



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
 Pastor Elva Richards Huggins
 ~ Associate Pastor

From The Pastors' Desk

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*

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Rev Hilton J Joseph



Pastor Elva R Huggins

“New Yorkers shred away reminders of 2015 in Times Square” was the news caption that invaded my thought on the night of Tuesday 29 December 2015.

Dozens of people lined up in Times Square to shred away the pain of 2015... New Yorkers passed their memories of 2015 on the ‘Shred-It Mobile Shredder’.

New Yorkers brought suitcases and carts full of old financial documents, list of men who’d wrong them, wedding invitations, reminders of poor health, and symbols of old habits they’re ready to kick; all these they threw into the paper shredder.

At first I chuckled because I’m thinking ‘here we go again America’. But then I started thinking of the symbolism, and said to myself, “You can’t just

shred away your problems; you can’t just crush away a bad reminder. You need to take it to the next level.”

So for 2016, I wish to encourage us to take another step, take it to the next level: Admitting, Confronting is just the first step, the Doing follows.

These thoughts evoked further thoughts of sacred Scripture and a song by the group, Casting Crowns that my spiritual mother ministered to me during my vacation:

Isaiah 40:31 - *“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint.”*

Psalms 27:14 - *“Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait I say on the Lord”.*

In both texts, the word ‘wait’ carries similar meaning:

- To look eagerly for
- To hope
- To expect
- To lie in wait for
- To gather (together)

So as we take another step, take ‘it’ (whatever it is) to the next level. ‘It’ means we hope in God for the renewed strength. ‘It’ means we trust Him for the next move. We move when He says to move, we wait in confidence that He has our backs. I am covered by my faith for Christ has promised “I will never leave you or forsake you”.

In this fast pace and age of post-modern technology, it’s hard to “just do nothing” when life’s issues hit you, but my family the miracle could just be in the waiting.

So don’t just shred, or crush the bad memories; let your faith in God take another step. Take it to the next level, wait on God for “he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep”.

As stated earlier, waiting on God at times means just doing “nothing”. Sometimes we just need to be held (be held by our faith – God says, “I am with you”).



Publication Committee

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(Deputy Chair)

Hilton Joseph (Rev)
(Ex-Officio)

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(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

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

From The Pastor's Desk (cont'd)

In closing I draw words from the song "Just Be Held" sung by Mark Hall, Bernie Herms, Matthew West (members of Casting Crowns, a contemporary Christian and Christian rock band started in 1999 by Youth Pastor Mark Hall).

*Hold it all together
Everybody needs you strong
But life hits you out of nowhere
And barely leaves you holding on*

*And when you're tired of fighting
Chained by your control
There's freedom in surrender
Lay it down and let it go*

*So when you're on your knees
and answers seem so far away
You're not alone, stop holding on and just be held
Your world's not falling apart,
it's falling into place
I'm on the throne,
stop holding on and just be held*

*Just be held, just be held
If your eyes are on the storm
You'll wonder if I love you still
But if your eyes are on the cross*

*You'll know I always have and
I always will
And not a tear is wasted
In time, you'll understand
I'm painting beauty with the ashes*

*Your life is in My hands
Lift your hands, lift your eyes
In the storm is where you'll find Me
And where you are,
I'll hold your heart
I'll hold your heart
Come to Me, find your rest
In the arms of the God
who won't let go*

In describing the above song, the writer states: "I was out with my students surfing in Florida once and we were just learning how to get up and how to do this thing. I never mastered it, but when I got the closest to getting on the board a wave hit me and I went rolling. I rolled so many times that I realized I didn't know where up was. I couldn't figure out where the air was. The light was going everywhere and that was a terrifying feeling of no control (absolutely no control). I think when life's storm hits us, that's what we're looking for. We're looking for something we can

grab onto and steady ourselves...we may even look at our faith that way. I need to grab onto God and steady myself, but what I'm finding even in our recent storm of life with our little girl Hope, and all the things that she's been through medically, is that I just can't grab a hold of something. What I've got to understand is that God is taking a hold of me. Instead of being the 'fixer Daddy' that grabs a hold of whatever I can and makes this work, I've got to understand that I'm already in His hands. I'm already being held and I'm already in His control and in His protection, even in the chaos. This song, to me, reminds me that I am being held by Him. As crazy as it is when I look around me, I've got to rest in that truth."

As a Pastorate we surrender 2016 into the hands of the Sovereign God who knows the end and the beginning. I invite us to join in the seven-day prayer for our Conference and church which began on 01 January as we look to God for vision and direction for 2016.

