



# A COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR OF PEC EWI PROVINCE

## The Information

To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. Ephesians 4: 12-13



**Rev. Algernon Lewis**  
**Chairman of PEC**

### SHIFT

The Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province is on a journey to SHIFT into the new location that God has called us. This SHIFT is intended to be substantial, going beyond the cosmetics to inspire changed mindsets and actions.

In 2024, the Provincial focus is on renewing our purpose. Purpose speaks of the reason for being. Each ministry in our congregations must ask the simple yet profound question, “Why are we doing this?” Answering our “why” is the beginning of a fruitful and productive ministry. Victor Frankl noted that a person who knows the “why” of a situation will be able to bear any “how.”

The Provincial Board is also asking the “why” to reimagine what it means to lead the Province in this context. All the facets of ministry under our purview must be scrutinized. One such area is the Provincial Newsletter. Its format has been consistent throughout its existence. We must determine “why this monthly publication still exists and what purpose it fulfils?” While we continue to grasp the answer to this pertinent question, we are sure of three movements we ought to make now!

Firstly, the Board has made a crucial decision to entrust the Newsletter to a Provincial Committee. This collective body, with its diverse perspectives and collective wisdom, will reflect on the purpose of the Newsletter over time, ensuring that what emerges is a true reflection of our Province.

Secondly, this next phase of the Newsletter will feature the various Conferences and share information that might not otherwise be known in the Province. This purpose is not just to increase our awareness of each other, but to strengthen the bonds within the Province.

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**April, 2024**

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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, Evangelist discipleship and service.**

### Mailing Address

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**SHIFT: Reclaiming our identity, Renewing our Purpose, and Re-igniting our Passion**

## Shift continued from page 1

Tobago was featured in the March edition of the Newsletter. There is more to come from Tobago as their full presentation needed more space. This edition will feather the Trinidad Conference and provide insight into their actions to answer the question, "Why are we here?" The other Conferences will follow as the months progress, keeping us all connected and informed.

Lastly, we extend a warm invitation to all who see the value of the Newsletter and have the required skills and passion, to join its production. Your unique perspectives and contributions are not just welcomed, but highly valued. Together, we can create a Newsletter that truly reflects the diversity and richness of our Province, strengthening our sense of community!

Let us continue to quiz ourselves and our ministries to hear again what God has called us to and be ready to grow, hold, or fold where needed. Let us be open for how God will use this Newsletter to challenge, inspire, and inform this Province and beyond, as we SHIFT.



### **Moravian Music Sunday, Global Christian Forum, Assistant Treasurer**

The Provincial Board makes the following announcements:

1. Moravian Music Sunday will be observed on the fifth Sunday of Easter, April 28, 2024. Please see the attached litany and suggested hymns for this observance.
2. Rev. Kevin St. Hill will represent the Moravian Unity at the Global Christian Forum Gathering (GCF) in Accra Ghana from April 15-20 under the theme "That they may know." This Gathering brings together diverse Christian leaders from across the world to discuss matters of faith and the church in the world. Bro. St. Hill is one of two young clergy requested to represent the Moravian Unity.
3. The Provincial Board announces the return of Sis. Maryse Roberts to continue her service as Assistant Treasurer of the Province.

## PROVINCIAL ELDERS CONFERENCE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL

- 1 – Provincial Day of Prayer
- 1–17 Unity Prayer Watch
- 28 - Moravian Music Sunday

### MAY

- 1 – Provincial Day of Prayer
- 19 – Pentecost
- 23 - 29– PEC meeting Trinidad
- 30 - Staff Development session

### JUNE

- 1 – Provincial Day of Prayer

### JULY

- 1 – Provincial Day of Prayer

### AUGUST

- 1 – Provincial Day of Prayer
- 16-20 – PEC meeting Tobago
- 29 – Staff Development

### SEPTEMBER

- 1 – Provincial Day of Prayer
- 16 – Ministers Covenant Day
- 22 – Widows' Offering

### OCTOBER

- 1 – Provincial Day of Prayer
- 25-31 – PEC meeting Antigua
- 31 – Staff Development session

