

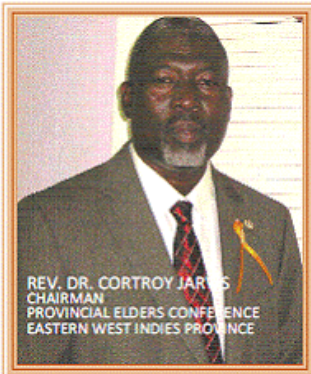
# The Information

Then the man said, "*Let me go, for it is daybreak.*" But Jacob replied, "*I will not let you go unless you bless me.*" Genesis 32 vs. 26 [NIV]

July, 2010



## THE LEGACY OF JOHN HUSS



**Death by burning** (also known as **burning alive** or **burning to death**) is death brought about by combustion. As a form of capital punishment, burning has a long history as a method in crimes such as treason, heresy and witchcraft. This method of execution fell into disfavour among governments in the late 18th century; it is now considered cruel and unusual punishment. The particular form of execution by burning in which the condemned is bound to a large stake is more commonly called **burning at the stake**. According to the Talmud, the "burning" mentioned in the Bible was done by melting lead and pouring it down the convicted person's throat, causing immediate death.

Jan Hus aka Jan Huss, **John Hus**, often referred to in English as **John Huss** or variations thereof, was a Czech priest, philosopher, reformer, and master at the University of Prague, Czechoslovakia.

He is famed for having been burned at the stake by civil authorities for the propagation of what the Roman Catholic Church considered to be his heretical views of ecclesiology, the Eucharist, and other points of theology, as the civil authorities of that time generally saw heresy as a criminal offense. Huss was a key predecessor to the Protestant movement of the 16th century, and his teachings had a strong influence on the states of Europe, most immediately in the approval for the existence of a reformist Bohemian religious denomination, and, more than a century later on, Martin Luther himself.

Between 1420 and 1431, the Hussite forces defeated five consecutive papal Crusades against followers of Huss. Their defense and rebellion against Roman Catholics became known as the Hussite Wars.

In 1394, Anne of Bohemia, who was a wife of Richard II, King of England, died, and her servants returned to their native Bohemia. In England they had been influenced by the teachings of John Wycliffe and with them they brought back to Bohemia the teaching of Wycliffe. Jan Huss heard these doctrines and embraced them. Once Huss adopted Wycliffe's ideas, he proposed to reform the church in Bohemia just as Wycliffe had in England. While some of his followers became known as Hussites, his more radical followers were called Taborites. The Taborites rejected all teachings that were not Biblically founded. Around 1450, some of the Taborites founded a group known as the Bohemian Brethren. The Moravian Church further developed this group in Germany. The Moravians (so-called because they fled from Moravia in what was Czechoslovakia) were one of the first Protestant charismatic communities, who sent more missionaries per head than any other Protestant denomination in history. The Roman Catholic Church deemed Huss' teachings heretical. He was excommunicated in 1411, condemned by the Council of Constance, November 01, 1414, and burned at the stake on July 06, 1415.

*Continue on Page 2*

### 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

### MAILING ADDRESS:

Moravian Church - EWI Province  
Moravian Provincial Headquarters  
Cashew Hill, P.O. Box 504  
St. John's, Antigua

Tel: (268)560-0185

Fax(268)462-0643

### EMAIL ADDRESSES

[moravianchewip@candw.ag](mailto:moravianchewip@candw.ag)

[moravianchewip@gmail.com](mailto:moravianchewip@gmail.com)

### WEB ADDRESS

<http://www.moravians.net>

*Continued from Page 1*

At the last moment, the imperial marshal, Von Pappenheim, in the presence of the Count Palatine, asked him to recant and Huss save his own life, but Huss declined with the words *"God is my witness that the things charged against me I never preached. In the same truth of the Gospel which I have written, taught, and preached, drawing upon the sayings and positions of the holy doctors, I am ready to die today."* He was then burned at the stake.

Huss was a key contributor to Protestantism, whose teachings had a strong influence on the states of Europe and on Martin Luther himself. The Hussite Wars resulted in the Basel Compacts which allowed for a reformed church in the Kingdom of Bohemia—almost a century before such developments would take place in the Lutheran Reformation. Huss' extensive writings earn him a prominent place in Czech literary history. He is also responsible for introducing the use of diacritics (especially the hacek) into Czech spelling in order to represent each sound by a single symbol. Today, the Jan Huss Memorial can be seen at the Prague Old Town Square.

To some, Huss' efforts were predominantly designed to rid the Church of its ethical abuses, rather than a campaign of sweeping theological change. To others, the seeds of the reformation are clear in Huss' and Wycliffe's writings. To all Moravians and conscious persons, Huss was a righteous Man of God. In explaining the plight of the average Christian in Bohemia, Huss wrote, **"One pays for confession, for mass, for the sacrament, for indulgences, for churching a woman, for a blessing, for burials, for funeral services and prayers. The very last penny which an old woman has hidden in her bundle for fear of thieves or robbery will not be saved.** The villainous priest will grab it." After Huss' death, his followers, then known as Hussites, split off into several groups including the Utraquists, Taborites and Orphans. Nearly six centuries later in 1999, Pope John Paul II expressed "deep regret for the cruel death inflicted" on Huss. Cardinal Miloslav Vlk of the Czech Republic was instrumental in crafting John Paul II statement.

Today, 595 years later the seeds that were sown by John Huss are still bearing fruits. The Moravian Church is a Church that will never die. I believe that John Huss must have read the book of Isaiah often and really took to heart the encouragement in Isaiah 43: 1-3,

"But now, this is what the LORD says—  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

<sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters,  
I will be with you;  
and when you pass through the rivers,  
they will not sweep over you.  
When you walk through the fire,  
you will not be burned;  
the flames will not set you ablaze."

