



THE ZION MORAVIAN CHURCH
 (Established 1777) 238 Years of Christian Witness

THE VOICE OF ZION

A Monthly Communication of the Zion Moravian Church

Rev Hilton J Joseph
 Pastor

Provincial Theme
Fulfilling the Mandate

The Thematic Focus
Advance the Kingdom!
*(Developing God's Church
 – Teaching, Reprimanding,
 Empowering)*

Foundation Text:
Acts 1:8
Matthew 28:16-20
Romans 15:20
2 Timothy 4:2

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

Motto
 In Essentials - *Unity*
 In Non Essentials - *Liberty*
 In All Things - *Charity*

From The Pastor's Desk



Rev Hilton J Joseph

We rejoice and celebrate the goodness of our God.

Three verses of Scripture are currently resonating in my spirit:

"So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most."
Heb 4:16 (NLT)

"For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland."
Isaiah 43:19 (NLT)

"..... be thankful."
Col 3:15

Dear Brothers and Sisters

As I sit to pen this pastoral letter to you, the members of Zion and our general reading public, the words of Frances Havergal penned in 1873 (#579 of the Moravian Hymn Book) rise in my spirit as the words of reflection facing 2015 and beyond.

Encapsulated in the nucleus of these Scriptures are:

- * a spirit of gratefulness;
- * a spirit of expectation; and
- * a spirit of encouragement.

These, my family, are nestled comfortably on the wings of God's faithfulness as we launch into 2015.

I am aware of how daunted, discouraged, derailed and distressed many were due to sickness, death of a loved one or close friend, unfair treatment in the marketplace, failures in school, the job, and the family, the demands of the economy, the mental abuse from the social ills of our society and the world at large, the feeling that nobody cares.

I hear about them, I sympathize and I also empathize. But in the midst of it all, I still hear God declaring, "I am the Alpha and Omega; everything starts and ends with me."

So we are called to 'dig deeper' in the midst of a society void of God, a society that sees God as a God

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Verse 1

Standing at the portal
 Of the coming year
 Words of comfort meet us,
 Hushing every fear,
 Spoken through the silence
 By our Father's voice,
 Tender, strong and faithful,
 Making us rejoice.

Verse 4

He will never fail us,
 He will not forsake;
 His eternal covenant
 He will never break.
 Resting on his promise,
 What have we to fear?
 God is all-sufficient
 For the coming year.

Chorus

*Onward, then, and fear not,
 Children of the day,
 For his word shall never,
 Never pass away.*



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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

Ministry In Music

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

Women's Fellowship

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

From The Pastor's Desk (Cont'd)

of convenience. We are encouraged to dig deeper into the grace and mercy of our loving God. Our God is faithful! As we launch into 2015, I wish through this forum to express my appreciation to you, the members and well-wishers of Zion. To the members of Zion, your undaunting sacrifices are noted and recorded in the annals of Heaven. In the area of finances, you are to be commended and we say all glory be to God.

You would have noticed that there were no church fundraisers for the last two years and I will share once again the rationale for not having them. During the 2012 Watchnight Service, while praying over the offering collected, I sensed the Spirit of God challenging me to call finances from the four corners of the earth by faith, which I did. During my reflections for the first week of 2013, God challenged me to trust Him: His words were "Watch me bring money into the Church. Hold off on the fundraisers and trust Me". It was a hard pill to swallow and even harder to articulate to the Joint Board but it was done.

Two years later, we have seen God move financially: outside of the regular tithes and offering, we have collected approximately \$50,000. This is testimony of a God who is faithful to His Word.

As we begin the first page of 2015, the word from our God is *prove me this day, see if I would not open the windows and doors of heaven and pour you out a blessing.*

Due to this act of obedience, we have more energy to do ministry and so I commend you, the family called Zion, for availing yourself for ministry.

But as I look around, we need more 'hands on deck'. It is said that in any church, only 20% of the members do the work. Let us at Zion set a new record: let us try for 50%!

As we begin reading the first chapter of 2015, we do so under the Provincial theme **Advance the Kingdom**. Our focus for 2015 will be **Zion, Year of Practical Ministry**.

Our aim is to do more practical work to advance the kingdom of God on the earth. Since charity begins at home, for the first five months, our focus will be on practical ministry within the walls of Zion – **Outreach to those in our reach**.

