us that the more faithful we become, the more fruitful we become and becoming fruitful is what we are called to be as it glorifies God. Finally, we were encouraged to be grateful to God for His work of grace in our lives, which is what enables us to become His **BEAUTIFUL FRUITFUL FAITHFUL (BFF)** children.

Contributed by Sis Lilette Liburd-Lewis





PEC REPORTS

Moravian Ministers Covenant Day

Moravian Ministers Covenant Day has been celebrated on 16 September since 1741. It is a time when Moravian Ministers gather together to pray for, encourage, support and fellowship with one another. At such times, they renew their Covenant with each other and the Lord. It was during a Synodal Conference in London on 16 September 1741, that Jesus Christ was recognized as Chief Elder of the Brethren or Moravian Church, however, the announcement of Jesus Christ as Chief Elder was not made until 13 November 1741. 16 September is therefore a very special day for Moravian Ministers worldwide. On such a day, the *Joys of Ministry* are celebrated, and *Woes of Ministry* are reflected upon to see what can be done to make the Servant of God more effective.

The Minister operates in several roles. Of vital importance though, the Minister is Priest, Preacher, Teacher, Pastor and Spouse, Parent. How does the Minister bring balance to all the roles he/she is expected to perform? The Minister is human and must seek at all times to avoid **Burnout**.

The Minister as Priest is a very important role. The Jewish religion gave birth to Christianity, and however, hard we may try, we cannot successfully and completely separate the two. The religion of Israel was fundamentally a sacrificial one and the Priests, beginning with Aaron, played a significant role. They were the ones who were selected and consecrated to preside at the sacrificial altar, to represent the people before God and to intercede on their behalf. This was but a fore-shadowing of the coming of Christ who was himself the sacrificial Lamb as well as the Great High Priest. It is only through him that we have redemption from sin and reconciliation with God.

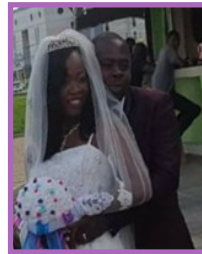
The Ordained Minister is a humble representative of Jesus Christ our Great High Priest, a person who is chosen and commissioned to maintain not the sacrificial life to the Old Israel, but the sacramental life of the Church, the New Israel. The emphasis that we place on the **Priesthood of all believers**, where each believer has free access to God, does not negate the Priesthood of the Ordained person. The Ordained Priest is expected to perform Baptisms, Holy Communion, Weddings and Confirmation.

Apart from maintaining the sacramental life of the Church, the Ordained Minister has another important Priestly function and that is to intercede and pray on behalf of the Flock and indeed, of all humankind. Jesus Christ the Great High Priest, whose humble representative he is, said in His High Priestly prayer: I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee...I am praying for them...I do not pray for them only, but also for those who believe in me through them (John 17: 8, 20). As Priests, Ministers of the Church are by the very nature of Ordination, required to pray for believers and non-believers alike.

The Minister as Priests must be a praying person, who prays with and for people, by holding up before God the members of his/her congregation and all those who are in need. He/she ought to bear the members on his/her heart and to love them as God has loved.

Congratulations

The Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province offers congratulations:



To Pastor Daniel Mark and Mrs Callisha Greenidge-Mark, who were united in marriage on Saturday 18 August 2018 at the Evangel Moravian Church in Tobago.



To Pastor Kevin St. Hill and Mrs Shanele Chase-St. Hill, who were united in marriage on Saturday 25 August 2018 at the Mount Tabor Moravian Church in Barbados.



We wish them every blessing and pray that they will have a happy married life together.

PEC Meeting

The PEC will meet in the St. Kitts Conference from 03 to 05 October 2018. Kindly keep the members in prayer.

Unity Board Meeting

The Unity Board (that is the heads of all Moravian Provinces Worldwide) met in Winston-Salem, North Carolina from 10 to 15 September 2018. The Unity Board reviewed the work of the Moravian Church worldwide, received reports from every Province and Mission Area and sought to develop strategies to deal with challenges that might arise. In addition, the Unity Board sought ways to grow and develop the Ministries of the Church.

Ordination

Pastor Kevin St. Hill, in addition to his recent nuptials was ordained into the diaconate of the Moravian Church of the Eastern West Indies Province (EWIP) at the Mount Tabor

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PEC REPORTS

Moravian Church, St. John's, Barbados on Thursday 30 August 2018.