As a Church we ought not to live in the past, but to see what God has in store for us in the future. Let the past therefore be a **Reference** and not a **Residence**.



## ORDINATION

Sis. Cherice Job-Lewis will be ordained a Deacon in the Moravian Church on Friday July 16, 2010 at the Tunapuna Methodist Church, Trinidad, at 7.00p.m.



## CALLS

The PEC in consultation with the Executive Boards of the Antigua and the Virgin Islands conferences make the following announcements.

- The Rev. Alicia Ross has accepted a call to serve as Associate Pastor of the Memorial congregation in St. Thomas and coordinator of Christian Education in St. Thomas/St. John with effect from August 01, 2010.
- The Rev. J. Sean Roberts has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Greenbay and Five Islands congregations in Antigua with effect from August 15, 2010.
- The Rt. Rev. Dr. Kingsley Lewis has accepted a call to serve as Associate Pastor of the Spring Gardens congregation in Antigua with effect from August 15, 2010.
- Sis. Camille James has accepted a call to serve as Associate Pastor with responsibility for youth Ministry at the Spring Gardens congregation in Antigua with effect from September 01, 2010.

Let us remember our brothers and sisters in prayer as they proceed to their new assignments.

*Congratulations*

The Rev. Bonnie E.B.W. Smith was ordained to the Diaconate of the Moravian Church on June 08, 2010 at the Urlings Moravian Church in Antigua. Rev. Smith is one of the Ministers of Christian Education in the Antigua Conference.



Rev. Bonnie E.B.W. SMITH



Rt. Rev. Dr. K. Lewis and Rev. Bonnie E.B.W. Smith



Rev. Bonnie and Mother



Rev. Bonnie and Husband Rev. Ulric



Rev. Adelyn Mgonela  
Superintendent, Trinidad



Rev. Nasel Ephraim



Rev. Nevin T. Lewis



Rev. N. Lewis, his Father and the Rev. Dr. C. Jarvis



Rev. NEVIN T. LEWIS



Rev. Dr. C. Jarvis (Chairman of PEC) and Rev. N. Lewis.



Rev. Bonnie E.B.W. Smith



Rev. Nevin T. Lewis



Rev. N. Lewis, Rev. Dr. C. Jarvis  
Rev. K. Barker & Rev. Elroy Christopher



Sis. Ruth Limerick delivering Bible to the Rev. Nevin Lewis



L to R Rev. Dr. C. Jarvis, Rev. E. Christopher, Rev. N. Daniel,  
Rev. N. Lewis, Rev. D. Smith Lewis & Rev. A. Lewis

## 2010 STAFF RETREAT

The long awaited Staff Retreat for 2010 will be held at the PLAYA DEL ESTE SANCTUARY Private Resort in Salybia, Trinidad from July 08-13, 2010. The entire Ministerial Staff of the EWIP will be in attendance except those who are on special leave.

The Retreat promises to be a wonderful experience. It will be a time for Staff Members to bond, as we relax, reflect, rejuvenate, revitalize and refocus on Ministry together.

The Retreat theme is Pursued and Pursuing. Pursued and Pursuing conveys the idea of God having pursued us, we're now pursuing the things of God. Canon Claude Berkley of the Anglican Church will lead the Retreat and will carry us through five (5) sub-themes:

1. Pursued by God (1Sam.16:6-13 & Matt.18: 12)
2. Pursuing God (1Timothy 6:11)
3. Pursuing God's call (Philippians 3: 12-14)
4. Pursuing God's calling in our family- Fidelity and sexual integrity (Gen. 39: 6-11 & Job 31: 1)
5. Pursuing Ministry together (Acts 13: 1-13)

Pray for us as we meet together that God will do what he has done before and even more in our lives and his Church.



### Birthday Greetings for the Month of July is extended to:

Sis. Ida Brown	3
Bro. Winston Chase	8
Bro. Neilson Waithe	10
Bro. Ralph Prince	11
Bro. Colbourne Walters	14
Sis. Frances John	15
Bro. Kirk Barker	21
Bro. Dion Christopher	23
Sis. Earleen Simmons	25

Bro. Andrew Roberts	28
Bro. Rudolph Roberts	28
Sis. Althea Pearline Jarvis	29



### Anniversary Greetings for the month of July is extended to:

Bro. Collin Sis. Anique Matthew	4
Bro. Nigel & Sis Belinda Daniel	6
Bro. Neilson & Sis. Vera Waithe	7
Bro. Willard Prout & Sis. Lynda Prout	14
Bro. Jeremy & Sis. Moyia Francis	19
Bro. Devon & Sis. Stacey Mannix	21
Bro. Andrew & Sis. Geraldine Roberts	22
Bro. Mikie & Sis. Winelle Roberts	24
Bro. Rowan & Sis. Earleen Simmons	24
Bro. Walton & Sis. Angella Frederick	26
Bro. Junior Sean & Sis. Paula Roberts	30

### HUMOROUS CHURCH MARCH QUEE SIGNS

"The best vitamin for a Christian is **B1.**"

"You can give without loving but you cannot love without giving."

""We should be more concerned with the Rock Of Ages, instead of the age of rocks."

"Seven days without prayer makes one weak."

"No Jesus - no peace, Know Jesus - know peace!"

Worry is interest paid on trouble before it is due."

"Can't sleep? Try counting your blessings."

Christians, keep the faith... But not from others!"

""Satan subtracts and divides. God multiplies and multiplies."

"Forbidden fruit creates many jams."

"God answers kneemail!"