- * We hope to do more coaching and mentoring for leadership.
- * We wish to touch the lives of members in an intentional way.
- * We wish to address why so many still leave the communion service.

And we intend to share even more information with you, hence the new Stewardship Corner feature in the Voice of Zion (VOZ). It is my intention to continue this Pastoral letter in the next VOZ issue. However, as I close, let me share the following:

- * I realize that our Sunday morning service has a wide audience outside of St Kitts so the plan is to increase our scheduled broadcasts to twice a month. The cost per broadcast is \$100, which translates to an annual cost of \$2,400. If you desire to sponsor any of the broadcasts, please feel free to call me at 1-869-663-5255 or call the Church Office at 1-869-465-2402.

- * I will seize the opportunity to increase teaching during our Sunday morning gathering.

- * We say thanks to the following persons for serving on the Board of Stewards: Bro Chesil Hamilton, Sis Kézia Rawlins and Sis Blondell Franks. They have made an indelible contribution and we salute them and give God thanks for them. We look forward to their continued support and ministry.

Extract from Provincial Newsletter: Advance the Kingdom

I heard of some men years ago who were on a leaky old ship, in the middle of a rough and stormy sea. And they were actually fearful for their lives. They didn't know whether they were going to sink or not. So one of them went in to see the captain and said, "Captain, are we safe?" He said, "Well, I'll put it to you this way." He said, "The boilers are very weak and may explode at any moment." He said, "Also, the ship is very old, and she's taking on water." So he said, "To be very honest with you, we may have an explosion, or we may sink." He said, "We may go up, or we may go down, but at any rate, we are going on." And that's the way we are as we face this New Year, dear friend. Jesus may come, we may go up. We may die, and go down and then up, but at any rate we are going on. We are going on. We are facing a brand new year, and we don't know what it's going to bring.

Rev Dr Cortroy Jarvis

For this year of 2015, let us cast all of our cares upon the Lord for He careth for each of us. Let us also be willing to labour in His vineyard. Have a blessed 2015!

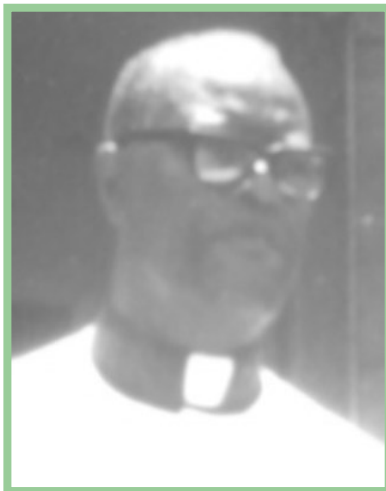
Yours in Christ
Hilton J Joseph
Pastor



Clouds of Witness

This monthly feature is to re-tell the stories of ordained Pastors who served in the Eastern West Indies Province in recent past. It is intended to inform us of the life and witness of these ministers and their spouses so that we can better appreciate the sacrifices they have made. Moreover, it is hoped that both the ordained and un-ordained will be inspired to continue our ministry diligently knowing that our labour will never be in vain in the Lord.

The following biography of the late **Reverend (Rev) Alva Edison Cornelius John** was submitted by his daughter Sister (Sis) Joycelyn John.



Rev Alva Edison Cornelius John
24 December 1911 to
5 May 1983

The Rev Alva Edison Cornelius John was born in Tobago on 24 December 1911 to the late Rev. William and Mrs. Edith John. He was the grandson of the late Rev Archie John. Like him, both his father and grandfather served as ministers of the Moravian Church.

The young Alva John resided in Barbados for a part of his life, when his dad served as pastor of the Mount Tabor and Sharon congregations of the Moravian Church. He returned to Tobago with

his father when he was called to serve the Montgomery Congregation. On his return, young Alva commenced his teaching career at the Spring Gardens Moravian School, a location where he also assisted at the Church where he served as lay preacher for a little over three decades. Alva John had a great love for the Lord Jesus, his family, the Caribbean people and gospel music. Alva's love for music led him to serve as Director of the church choir at Spring Gardens Moravian Church for many years.

In 1970 Alva Edison John retired from his position as Principal of the Montgomery Government School and he entered the United Theological College in Jamaica. Upon completion of his course of study in 1973, he received and accepted a call to serve the Antigua Conference as Pastor of the Lebanon, Newfield and Potters congregations. He later returned and served the Tobago Conference from 1977 until he was called home to be with our Lord and Saviour in 1983, following a short illness. During his tenure in the Tobago Conference, he pastored at the Moriah,

Spring Gardens and the Evangel fellowship at Mt Thomas. Today, we give God thanks for the Evangel fellowship which he started; since it has grown to be recognized as the Evangel Congregation.