We wish him every blessing and pray God's guidance as he does ministry.

Hymn of the Month – September 2018

The hymn for the month of September was #187 – *Wand'ring souls, why will ye scatter*. It was written by Frederick W. Faber. A new tune, *Willard Prout*, was scored by Bro. Ulston Smith in 2018. This tune name seeks to honour the life and ministry of the late Moravian minister who died earlier this year.

It started with Adam and Eve running away from God's presence. According to the book of Genesis, after they had sinned, the 'first couple' made a move not toward God but away from God. All of us as their descendants have been doing the same thing. But the irony is that the same God we're running away from is also running after us. This hymn represents the predicament of humanity as wandering sheep running from the divine Shepherd who is offering much more than we could ever imagine. God, in Christ, is the "*good shepherd who gives his life for the sheep*." (John 10:11) When we come to Shepherd of our souls we are always welcomed and will receive kindness, mercy, healing and love. What more could one ask for? So why wander away? This hymn calls us to stop running away and instead run towards the 'good Shepherd.'"

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



*Wand'ring souls, why will ye scatter
Like a crowd of frightened sheep?
Foolish hearts, why will ye wander
From a love so true and deep?*

*2 Was there ever kindest shepherd
Half so gentle, half so sweet
As the Saviour who would have us
Come and gather round his feet?*

*3 There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in his justice
Which is more than liberty.*

*4 There is welcome for the sinner
And more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Saviour;
There is healing in his blood.*

*5 For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of one's mind,
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.*

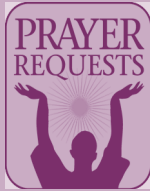
*6 If our love were but more simple,
We should take him at his word,
And our lives would be all sunshine
In the sweetness of our Lord.*

Rev Dr Mikie Roberts
Provincial Musical Director





SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS



Whether your need is small or great, you are welcome to use God's direct 24-hour hotline — prayer!

His promise is, "Call to me and I will answer you." (Jeremiah 33:3) **This month, let us remember in prayer** the following persons listed below and be reminded that "you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer." (Matthew 21:22)

Sisters Laverne Huggins, Gloria James, Carmen Powell (USVI) and Veronica Stevens; Bro Whitley Williams (USA) and Brother Tonito Lee (UK). Sisters Ellenitta Nathaniel, Eileen Mills, Sylvia Samuel, Urlie DeSilva, Dorette Rawlins, Doris Adams, Lydia Roberts, Shirley Douglas, Beverly James, Heather Demming and Eileen Robinson; Brothers Ernest Christopher, Pedro Douglas, Hashim Bertie, Alphonso Archibald and Mr. Walter B Simmonds (St. Kitts).

SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER

Please remember in prayer our Zion Shut-Ins. Their names are as follows:

Sisters Connie Smith, Brenda Manners, Iris Mc Donald, Eugenie Belgrove-Gumbs, Shirley Phipps, Anita Hobson, and Mavis Deosaw (Overseas).

Brothers Vernon Connor and Peter Byron.



CELEBRATION CORNER



1st - Bro Mervin Phillip and Sis Louise Godwin-Tannock (Bermuda); 2nd - Sis Catherine Hawley-Pennyfeather; 4th - Sis Dontricia Belle, Bro Shaquan and Sis Shaquanna Bridgewater, Bro Hasani Caines and Sis Janvanel Caines; 7th - Sis Je'neah Henry; 8th - Sis Vivian Rawlins, Sis Verona Newton, Romaine Belgrove and Jordan Taylor; 10th - Sis La Tonya Weeks and Sis Chelsea Amory; 11th - Sis Jacintha Hook and Sis Linet Matthew; 12th - Sis Lenora Mack; 13th - Sis Eulalie Berridge; 17th - Bro Carl Osborne; 21st - Vekisha Hook; 24th - Rev Algernon Lewis; and 30th - Sis Shakira Casey-Pitt.



October Wedding Anniversary Celebrants

25th Bro Walter & Sis Tryphena James
26th Bro Trevor & Sis Jeweleen Woodley



COLLEGE PRAYER WATCH

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him (James 1:12 (NIV)). Studying abroad and being away from family and loved ones is a stressful time for many students. Hence, this is why the Zion Community is asking members of the Congregation to bear up in prayer our student members studying overseas. Their names are as follows:-

UNITED STATES

Sis Ycole BonCamper
Sis Evah Liburd-Barzey
Sis Akila Moore
Sis Tarhia Slack
Bro Christian Nathaniel
Bro Glassil DeSilva
Sis Daria James
Sis Xarielle Blanchette

CANADA

Bro Hassanni Lapsey

ST. THOMAS, USVI

Sis Jamilla Connor

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Sis Junika Berry

JAMAICA

Bro Kyle Bradshaw
Sis Tonya DeSuza





FOR YOUR CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2018



Shut-in Communion

Shut-in Communion was held on **Tuesday 23 October 2018** from **09:30 am to 12:00 noon**.

