

THE VOICE OF ZION

A Monthly Communication of the Zion Moravian Church



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

February 2017
Volume 9
Issue 2

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Rev Hilton J Joseph

From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings Family.
As I shared in last month's issue of Voice of Zion, our focus for this year will be guided by the Provincial Theme – Advance the Kingdom: Use the Keys. I am suggesting that one such 'key' is FASTING.

In light of the fact that the Christian Church will be engaged in Prayer & Fasting during the Lenten season, and for us at Zion on Wednesdays, perhaps the

question that is to be asked is "What is fasting?" Do you understand fasting? Be enlightened through the following article obtained from *Grace Notes Sermon Ministry*.

Yours in Pastoral love,

Rev'd Hilton J Joseph
Pastor



A Fast Message from God (Isaiah. 58:6-8)

Definition of Fasting

Fasting is a voluntary withdrawing from food and/or drink, or other fleshly appetite, for a specified period of time.

Three most basic types of

fasting mentioned in the Bible are:

Normal Fast [Food]

Jesus began His earthly ministry with prayer and fasting. (Matthew 4:1-2—a 40 day fast Jesus completed). Jesus taught His disciples to fast (Matthew 6:16 – "Moreover when (*not if*) ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance...")

Though fasting is never commanded, Jesus assumed that the disciples would want to in order to see great things happen! However, it is not something that a Christian has to do but can choose to do.

Normal fast is no food: only liquids like water and juice. It can last for one day (that's a good place to start): 1-day fast (Judges 20:26); 3-day fast (Paul did this right after getting saved); 40-day fast (several examples in Bible).

Provincial Theme
"Advance the Kingdom:

Thematic Focus
Use the Keys"

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

Partial Fast

This is a good option if you have diabetes or some other condition which precludes a normal fast. In this fast you omit certain foods for a while but not other foods.

Daniel and three Hebrew children did a partial fast, and at the end were stronger and healthier than those eating what they wanted (Daniel 1).

Elijah did this on 2 occasions; John Wesley was well known for going days on end eating only bread and water; some give up meats for a time, eating only vegetables. Skipping a meal to spend time in prayer would be another example of a partial fast, or not indulging in things you like as much as just "getting by" with something basic, bland. [Giving up the desires of the flesh to concentrate on the Spirit!]

Absolute Fast

Moses went on this kind for 40 days. Nothing enters your mouth at all... This can only be done for a very short time, not 40 days... Please consult a doctor!

This is the first mention of a fast in Scripture -- Exodus. 34:28 ²⁷ *And the LORD said unto Moses, write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel.* ²⁸ *And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And*

he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.

When Moses received the 10 commandments from God, he engaged in a 40-day fast. You may have noticed it said he didn't eat or drink. Please don't try that! It's a human impossibility apart from divine intervention. Some have worked up to a 40-day fast from food but no one could survive 40 days with no drink; this was a miracle!

Purpose of Fasting

It is a way to seek God by denying the physical in order to focus on the spiritual.

For this reason, prayer and fasting must always go together (or it does you no good spiritually!) Of course, there are physical benefits: medical doctors are discovering more and more benefits to fasting because the body is designed to heal itself on a cellular level. As we eat and take in various toxins, processed foods, medicines, etc., we hold a certain amount of poisons in our cells but when we fast many of those things are flushed out of our system!

But if you want a spiritual benefit, make sure and take the time you would have spent eating and transfer it to prayer time!

II Chronicles. 20:3-4 ³ *And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD,*

and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. ⁴And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

Ezra 8:23 *So we fasted and besought our God for this: and he was in treated of us.*

Nehemiah 1:4 *And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven,*

1 Corinthians 7:5 *Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.*

(Another point made by this verse is that when we fast it ought to be from ALL physical desires, not just food! Let go of the physical, focus on the spiritual!)

Usually we fast and pray when we have a special need, when we need a spiritual breakthrough, when we are seeking revival.

Source:
Grace Notes Sermon Ministry

To be continued in the next issue of the Voice of Zion (March 2017).