The Rev. Alva E. C. John is survived by his widow Margaret John née Cowie, who is the oldest surviving widow of our Moravian Ministers. He is also survived by his children Joycelyn, Anthony, Annette and Marilyn (adopted) and his grandchildren, including David, Christian, Kyle, Shanique, and Shae.

May he rest in peace.

Rev Dr Winelle Kirton-Roberts

~~~~~  
"At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made or how many great things we have done. We will be judged by "I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless, and you took me in."  
— Mother Teresa

### Moravian Daily Text 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas

**Watchword for the Week** - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace. Ephesians 1:7

#### Sunday 4 January 2015

Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9), 10-18

I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings, says the Lord. **Jeremiah 21:14**

Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. **Matthew 6:12 (NKJV)**

*Heavenly Father, you who are unseen are able to see all. Forgive us for forgetting that you know what we need before we can even ask. Keep our hearts open to sharing your forgiveness with the world. Thank you, Lord. Amen.*

**May God continue to bless you throughout 2015.**





## PEC Reports

*The Pastoral letter emanating from the Unity Bishops' Conference which was held in Mwanza, Tanzania from 3 to 11 July 2014.*

**UNITY BISHOPS' CONFERENCE  
3-11 JULY, 2014  
MWANZA, TANZANIA**

**A Pastoral Letter to the  
Congregations of the Moravian Unity**

**Dear Sisters and Brothers**

"Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised" (Psalm 48:1). Seventeen representatives of the 49 bishops serving the worldwide Moravian Church greet you from this 4th septennial Unity Conference of Bishops. We rejoice in your expressions of faith, love and hope, clearly evident in all regions of the Unity. We feel very blessed here with a daily celebration of vibrant and colourful worship. The generous hospitality of each Moravian congregation we visited in Mwanza is matched only by the enthusiasm and skill of the young people singing and dancing for God's glory.

We are keenly aware of vast differences in the socio-political environments affecting our congregations and ministries. Many provinces report reviews of Moravian identity as well as desires to reclaim the formative mission focus of our church. Challenges include discerning who determines identity and for what era and context. While we celebrate the great diversity in practice throughout the Unity, we sincerely believe those who choose not to adhere to certain basic elements of what it means to be Moravian—as described in the Church Order of the Unitas Fratrum—may not continue to self-identify as Moravians. We are truly blessed to be part of the Unity and are mindful of the sense of sacrifice that comes with this responsibility.

We acknowledge humbly that all of us are at times stretched because of the diversity throughout the Unity, yet choose to remain committed to shared identity and ministry within the broad umbrella of the Unity. In light of recent developments in some regions of the Unity, we reaffirm our statement in the pastoral letter of 2007, consistent with the Moravian Covenant for Christian Living:

*"We agreed that marriage is between one man and one woman, and we agreed that in our pastoral care we must offer the love of Christ to all God's people."*

Evangelism remains a primary passion. We celebrate the growth taking place in various regions of the Unity embracing 1.3 million members. Noted methods of growth include biological, immigration, conversion and petitions from small or large groups

of Christians in areas like Burundi and Uganda. We commend those involved in exchange programmes at various levels and encourage their continuation. We believe the short-term or long-term exchange of ministers and other church workers will help strengthen the Unity. Along these lines, we place great value in youth convocations and exchanges involving multiple provinces.

Meeting for this week in Mwanza, we are aware of our privileged position in being able to listen and learn from each other. We are strengthening the bond between us. This is invaluable in our roles in conflict resolution and in our prayers for the church. We are grateful for the partnership we are invited to share with administrators in the various provinces where we live and serve, offering our full support of the doctrine of confederal authority. Quoting a piece of German doggerel recalled by Bishop Kenneth Hamilton which may describe one of the fundamental functions of a bishop: *Der Bischof ist ein Mann/Der ordinieren kann* ("The bishop is one who is allowed to ordain"). Quoting another Moravian Bishop, Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf (1727):

Herrnhut's (*that is, the whole Brethren's Unity*)  
Time remains unbroken as the workings of Your hand  