As the pastorate of Zion, Estridge and Bethel launches out in 2016, I am still hearing God's reminder and vision to us: "It is not about you, it is about Me, the Sovereign God; trust Me I will make all things plain before your faces, I God, have you back".

On behalf of the Pastoral team, Lay Ministers, Joint Boards and all of their families, may the sentiments of this hymn by Frances Havergal garrison your heart and soul for 2016:

*He will never fail us;
He will not forsake us;
His eternal covenant
He will not break.
Resting on His promise,
what have we to fear?
God is all-Sufficient
for the coming year.
Hymn 579 verse 4*

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Hilton J Joseph (Rev'd)
Senior Pastor

Elva Richards (Pastor)
Associate Pastor



70+ Celebrant

Sister Isa Viola Fraités



Sis Isa Fraités

The Voice of Zion team

interviewed **Sister Isa Viola Fraités** who was born on 16 October 1926.

Mother Fraités as she is affectionately known by the Church Family hails from the village of Phillips' and is the founder of the Fraités Supermarket & Bakery situated in Molineux, which is now Isa Fraités Grocery – Fraités & Sons Enterprises.

Mother Fraités learnt the trade/art of baking from her grandmother. When she was younger she had to deliver bread around the village before she went to school.

Mother Fraités was married to Mr Tobias Alfred Fraités and the union produced thirteen children, nine of whom are alive: three (3) girls – Valarie, Sheila and Rachael, and six (6) boys – Trevor, Allister,

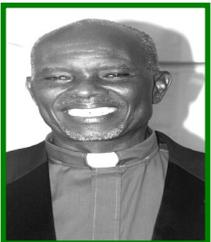
Jefferson, Limon, Roger and Ulric and a host of grand and great grand children who care dearly for her.

Mother Fraités, who is a member of the Estridge Moravian Church, has always been a member and is one of the oldest members of the congregation.



New Bishop Consecrated

The Rt Rev'd Dr Conrad Spencer



On 13 July 2015, during the 31st Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province (EWIP), the Reverend (Rev) Dr Conrad Spencer was elected, upon the 7th ballot, as a new Bishop of the Unity (the Worldwide Moravian Church). In the long and esteemed line of Bishops of the Moravian Church, if one went back to the Ancient Unitas Fratrum (1457/1467), Bro Spencer is number three hundred and fifty-eight (358); if one went back to the Renewed Unitas Fratrum of 1722, he is number two hundred and ninety-six (296). So then, as God ordained, on Sunday 22 November 2015 (some four months after being elected) Bishop 358/296, the Right Reverend Dr Conrad Spencer was consecrated.

The service of consecration was held at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua. On behalf of the EWIP, the Chairman, the Rev Dr Cortroy Jarvis presented the Bishop Elect.

There were four officiating Bishops of the Unity: Right Reverends (Rt Rev) Kingsley Lewis (EWIP - presiding), Hopeton Clennon (America, Northern Province), Sam Gray (America, Southern Province and Board of World Mission), and Oliver Hodgson (Nicaragua).

Each Conference was represented by the Superintendent and a delegation. The Governor General's Deputy, Sir Claire Roberts and several Members of Parliament in Antigua attended the service. The Rev Dr Paul Gardner, President of the Moravian Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, brought greetings on behalf of the Unity Board. Sis Andrea Charles Brown travelled all the way from Kenya for the service; her daughter, Daveda did an excellent solo rendition. Moravians came out in their numbers; the choirs and musicians ministered with joy, and we worshipped

the Lord in the beauty of holiness, robed in the garments of praise. The service began at 4:00 pm and was carried live on the Antigua and Barbuda Broadcasting Service (ABS) Radio and Television. It was streamed on the internet.

The sermon message, entitled: **Fulfilling Our Calling**, was delivered by Bishop Clennon. Among other things, he exhorted Bishop Spencer and the congregation to grow in faith and in the ministry as servants of God. Bishop Clennon challenged all, whatever their station and in whatever capacity they serve, to fulfill their calling in at least four ways. We must be:

1. First Rate in Work;
2. Faultless in Life;
3. Fearless in Witness; and
4. Faithful in Prayer.

Rt Rev Clennon drew from among the appointed texts, but especially that of Daniel 6:1-10.

