



"And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bare him with sorrow. And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, Oh that thou wouldst bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldst keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested." Chronicles 4 9-10."

The Information

MONTHLY PUBLICATION

March, 2008

Rise to New Life It's Easter

VISION STATEMENT

A Church - Transformed,
United, Victorious in Christ

MISSION STATEMENT

By the grace of God, we seek to be faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ; without distinction, we use all that we possess to call all peoples to the truth of the Gospel through worship, evangelism, discipleship and service

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Death is all around us and with it comes pain and sadness. However, out of death comes life. Christ death and resurrection are inextricably bound together. There can be no Easter without Good Friday. As the scripture declares, "And almost all things are by the Law purged with blood;" and without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin. (Heb 9: 22).

The fact that Easter speaks about new life and the sacrifices that have to be made is important, if persons are going to keep sane and on track with God. It is never easy to let go of the known, for this is what we know. The unknown may not be a comfortable place, but when we go at God's calling, we go in confidence and trust. I believe that a changed state can lead to new energy and this is what Easter calls for. It calls for us to rise from sadness to Joy; from darkness to light; from anger and bitterness to peace and tranquility; from telling lies to speaking the truth. In short, it calls for us to turn away from Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, strife, gossiping, drunkenness and the like, and allow the Spirit of God to breathe new life into us. Resurrection speaks to Emancipation.

St. Paul puts it best when he testifies in the book of Galatians: "I am crucified with Christ: Nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in

me; and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." (Gal 2:20)

Is the Resurrection story real for you or is it something you do out of mere tradition? Can you testify of your personal experience from death to life in Jesus Christ? The Rev. Rupert and Mrs. Clarke of the Moravian church in Jamaica, have a testimony of God's faithfulness, even in pain and sadness. Tamara Clarke their 22 year old daughter, a student studying Dentistry at the University of the West Indies in Trinidad, suffered an Aneurism on March 5, 2008 in Trinidad. There was massive bleeding. She was immediately rushed to the Intensive Care Unit at the Eric Williams Medical Complex. Many prayers went up to God on her behalf, however, at 10 a.m on Thursday March 6, 2008, Tamara was called home to the nearer presence of God. The good news is that Tamara testified of her new life in Jesus Christ. Her parents were devastated at her passing, yet comforted because of her walk with God. Let this Easter find you rising from death to a new experience in Jesus Christ, for there is life in death. Allow Robert Lowry to speak to you in his hymn, "Christ Arose:"

Low in the grave he lay, Jesus, My Saviour! Waiting the Coming day, Jesus my Lord.

Chorus *up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o'er his foes.
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
And he lives forever with his saints to reign., He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!*

2

vainly they watch his bed, Jesus my Saviour! Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord.

3

Death cannot keep his prey, Jesus my Saviour! He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord.



PEC NEWS

APPOINTMENTS

APPOINTMENTS

- ◆ The Rev. Nigel Daniel has been appointed Superintendent of the Antigua Conference of the Moravian Church, with effect from March 1, 2008.
- ◆ The Rev. Adelyn Binta Mgonela has been appointed Superintendent of the Trinidad Conference of the Moravian Church, with effect from March 1, 2008.
- ◆ The Rev. Rowan Simmons who is presently serving as Pastor of the Spring Gardens and Bethesda Moravian Churches in the Tobago Conference of the Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province, has accepted an Appointment to serve the New Dawn Moravian Church in Toronto, Northern Province of the Moravian Church in America with effect from July 1, 2008. This call comes with the full backing of both Provinces.

Your prayers are requested for these staff members and their families as they fulfill these responsibilities.

Condolences

Your prayers are requested for the following:

- ◆ Rev. Rupert and Mrs. Yvonne Clarke one of our Moravian Pastors in Jamaica. On the passing of their daughter Tamara Clarke, a student at the University of the West Indies in Trinidad studying Dentistry.
- ◆ Rev Anique Elmes-Matthew and Family on the passing of her Grandmother Sis. Sybil Edwards.

May the Grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.



Called to serve in
the Ministry of the Moravian Church

Theological Education Sunday in the Moravian Church is a day set aside to pray for and to reflect upon the full time Ministry of our Church. In addition, it is used as a time to challenge, encourage and call men and women to examine and respond to the Ministry of Jesus Christ. This year 2008, theological education Sunday will be observed on the 30th March. How does one qualify for the Ministry of our Church? Who is eligible to become a Minister in our Church?

A candidate for the Ministry of the Moravian Church must be a communicant member of the Church and should have a definite experience of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. The experience of Salvation more than anything else is the foundation upon which every candidate should stand. While God can use whomsoever he chooses, the candidate for Ministry must not only know about God, but must know God in a personal, intimate way.

He/She must apply by letter addressed to the PEC through the Superintendent of his/her Conference. His/her application must be accompanied by letters of recommendation from his/her Minister, Board of Elders and Island Conference, which show his/her standing in our Church, his/her character, his/her fitness for work of the Ministry and his/her educational attainments. Contents of letters of recommendation concerning applicants for ministerial training should be made available to the Island Conference. His/Her application shall be accompanied by a health certificate and psychological evaluation from a Doctor whom the PEC's representative in the Island recognizes or designates. The PEC shall inform the Bishop of all candidates and their subsequent progress.

What other qualification must one have? A candidate shall have passed the General Certificate of Education or the CXC General Exams in at least five subjects or some certificate equivalent to University Entrance standard, or shall be a graduate from an accredited high school in the United States Virgin Islands.

