



The Information

"I must turn aside and look at this great sight..." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses" And he said, "Here I am." Exodus 3 vs 3-4 (NRSV)



Rev. Algernon Lewis
Chairman of PEC

All Hail the Chief Elder

Remembering what our fathers told Thou didst in their young day,
This solemn festival we hold, That we, as then did they,
Ourselves in covenant may bind, With soul and strength, with hearts and mind,
Through life, in death, on land, o'er sea, Meekly to follow thee.

The second verse from this James Montgomery hymn (CMP 611) deserves some of our attention as the Moravian Unity pauses to celebrate the Chief Elder Festival. This festival has gotten second glances at recent times as it seems odd that a church would hold a vote to elect Jesus to a position that he already has as Chief Elder. There is a measure of reasonableness in the second glances. Yet, it must be made clear that this Festival, like all other matters must be seen in context.

In the early days of the church, there was a notion that a denomination needed a head – a person who would oversee the organization. It was the norm of that time. Leonard Dober (one of the two missionaries who came to the Caribbean in 1732) was given this office in 1736 (Vogt, 2019). "He soon found that the task was too big for him"(Vogt, 2019, p. 39) and wanted to resign. However, no replacement was found. They wrestled with the situation until it became clear that only Jesus could be the chief elder (Vogt, 2019). On September 16, 1741, the Moravian leaders gathered for this special meeting and elected Jesus to be their Chief Elder. This information was shared with the wider Unity on November 13, 1741.

The action of electing Jesus as Chief Elder was meant to send a bold message to succeeding generation. It is a statement that should still inform church polity. It is a statement about Christ being the ultimate source of authority and leadership in the church (Vogt, 2019). The Church Order of the Unitas Fratrum (COUF) states, "Jesus is the one Lord and head of His body, the Church.

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November, 2021

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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

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All Hail the Chief Elder Cont'd from Page 1

Because of this, the Church owes no allegiance to any authority whatsoever which opposes His dominion.

Almost three centuries later, it is relevant to ask if this posture still holds. Do Christians in a postmodern time still see Jesus as the source of authority and leadership? If so, how does that translate into the day to day affairs of the church? Those are not easy questions to answer but they are relevant.

The church has had to change its ways of operation to meet the challenges of our time. We no longer use to the lot to make decisions. The prominent words are “pray,” “discern,” “think,” or even “vote.” These are all reasonable as they are subjective. There are times when those words are mixed with politicking, bullying, and manipulation. Sometimes, there is no way to know which spirit is operating in the decision-making process. The admonition from 1 John 4:1 may be appropriate here as it encourages us to test the spirit. We must also be mindful of Deuteronomy 18:22 which tells us that the authenticity of a prophet is determined by actualization of the prophetic word. In other words, did the prophetic utterance come to pass? The principle is simply this – we know that leaders are submitted to the plans of God by the effect of their work on the kingdom of God.

Whenever the Chief Elder Festival rolls around, there are two prevailing thoughts that occupy my mind – the leadership of Jesus and how to exemplify that leadership in my life as a pastor. Jesus declared in John 10:11, I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. That is Jesus’ model of being the chief elder – sacrifice for the sheep. This might be otherwise called servant leadership. Servant leaders serve the people they lead and work with them to bring out the best in them. The Chief Elder is not about self or personal agenda but the flock of God.

The leadership style of Jesus is also seen in how he went about building his team. Jesus chose unlikely men. These men came with the same flaws found in the church today. Among them could be found character traits that were less than desirable. Yet, Jesus chose them. He was more concerned about their will-

ingness to serve than their abilities. As the ministry unfolded, he poured into them and the work of transformation started. They did not achieve perfection, but they were changed into disciples who focused on changing the world for Jesus. Their time with Jesus taught them the ways of the servant leader. Each of them in their own way went about serving the cause of the kingdom, even laying down their own lives. Personal agency was removed from them as they allowed the transforming work of the Holy Spirit to take hold of their lives. Personal agency is an individual’s ability to act independently and make original decisions. To surrender personal agency is to give the right of self-determination to another, in this case, to surrender to Jesus. The birth, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus was in submission to the will of His Father. For each person who answers the call of God to pastoral ministry, there is the element of surrender. However, surrendering personal agency is not an event, it is a daily process.