Publication Committee

Myrna Archibald
(Chair)

Sharon Mc Cardy-Joseph
(Deputy Chair)

Hilton Joseph (Rev)
(Ex-Officio)

Chesil Hamilton
(Photography)

Gail Gumbs-James

Shernel James

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





CONGRATULATIONS



Sis Shermalon Kirby-Gordon the Acting Director - Corporate Relations Department of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) was awarded the STAR Award at the ECCB's Annual Dinner in December 2016. The STAR Awards which are presented in two categories, namely, Individual and Departmental are the brainchild of Governor, Timothy N. J. Antoine. The Acronym STAR represents Service, Excellence, Teamwork, Accountability and Results. The Bank's Corporate Relations Department which is led by Sis Shermalon was one of the two recipients of the 2016 Departmental Award.

Sis Shermalon is best known by the Bank as a problem-solver, an innovator, a doer, one who gives constructive feedback, an "all rounder" who delivers at a high standard. Spreading the word far and wide through various media is her order of the day.

Working "round the clock" is not an issue for her. Going the extra mile is the norm, rather than the exception for this model employee.

She is an individual who is always willing and ready to assist team members, and share her knowledge regardless of her workload. Sis Shermalon is an outstanding team player who believes in results.

Sis Shermalon, the Leadership and members of Zion Congregation congratulate you on your outstanding performance at your workplace. May God continue to guide and strengthen you.

Sis Melvina Eldora Samuel

It was a proud moment for **Sis Melvina Eldora Samuel** on Sunday 11 December 2016 at the graduation ceremony of the University of Houston, Clear Lake, Houston, Texas. Sis Eldora graduated with a Master of Science Degree in Early Childhood

Education. Melvina gives thanks to Almighty God for allowing her to achieve this milestone in her academic career.

Sis Eldora's teaching career spans forty-three (43) years. She began her teaching career in 1973 at the St. Johnston Village School (now called Dr. Willian Connor Primary). She entered the St. Kitts Nevis Teachers College in 1976 and graduated two years later with a Trained Teachers Certificate. In 1978 she was appointed as a trained teacher at the St. Peters Primary School, and in 1995 she was appointed as Head Teacher of that school now named Deane-Glasford Primary School.



As a result of illness in 2005, Sis Eldora opted for early retirement and moved to the United States of America. At that time the enemy said that was the end of it; however, the Hand of God was upon her life and like Job, God blessed her latter years and she resumed teaching, this time at the Early Childhood level. In 2012, she graduated from the University of Houston, Clear Lake with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Early Childhood. At present, she is employed at the Harris County Department of Education as a Head Start Teacher.

Sis Eldora thanks God for blessing her with this degree, her family for their support, friends and well-wishers also the congregation of Zion Moravian who prayed for her in 2005 when all seemed lost. Sis Eldora has been a member of the Zion Moravian Church and served as a Sunday School teacher, a member of the Board of Elders and a Girls' Brigade Officer.

Sis Eldora, the Leadership and members of the Zion Moravian Church extend our heartfelt congratulations to you on your attainment of this milestone. In the face of adversity God kept you and will continue to do a good work in you. We wish you every success in your future endeavours.





PEC REPORTS

Provincial Theme 2017

The Provincial Theme for 2017 is, “**Advance the Kingdom: Use the Keys.**”

Pastors and Ministry Groups are asked to use the prescribed Provincial Themes as a guide when considering suggested themes for events and activities.

An outline of the theme for 2017 is provided below.

Introduction /Objective

There are many keys but ONE door. By studying the many keys to the kingdom, we will be brought to the knowledge that keys are accessible, available and ought to be fully utilized.

Suggested Areas of Study

The Key of Jesus (Philippians 2:1-11, Revelation 3:7-13) Jesus’ name is God-given. He has the key of David; therefore, persons who call upon the name of Jesus are assured that the key can unlock: Power, Authority, Healing and Protection.

Scripture calls for us to:

1. Bow down and worship
2. Confess the name of Jesus
3. Esteem and obey the name of Jesus
4. Remain steadfast

The Key of the Word (John 8:31-36, Psalm 1, Luke 4:4)

It is of the utmost importance to spend time/abide in the Word, this qualifies us to become disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible should be used as the key instrument to opens the door to growth and maturity.