The election and consecration of a bishop is not an everyday occurrence. In the last twenty-five (25) years, the election of a bishop was on the agenda of the Synods of the EWIP only four times. In 1990, in Tobago, the Synod voted without the required two thirds majority. Balloting was suspended. In 1993, in St. Kitts, the late Bishop Neville Brown was elected. In 1999, in Antigua, Bishop Kingsley Lewis was elected. In 2009, in St. Kitts, balloting occurred without the requisite two thirds being achieved. Voting was suspended. In 2012, attempts to have the election placed on the Synod's agenda failed. This brings us to the 2015 election of Bishop Conrad Spencer. Given the significance of the Office of Bishop, let us pray unceasingly for our Bishops as they serve Christ and the Church. Here are some things to remember about the Office of Bishop in the Moravian Church.



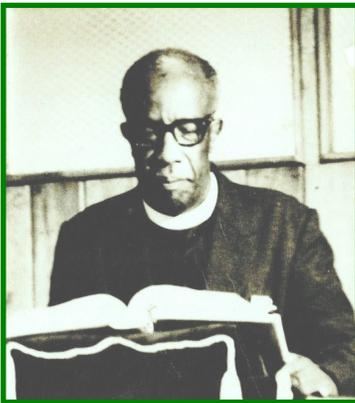
PEC Reports

Clouds of Witnesses

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.

Rev Dr Winelle Kirton-Roberts

The biography of Rev Frank Herbert Barker, was submitted by his son the Rev Frank Alvin Barker.



The Reverend (Rev) Frank Herbert Barker, born 29 December 1906, is the product of a proud and distinguished line of warriors. Warriors in the sense that his Afro-Caribbean ancestors were in a struggle for their existence... a struggle that they won as evidenced in the life and achievements of their illustrious son. His paternal grandfather was Renn Thomas Barker, baptized at St Paul's Anglican Church in Bridgetown

on 20 July 1842. His maternal grandfather was James William Bishop.

Frank Barker and his siblings grew up in an environment of strength. His mother was a very stern Christian lady who had a very clear picture of what she wanted for her children. She made sure that every one of her children completed the education available to them at the time. At an early age, Frank was selected for the teaching profession at the Buxton School, run by the Moravians. After this he taught at the Buxton School, the Bay Street Boys' School and the Clifton Hill School. In 1936, at 30 years old, he became the headmaster of Clifton Hill School. He later became the principal of Roebuck School and retired as Principal of the Grantley Adams Secondary School (West St Joseph).

On 03 July 1926, Frank Barker, a strong family man, married Athalia Aurora Padmore. The marriage which lasted for almost seventy (70) years produced thirteen (13) children, two of whom died in infancy and one who passed on recently. His children, grandchildren and great grandchildren have been exceptional citizens. Six (06) were educators at some point, one was the first female Member of Parliament and another, Alvin Barker, was an ordained minister in the Moravian Church. A grandson, Kirk Barker, is also an ordained minister in the Moravian Church.

As a hard-working and hands-on individual, Frank combined his work as an educator with that of a Market-gardener. He worked

hard in his garden and encouraged not only his family but his students to do the same. He was approached by Sir Grantley Adams to be a candidate for ministry in the Barbados Labour Party but chose instead to enter into ministry in the Moravian Church.

He attended Codrington College and was ordained a minister in the Moravian Church. He served the Green Bay/ Five Islands pastorate in Antigua from 1967 to 1975. He was a faithful and dedicated minister. He then returned and served in the Barbados Conference until his retirement.

On a personal note, I sat under the weekly instruction of Rev Frank Barker in confirmation classes. His commitment to these classes every Monday evening and his passion to know that "our heads take the learning" served as an inspiration to me today to devote my time, thoughts and prayers to the ministry of Confirmation.

He was called to the nearer presence of God on 30 April 1996.



Hymn of the Month ~ December 2016

As we celebrate Advent/Christmas season, our hymn of the month is #64 **All Poor Men and Humble**. This carol has been labelled as the 'poverty carol' and was translated from the original Welsh language by Katherine E. Roberts in 1927.

In the opening verse of this hymn, an invitation is extended to those we tend to overlook – the poor, the humble and the lame. Typically, they are not deemed to be worthy recipients of what is considered to be the good things of life. However, the irony is that it is exactly to persons of such demeanour that the very first invitation was made to come and witness the coming of the Son of God in human form. In the second verse, the rich treasures offered by the wise men stand in contrast to the poverty of those who have been invited to witness this divine miracle. But there is this confident assurance that Jesus accepts all that is offered to him once it is done with sincerity.