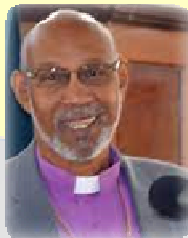
Another part of the servant leadership is the full recognition that the Chief Eldership of Jesus means that that the church belongs to Jesus and not human agents. The church is the body of Christ. As the body, we do not have the right of self-determination, we download from the head, Jesus, the path we should take. This requires an active prayer life and a sensitivity to the voice of God. These traits are developed over time and require discipline on the part of Christ-followers. However, the more we rely on God for direction, the more God orders our steps according to God’s purpose.

Leaders generally struggle on how to exemplify the use of power in a manner that reflects the ways of Jesus. A look at how Jesus uses power might help us. As one thinks about the ministry of Jesus, the use of power does not emerge as an issue, but it was always present. Leadership requires engagement with power. Our experience of power depends on how power is used. Jesus used his power in the way Martin Luther King Jr understood power. In a speech to striking sanitation worker in Memphis in 1968, he spoke of power as the ability to achieve purpose and effect change. This is what Jesus did as he walked to dusty streets of Palestine – he exercised the power given to him by God to achieve the purposes of God and effect change. Jesus’ use of power was most evident when he interacted with demonic forces.

Continued on page 5

Advance the Kingdom ~ S.H.I.F.T

God Calls us to Ministry



What Is A Call to the Ministry?

We have been looking at aspects of the ministry over the last few months. This month I want to focus on the question, "What Is a Call?"

John Groenfeldt in his booklet, *We Have This Ministry*, points to the experience many of us have of being asked to describe something which is quite clear to us, but then finding how difficult it really is to give an accurate description to someone who may not be familiar with what we are talking about. He suggests that this is what happens when we try to describe a "call to the ministry".

In an attempt to describe a "call" He uses a number of examples from scripture of people called by God. I will briefly refer to three of them in an attempt to describe some features of God's call to the ministry. The first is recorded in 1 Samuel, chapter 3—the call of Samuel.

Samuel's mother, Hannah had prayed to the Lord for a son and promised that if she got one she would give him back to the Lord. God answered her prayer and when Samuel was about 7 years she took him to the priest Eli to be raised as a Levitical priest.

One night, when young Samuel had gone to bed he thought he heard Eli calling him. He got out of bed, ran to Eli and said, "Here am I, because you called me." The priest said "No, go back to bed." The same thing happened again. It happened a third time, and Eli with great discernment realized that God was calling the boy and said to Samuel that if he heard the voice again, he should say, "Speak Lord; for thy servant heareth". God called again and Samuel did as Eli told him. God spoke to Samuel about how he would use him and Samuel responded, "It is the Lord: let him do what seemeth him good."

In Isaiah 6:1-8 we find a scenario in which Isaiah found himself in the Temple and observed the rising incense-clouds and heard the songs of the Levites, thereafter slipping into a trance in which the veil of the temple disappeared and he saw a vision of the Lord.

King Uzziah had possibly died by this time and perhaps there was a vacancy on the throne. Perhaps God had used this circumstance to point out to Isaiah that he had a vacancy. He heard a voice addressed to no one in particular, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me." (Isaiah 6:8) He took it personally.

In Acts 22:1-21, we read of Paul's call on the road to Damascus. His call was one that was virtually instantaneous, and there are two aspects of his call to which I would like to draw attention.

Firstly, it was dramatic; the result of being blinded on the road to Damascus and hearing a voice which he learned was the voice of God. He subsequently received instructions as to what God wanted him to do.

