### A COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF PEC - EWI PROVINCE

# The Information The challenge of

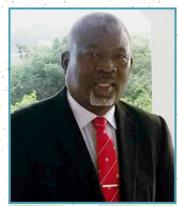
And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. Luke 4: vs 4.



October, 2017

# The challenge of Leadership

It is quite heartening to see how the Antiguans and Barbudans and indeed, we Caribbean men and women are coming together and helping each other out. This unity and oneness has come in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, with one passing to the north of Antigua and the other to the south of Antigua.



Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis Chairman of PEC

We were right in the middle of everything. We experienced strong, powerful winds and rain from both hurricanes. Let me be quick to suggest that it was not because of our goodness or faithfulness that we survived the worst of those two hurricanes. It was purely due to the Grace and Mercy of God.

Our oneness and sameness was pronounced and announced by hurricanes Irma and Maria during the past 3 weeks. Our oneness and sameness was never more brought into focus than what these forces of nature wroth upon us. This is a time of devastation and destruction in the Caribbean. From Barbuda to St. Maarten; From Tortola to St. Thomas; From St. John to Cuba; From Dominica to St. Croix; From Guadeloupe to Turks and Caicos to the Dominican Republic

and Puerto Rico, there is dispossession, dislocation and despair at the unforgiving hands of Irma and Maria.

People were dispossessed everywhere. As we open our hearts, hands and homes to our stricken brothers and sisters, we will quickly realize that we are more alike than different. The foods we eat are similar. For example: Fried dumplings, Johnny Cakes or Bakes is the same thing; Whether it is wrapped in Grape Leaves, Banana Leaves or Foil Paper, it is called Ducuna or Conkie; Cook up rice, Seasoned rice or pellau is the same thing; Fungie, Tun Corn meal or Cou cou, is the same thing.

The Calypsonian, Black Stalin from Trinidad and Tobago articulated this oneness in his song, "the Caribbean Man". He sang:

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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#### The Challenge of leadership Cont'd from page 1

Dey try wit a federation; De ole union in confusion; Caricom and den Carifta; but somehow ah smellin disaster; Mr. West Indian Politician; Ah mean yuh went to big institution; And how come you can't unite 7 million; When a West Indian Unity; Is really very easy; If you only rap to you people like me.

We is one race; de Caribbean man From the same place; de Caribbean man Dat make de same trip; de Caribbean man On the same trip; de Caribbean man So we must push one common intention, For we woman and we children, That must be de ambition of the Caribbean man, de Caribbean man, de Caribbean man

Even as we talk of one people, we also speak of one family that must live and work together. We must be our brothers and sisters keeper. I like how Roosevelt Skerrit, Prime Minister of Dominica described it: "Hurricane Maria had no political affiliation or religious ties when it battered the Nature isle. Everyone, every street, every village, every cranny on Dominica suffered from the hurricane, and persons are dead while others are missing. Every single person has been affected by this hurricane and therefore, it is a message to all of us that we have to work together to rebuild our country".

The challenge indeed is for us to rise and build or rebuild. All of us must put our hands to the wheel and make a difference in rebuilding our lives, our communities, our houses, our villages and towns. Indeed, we must rebuild that community spirit that we once had. As we reflect on rebuilding, we are grateful for the prayers and tangible support from churches, organizations and partners from overseas. Your prayers and support have gone a long way to lift the spirit of our people.

Our Watchword for Sunday September 24<sup>th</sup> is very apt for the moment as we give thanks for life, family and God's Faithfulness. "This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live" (Deut. 30:19). The text speaks of Patience, Purpose and Passion. It was a challenge to Moses' leadership. He was called by God to lead a people who didn't know how blessed they were. He was called to lead a people who was ungrateful and taught that they had a right to whatever they had. He was called to lead a people who were always complaining even in the midst of triumph and victory.