Church Ministries

- **Confirmation Class** resumes on Monday 29 October 2018 at 4:00 pm.
- **Moravian Senior Club** meets on Tuesdays at the Methodist Church Hall, Seaton Street, Basseterre from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.
- **Women's Fellowship** meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:00 pm.
- **Mid-week Sunrise Devotions** continue on Wednesdays at 6:00 am.
- **Oasis Moments** resumes on Wednesday 24 October 2018 from 12 noon to 12:50 pm.
- **Uprisers - Children's Ministry** meets on Wednesdays at 5:00 pm.
- **Junior Choir** meets on Fridays at 5:00 pm.
- **Youth Fellowship** resumes on Friday 19 October 2018 at 7:15 pm.

St. Kitts Outreach Centre

The **Moravians** were responsible for ministering at the **St. Kitts Outreach Centre** during the period **08 to 12 October 2018**. Members are asked to assist wherever possible.

Zion Missionary 2018

Zion Missionary 2018 was launched Sunday 01 April 2018. During the Service for each month, a colour offering will be taken. Please note the colour offerings which are to be taken monthly from April to December 2018.

- Green – April and September
- Blue – May and October
- Purple – June and November
- Orange – July and December

The colour for the month of October is **'Blue'**.

Missionary Outreach Sunday

Missionary Each One, Reach One Outreach Sundays will be held every last Sunday of each month. Bring someone to church wearing shades of the colour of the offering for each month. This month's colour will be blue.

Conference Bible Study

The Conference Bible Study continues with the Revive Convo follow-up on Wednesday 17 October 2018 at the Bethesda Moravian Church at 7:00 pm.



Zion Moravian Church presents



Pastor's Walk, Prayer & Breakfast Extravaganza

Saturday 24th, November, 2018

Walk with Pastor from Frigate Bay Play Field to Zion Moravian Church Yard.

Breakfast Extravaganza
 Time: 7:00 - 10:00a.m.
 Cost: \$25.00
COME AND ENJOY A TIME OF WORSHIP!





‘LOVE, SERVICE, PATRIOTISM AND PRIDE’ INDEPENDENCE 35

During the 35th anniversary of the St Kitts-Nevis Independence, four (4) stalwarts of the Zion Moravian Church were honoured for outstanding service in various areas. Coincidentally, all four of the honorees have a teaching background, a noble profession which probably propelled them into making their indelible mark in society.

Three of the honourees were awarded the **Companion of the Star of Merit**, they are: -



◆ Bro Hilton Clarke – Education/Public Service



◆ Ambassador his Excellency, Bro Sydney Osborne – Education/Public Service



◆ Sis Ellenitta Nathaniel was awarded the **Medal of Honour**, in the area of Education/Community work.



◆ Bro Alphonso Bridgewater – Sports Administration/ Public Service

Service to humanity is service to God. Let the love and light of the Kingdom radiate through you until all who look upon you shall be illumined by its reflection. Be as stars, brilliant and sparkling in the loftiness of their heavenly station. .





7TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MORAVIAN SENIOR CLUB

'Fostering togetherness through purposeful living'

Getting started

Just about seven and a half years ago, in February 2011, the seed for the formation of this group was planted by Sis Doris Adams.



Sis Doris Adams (First President)

She saw the need for a ministry that would embrace retired members of Zion, both male and female, and engage them in meaningful activities that would enrich their years of retirement while they were still active. She was able to persuade a target group to meet and discuss the ideas she had, as well as to give some of their own, and gradually the seed took root.



Members of the Moravian Senior Club

As this was the first venture of its kind, much thought and many prayers went into the establishment of this club – what should the programme of activities involve; where and when should we meet; who should be able to join; what should we call the club; how would it be financed; would there be much interest in it; how would it be administered.