It is this message which is underscored in the last verse. Like the humble shepherds and the wise men who brought treasure to Jesus, we too must come giving the one gift that we can offer – our praise coupled with our willingness to be of service. And so as we in this season recall the birth of one who lay in a manger, whether we have nothing, little or much to bring, how much is not so significant. Instead what is key is that we present more than just tangible gifts. The greatest gift that we all can give to the Lord, poor and rich alike, is the most valuable and precious



The Moravian Synergy Ballerz



The Moravian Synergy BallerZ took part in the 2015 St Kitts Marine Works, Marina Telca Business Sponsored Netball League. The opening ceremony took place at the Pam Tyson Netball Stadium on Saturday 10 October 2015 at 5:00 pm. Brief remarks were given by the Sponsors, our very own Sis Telca Francis who declared the League officially opened. She was accompanied by her husband Bro Ben Francis and her son Bro Reginald Francis.

Nine (09) teams were registered, namely: St Kitts Marine Works Hilltop Stars, Black Knight Sports Club, Sportec (Sports Department), Bankers Mass Camp, Eastern Caribbean Central Bank Bill\$ Netball Team, SK Blazen Vixen, St Kitts Teachers Union Sports Club, SCASPA Dolphins and our very own Moravian Synergy BallerZ

The team was fortunate to secure sponsorship by the “**West Side Service Center**” and was managed by Sis Tryphena James. The team comprised the following persons: Bro MJ Byron (Assistant Manager/Player), Sis Shakira Pitt (Captain), Sis Darselle Warner, Bro Leslie Warner, Sis Asha Audain (Umpire), Cleopatra Lake, Bro Omandey Byron, Sis Emelita Warner-Paul (Coach/Umpire), Bro Walter James (Umpire), Sis Kadijah Warner, Sis K’Shanta Reid and Maurizna Simmonds (Outsider).

During the period 10 to 31 October 2015, all teams played each game night with the exception of one night in which the team was given a rest day from playing but was responsible for officiating as scorers and timers. Four games were played on each game night as follows:

Days: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays
Time: First two (2) matches at 6:00 pm
 Second two (2) matches at 7:00 pm

The League was officially closed on Saturday 31 October 2015 where the team placed fifth (5th) and received a trophy for “Most

Disciplined Team” and Maurizna Simmonds received “Most Valuable Player” (MVP) for the team.

Special thanks again to our sponsors “West Side Service Center”, Rev Hilton Joseph, all who contributed (monetary and otherwise) and those who graced us with their presence at the games. Your support gave us the motivation to play the game in the spirit that was intended.

The team had fun and we are hoping to enter next year’s Netball Business League.

All thanks and glory belongs to God.

Shakira Pitt
 Captain

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

Sister Heather Simmonds-Demming and Family on the passing of :

Mr Nigel Demming
 (Husband)

Pastor Elva Richards on the passing of:

Ms Florence Chinnery
 (St. Thomas)

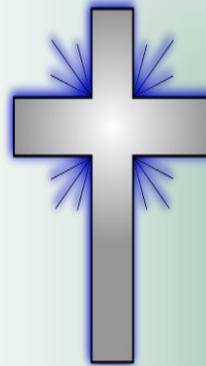
Brother Chessley Williams, Sisters Hazel Williams, and Briana Williams and Family on the passing of :

Ms Marjorie Williams
 (Grandmother, Grandmother-in-law, Great-grandmother)

Sister Jacqueline Claxton and Family on the passing of:

Brother Steve Claxton
 (Husband)

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





For Your Calendar

Shut-in Communion

Shut-in Communion for the Zion, Ebenezer & Bethel Pastorate (Basseterre to Parsons) will be held on Tuesday **05 January 2016** from **9:00 am**.

Church Ministries

- **Confirmation Class** resumes on Monday 25 January at 4:00 pm.
- **Bible Study** resumes on Tuesday 26 January at 7:00 pm.
- **Youth Fellowship** resumes on Friday 08 January at 7:15 pm.

St. Kitts Outreach Centre

The **Moravians** will be responsible for ministering at the **St. Kitts Outreach Centre** during the month of **January 2016**. 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 17 January 2016**. Bring a bother to Church with you.

Zion Vestments

The Zion Vestments Committee is still seeking funds to offset the cost of two sets of vestments. Members can donate individually, as a group or as a family. Please see any member of the Committee for more details.

Church Council 2016

Our annual **Church Council** will be held on Wednesday **20 January 2016 at 6:00 pm**. All group leaders please take note that Financial Statements should be submitted by **04 January 2016**.