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He was called to lead a people who were never satisfied. He was called to lead a people who were disobedient and wore his patience thin. They constantly went after other God's. They took up other Customs and Practices that were foreign to them because they saw other persons doing them, without any sense of the meaning and value those customs and practices. It was out of this situation that Moses made a Declaration, "I call heaven and Earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you Life and Death".

They had a choice to make. I hear the song writer declaring:

> Come Almighty to deliver Let us all thy grace receive; suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, Pray and praise thee without ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love.

As a leader, one needs not **only Patience**, **but you must know your Purpose**. Your purpose must be to bring out the best in your followers, not to seek glory for yourself. You must seek to lift up, affirm, and empower your followers. I put before you Blessings and Curses. To be blessed means that you have obtained God's Favour, Protection and Approval. Moses was saying, I commend you to God's keeping. However, you can choose to be cursed. The intent of a curse is to inflict harm or punishment on someone or something. In Mark 11:12-25, when Jesus cursed the fig tree, it died.

#### Installation of two (2) new Pastors

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#### The Challenge of leadership Cont'd from page 2

Finally, Moses was Passionate about his role and responsibility. He said, I place before you, life and death, blessing and cursing. **Choose Life.** He had that strong feeling of enthusiasm. If you are teaching and you are not excited about your subject matter, the students are not going to be excited either. If you are selling products and you are not excited about your products, no one is going to buy. Moses said, choose life and live it to the full. In John 10:10, Jesus said, ..."But I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly". Life is a gift from God. Let us therefore live for each other. I challenge us as family to embrace one another and be a blessing to each other.

As we lead, we ought to allow God to lead us. Remember, the family that Prays together, stays together. It is a challenge, but with God at our side to accompany us, there is no mountain too high that we will not be able to surmount.

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### CHAIRMAN OF PEC VISITS.VIRGIN ISLANDS CONFERENCE

NOW THAT THE AIRPORT IN ST. THOMAS HAS REOPENED, THE CHAIRMAN OF PEC WILL VISIT THE HURRICANE RAVAGED ISLANDS OF ST. THOMAS, ST. JOHN AND ST. CROIX FROM OCTOBER 4-6, 2017.

other and the and NOTHING IS TOO SMALL TO KNOW, AND NOTHING IS TOO BIG TO ATTEMPT.

William Van Horne

Pastors Daniel Mark and Kevin St. Hill were installed as Associate Pastors of the Spring Gardens Moravian Church and the Lebanon/Enon Moravian Churches respectively on August 2nd 2017, at 7.00p.m at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua.

Bro. Daniel Mark is from the Tobago Conference and Bro. Kevin St. Hill is from the Barbados Conference.





### Hymn of the Month for October, 2017 by Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts, Provincial Director of Music



Over the past few weeks we have witnessed first-hand the fury that can be unleashed through nature. Many of the residents in the Caribbean region have been on the receiving of this fury as we lived through two major category 5 hurricanes merely days apart. While some islands have been hit directly and are now recovering from these disaster, all us

have been impacted one way or the other. Lives and properties have been lost! While we here in this region and parts of the USA struggle to recover from recent hurricanes, others in Mexico are trying to see what they can salvage from earthquakes that have been just as deadly as the hurricanes. Further afield, there has also been major flooding in parts of India. With so much death and destruction all around us and the threat of nuclear war between North Korea and the USA, it is very easy to become hopeless. Our faith in God's providential care is shaken. We ask the question: where is God in the midst of all that's happening? With that in mind, our hymn of the month seeks to give some answers in our moments of despair. For October, our hymn of the month is # 367 – We have this hope which was written in 2002 by Edris M. V. Roberts. The name of the tune appointed is Londonberry.

The words of this hymn speak for themselves. I encourage you then to take some time and allow these words to speak to your heart. May they bring comfort, consolation and hope to all who feel hopeless and help-less.

*NB:* In the printed version of the hymnal, the second line of verse two has been amended to the words printed below.