Having met the man Jesus, having confessed the Name of Jesus, having bowed down and obeyed the man Jesus;

We then unlock the doors to: Truth and Freedom

The Key of Knowledge (Proverbs 3:5-12)

The key of Knowledge leads to a greater understanding of God. This knowledge leads us to:

1. Totally Trust
2. Always Acknowledge
3. Faithfully Follow

We are therefore encouraged to:

1. Get Wisdom
2. Get Understanding
3. Fear the Lord

4. Depart from Evil
5. Honour the Lord

Having experienced the chastening of the Lord, we are called to live a transformed life. This chastening should not leave us to think we are victims but rather victors, bringing glory to God.

The Key of the Holy Spirit (Luke 4)

The key of Holy Spirit open doors for victorious living. We have victory over:

1. The physical
2. Temptations
3. Desires of the Flesh
4. The demonic

It is the Holy Spirit which:

1. Admonishes
2. Equips
3. Empowers
4. Convicts
5. Affirms
6. Comforts

Hymn of the Month – January 2017

The start of a new calendar year brings hope. We enter each New Year believing and trusting in God that all of our needs will be supplied. 2017 is no different! And so, for this the first month in 2017, our hymn of the month is # 622 – *Father, let me dedicate*. It was written by Lawrence Tuttiett in 1864. The name of the assigned tune is *GLORIFICATION*.

There’s a very simple message that is directly expressed and communicated throughout this hymn. It is – whatever God sends our way in this life should always bring glory to the name of the Lord. The writer then highlights some of the negative circumstances of the life that may come our way which can potentially leave us questioning: how is God to be glorified in such situations? The second verse raises some rhetorical questions which cause us to realize that in the same way that human parents give the best to the children, so too does God. And when we have received God’s best our natural response should likewise be to glorify God’s name.

The third and fourth verses further cement the idea that we are able to give glory to God in all of life’s circumstances. It does so by advancing this truth: it is a life that has been surrendered to the sovereignty of God that is truly able to glorify God no matter what. The idea of surrendering is often times easier said

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PEC REPORTS

than done. Yet the example that is held before us to emulate is that of our Saviour. Christ, in surrendering his life to the will of God resulted in dying on the cross. So, then our prayer should be like that of Christ – *not my will but thine be done* (Luke 22: 42). Yet even in his dying, God was glorified for the divine plan of salvation was now complete.

We stand at the start of another year. God alone knows what the future holds. Instead of worrying over the future, this hymn invites us to trust God for the future.

This hymn invites us to release ourselves into the care of the God who loves us with an everlasting love. We can be assured that once our lives are dedicated to the Lord, then whatever God sends or allows in our lives will ultimately be for the glory of God. May each day in 2017 lead us to say – To God be the glory!

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

*Father, let me dedicate
All this year to Thee,
In whatever worldly state
Thou wilt have me be:
Not from sorrow, pain, or care,
Freedom dare I claim;
This alone shall be my prayer,
'Glorify Thy Name.'*

*2 Can a child presume to choose
Where or how to live?
Can a Father's love refuse
All the best to give?
More Thou givest every day
Than the best can claim,
Nor withholdest aught that may
Glorify Thy Name.*

*3 If in mercy Thou wilt spare
Joys that yet are mine;
If on life, serene and fair,
Brighter rays may shine:
Let my glad heart, while it sings,
Thee in all proclaim
And, whate'er the future brings,
'Glorify Thy Name.'*

*4 If Thou callest to the cross,
And its shadow come,
Turning all my gain to loss,
Shrouding heart and home;
Let me think how Thy dear Son
To His glory came,
And in deepest woe pray on,
'Glorify Thy Name.'*

1864. Lawrence Tuttiett

~ **Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts**

Director, Provincial Hymnal Committee

Furlough in Tanzania – 2016 Rev Dr Cicely Athill - Horsford



I left on furlough August 15 and arrived in Tabora, Tanzania on August 25 2016. I was met at the airport in Dar es Salaam by Bro Samuel Mwaigse, the Chairman of the Eastern Province, Tanzania. Two days later I travelled to my final destination, Tabora Region. There I was met by Bro Richard Lwali, the General Secretary of the Western Province. Settled in my room at the Hostel, which will be

home for the next three months, I met later that day with Bro Lwali to finalize my assignment in the Province.