Through it all we were sure we saw the guiding hand of God. As there was no suitable meeting place at Zion (at that time the pre-school occupied the hall at the back) the group had to look elsewhere in the community and we were eventually led to inquire about the Methodist Church Hall (also known as the Old Boys' School). Not only did the Methodists allow us the free use of the building, but the idea of the club was so appealing that some of their members asked if they could join. The Lord had not only provided us with a perfect meeting place, but also with a source of new members. We felt we were being guided to reach out to Christian seniors, regardless of which church they belonged to. There was a need in the community for an organization such as this, and so the group went from strength to strength.

By October of that year, it was felt that the time had come to formally establish the group as a ministry within the Zion Moravian Church and for the officers to be installed during a service at the Church. So this month we are celebrating the seventh anniversary of that official installation.

Developments over the years

One of the main reasons for the Club's success over the years has been its inclusiveness. It embraces Christian seniors from all denominations and from all parts of the island. There are Moravians, Methodists, Anglicans, Baptists, Pentecostals etc. From time to time we worship at one of these churches and it provides a rich experience for our members. We have regular members who travel weekly from as far away as Sandy Point, Tabernacle and Saddlers. They come from a variety of backgrounds and can therefore share experiences with each other and form new friendships.

Every effort is made to keep the Club interesting by providing a variety of activities that are aimed at keeping members physically and mentally stimulated. Morning devotions are a mandatory part of each meeting and so too is a period of exercising. In addition there is a main activity at each meeting and this varies from week to week. Over the years we have had guest speakers on topics of particular interest to the group. We have had day trips to several paces of historical and cultural interest; we have had word games and board games and general knowledge quizzes to stimulate the mind; book reviews and group discussions; bible quizzes and special meditations by guest preachers; health talks by medical practitioners; picnics and beach days and much more.

A very encouraging feature of this club is the strong bonds of fellowship and friendship among the members. Members look forward to meeting each other every week.

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YOUTH CONNECTION – ZION MORAVIAN SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION 2018



Sister Jahkeema Pitt, Anique Roberts, Suzanna Persaud and Charlesia Blake

The Moravian Church is committed to helping its members by providing scholarships to Grade six (6) students entering the first form in the high schools. The Church believes strongly in providing service to the community, and financial aid to students who are in need. The main objective of the scholarship programme is to assist needy students who are active members of the Moravian Church, attend school regularly and obtain good grades.

The winners of the scholarships are expected to show respect for themselves and others, obey the school rules, attend church and Sunday School regularly, and should also be involved in the school’s extra-curricular activities and church activities. The students must always continue to show diligence in school work; they will be monitored periodically and assessed through the school’s term performance reports.

Four students received assistance for the new school year commencing September 2018. They are, Sis Jahkeema Pitt and Sis Anique Roberts of the Basseterre High School, and Sis Suzanna Persaud and Sis Charlesia Blake of the Washington Archibald High School. They received uniforms, shoes, books, other school equipment and material, valued at approximately \$750.00 for each student.

The Leadership of the Zion Moravian Church would like to thank Br. Osbert DeSuza and Sis. Eldora Samuel for providing full scholarships to two students, Sis Jahkeema Pitt and Sis Charlesia Blake. As in previous years, the church’s annual Missions continues to be the primary source of funds for the scholarship programme.

Certificates of scholarship were presented to Sis Anique Roberts and Sis Suzanna Persaud by Reverend Hilton Joseph; Bro Osbert DeSuza presented the certificate to Sis Jahkeema Pitt,

and Bro Carl Samuel presented the certificate to Charlesia Blake, on behalf of his mother, Sis. Eldora Samuel.

The short presentation ended with Sis Jakeema Pitt giving the vote of thanks on behalf of the 2018 recipients.

Prepared by: *Sis Blondell Franks,*
Zion Scholarship Committee





INSTRUMENT OF PEACE



We serve an AWESOME God; a God who forgives and forgets some of the most hurtful things that we have done to others in our lives.

Right where you are reading this article, I encourage you to pause for a moment and reflect on your mistakes, trials and tribulations, and triumphs. Yes, also think about the victories that you have enjoyed throughout the years.

Repeat the following prayer and let it resonate in your heart today:

Father God, we come to You seeking forgiveness, O God. Cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Free our minds and hearts of malice, grief, and heartaches. Calm our fears. Make our crooked paths straight again. Remove any inflammation wreaking HAVOC throughout our damaged and battered bodies. Melt away any unnecessary fat cells. Cleanse us, and make us whole again.

In Jesus' precious and holy name. With thanksgiving and rejoicing, we all say AMEN and AMEN.