Walk in our church as token  
And our love will be its bond,  
Till we're finished and expectant  
Of as good salt of the earth here  
Being usefully spread out there (abroad in all the world).

Please be assured of our prayers for you and for the faithful mission and ministry of the church in the world. We encourage all regions in the Unity to consider in 2015, the observance of the 600th anniversary of the Martyrdom of John Hus.

*"I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!" John 16:33 (NRSV).*

With every blessing,

**Alinikisa Cheyo**, Tanzania, Southwest  
**Stanley G. Clarke**, Jamaica and Cayman Islands  
**C. Hopeton Clennon**, America  
**Samuel Gray**, America, South  
**Peter Green**, Alaska  
**Humbert Hessen**, European Continental  
**Augustine Joemath**, South Africa  
**John Kent**, Suriname  
**Peter Kransy**, Czech  
**Kingsley Lewis**, Eastern West Indies Province (EWIP)  
**Evelio Romero Marmol**, Honduras  
**Tshimanga Mukadi Moise**, Congo



## PEC Reports (Cont'd)

**Lusekelo B. Mwakafwila**, Tanzania, South  
**Conrad Nguvumali**, Tanzania, Rukwa  
**Isaac Nicodemo**, Tanzania, West  
**Volker Schulz**, European Continental  
**William Webster**, Nicaragua

### Hymn of the Month December 2014

With the arrival of December, the last month of the year, our liturgical focus shifted to the Advent and Christmas seasons. As a result, the hymn for the month of December was **I heard the bells on Christmas Day** which was written by the 19th century American poet, Henry Wordsworth Longfellow. It is said that this Christmas carol was originally a poem which Longfellow penned on Christmas Day in 1863. The name of the tune to which this carol is to be sung is **Waltham**.

It is said that Longfellow wrote this hymn during a difficult period of his life. His wife had not too long died accidentally in a fire. Additionally, he had received news about the terrible wounding of his eldest son, who had enlisted in the Union Army during the American Civil War (without his father's blessing). The central message of this hymn is also the centre piece of the angels' message at the birth of Jesus Christ. In Luke 2: 14 the angels proclaimed "**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.**" Therefore, the bells which we hear especially during the Christmas season, are to be seen as sounding forth peace and not war. However, even as we listen to and embrace the message of peace through the Christmas bells, we do so struggling to reconcile the existence of peace and the reality of deadly conflicts. If we're not careful, we can find ourselves believing that as we assess all that is taking place that "there is no peace on earth." What was true of Longfellow's 19th century world is true of ours today in the 21st century – war abounds. Yet, in singing this hymn, the Good News which is at the heart of this Christmas season should be heard again; finally, there is "peace on earth and good will to all." Though there remain wars and conflicts, within and without, the bells of Christmas proclaims a message of eternal peace. Below are the words for this hymn:

*I heard the bells on Christmas day  
 Their old familiar carols play,  
 And wild and sweet the words repeat  
 Of peace on earth, good will to men.*

*I thought how, as the day had come,  
 The belfries of all Christendom  
 Had rolled along th'un - broken song  
 Of peace on earth, good will to men.*

*And in despair I bowed my head:  
 "There is no peace on earth," I said,  
 "For hate is strong, and mocks the song  
 Of peace on earth, good will to men."*

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:  
 "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;  
 The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,  
 With peace on earth, good will to men."*

*Then ringing, singing on its way,  
 The world revolved from night to day-  
 A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,  
 Of peace on earth, good will to men!*

**Mikie Roberts (Rev)**

Chairman, Provincial Hymnal Committee

### Central Choir Tours Antigua

On Sunday 28 December 2014, the Central Moravian Church Choir presented the first of its two concerts during their 8-day tour of Antigua. The celebration of Christmas music began at 6:00 p.m. at the Gracehill Moravian Church. This programme featured classical pieces by Beethoven and Mozart, and contemporary pieces by composers such as Alice Parker and André J. Thomas. One of the solo pieces came from the repertoire of the late Robert Mac Gimsey—his composition of "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" which was performed by mezzo-soprano Deborah Leyshon-Brandt.

Central Moravian Church Choir, under the direction of Rebecca Kleintop Owens for the past 12 years, has toured Austria, Germany, the Czech Republic, Jamaica, New York and North Carolina. Over the years, the Choir has produced four CDs.