Secondly, Paul had a career and was in full pursuit of that career at which, from all appearances, he was successful. Sometimes God calls people from some career path they are following, and often a successful one. Sometimes God may put failure as a stumbling block in some occupation or career we are pursuing, to make us stand up and listen to his voice. But not always. Like Paul we need to be obedient to God's call also.

Paul's call was dramatic and God makes some calls dramatic to gain a person's attention.

Jason Allen offers us a profound insight into calls and calling which I would briefly share with you. He asks what does it mean to be called to the ministry?

He says, "...lets clarify what we mean when we say 'called to ministry'." He makes four important points I would like to emphasize. 1. Generally speaking, calling "isn't reserved for Christian ministry." He reminds us that "Martin Luther and the other Reformers reasserted the biblical concept of vocation, which holds that God calls and gifts every person for an occupation." Every Christian should pursue their occupation as a calling by God. 2. "Every Christian is *called to minister*...It is part and parcel of the Christian life." First Corinthians 12-14 and Romans 12 show how God gifts every believer to function in the body of Christ." 3. "The second category we might think of is *called to ministry*." He explains that by this he means "that your vocation has a direct ministerial component to it."

Continued on Page 5

My Favourite Scriptures – My Testimony of Grace

One of my fondest memories of church is the laughter that filled the streets as the children from neighbouring villages trekked home after vacation bible school



at Spring Garden Moravian. As I pondered on all those treasured memories of singing, dancing, camping, hiking, beach trips, sleepovers, sports days, Bible competitions, and many more during my earlier days at church, it was apparent that apart from my home and family environment, my church life has had the single largest impact in shaping my character and developing the very talents and gifts which I now sow into the Kingdom of God. I cannot recall a time when I was not heavily involved in my church, so when I stepped away from the church and God and stepped into the world, I experienced the true darkness that was in the world.

Though I had many years of church attendance under my belt, the stony ground of my heart could not nurture the Word which I received and believed at the age of 13 years. The lure of the world became too strong for my shallow roots. I, therefore, embarked on a journey of rebellion and self-gratification disguised as the freedom of adulthood. However, much like the prodigal son I eventually plummeted to abysmal lows as I battled betrayal and rejection. I could only imagine how that pungent stench of the pigsty was baked into his clothing and skin, yet, when his father saw his son a long way off he ran towards him and embraced him. It took the blinding and debilitating pain of loss to make this wayward daughter realise that she was safest in the fold of God; so she too went crawling back to her heavenly Father with all her stains and brokenness, and He gladly embraced her. For a long time after I surrendered my life to Jesus when I closed my eyes I would still see myself as a broken jar that was merely patched together. I still struggled with feelings of inadequacy and unworthiness despite my faith.

One evening while I was attending a gospel concert, I released my heart to worship, and amid a crowd of thousands of people, the voice of the Lord audibly spoke to me and said, “Krystal, I Love You”. I immediately felt renewed and restored by this revelation and more importantly, I felt empowered to live authentically by embracing all my mistakes and failures on my unique journey to Jesus. This is one of the reasons I became so passionate about Christians knowing and fully embracing their new identity in Christ so that they could see themselves as God sees them, and then live purposefully in Him.

At the end of 2019 God kept saying to me that I was heading into a season of change, but little did I know that it wouldn't be the obvious changes due to my upcoming marriage, neither was it because I was moving to a new church fellowship, nor was it the impending COVID-19 pandemic that upheaved everything and everyone at the start of 2020. God eventually revealed to me that ‘change’ meant that it was His predestined time for me to walk into a new sphere of purpose. The Lord was calling me to use all my experiences to positively impact others by sharing love, encouragement and support through the writings in my blog Imani, and into my first book ‘*My Favourite Scriptures: A Devotional For New Believers*’.