A Call to Prayer

Traditionally the Moravian Church over the years spends the first week of January in prayer. This year we are challenged to rise to the call to prayer from **01 January to 07 January 2016**. As a

Conference we gather for prayer as guided by the following schedule:

- **January 03** - for all Congregations (during Sunday Morning Service).
- **January 04** - Estridge Moravian Church at 7:00 pm.
- **January 05** - Bethesda Moravian Church at 7:00 pm.
- **January 06** - New Dawn Moravian Church (Community Centre) at 7:00 pm.
- **January 07** - Zion Moravian Church from 7:00 pm.

A blessing awaits you as we gather to seek God's face in directing us as a Conference.

Fundraiser - "Island Flavours"

The **Executive Board of Conference** presents a fundraiser entitled "**Island Flavours**" A Taste of the Islands (featuring St Kitts, Jamaica, Guyana and Dominican Republic) on **Saturday 27 February 2016 at Independence Square from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm**. Stay tuned for more details.

Moravian Week

The Christian Education Department of Conference presents **Moravian Week 2016: Sunday 28 February - Sunday 06 March 2016**. Stay tuned for more details.

PEC Condolences

The PEC received news that Sis Megan Gibbs, the wife of the late Rev. Rudolph Gibbs, died in a Hospital in London, England. Sister Gibbs passed into the nearer presence of God on Monday 22 December 2014. Sister Gibbs and her family served with Rev Gibbs in the St. Kitts, Antigua and Barbados Conferences of the

Sweet Potato Casserole

This mouthwatering casserole will satisfy lovers of crunchy pecans and cornflakes as well as marshmallows. Yield: Makes 6 to 8 servings, Hands-on experience 20 minutes with a total: 2 Hours, and 40 minutes



Ingredients

- 4 ½ pounds sweet potatoes
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup butter, softened
- ¼ cup milk
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 ¼ cups cornflakes cereal, crushed
- ¼ cup chopped pecans
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted
- 1 ½ cups miniature marshmallows

Preparation

Preheat oven to 400° F. Bake sweet potatoes at 400° F for 1 hour or until tender. Let stand until cool to touch (about 20 minutes); peel and mash sweet potatoes. Reduce oven temperature to 350° F.

Beat mashed sweet potatoes, granulated sugar, and next 5 ingredients at medium speed with an electric mixer until smooth. Spoon potato mixture into a greased 11x7 inches baking dish.

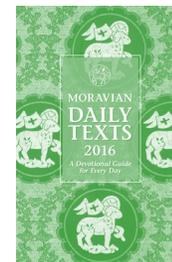
Combine cornflakes cereal and next 3 ingredients in a small bowl. Sprinkle over casserole in diagonal rows 2 inches apart.

Bake at 350° F for 30 minutes. Remove from oven; let stand 10 minutes. Sprinkle marshmallows in alternate rows between cornflake mixture; bake 10 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Moravian Church. Let us remember the family in our prayers as they mourn the passing of Sis Gibbs.

Moravian Daily Texts

Devotional Life is important in the life of the believer for spiritual growth, encouragement and direction for life. To aid this, our **Moravian Daily Texts** are available in all congregations:



- **Large Prints** cost **\$45.00**
- **Small Prints** cost **\$40.00**

Purchases can be made with the local congregations.



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 Rahmona Casey, Ellenitta Nathaniel, Julia Hodge, Urlie De Silva, Dorette Rawlins and Gloria Thompson and Brothers Ernest Christopher, Earl Brotherson and Basil Byron (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 McDonald, Eugenie Belgrove, Shirley Phipps and Mavis Deosaw (Overseas).

Brothers Vernon Connor, Arthur Thompson 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 Ycole Boncamper
Sis Evah Liburd-Barzey
Bro Withley Williams
Bro Zaavan Hobson
Bro Christin Scarborough
Bro Glassil DeSilva
Sis Vicky Liburd
Sis Akila Moore

CANADA

Bro Hassanni Lapsey
Bro Alester Thomas

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Sis Asha DeSuza

SINT EUSTATIUS

Bro Mervin Hook Jr

JAMAICA

Bro Kyle Bradshaw
Sis Avicia Sweeney



Celebration Corner

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January Birthday Celebrants

2nd – Sis Clarita Richards, 3rd – Sis Wanda Pitt, Sis Mary Morton, 4th - Sis Casandra Blake, Victor Payne, Kareem Glasford, 5th - Sis Lennecia Pitt-Rogers, 7th – Sis Jamilla Connor, 10th - Bro Pedro Douglas, 12th - Bro Moise Jean (Antigua) and Bro Everett Freeman, 13th - Bro Richard Boncamper, 19th - Bro Dean Warner and Sis Aleah Nisbett, 24th – Alana Dunrod, 25th - Sis Valdene Henry, Ian Godwin 27th – Sis Diandra Gumbs, 28th Sis Viola Warner, 29th - Sis Kalia Powell, Bro Carl Skeene and Sis Sonia Hector, 30th - Bro Nigel Williams and Sis Valdene Casey, 31st - Bro James Archibald and Sis Amanda Bridgewater and Sis Tamara Liburd