The following day I met with all staff members of the Provincial Headquarters including Bishop Nicodemo. Then, I visited the Teofilo Kisanji University (TEKU) Centre. I sat with the Director of the Centre Rev. Ronald J. Mbao, Rev. Shedrack Chambo, Dean of Student, and the rest of the staff.

I assumed responsibility as a Guest Lecturer in the Department of Theology, Faculty of Humanity and Social Science from August to November. The courses taught were Moravian History and Church Administration.

My Pastoral Duties:

- Preached every Sunday at one of the ten congregations in the Tabora area.
- Led Bible Study and preached at Street Services during the week.
- Shared in Funeral Services
- Attended the District Synod

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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, and Veronica Stevens and Bro Whitley Williams (USA), Allan Pennyfeather (Canada) and Brother Tonito Lee (UK). Sisters Rahmona Casey, Ellenitta Nathaniel, Urlie De Silva, Dorette Rawlins, Doris Adams, Lydia Roberts, Shirley Douglas and Beverly James; Brothers Ernest Christopher, Pedro Douglas, Hashim Bertie, Basil Byron 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, Shirley Phipps, Anita Hobson, Eileen Robinson and Mavis Deosaw (Overseas).



Brothers Vernon Connor, Arthur Thompson, Washington Archibald, Basil Byron, St. Clair Byron and James Phipps.

CELEBRATION CORNER



February Birthday Celebrants

2nd - Sis Surya Rogers, 3rd - Bro Chesil Hamilton, 4th - Bro Ira Wattlely, Sis Marilyn McDowell, 6th - Sis Vicky Liburd (USA), 7th - Bro Merja Phipps, 8th - Bro. Wilmot Broadbelt, 15th - Sis Vernis Byron, 12th - Sis Shaline Welcome, 16th - Sis Sylvia James, Bro Recaldo Broadbelt, Sis Veronica James, 17th - Sis Cheryl Godwin, 19th - Sis Viola (Ann) Chumney, 21st - Bro Ajani Nisbett, Sis Jeanille Osborne, and Bro Alphonso Archibald, 22nd Sis Laverne Huggins, (USA), Sis Micheline Dandressol, Bro James Thompson, 23rd - Sis Iona (Joycie) Caines, 24th - Sis Allison Belle-Archibald, Bro Jason De Silva, Bro Stafford Myers and Sis Tamrah Roberts, 25th - Sis Judith Byron and Sis Shernel James, 26th - Sis Evah Barzey-Liburd (USA) and Sis Seana Benjamin-Mack.



February Wedding Anniversary Celebrants

14 February Bro Allen and Sis Carmen Davis
25 February Bro Julian and Sis Judith Byron

COLLEGE PRAYER WATCH

BE STRONG
WHEN YOU ARE WEAK.
BRAVE
WHEN YOU ARE SCARED.
AND HUMBLE
WHEN YOU ARE
VICTORIOUS

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
Bro Zaavan Hobson
Bro Christin Scarborough
Bro Glassil DeSilva
Sis Vicky Liburd
Sis Tarhia Slack

CANADA

Bro Hassanni Lapsey

JAMAICA

Bro Kyle Bradshaw
Sis Avicia Sweeney
Sis Tonya DeSuza

SINT EUSTATIUS

Bro Mervin Hook Jr

BARBADOS

Sis K'Shanta Reid



CHRISTMAS DAY OUTREACH LUNCHEON





FOR YOUR CALENDAR ~ FEBRUARY 2017

Shut-in Communion

Shut-in Communion will be held on Tuesday 07 February 2017 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Church Ministries

- **Confirmation Class** on Mondays at 4:00 pm.
- **Girls' Brigade** on Mondays at 5:00 pm.
- **Bible Study** resumes on Tuesday 07 February at 7:00 pm. The topic of study will be "Who is Jesus".
- **Mid-week Sunrise Devotions** on Wednesdays at 6:00 am.
- **Prayer and Fasting** on Wednesdays from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm.
- **Oasis Moments** resumes on Wednesday 08 February at 12:00 noon.
- **Boys' Brigade** on Wednesday at 4.30 pm.
- **Children's Ministry** on Wednesday at 5.00 pm
- **Junior Choir** on Fridays at 5:00 pm.
- **Youth Fellowship** on Fridays at 7:15 pm.
- **Youth Choir** on Saturdays at 3:00 pm.
- **Combined Choir** on Saturdays at 4:15 pm.
- **Conference Youth Choir** on Saturdays at Bethesda at 4:00 pm

St. Kitts Outreach Centre

The Moravians will be responsible for ministering at the **St. Kitts Outreach Centre** during the month of **February 2017**. Members are asked to note that the dates will be given in a subsequent notice. Members are asked to assist wherever possible.