Central is the oldest and largest congregation in the Northern Province of the Moravian Church in America, dating back to December 1741 when Count Zinzendorf gave the small mission community in Pennsylvania the name Bethlehem. Bishop Hopeton Clennon currently serves as Senior Pastor.

The second concert was presented at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church on Friday 02 January 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The second performance by Central Choir included compositions by Bach and Handel, along with several organ solo performances by Rebecca Owens as well as her own arrangement of a Moravian Music Medley. The concerts also included items by the Antigua Conference's Moravian Mass Choir and two steel bands.

Best wishes to the Central Moravian Choir!





## 70+ Service of Thanksgiving and Luncheon in Photos





## Facing 2015 with renewed Faith and Hope in God

Wow, it's the year 2015!

It seems like it was just a short while ago we were on the threshold of the 21st Century (the year 2000 approaching). Many scientific and technological predictions were announced. We went into overdrive mode trying to put many things in place, while at the same time fearing the unknown—what the turn of the century had in store for us.

In retrospect of the last fifteen (15) years and especially the year in review, we can say we would not have made it, but for the Grace of God. The question is asked, however, how many of us saw or experienced our plans coming to fruition. How did we handle the disappointments (if any)? The unfulfilled dreams and stalled projects. I am sure some of us are still trying to decide if we should abort some plans, to persevere or pursue new ones.

We may ask ourselves, how will we cope? We attempt to analyze our expectations of the world around us. What will the year bring and if things don't turn out the way we want them, what then?

Some of us may find ourselves in situations that burden us to the point where we feel like captives. The future looks bleak, we may even feel disabled not finding the right solutions. We struggled with financial problems, relationship issues, illnesses and even death. No doubt, these things will occur in the natural scheme of life, but the journey continues.

We are reminded in Jeremiah Chapter 29 verse 11, where God promises that in spite of turmoil, we have a bright future. His thoughts are for us to enjoy a life of peace, not of evil; to give us a future and a hope. That is everything to live for! But it requires a walk of faith.

Paul reminds us that faith is the substance of things hoped for—not what we can see, feel, touch or hear, but it depends on our spiritual senses being constantly in tune with the Holy Spirit. However, it requires faith in God, which must be exercised from start to finish, with total dependency on God to order our steps.

We have to first recognize our limited human capabilities. Our own wisdom, physical abilities and efforts will not stand the tests of time. It is by faith in God alone, we will be able to withstand anything the enemy (the Devil) throws at us (Ephesians 6:16).

The journey to true success begins with one step of faith, and not doubting that God will finish what he started. In other words we cannot adopt an attitude of what is called "Unbelieving Believers".

Just take a moment to look back at some of the obstacles you

may have faced in times past, and how you overcame them. I am sure that we can admit if it hadn't been for the Lord on our side, we would have been elsewhere, in a worst position. That is enough to increase our faith in God. That is enough to make us shout a hearty 'Thank you to God' for what He has done, is doing and will continue to do in our lives. We cannot afford to lose our focus and become distracted by negative issues, hence, forgetting that we serve an all powerful God.

He is the same God yesterday, today and forever. He is unchangeable; His ways are unwavering. The songwriter penned, "There is no shadow of turning with Him. Great is His faithfulness towards us". We may fall, become weak, make a mess of things, experience hurt and suffering. The storms of life may toss us about, but even in the moments when we think not, God is always at our side. **He promised in His Word that He will never leave us nor forsake us (Deuteronomy 31:8).**

We have just celebrated the Birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The One who came, took on all the things that would seem to want to wear us down. He died so that we can be free. Free from worries and the uncertainty of life. He is the Guarantor of us having that Blessed Hope. It is because of him, the future is bright. He has not promised us a trouble free journey, but **1 Peter 5:7, tells us to cast ALL our cares upon Him, for He cares for us.** Because of that we can face tomorrow with renewed Faith and Hope in God. This assurance provides a safety harness for us so that we can move forward in faith.