January Wedding Anniversary Celebrants

02nd January Bro Kevin & Sis Kendra DeSilva
04th January Bro Wilmoth & Euphemia Roberts
06th January Bro Leroy & Sis Adlyn Warner
30th January Bro Norman & Yvonne Gill



Honouring The Elderly Among Us



Sunday 13 December 2015 was set aside to honour the elderly among us. This year, the service and luncheon, which has been an annual event at Zion for the past few years, took the form of a combined service to accommodate the dynamics of our new Zion, Estridge and Bethel Pastorate. The service was held at the Ebenezer (Estridge) Moravian Church in Mansions. Also included in the service this year, was the final celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion for 2015. The service was highlighted by two rousing testimonies given by two of our senior members, Sis Ellenitta Nathaniel and Sis Viola Warner. They spoke with great exuberance and gratitude of God's goodness and mercies, and His keeping power towards them over the years.

The speaker for the service was the Reverend Ulric Smith of the Cana Moravian Church in Antigua. Reverend Smith, who also spoke earlier that weekend at the Zion Moravian Church Youth Fellowship Awards Banquet, spoke very timely words of hope and encouragement.

Following the message, the elderly members were escorted to the schoolroom, where they were served communion followed by a sumptuous lunch, while the other members of the congregation remained in the sanctuary to receive their communion.





Liturgical Colours and the Seasons of the Church Year



Liturgical colours are those specific colours used for vestments and hangings within the context of Christian liturgy. The colour of the liturgical vestments changes from time to time. This is because the Church uses different colours to indicate the season that is being celebrated.

The different colours are drawn from creation to remind those participating in a liturgy of the different blessings of God. The colours used are *white, purple, green, red, black* and *pink*.

Advent is the first season of the Liturgical Calendar. It is a season of spiritual preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ (Christmas) and looks forward to the future reign of Christ. **Purple** (or violet) symbolises repentance, penance and is associated with the sovereignty of Christ. Vestments of purple or violet are used during the seasons of Advent and Lent. The colour reminds us of the violet flower that bows its head and is a symbol of humility. Lent is the season of prayer, fasting and giving. It is a quiet season of reflection. The colour of Advent is more of a rose-purple, like the sky just before sunrise. This is the time of year when the Church waits in joyful hope to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Rose pink is an optional colour that may be used on the *Third Sunday of Advent* (representing joy) and also on the *Fourth Sunday of Lent*. The 3rd Sunday of Advent and the 4th Sunday of Lent are days which call us to rejoice. Using pink vestments on the 4th Sunday in Lent are used as they mark a softening of the penitential tone of the season.

The season of Christmas runs for 12 days which starts on 24

December (Christmas Eve), and culminating in the feast of the Epiphany. White vestments are used during Christmas since it is a festive and joyful Season but also represents *light, innocence, purity, joy, triumph and glory*. White Vestments are also used at Holy Thursday, Easter, Trinity Sunday, the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion and the Solemnities of All Saints and Marriages.

Epiphany follows Christmas. The season commences on 6 January and goes down to Ash Wednesday. Epiphany symbolises the spread of the Good News of Christ from its source in the Jewish community to all nations on earth. Green is the colour used during Epiphany as it symbolises life in nature and as such it represents growth, life and hope. Green is also used during liturgies in Ordinary Time. Most of the Church's year is Ordinary Time and it symbolises the graces that draw people into the life of God.

Pentecost is the great festival that marks the birth of the Christian church by the power of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost means "fiftieth day" and is celebrated fifty days after Easter Sunday. **Red** is the colour used during this season as red symbolises both blood and fire.

The colour **black** is used during Good Friday to represent sorrow and mourning. Black Vestments are also used at funerals.

Presently the Joint Board is in the process of acquiring new vestments for the Church as the old ones are tattered and only the white and black vestments are usable.

A four-person Vestment Committee was formed, comprised of Sis Linet Matthew, Sis Carol Saddler, Sis Emelita Warner-Paul and Sis Shernel James (Chair).