Men's Ministry

All men are reminded of Men's Ministry on **Sunday 19 February 2016**. Bring a brother to Church with you.

Know Your Elders Month

During the month of February, the Congregation will be given the opportunity to meet and greet their Elders. Members are asked to get to know their Elders and to forward their names and contact information to them as they meet and greet you at the end of each church service.

Island Conference

Island Conference Annual General Meeting will be held at Bethesda on Thursday 09 February at 6:00pm.

Moravian Week

Moravian Week will be celebrated from Sunday 26 February to Sunday 05 March. Please listen to the weekly church bulletin for additional information.

Church's Birthday

Joint Worship and Holy Communion in Celebration of the Birthday of the Unitas Fratrum (Moravian Church) will be celebrated at the Estridge Moravian Church on Sunday 05 March at 9:30 am.

Lenten Midday Service

The Annual Christian Council Lenten Mid-week Services will be held at Wesley Methodist Church commencing on 08 March from 12:10 am to 12:40 pm. The theme is "Crossing Barriers to Wholeness". The Moravians will lead the service on 08 March.

Zion Lenten Open Air Services

During the month of March a series of Lenten Open Air Services will be held starting on Wednesday 08 March starting at 7:00 am nightly:

- 08 March - Conaree
- 15 March - Taylor's
- 22 March - Buckley's
- 05 April - Corner of Shear Lane and Central Street

WEDDINGS AND BAPTISMS

Wedding

The leadership and members of Zion congratulate **Sis Heather Merritt** and **Mr. Desmond Webster** who got married on 31 December 2016.

- "What God has joined together, let no one separate" (Mark 10:9, NIV)
- "Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another ..." – (Ephesians 4:32, NIV)

Baptisms

On **18 December**

2016, two babies were baptized during morning service at Zion: Bro **Sundjata Nicholas Nathaniel George Herbert** – son of Sis Cindy DeSuza and Mr. Greg Herbert – and **Bro Kayori**



Bro Sundjata



Bro Kayori

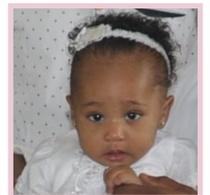
Jaheem Alphonso Challenger – son of Sis Keleesha and Bro Leroy Challenger.



Sis Tahmaju Welcome and **Bro Tahjaun Walters** were baptized on 7 January 2017 at Frigate Bay. Bro Tahjaun and Sis Tahmaju were two of the recent confirmants who were confirmed on Sunday 08 January and will be received into the congregation on Sunday 05 February 2016. The

brother and sister Duo are active members of the Sunday School and Zion Youth Fellowship.

22 January 2017, **Sis Jumée Sapphire Woods** – daughter of Sis Larida Payen & Bro Mekito Woods – was baptized at Zion.



The leadership and members of the Zion Moravian Church pray that the parents will be guided by the following Scripture: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it". (Proverbs 22:6, KJV).

As these babies/children grow, may they be reassured that: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." (Jeremiah 1:4, NIV).



2016 HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR FEST

*Let us not become weary in doing good.
~Galatians 6:9 (NIV)*



We express heartfelt congratulations to the Management and Members of the **Basseterre High School Chorale Ensemble** on their recent victory at the **2016 Lift Youth Voices: High School Choir Fest**. The Ensemble was led by a team of three managers which included Bro Christian Nathaniel, Ms Josianne Bertie (from the Bethesda Moravian Church in Cayon) and Ms Shermin Lazar.

The event, which was held at the Sir Cecil Jacobs Auditorium, attracted High Schools from throughout St Kitts. It was an exciting evening of inspiring performances by our country's talented youth. The Leadership and Members of Zion give God

thanks for our own **Bro Christian Nathaniel's** input towards the success of his group. Bro Christian is a Creative Arts Teacher at the BHS and a keyboardist/pianist at Zion. Best wishes for continued success in this art form.