We do not know what 2015 has in store for us. However, we must all be reminded that no matter what path our lives may take, we have God's Word to provide the comfort that we may need. Let us do our utmost to ensure that we make the best of our days—becoming the men and women that God wants us to be. The past is gone. We cannot undo what has gone before us. However, the future is before us. Do not get sidetracked by the worldly things that may cloud our lives. Our confidence should rest in God's arms and not in ourselves. Be on guard at all times and well equipped to battle against the forces of evil.

In closing, I hereby share a few simple, but profound sayings:

- \* **God sends trials not to impair us, but to improve us.**
- \* **When we keep our eyes fixed on Christ, obstacles become opportunities.**
- \* **You can endure this life's trials because of the next life's joys.**
- \* **We can never praise God too much.**
- \* **God can turn any difficulty into an opportunity.**

**HAVE A BLESSED 2015!**

~Contributed by Sister Tryphena Reid-James





## For Your Calendar

## January 2015

### Shut-in Communion

Shut-in Communion will be held on **Tuesday 20 January 2015** commencing at **9:00 am**.

### Bible Study

Bible Study resumes on **Tuesday 10 February** at **7:00 pm**. All are invited.

### Zion Youth Ministry

**Youth Fellowship** resumes on **Friday 23 January 2015** at **7:15 pm**.

Girl's Brigade meets every **Monday** at **5:00 pm**.

**Junior Choir** meets on **Fridays** at **5:00 pm**.

The **Zion Youth Choir** meets every **Saturday** at **3:00 pm**. Members are asked to take note and to be punctual.

### Feed My Lamb Ministry

Parents and guardians are asked to note that owing to the time change in school hours for the students of the Basseterre High School (BHS), classes for Feed My Lamb Ministry will be divided into two sections. BHS students will meet on Sundays during the period in which Sunday School would normally be held, beginning **18 January 2015**; other students will continue to meet on Mondays at 4:00 pm, beginning **12 January 2015**.

### St. Kitts Outreach Centre

The Moravians will continue ministering at the St. Kitts Outreach Centre in January 2015; the exact dates will be announced shortly. Members are asked to take note and assist wherever possible.

### Men's Ministry

All men are reminded of Men's Ministry Sunday on **18 January 2015**. Invite

another brother to church and let's worship the Lord our God Almighty.

### 2014 Emancipation Concert DVD

Copies of the 2014 Emancipation Concert Collector's Item DVD are available at the church office at a cost of EC\$40. However, you are welcome to give a love offering of \$50. Persons purchasing three (3) or more copies will be entitled to a special price of \$30 each.

### Church Council

Church Council will be held on **Wednesday 21 January 2015** at **6:00 pm**.

The **Zion Senior Choir** wishes to express sincere thanks for the support at its Christmas programme which was held on 28 December 2014. Special thanks to Sis Clarita Richards for coordinating the event and Ms Pauline Herbert, the Guest Soloist.

### Lay Academy 2015

The Moravian Church St Kitts Conference presents Lay Academy 2015 for all existing Lay Preachers and new candidates. Classes start on **22 January 2015 at 5:30 pm** at the Bethesda Moravian Church. More details will soon be provided. New candidates are asked to contact their respective Pastor.

### Island Conference

There will be a meeting of the Island Conference on **28 January 2015** at **6:00 pm** at the Zion Moravian Church.

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

### Opportunity for Giving

Thank you for your donations towards the special offering – My Gift for the King. We collected a total of **EC\$16,271.84**.

### Voice of Zion Newsletter Contributions

Please note that your financial contributions towards this ministry are greatly appreciated. This monthly publication bears a cost and we continue to ask for your support in this regard. **Your contributions can be made at any time, but if you wish, you can donate during the month of your birth or wedding anniversary.** Please submit your monetary gifts at the Church's office. We look forward to your continued support.

### Windows Project

Thank you for your contributions thus far which have allowed the installation of five windows. We currently have **\$34,380.12** set aside and would like to resume this project with the installation of three windows in 2015.

### Plastic Folding Chairs for Zion Church Hall

Sixty (60) plastic folding chairs were purchased from the USA through the efforts of the Board of Stewards.

| Details                                                         | Cost (EC)         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 60 Chairs                                                       | \$3,498.28*       |
| Freight                                                         | \$1,404.87        |
| Customs Duty                                                    | \$143.83          |