Upon the successful completion of his/her theological course, the candidate shall be accepted as a Probationer for two (2) years. The period may be shortened or the rule

amended at the discretion of the PEC. In addition, the individual is bonded to serve the Church for two (2) years for each year of education provided by the Church.

The guidelines apply to all those who would seek to enter the full time ministry of the Church whether for Pastoral Ministry or for specified Ministry such as Christian Education, Counseling, Music, Youth and Evangelism.

Remember to pray for Cherice Job-Lewis, Liselle Roberts, Nevin Lewis and our Warden Tutor, Rev. Frank Alvin Barker. A special offering should be taken to go towards the training of our students.

This issue shares a portion of the
Moravian Church Foundation
Annual Report 2006

General Information

The Moravian Church Foundation (MCF) is a non-profit corporation created under the authority of the Unity Synod of the Moravian Church (Unitas Fratrum) for the financial support of the work of the Moravian Church.

The object of the MCF shall be, according to the articles of Association, the support and furtherance of the specific work of the Moravian Church within and outside its existing Provinces, which work the individual provinces concerned are not yet able to initiate or sustain themselves.

The Church Order of the Unitas Fratrum emphasizes in #550 that the MCF is a legal body under its own charter and is responsible solely to Unity Synod, owing to which none of the individual provinces is entitled to interfere in its financial administration.

The legal objective of the MCF is implemented by making grants to Provinces for training for church work, financing of projects and giving donations to Unity undertakings.

The MCF finances its work out of earnings from its enterprises and short-term investments.

The order of priorities of grants from MCF can be summarized as follows:

1. Continuation of its present support to theological training.

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MORAVIAN 550 CRUISE

PHOTOS

US VIRGIN ISLANDS



Bishop Clenon, Rev. Anique Elmes-Matthew and Rev. Eulencine Christopher



Nisky Moravian Church—St. Thomas



New Herrnhut Moravian Church—St. Thomas



Rev. Winelle Kirton-Roberts—Pastor Memorial Moravian Church—St. Thomas



Rev. Errol L. Connor—Pastor, Nisky Moravian Church St. Thomas



Rev. Anique Elmes-Matthew—Pastor at New Herrnhut Moravian Church



Memorial Moravian Kids—St. Thomas



Cruisers in Sanctuary at Nisky Moravian Church—St. Thomas



Rev. Lillette I. George Pastor Bethany and Emmaus Moravian Churches



Rev. Eulencine Christopher— Christian Educator VI. Conference, Associate Pastor Friedensberg Moravian Church



Children at Nisky



Cruisers at New Herrnhut



Rev. George Bedford



Nisky Kids—Liturgical Dancing

This is our Final Issue of Photos from The 550 Moravian Cruise.

BLESSED TO BLESS

News/Birthdays/Anniversaries

Continued from Page 2

2. Support to the Moravian Church in Suriname for economic, educational, and social work.
3. The Unity Archives in Herrnhut, an annual grant of US\$1,500.
4. Unity undertakings consisting of the work in South Asia, the Moravian Rehabilitation Centre Star Mountain near Ramallah for the time being and the Unity Fund.
5. Help may be given in the form of grants or loans for projects which play a significant role in the welfare of the requesting Province; priority shall be given to projects which support Mission and Evangelism, and justice, peace and the integrity of creation; help will only be given to start up by synod projects, not cover their running costs.

Requests may be made:

- For loans for projects as described above; a loan must not exceed US\$20,000; the amount and terms of a loan shall be determined by the MCF.
- For immediate help in emergency cases; in such cases the Executive Committee of the Unity Board may act on behalf of the Unity Board if necessary.

The requests presented to the Unity Board must include a statement of the purpose of the project, a clear description of the project, an official recommendation from the respective Provincial Board and a financial budget indicating the Province's own contribution.

Where a request has been granted, a written progress report must be submitted annually to the Unity Board and the MCF until the work is completed. Further provisions imposed by the Unity Synod upon the MCF and its subsidiaries can be found in § 876 up to and including § 880 of the Church Order 2002.

Finance - General note

The object of the Foundation is the support and furtherance of the specific work of the Moravian Church (Unitas Fratrum) within or outside its existing Provinces, which work

the individual Provinces concerned, are not yet able to initiate or sustain themselves.

Funds for execution of the object are mainly dividends received from MCF Business Enterprises BV (MCFBE), a corporation wholly owned by the MCF. MCFBE is a Holding Company with subsidiaries located in the Caribbean and Europe. Dividends received by MCF from MCFBE amounted to € 1,150,000 in 2006. The securities of the MCF generated an income of € 45,883, in 2006.

Nicaragua Hurricane Appeal

The EWI Province is pleased to share with the Provincial Family that the amount of US\$10,000.00 was sent to the Nicaragua Province. The monies were collected specifically to assist our brothers and sisters in that Province who were devastated by Hurricane Felix September 04, 2007.

The PEC is grateful to our members throughout the Province who rose to the occasion and gave selflessly. Thank you.

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New Herrnhut Host Cruisers



Sis. Deanna Hollenback, Tina Giesler and Chi-chi Messick



The Stills Fellowship at New Herrnhut



To

Bro. Adrian Smith who celebrated his birthday on February 21st.



Birthday Greetings for the Month of March go out to:

Bro. Derick Forrester	4
Sis. Alicia Ross	7
Sis. Elva Kitson	7
Bro. Jeremy Francis	9
Sis. Eulencine Christopher	18
Bro. Gaveston David	19
Bishop Kingsley Lewis	20
Sis. Denise Smith-Lewis	20
Sis. Vera Waithe	29

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Anniversary Greetings for the month of March go out to:

Bro. Ralph & Sis. Prince	02
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