Meanwhile, we also extend congratulations to our own **Bro Omandey Byron** and his group from the **Washington Archibald High School (WAHS)**. They were adjudged third place with their moving selection in the Choir Fest. Bro Omandey is a teacher at the WAHS and a member of Zion's Youth Praise Team.

We are indeed pleased that our members continue to positively contribute to youth development in our Federation. Let us continue to pray for them as they nurture our nation's future leaders. *Let God be praised!*



**In Loving
Memory**
of
Bro Alphonso Hobson



*A Life so Beautifully lived and a Heart so deeply
Loved... You will Forever be
Present in our Heart*

~ The Hobson Family ~

Moravian Daily Text for Sunday 05 February 2017

Watchword for the Week

*Paul wrote: for I decided to know nothing among you except
Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 1 Corinthians 2:2*

Isaiah 58:1 - 9a, (9b - 12); Psalm 112: 1 - 9, (10);
1Corinthian 2: 1 - 12, (13 - 16); Matthew 5:13 - 20.

“The Lord looks down from heaven on mankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after him.” **Psalm 14:2**

“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” **2 Peter 3: 18**

God, you nurture us and call us to grow. As the seed opens to grow a plant, open our hearts so we may grow towards you. May our humility help us to be wise. To new life we say Amen.





YOUTH CONNECTION ~ CONFIRMATION



Be joyful always; pray without ceasing; give thanks in all circumstances; for this is what God in Christ wills for you.”

The confirmands will have their first communion on Sunday 05 February, and they will be incorporated into various ministries in the church according to their talents and interests.

~ Sis Blondel Franks

“Confirmation allows baptised persons to confirm the promises made on their behalf at baptism. These persons agree to, and renew the promise to lead faithful lives made for them at baptism by their parents. Confirmation is also a sign of full membership to the Christian community”.

The “Feed My Lambs Ministry” (Confirmation class) with thirty-eight (38) persons was divided into three groups. Group one, with fourteen youths, participated in a number of additional activities with Rev. Joseph, to better prepare them for their confirmation. They visited *The Amazing Grace Experience*, situated at Sandy Point, where they were taken through the emotional and memorable story of the song “Amazing Grace” written by John Newton. They experienced the dramatic story which changed the life of Newton, who was a foul mouthed slave trader.

During a retreat from 04 to 07 January 2017, they participated in a number of discussions and wrote about their faith journey, in their journals. They shared some of their thoughts and feelings with each other, with the hope that these experiences would help them in their walk with God.

On 08 January 2017, fifteen persons, (fourteen youths and one adult) made public confession of their faith. The service was attended by parents, guardians, godparents, and the church community. The service became very emotional as the confirmands gave their testimonies.

Officiating at this service was the Rev. Hilton Joseph. He admonished them to **“Go out into the world in peace; be brave; keep hold of what is good; never pay back wrong for wrong; encourage the faint-hearted; give due honour to everyone.**





INSTRUMENT OF PEACE

God's Love for His Children

“For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16).”

things change. Thanks, be to God for His steadfast love and faithfulness towards us undeserving children. We cannot stop Him from loving us. If you want to know how much God loves us just read Psalm 23.

*If that isn't love the ocean is dry
There's no stars in the sky
And the sparrow can't fly.
If that isn't love, then Heaven's a myth
There's no feeling like this
If that isn't love”*

~ Contributed by Sis Carmen Rawlins



The above is a very well known passage of scripture. How many of us would sacrifice our children for others? God's love is about the unselfish giving of Himself for us; no matter how unlovable we are, He loves us still. He hates the sin, but He loves us.

Out of love, God **created a wonderful world for us**, an awesome world which we are destroying. Just be still for a

moment and look around at the work of His hands. True, there are people who live in devastation and poverty, but overwhelming beauty exists in nature.

God chose us (Ephesians 1:4-5) “According as He has chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.” It is wonderful to be chosen. When children play games and they are waiting to be picked for a team, they feel disappointed when not chosen. There are many children around the world waiting to be chosen for adoption. They feel unwanted and unloved when left behind. It is therefore a marvelous thing that we are chosen by God no matter who we are.