This devotional focuses on fundamental principles of our Christianity such as God's love, forgiveness, our new nature, submission and obedience to God, His blessings and provision, and His protection. In it, I use personal experiences to show how the scriptures transformed my life. Each reflection contains an exhortation on a scripture verse, followed by a short prayer, and closes with personal declarations. Additional scriptures related to the topic are also included at the end of each devotional and a song is suggested as another source of encouragement and upliftment.

You can order your copy of ‘*My Favourite Scriptures*’ on Amazon or www.imaniblog.com. For further information, including information on the special offer to churches, contact Mrs. Krystal Baynes-Hoseinee at 1-868-484-8728 or krystalbaynes@hotmail.com.

Advance the Kingdom ~ S.H.I.F.T

God Calls us to Ministry cont'd from Page 3

In this respect he says, "You do not have to meet 1 Timothy 3 qualifications or be ordained, but you have consciously chosen to walk through a door of ministerial service." 4. "The third category for consideration is called to the ministry." Allen points us to some passages of scripture where this category is defined and I invite you to read and reflect upon them for yourself or discuss them with your minister—Ephesians 4:11-16, 1 Timothy 3:1-7, and Titus 1:6-9. He further reminds us that whatever their distinctions, the offices of pastor, evangelist, and teacher "all share one common charge: minister the word."

1. John S. Groenfeldt: We Have This Ministry. Board of Christian Education and Evangelism, Moravian Church in America, 1967. Pp43-45
2. Jason K. Allen: Discerning Your Call to Ministry. Moody Publishers, Chicago 2016. Pp17-23



What we need to know about stroke

Stroke occurs due to a decrease or blockage in the brain's blood supply. A person experiencing a stroke needs immediate emergency treatment.

What is a stroke?

A stroke occurs when a blockage or bleed of the blood vessels either interrupts or reduces the supply of blood to the brain. When this happens, the brain does not receive enough oxygen or nutrients, and brain cells start to die. Stroke is a cerebrovascular disease. This means that it affects the blood vessels that feed the brain oxygen. If the brain does not receive enough oxygen, damage may start to occur.

This is a medical emergency. Although many strokes are treatable, some can lead to disability or death. Stroke is a potentially life changing event that can have lasting physical and emotional effects. Successful recovery from a stroke will often involve specific therapies and support systems, including: Speech therapy, Physical therapy, Occupational therapy, Support groups and Support from friends and family.

Rehabilitation is an important and ongoing part of stroke treatment. With the right assistance and the support of loved ones, regaining a normal quality of life is usually possible, depending on the severity of the stroke.

All Hail the Chief Elder Cont'd from Page 2

These are incidents when he used **power over** the forces of darkness to bring them into subjection. His presence alone brought fear (Luke 8:28, Mark 1: 24, Mark 5:7). Then Jesus would command them to come out of the host.

As we look at the story of Jesus' birth, the stories of healing, or even the story of his passion, the same power was at work. Jesus' conception was a manifestation of the power of God (Luke 1:35). His healing of the centurion's servant (Luke 7:1-10) manifested that power as well as his commendation of his Spirit into God's hands while hanging on the cross (Luke 23:46). When Jesus acted in these instances, he used power to empower, to inspire, to transform, in partnership with others, and in service of others.

The leadership style of Jesus and how we can exemplify that in our lives and ministry are lessons for leaders in this church and for members of the church as we mark the Chief Elder Festival. There are always power dynamics where people meet and the church is no exception. Church life can get messy and frustrating as we attempt to synchronize varied views on the path forward. Yet the church must always aim to reflect the leadership of the Chief Elder who gave us the example to follow. It is difficult for sure, but it is not impossible.

All hail our Church's Elder dear!

Works Cited

Boyler, J, Morton, J. & Hopcroft, R. (Eds.). (2017). Church Order of the Unitas Fratrum. Christianfeld: Denmark.

Vogt, P. (Ed.). (2019). Our Moravian Treasures. Christianfeld: ProRx Forlag.