#### :from page 9 "Don't stop doing good"

The hunch-back proceeded on his way, blissfully unaware of the war raging in the mind of the woman.

Every day, as the woman placed the bread on the window-sill, she offered a prayer for her son who had gone to a distant place to seek his fortune. For many months, she had no news of him... She prayed for his safe return. That evening, there was a knock on the door. As she opened it, she was surprised to find her son standing We have this Hope, though in the midst of turmoil Here, in our Land and those beyond the seas, That by our faith, through fervent prayer, and steadfast.

Our God of peace will bring us through, at last; For He will not forsake us, no, he'll never! This universe is in His full control,

His word is true, His love is everlasting, He is our strength-unfailing, He's our guide, our all.

We have this Hope, though troubles seem unending, And day by day fresh fears consume our minds – That our dear Lord, our Saviour and Redeemer,

Will give us refuge from the storms of life.

His arms are strong, e'er ready to enfold us, We need no other for our sure repose,

Safe and secure are we, while in His keeping, He is our strength-unfailing, He's our guide, our all!

We have a Hope, though clouds obscure our sunshine, And nights are long, and sorrows linger on –

That our dear Lord, with tender love and mercy,

Will give us comfort till the morning comes.

He will not leave us comfortless - oh never!

We are all precious in his Holy sight;

So, let us thank Him, praise Him, now, and ever, He is our strength-unfailing, He's our guide, our all!

#### 2002. Edris M. V. Roberts.

in the doorway... He had grown thin and lean. His garments were tattered and torn. He was hungry, starved and weak. As he saw his mother, he said, "Mom, it's a miracle I'm here. While I was but a mile away, I was so hungry that I collapsed. I would have died, but just then an old hunch-back passed by. I begged of him for a small part of his food, and he was kind enough to give me whole bread. "As he gave it to me, he said, "This is what I eat everyday: today, I shall give it to you, for your need is greater than mine!" "As the mother heard those words, her face turned pale and red. She leaned against the door for support. She remembered the poisoned bread that she had made that morning. Had she not burnt it in the fire, it would have been eaten by her own son, and he would have lost his life! It was then that she realized the significance of the words: "The evil you do remains with you: The good you do, comes back to you!" Do good all times.



"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys

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### Devastation of Barbuda by Hurricane Irma September 5, 2017 (Photos 1, 2)

#1





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## Destruction caused by Hurricanes Irma & Maria in St. Thomas and St. John # 3 (Photos 3 - 10) # 5

7



"Advance the Kingdom" -Use the Keys



#7



8

#10





Damages caused by Hurricane Maria on St. Croix (Photos 11 - 14)

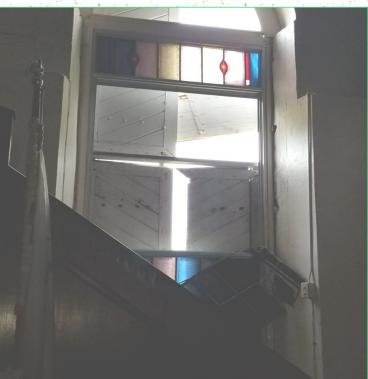








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# Destruction caused by Hurricane Maria in Dominica (Click on Video to view)



# VID-20170928-WA0006 (1).mp4

#### Don't stop doing good!

A woman baked bread for members of her family and an extra one for a hungry passerby. She kept the extra bread on the Window-sill, for whosoever would take it away. Every day, a hunchback came and took away the bread. Instead of expressing gratitude, he muttered the following words as he went his way: "The evil you do remains with you: The good you do, comes back to you!" This went on, day after day. Every day, the hunch-back came, picked up the bread and uttered the words: "The evil you do, remains with you: The good you do, comes back to you!" The woman felt irritated. "Not a word of gratitude," she said to herself... "Everyday this hunch-back utters this jingle! What does he mean? One day, out of desperation, she decided to do away with him." I shall get rid of this hunch-back," she said. And what did she do? She added poison to the bread she prepared for him! As she was about to keep it on the window sill, her hands trembled. "What is this I am doing?" she said. Immediately she threw the bread into the fire, prepared another one and kept it on the window- sill. As usual, the hunch-back came, picked up the bread and muttered the words: "The evil you do, remains with you: The good you do, comes back to you!" **Continue on page 4** 