| Port Fees                                                       | \$20.00           |
| Porter                                                          | \$50.00           |
| <b>Total Cost of Chairs</b>                                     | <b>\$5,116.98</b> |
| Donation from Moravian Senior Club                              | \$1,080.00        |
| Donation from Sis Christmas                                     | \$300.00          |
| Donation by church member                                       | \$250.00          |
| Freight donation from Hobson's Enterprises and Crowley Shipping | \$1,000.00        |
| Donation from Church Family (Anonymous)                         | \$2,486.98        |
| <b>Total amount donated</b>                                     | <b>\$5,116.98</b> |
| *US \$1,287.60                                                  |                   |





## 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 (USA). Brother Tonito Lee (UK).

Sisters Desdemona Henry, Ellenitta Nathaniel, Dahlia John, Dorette Rawlins, Jillian Musgrave-Archibald, Althea Byron and Pearl Lewis and Brothers Ernest Christopher and Earl Brotherson (St. Kitts).

## Sweet Hour of Prayer

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



**Sisters** Connie Smith, Nora Godwin, Winifred Phipps, Brenda Manners, Mavis Deosaw (Overseas) and Abdelita Glasford (Barbados).

**Brothers** Vernon Connor and James Phipps.

## 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 Y’Cole Boncamper  
Sis Evah Liburd-Barzey  
Bro Withley Williams  
Bro Zaavan Hobson  
Bro Dujon DeSuza  
Bro Glassil DeSilva  
Sis Vicky Liburd  
Sis Tonya Watts  
Sis Akila Moore  
Bro Christin Scarborough

### CANADA

Bro Alester Thomas  
Bro Hasani Lapsey

### ST THOMAS USVI

Sis Nadia Francis

### UNITED KINGDOM

Sis Giovanna Matthew-Mattenet

### THE NETHERLANDS

Sis Asha DeSuza

### TAIWAN

Bro Lindbergh Belle

### JAMAICA

Sis Avicia Sweeney  
Bro Kyle Bradshaw

### SINT EUSTATIUS

Bro Mervin Hook Jr



## Celebration Corner



### January Birthday Celebrants

2nd - Sis Clarita Richards, 3rd – Srs Wanda Pitt and Mary Morton, 4th - Sis Cassandra Blake, Bros Victor Payne and Kareem Vinton (Glasford), 5th - Sis Glennecia Pitt-Williams, 7th – Sis Jamilla Connor, 10th - Bro Pedro Douglas, 12th - Bros Moise Jean and Everett Freeman, 13th - Bro Richard Boncamper, 19th - Bro Dean Warner and Sis Aleah Nisbett, 24th – Alana Dunrod, 25th - Sis Valdene Henry, Bro Ian Godwin, 27th – Srs Diandra Gumbs and Viola Warner, 29th - Sis Kaila Powell, Bro Carl Skeene and Sis Sonia Hector, 30th - Bro Nigel Williams and Sis Valdene Casey, 31st - Bro James Archibald, Srs Amanda Bridgewater and Tamara Liburd



### January Wedding Anniversary Celebrants

3rd ..... Bro Kevin & Sis Kendra DeSilva  
4th ..... Bro Wilmoth & Euphemia Roberts  
6th ..... Bro Leroy & Sis Adlyn Warner  
30th ..... Bro Norman & Sis Yvonne Gill

**Best wishes and continued blessings!**





# Youth Connection

# 2014 Annual Sunday School Programme







## Instrument of Peace

At the beginning of a new year, we hear many predictions. A new year also presents many opportunities for spiritual and personal development. On the other hand, for many persons, a new year is not fully prepared for without a list of resolutions. A new year has a breath of freshness and emotionally warms our hearts as we seek to move with the waves of time. No matter what type of trials we might have experienced in the previous year, we pad ourselves with a renewed level of hope that the new year (in this case 2015) would bring the best options/situations life has to offer.

In spiritually and emotionally preparing for the challenges of 2015, I recently reflected on the following scriptures. It is my plan to use them as my inspiration throughout this year and I encourage you to do a similar exercise.

### **Proverbs 3:5 and 6**

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*

### **Psalm 55:1**

*Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication.*

### **Psalm 27:14**

*Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart; wait, I say, on the Lord.*

### **Proverbs 16:9**

*A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps.*

As we join in worship on this first Sunday of 2015, I pray that we would purge all of the negative thoughts of the past year. Additionally, with a revived purpose, let us open our hearts and be fed by the truth and beauty of our living God. In our quest to become more like Him, we must have endurance to **run the race which He has set before us**. It is my earnest prayer that God would strengthen all of us so that we can persistently pursue God's will for our lives. With **hearts fortified with forgiveness and minds filled with less prejudice**, I implore us to individually set out on this new path saying **"I AM READY FOR THE RACE."**