TRINITY MORAVIAN CHURCH
(Formerly Known as "TORTOLA MORAVIAN FELLOWSHIP" Established 1993)
WILL BE CELEBRATING 28 YEARS IN EXISTENCE

SCRIPTURE FOCUS: "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein."
(Jeremiah 6:16 KJV)

THEMATIC FOCUS: "REST" A Time of: Release, Expectation, Servanthood, Transition

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
Sunday 14th November 2021
9:00AM
Speaker: Rev. Erflin Browne
Trinity Moravian Church, Tortola, BVI

DEEPER LIFE SERVICES
Sunday 14th November 2021, 6:00PM
Monday 15th November 2021, 7:00PM
Speaker: Rev. Hilton Joseph
Senior Pastor
Spring Garden Moravian Church, Antigua

DEEPER LIFE SERVICE
Tuesday 16th November 2021
7:00PM
Speaker: Pastor Ve-Anna Thomas
Trinity Moravian Church, Tortola, BVI

DEEPER LIFE SERVICE
Wednesday 17th November 2021
7:00PM
Speaker: Pastor Marleen Browne
Trinity Moravian Church, Tortola, BVI

DEEPER LIFE SERVICES
7:00PM
Speaker: Apostle Jacqueline Cousins, Joseph Daniel Ministries, Jamaica
Thursday 18th November 2021: Focus on "Evangelism"
Friday 19th November 2021: Focus on "Managing Your Finances"

ALL SERVICES HELD AT THE TRINITY MORAVIAN CHURCH * BAUGHER'S BAY, TORTOLA, BVI
Telephone: 284-541-8402/494-0482 * Email: marflinb@gmail.com
SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES & PROTOCOLS TO BE OBSERVED
ZOOM ID: 852 9420 8078 PASSWORD: TRINITY | OR FACEBOOK LIVE

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Birth Announcement

The Provincial family rejoices with Dr. Jovanca Smith and Rev. Dr. Ulston Smith on the birth of their son, Jair Dunamis Isaiah Ulston Smith. Baby Jair was born on October 23, 2021 in Trinidad. Both mother and baby are doing well.

Birthday Celebrants November 17th - 30th

Sis. Katrina Reece Burley	17
Bro. Rowan Simmons	19
Bro. Ezra Parris	21
Sis. Myrtle Miller	21
Sis. Joyce Walters	24
Bro. Delroy Burley	24
Bro. Nevin Lewis	27

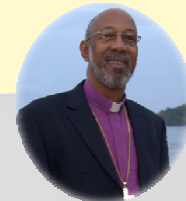
Birthday Celebrants December 1st - 15th

Bro. Ulric Smith	2
Sis. Eloise Stephen	2
Bro. Alban St. Hill	2
Sis. Liselle Roberts	8
Bro. Kevin St. Hill	8
Sis. Bonnie Williams-Smith	10
Sis. Cicely Athill-Horsford	12

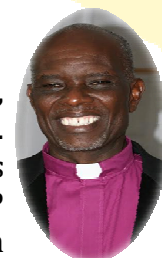
Anniversary Celebrants November 24th - December 13th

Bro. Alban & Sis. Cynthia St. Hill	24
Bro. Cortroy & Sis. Althea Jarvis	08
Sis. Alicia Ross-Floyd and Bro. Myron Floyd	08
Sis. Bonnie E.B. W. Smith & Bro. Ulric Smith	10
Bro. Winston & Sis. Karen Jones	13

Consecration



On Saturday November 13, 1999, Bishop 322/260, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Albert Kingsley Lewis was consecrated as Bishop of the Moravian Church EWIP at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua. There were Three (3) officiating Bishops Robert Foster, Stanley Thomas and the late Neville C. Brown (EWIP).



On Sunday November 22, 2015, Bishop 358/296, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Conrad Spencer was consecrated as Bishop of the Moravian Church EWIP at the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua.

There were four (4) officiating Bishops of the Unity: Bishops Kingsley Lewis (EWIP - presiding), Hopeton Clennon (America, Northern Province), Sam Gray (America, Southern Province and Board of World Mission), and Oliver Hodgson (Nicaragua).