Psalm 126 (KJV)

¹ [A Song of degrees.] When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

² Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.

³ The LORD hath done great things for us; [whereof] we are glad.

⁴ Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south.

⁵ They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

⁶ He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves [with him].

~ Contributed by a VOZ Member

7TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MORAVIAN SENIOR CLUB cont'd

Looking ahead

As we look towards the future, we know that the Lord who has guided us this far will continue to direct our activities.

One of our continued concerns is the imbalance between the males and females. We thank God for the faithful male members that we do have, but there is room for many more.

We also would like to encourage members of Zion, both male and female, who are retired or who will soon be retiring, to consider joining the club. It will add significantly to the quality of your retirement years. The reality is that those of us who joined from the beginning are now seven years older; we need an influx of younger retirees to keep the momentum going.

We give God thanks and praise for the first seven years. To God be the Glory!

Sis C. V. Richards – President



The Leadership and Membership of the Zion Moravian Church express condolences to: -

Sis Emelita Warner-Paul and Family on the passing of: -

Bro Paul (Husband)
Trinidad & Tobago

Sis Sonia Hector and Family on the passing of:

Mr. Gilbert Hector (Brother)

Sis. Doris Adams and Family on the passing of:
Mrs. Angela Clarke-Miller (Cousin)

Sis. Desarie Williams and Family on the passing of:
Ms, Gladys Williams (Great Aunt)

"The Lord is your rock, your fortress and your stronghold."

Sisters, may the Lord grant you Peace in these trying times.





THE ZION MORAVIAN CHURCH

Victoria Road
Basseterre
St. Kitts

Phone: 1 (869) 465-2402
Mobile: 1 (869) 662-1777
Fax: 1 (869) 465-6748

E-mail:
zionmoravian1777@sisterisles.kn

*The Voice of Zion:
Empowered to do Ministry*



Sunday 14 October 2018
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost



Watchword for the Week: - "Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession." **Hebrews 4:14**

Scripture Reading: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Psalm 90:12-17; Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31.

Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them! **Numbers 11:29**

Jesus said to the disciples, "Receive the Holy Spirit." **John 10 20:22**

Prayer: *Gracious Leader, you tell us that we may dream dreams and see visions, yet we often fail to pursue the leading of the Spirit. Help us to discern your vision for us. Amen*

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK CONT'D

I have seen something deeper still: it never was my father absorbing those blows but a larger and deeper grace that he taught me to rely on.

When my father was alive, I confused the teaching with the teacher. Now my teacher is gone, but the grace is still there, and my clarity about that fact has allowed his teaching to take deeper root in me. Winter clears the landscape, however brutally, giving us a chance to see ourselves and each other more clearly, to see the very ground of our being.

In the Upper Midwest, newcomers often receive a classic piece of wintertime advice: "The winters will drive you crazy until you learn to get out into them." Here, people spend good money on warm clothing so they can get outdoors and avoid the "cabin fever" that comes from huddling fearfully by the fire during the long frozen months. If you live here long, you learn that a daily walk into the winter world will fortify the spirit by taking you boldly to the very heart of the season you fear.

Our inward winters take many forms – failure, betrayal, depression, death. But every one of them, in my experience, yields to the same advice: "The winters will drive you crazy until you learn to get out into them." Until we enter boldly into the fears we most want to avoid, those fears will dominate our lives. But when we walk directly into them – protected from frostbite by the warm garb of friendship or inner discipline or spiritual guidance – we can learn what they have to teach us. Then, we discover once again that the cycle of the seasons is trustworthy and life-giving, even in the most dismaying season

of all.

Spring

I will wax romantic about spring and its splendours in a moment, but first there is a hard truth to be told: before spring becomes beautiful, it is plug ugly, nothing but mud and muck. I have walked in the early spring through fields that will suck your boots off, a world so wet and woeful it makes you yearn for the return of ice. But in that muddy mess, the conditions for rebirth are being created.

I love the fact that the word "humus" – the decayed vegetable matter that feeds the roots of plants – comes from the same word root that gives rise to the word "humility." It is a blessed etymology. It helps me understand that the humiliating events of life, the events that leave "mud on my face" or that "make my name mud," may create the fertile soil in which something new can grow.

Though spring begins slowly and tentatively, it grows with a tenacity that never fails to touch me.

To be cont'd

This month's issue of the Voice of Zion is sponsored by Sister Daria James