To date, the Committee has procured funds for four sets of vestment of which the first set (purple) was unveiled on the first Sunday of Advent (29 November 2015). The Committee is still seeking funds for an additional two sets of vestments and Members can donate individually, as a group or as a family. The Committee takes this opportunity to thank Sis Linet Matthew and Family, the James Family (USA and St. Kitts) and the Zion Women's Fellowship for donating the funds for the first four sets of vestments. Special thanks to Sis Emelita who has consented to make the vestments free of cost.

Zion, the vestments symbolise a spiritual dimension of not only the priesthood and the altar, but Jesus and the birth of the Church. The vestments remind us of the liturgical season which symbolises "colours... they have their own symbolism and speak to the eye: black tells of grief and mourning; purple is a sign of humility, red reminds us of the blood of Jesus; white denotes purity, pink signifies joy, and green exuberant life." How much more expressive and lively the liturgy becomes when we try to discover the meanings of these colours and seasons which they embody in the Church of Jesus Christ.



Youth Connection

Congratulations: Zion's Youth



Brother Noel Nicholls

member of the 2015 CARIFTA video production team, youth photographer at the Zion Moravian Church, photographer at the Inter High School Championships 2014, photographer for BHS Sports Day 2014-2015 and photographer and videographer for the Nevis Athletic Association.

He is also gifted in the area of music and plays the keyboard, trumpet and drums, alongside his colleagues in an up-and-coming musical band.

With a persevering attitude, Bro Noel strives to become a successful entrepreneur and has recently established a partnership business with Equinox which facilitates graphics, photography, videography and music production.

As a Congregation we pray for God's guidance upon Bro Noel's life and that God will keep him from being influenced by the temptations of the world. Give him Grace and Wisdom as he faces the challenges of life and continue to keep him humble in heart.

The Pastors, Leadership and members of Zion extend congratulations to Brother Noel Nicholls on being one of the 2015 Twenty-five Most Remarkable Teens in the Federation, a recipient in the category of Visual Arts.

Brother (Bro) Noel Nicholls is a 17-year-old student of the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (CFBC) and is the next great Movie Director in St. Kitts and Nevis. His artistic skills were first recognized at the tender age of eight (8) when he won the Horsford's and Penta Paints 'Paint on the Spot' Art competition for his category.

Bro Noel continued to develop his artistic skills when he took advantage of the Art and Design subject offered at Basseterre High School (BHS). He was later awarded the Best CSEC Results for Art and Design from his school and tied with another student for the overall best results.

Bro Noel is currently enrolled at the CFBC where he is pursuing an Associate's Degree in Art and Design.

His list of design achievements include, but are not limited to co-designing the Best Evening Wear for Miss CFBC Back to Roots 2011 Pageant, design of the 2015 Coca Cola Sham Rock Netball Uniform and various logos and flyers for local businesses.

Bro Noel has also worked in the St. Kitts Music Festival alongside Modern Elegance and continues to volunteer at the Department of Youth Empowerment Summer Camp.

Bro Noel is an avid photographer and videographer. He was a



Congratulations



Sister Ericah James

The Leadership and Members of Zion express heartfelt congratulations to **Sis Ericah James** who recently graduated from the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (CFBC) with a BSc in Nursing.

We wish Sis Ericah all the best as she commences the next phase of her life, whether it be to further her education or advance to the world of work.

As a congregation we pray for guidance for Sis Ericah that God will keep her from being influenced by the tempting things of the world, give her grace and wisdom as she faces the challenges of life, and keep her humble in heart.





Instrument of Peace

As we celebrate the first Sunday of 2016, we give thanks to God for His blessings and the challenges of the past year. We will never know the exact plans God has for us, but we can remain confident that He never forsakes us. *In Jeremiah 29:11, we are reminded of His plans with these words: I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.* Hinged on this, how should we go about preparing our *spiritual beings*? Let us focus on some of the pillars of our Christian faith mentioned below (with references) as we traverse the roads of life. As we improve our emotional and spiritual foundations to overcome whatever issues we may confront, we trust that these pillars would envelope our hearts and minds throughout this year.

LOVE

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His faithful love. (Psalm 103:11)

Chorus: Think about His love, think about His goodness
Think about His grace that brought us through
For as high as the heavens above, so great is the measure of our Father's love
Great is the measure of our Father's love

GRACE

Where sin multiplied, grace multiplied even more. (Romans 5:20)

Chorus: Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within
Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that is greater than all our sin

HOPE

Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord. (Psalm 31:24)

Chorus: Only believe, only believe
All things are possible, only believe
Only believe, only believe
All things are possible, only believe

TRUST

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and he shall bring it to pass. (Psalm 37:5)

Chorus: 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus
Just to take Him at His word
Just to rest upon His promise
Just to know, thus saith the Lord

We look forward to another spirit-filled year with our readership. During 2015, we shared a number of heart-warming topics in our contributions. We hope to continue this trend in 2016 and hope that you will be even more inspired. May His mercies surround you and your family: *Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell with You forever* (Psalm 23:6).