Condolences

The Provincial family expresses condolences to retired pastor, Rev. Alban St. Hill of Barbados as he mourns the death of his brother, Bro. Lloyd St. Hill, age 94 years of Barbados. The funeral service was held on Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at the Bethlehem Moravian Church.

Condolences are also extended to the Rev. Bonnie Smith as she mourns the death of her great aunt, Sis. Mary Anne Stevens, age 95 years, of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. Sis. Mary Anne died on October 26. The funeral service will be held on Thursday November 18, at Nisky Moravian Church in St. Thomas.

Please pray for Bro. Alban St. Hill and Sis. Bonnie Smith and their families in their time of grief and loss. May the peace of God cover them.

ALL the words listed below are in the puzzle - left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and click its first letter then its last letter to highlight it. After you have found all the words, click the left-over letters to form the **Mystery Answer**.

Shipwrecked

Across,	Deep,	Paul,
Anchors,	Driven,	Pounding,
Aground,	Dropped,	Recognize,
Approaching,	Fearing,	Secure,
Battering,	Food,	Sensed,
Bay,	Force,	Ship,
Beach,	Foresail,	Soundings,
Broken,	Heightened,	Stern,
Centurion,	Hoisted,	Surf,
Constant,	Hurricane,	Suspense,
Cutting	Land,	Throwing,
Dashed,	Lifeboat,	Violent
Daylight,	Midnight,	

G	I	D	A	S	H	E	D	D	E	P	P	O	R	D
N	L	U	A	P	T	H	G	I	L	Y	A	D	L	D
I	I	S	H	I	P	N	E	V	I	R	D	H	A	G
W	A	S	G	N	I	R	E	T	T	A	B	E	N	A
O	S	E	A	D	S	S	O	R	C	A	N	I	D	N
R	E	C	N	S	G	D	Y	A	B	A	R	G	I	C
H	R	U	U	N	N	V	M	L	C	A	N	H	E	H
T	O	R	R	U	I	I	E	I	E	H	O	T	Z	O
P	F	E	O	O	D	S	R	F	C	C	I	E	I	R
A	T	R	L	N	N	R	B	E	R	A	R	N	N	S
S	G	E	I	E	U	R	R	B	O	E	U	E	G	E
A	N	G	P	H	O	D	O	O	F	B	T	D	O	N
T	H	S	E	K	S	T	N	A	T	S	N	O	C	S
T	U	T	E	H	O	I	S	T	E	D	E	C	E	E
S	S	N	D	E	G	N	I	T	T	U	C	A	R	D



1. What did Jacob give Joseph that sparked jealousy from his siblings?

2. What did Joseph tell his brothers about his dreams that upset them

3. How did Moses' mother save him from the Egyptian soldiers?

4. Through what did God speak to Moses in the desert?

5. What did Moses say God commanded the Pharaoh to do?

6. How many plagues did God send on Egypt?

7. What was the final plague that convinced Pharaoh to let the slaves go?

8. When Pharaoh changed his mind and sent his army after the slaves, where did they meet at?

9. What did God through Moses to save the slaves?

10. When the Egyptians tried to follow the Israelites through the Red Sea, what happened?

11. Where did God give Moses the Ten Commandments?

12. What golden image did the Israelites make at Mt. Sinai?

Moravian Multipurpose Complex



Conferences

Weddings

Banquets

Meetings

Dinners

Graduations

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 cable TV. All utilities are included with the exception of telephone.

Mystery word
Adriatic Sea

1. A coat of many colors
2. The dreams said he would become greater and rule over them.
3. Put him in a basket in the river.
4. A burning bush.
8. By the Red Sea
11. Mt Sinai
5. Let his people go.
9. Parted the Red Sea.
12. A golden calf
6. 10
7. The firstborn son of all Egyptian families died.
10. The water crashed on them and killed them all.