### Photos of Destruction in Dominica caused by Hurricane Maria (Photos 15 - 19)

#15







#### Simpson Pacquette

The power of Hurricane Maria on the Caribbean Island of Dominica. A cow being thrown on top of a high tension electric power line. That alone is a testament of mother nature's merciless power!! #18

### #16







### PEC MEETING POSTPONED

The PEC Meeting that was scheduled to take place from September 29 to October 2nd, 2017 in the Tobago Conference has been postponed. Our PEC members out of St. Thomas are unable to travel. The Airports in St. Thomas, St. Croix, Tortola and St. Maarten have all been closed indefinitely due to damages caused by the hurricanes.



### **FURLOUGH**

The Rev. Nigel Daniel, Pastor of the Spring Garden and Bethesda Pastorate in the Tobago Conference, has been granted four (4) months furlough from July 15 - November 15, 2017.

- The Rt. Rev. Dr. Conrad Spencer, Pastor of the Faith Congregation on St. Croix, Virgin Islands Conference, has been granted four (4) months furlough from September 01 - December 31, 2017.
- The Rev. Ulric V. Smith Pastor of the Cana Moravian Church in the Antigua Conference, has been granted four (4) months furlough from September 1 – December 31, 2017.



Birthday Greetings for the month of October is extended to

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Bro. Winston Jones	2
Sis. Georgette John-Cotton	6
Sis. Zenaida Ramsay	8
Bro. Joseph Nicholas	15
Sis. Anique Elmes-Matthew	22
Bro. Algernon Lewis	24
Bo. Erflin Browne	25
Sis. Julie Joefield-Parris	28
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Anniversary Greetings for the month of October is extended to:

Bro. Vankys & Sis. Myrtle Isaac

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e have all learned to live with voice mail as a necessary part of modern life. But you may have wondered, "What if God decided to install voice mail?" Imagine praying and hearing this...

Thank you for calling My Father's House. Please select one of the following options:

Press 1 for request Press 2 for thanksgiving Press 3 for complaints Press 4 for all other inquiries

What if God used the familiar excuse, "All the angels are helping other customers right now. Please stay on the line. You call will be answered in the order it was received. Can you imagine getting these kinds of response as you call on God in prayer?

If you would like to speak to Gabriel, press 1 now If you would like to speak to Michael, press 2 now For a directory of other angels, press 3 now If you would like to hear King David sing a Psalm while you're holding, press 4 now

To find out if a love one has been assigned to heaven, enter his or her social security number now. For reservations at My Father's House, press the letters J-O-H-N and then 3-1-6.

For answers on nagging questions about the age of earth and where Noah's Ark is, please wait until you arrive here. Our computers show that you have already called once today. Please hang up and try again tomorrow.

This office is close for the weekend. Please call again on Monday after 9:00 a.m.

# Moravian Multipurpose Complex



### Conferences

- Meetings
- Seminars
- Weddings
- Banquet
- Dinner

Only ten minutes away from the stores, shops and banks in St. John's.

Our International airport is also just ten minutes away.

Our balcony provides a refreshing view of undulating hills and valleys.

The conference center has a seating capacity for 200 persons.

We are situated on a hill over-looking the picturesque out-skirts of the city of St. John's, Antigua.

There are EIGHT LARGE APARTMENTS which are available for rental. Each room is self contained with kitchenette. The rooms are air-conditioned with Available internet and cable TV. All utilities are included with the exception of telephone.

# **Conference Center & Apartments**



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