The following all-time favourite song **Trust and Obey** sets the tone for this month's Instrument of Peace. Remember, our Christian walk would be filled with disappointment and discouragement. **However, we are invited to burden Him with whatever causes us distress. When the pressure is on, let us place our trust in Him and press on. Nothing in our lives is too much for Him to fix. Let us do like the song writer and say, "God don't move the mountain, but give me strength to**

**climb it. Praises to the King! We lift Him on high!**

### **Trust and Obey**

*When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,  
What a glory He sheds on our way!  
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,  
And with all who will trust and obey.*

### **Refrain**

*Trust and obey, for there's no other way  
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.*

*Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies,  
But His smile quickly drives it away;  
Not a doubt or a fear, not a sigh or a tear,  
Can abide while we trust and obey.*

*Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,  
But our toil He doth richly repay;  
Not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,  
But is blessed if we trust and obey.*

*But we never can prove the delights of His love  
Until all on the altar we lay;  
For the favor He shows, for the joy He bestows,  
Are for them who will trust and obey.*

*Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet.  
Or we'll walk by His side in the way.  
What He says we will do, where He sends we will go;  
Never fear, only trust and obey.*

*~ Contributed by a VOZ Committee Member*



**The Leadership and Membership of the Zion Moravian Church** express condolences to Srs Joycelyn Connor and Jamilla Connor, Bro Vernon Connor, Rev Dr Errol Connor and Family on the passing of:

### **Bro Adonis Connor**

*(Son, Brother, Grandson, Nephew)*

Sisters and Brothers, be comforted by the following words from **Revelation 21:4**: *He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.*

May the soul of your loved one rest in eternal peace.





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**~The Voice of Zion~  
Empowered to do Ministry**

**HAPPY  
New Year**

**Nothing is promised...**

*You don't own the future. You don't own the past. Today is all you have. ~Les Brown*

*It is never a good idea to bank on what we may have tomorrow. It makes even less sense to dwell on what we had yesterday. The only thing that really matters is what we can do right now. One of the greatest stress inducers in our lives is tomorrow, for it is the unknown. We worry if "it" will happen, if "it" would happen, what if "it" does happen. Then we spend time planning for what may never come. We do that because we think we know the past. We remember it so well, particularly the pain, the dark days, the unpleasantness we've seen. We spend our present time and energy protecting the future from the past. We fail to realize one is over and the other has yet to come. What we know is now and we have complete control over it—now. Nothing can be promised, nor can we own what is no longer. If we do our best in this moment, we have no time to worry about what may come or has gone.*

*I am living in this moment.  
(Extracted from Acts of Faith)*

*We extend best wishes for a healthy and peaceful 2015! ~Voice of Zion Committee*

**Sunday 4h January 2015  
(2nd Sunday after Christmas)**

**Pastor & Celebrant: Rev Hilton J Joseph \* Worship Leader: Sis Delyth Christmas**

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Watchword for the Week**

*"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace."*

**Ephesians 1:7**

**Call to Worship**

Hymn 363.....Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken

Hymn 289.....Onward Christian Soldiers

Chorus.....We Are Going Up

Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving

Litany for the New Year.....Sis Gwenella Benjamin

Hymn 579.....Standing At The Portal

**Ministry of the Word**

Old Testament: Jeremiah 31:7-14.....Sis Blondell Franks

New Testament: John 1: 1, 10-18.....Bro Wycliffe Morton

Solo

**Sermon.....Rev Hilton J Joseph**

Altar Encounter

Prayer of Supplication

**Worship in Giving**

*Windows Project – \$18,000 per window*

*Voice of Zion – \$300 per month*

*Radio Ministry – \$100 per broadcast*

*Tithes, Sacrificial Giving, Youth Bottle*

Prayer of Dedication

Church Concerns and Celebrations

**Preparation for the Sacrament**

Hymn 200.....Just As I Am

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

The Invitation

Prayer

Hymn 219.....Take My Life And Let It Be

1st Eucharistic Prayer

Distribution of Bread

Hymn 218.....Jesus Master Whose I Am

Hymn 91.....In The Cross Of Christ I Glory

Hymn 214.....My God Accept My Heart This Day

2nd Eucharistic Prayer

Distribution of Wine

Hymn 444.....Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

Hymn 508.....Master Speak Thy Servant Hearth

Hymn 221.....Make Me A Captive Lord

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Song of Covenant.....You're My Brother You're My Sister

The Blessing