Because of His great love, **Christ suffered on the cross and died for us**. No charge, just the gift of forgiveness of sins and eternal life - that's love.

God loves us, **supplies our needs, protects, guides and answers our prayers** according to his will. He has our names written in the palm of His hand. People tattoo all sorts of names on their bodies which they often remove. I have to tell you, our name in God's hand is eternal. He said that **He will never leave us nor forsake us** (Hebrews 13:5). If God only loved us sometimes it would be a fickle kind of love that goes and comes, but He never changes, we can depend on that. In this world people come into our lives who say they love us and will love us forever, then

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



Sis Eileen Mc Lachlan, Sis Beatrice Sargeant, Bro Raphael Archibald and Family, Sis Sonia Daly-Finley and Family, Sis Olette Thomas and Family, Sis Michelle Lake and Family on the passing of: -

*Mrs Sadie Caines of Virginia USA
(Sister, Sister-in-law, Cousin)*

Sis Louvina Maynard and Family on the passing of: -

*Mr. Rolston Phipps
(Brother)*

&

*Mr. Kirtley Maynard
(Cousin)*

The Lord is your rock, your fortress and your stronghold.” Brother and Sisters may the Lord grant you all Peace in these trying times.





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*The Voice of Zion:
Empowered to do Ministry*



PEC REPORTS CONT'D

- Participated in weddings and an ordination service
- Led morning devotions

Indeed, this was a learning experience for me – in a different province, with different ways of doing ministry; in another culture among God’s people. I trust that our sisters and brothers in the Western Province in Tanzania learned from me.

Thanks to the Chairman, Bro Ezekiel Yona, the provincial board and the entire Province for making it possible for me to work in the Province. Thanks for the care and the love I received. Thanks to the entire Staff at the Hostel for their kind

assistance and taking care of my every need.

Thanks to the Chairman Bro. Cortroy Jarvis and the Eastern West Indies Province for granting me furlough, and facilitating the initial contact with the Western Province.

Thanks to Sis Judy Ganz and the Board of World Mission.

Thanks to the Mount Tabor and Penuel Congregations, and the Barbados Conference as a whole for their prayerful support during my furlough.

Most of all, thanks to Almighty God for working everything out for good.

Sunday 05th February 2017 (Fifth Sunday after Epiphany)

Know Your Elder Sunday

Pastor and Celebrant: Rev'd Hilton J. Joseph

Worship Leader: Sis Delyth Christmas

ORDER OF SERVICE

Watchword for the Week

Paul wrote: for I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 1 Corinthians 2:2

Pre-Service Songs Sis Hazle Williams
 Call to Worship Psalm 112:1-9
 Hymn #482 *When Morning Gilds the Sky*
 Hymn #474 *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
 Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving
 Hymn *O God Come Sunday Morning*
 Litany

Ministry of the Word

O.T. Lesson Isaiah 58:1-9 Sis Emileta Warner-Paul
 Ministry in Song Quartet
 N.T. Lesson James 5: 13–18 Sis Chioma Henry
Sermon **Rev'd Hilton J. Joseph**
 Altar Encounter

Worship in Giving

Tithes & Offering, Bus Ministry, Youth Bottle, Freewill Offering, Voice of Zion, Windows Project

Prayer of Dedication
 Infant Baptism
 Welcome, Celebration and Notices
 Pastoral Prayer

Preparation for the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn #215 *We Have Not Known Thee as We Ought*

Reception: Newly Confirmed Persons
 Persons being admitted to the Fellowship of the Zion Congregation

Hymn #547 *Here in The Name of Christ Our Lord*

The Sacrament of Communion

Hymn #203 *I Will Sing the Wondrous Story*

The Invitation
 Prayer of Humble Access

1st Eucharistic Prayer
 Words of Institution of Bread
 Hymns: *Christ Be with Us (Tune: What A Friend)*
 *We Come to This Table (Tune: We Gather Together)*

2nd Eucharistic Prayer
 Word of Institution of Wine
 Hymn #217 *Now I Have Found the Ground Wherein*
 Hymn #184 *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*
 Hymn #195 *Pass Me Not, O Gentle Saviour*
 Instruction
 Covenant Hymn #197 *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine*
 The Blessing