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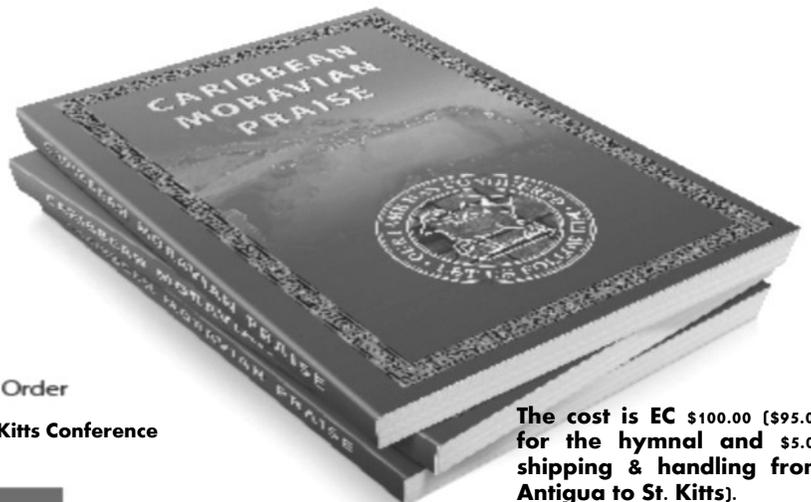
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The Voice of Zion...
Empowered to do Ministry



PEC Reports (Cont'd)

gift of our praise and service. Below are the words and music of this hymn:

All Poor Men and humble

1.
All poor men and humble,
All lame men who stumble,
Come haste ye, nor feel ye afraid;
For Jesus, our treasure,
With love past all measure,
In lowly poor manger was laid.

2.
Though wise men who found him
Laid rich gifts around him,
Yet oxen they gave him their hay:
And Jesus in beauty

Accepted their duty;
Contented in manger he lay.

3.
Then haste we to show him
The praises we owe him;
Our service he ne'er can despise:
Whose love still is able
To show us that stable
Where softly in manger he lies.

1927. Tr. Katherine E. Roberts

Rev Dr Mikie Roberts
Chairman, Provincial Hymnal Committee

Sunday 03rd January 2015 (Second Sunday after Christmas) Pastor: Rev Hilton J Joseph and Worship Leader: Bro Sidney Osborne ORDER OF SERVICE

Watchword for the Week

God has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that He set forth in Christ. **Ephesians 1:9**

Pre-worship Songs

Call to Worship..... Psalm 103
Hymn # 463 For All The Love
(Youth sing vs. 3, Sisters sing vs. 4 & Brothers sing vs. 5)

Litany for the New Year

Song How Great Is Our God
Song God Is So Good
Song I Give Myself Away
Welcome, Celebrations, Fellowship & Announcements
Hymn # 435 Now Thank We All Our God

Worship in Giving

Tithes & Offering, Bus Ministry, Youth Bottle,
Purple Envelope (My Gift for the King)
Free Will Offering, Voice of Zion, Windows Project

Prayer of Dedication Sis Gwenella Benjamin

Listening to God Through the Written & Spoken Word

Song Sing Them Over Again To Me
OT Lesson Jeremiah 31:7-14 Bro Wycliffe Morton

NT Lesson St. John 1:1-18 Sis Desarie Williams
Song I Am Healed by The Word of God
Sermon Rev Hilton J. Joseph
Altar Encounter

Preparation for the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn # 200..... Just as I Am Without One Plea

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation
Prayer of Humble Access
1st Eucharistic Prayer
Hymn # 521 Like The King of Salem
Words of Institution of Bread
Hymn # 172 Through The Love Of God Our Saviour
Hymn # 198 Heal Us Immanuel Hear Our Prayer

2nd Eucharistic Prayer
Words of Institution of Wine
Hymn #142 The Lord's My Shepherd I'll Not Want
Song Have You Been To Jesus For The Cleansing

Instructions
Covenant Hymn I The Lord of Sea and Sky
The Blessing

This month's issue of the Voice of Zion is sponsored by Sisters Sasha DeSuza and Gail Gumbs-James.