### NOVEMBER

- 1 – Provincial Day of Prayer

### DECEMBER

- 1 – Provincial Day of Prayer



### Word for Today

**Jesus said, 'Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.' Matthew 7:24**

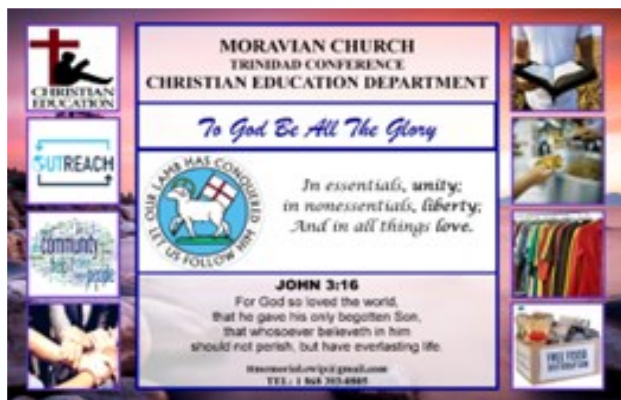
## The Goshen Ministry

*Praise is not enough when mouth only sings,  
Worship is insufficient unaccompanied by deeds,  
Giving glory is empty when the poor stays at your  
feet,  
Bring them to the banquet; share the table of  
God's love.*

This simple chorus was written circa 2011, and undergirds the efforts of the Trinidad Conference as it relates to ministry. We are committed to serving God and the people of God. We may be a small conference, but when it comes to serving God and the people of God, there is a burst of energy that is overflowing potent. So many are in need, and we are committed to giving. Our ministry initiatives include care/food/clothing packages throughout the country, including the Mount Hope, Sangre Grande, Port of Spain and San Fernando Hospitals. It is to this end, that I offer these three (3) submissions for your reflection of ministry in Trinidad. These submissions will feature activities from conference, congregation and individual perspectives.



I submit to you “ The Goshen Ministry, Trinidad Conference Lay Academy and the Imani Blog”.



### OUR SCRIPTURE FOCUS:

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Getting Things Done

### BIRTHING OF GOSHEN MINISTRY:

Goshen Ministry was birthed first at the Rose Hill Moravian Church, through the Rose Hill

Women's Ministry on Saturday 17th December, 2022.

L'Anse Noire Moravian Church on Sunday 19th February, 2023.

Memorial Moravian Church on Sunday 28th May, 2023.

### THE PURPOSE OF GOSHEN MINISTRY IS TO:

1. Share the gospel of Jesus Christ in the community using a holistic approach.
2. Assist and provide valuable support to those in the community by distributing free clothing, hot meals, food/voucher packages, tracks, books, stationeries and other reading materials, and electronic devices. To offer free health check-ups, to provide furniture, appliances, building materials, also to offer encouragement and hope to our brothers and sisters in the wider community.

### BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

Scripture Reference: Genesis 42 & 45:1-10  
Goshen means “drawing near” a place of plenty and comfort and a place of separation. Joseph being ruler in Egypt sent his brothers to occupy that portion of land because he did not want his family to intermingle with the Egyptian culture and they forget God.

It also means Set Apart - the people of Israel was set apart but it was preparation and separation for greater, The promised land.

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**SHIFT: Reclaiming our identity, Renewing our Purpose, and Re-igniting our Passion**



**HOW TO APPLY GOSHEN IN TODAY'S LIFE**

There are times when darkness is around us but the blessings of God will shine brighter than the sun. As the people of Israel were already set apart, God sent the 10 plagues upon Pharaoh and Egypt, but Goshen, the land of plenty, being separated from Egypt was not affected.

When darkness was upon Egypt, Goshen had light. Today our world and communities are in deep darkness, Goshen reveals light and hope. This means we can prosper in the midst of darkness and be that light. Strategically, our presence can make a difference because we are Jesus' representative in the earth. We ought to transform our world with light and hope.

**JESUS MINISTERED TO PEOPLE'S NEEDS**

Spiritual Needs - Jesus fulfilled ministry by sharing the gospel which is the Word of God.

Physical Needs - Jesus also met people's physical needs by providing a meal, the hungry were fed.

**CONCLUSION**

In essence, we follow Jesus' example, What Would Jesus Do (WWJD). This is the approach we take as we actively engage in Goshen Ministry. It is enriching and refreshing to connect with God's people, to meet their needs and to follow up with them as well.

We in the South, that is, Trinidad are eternally grateful to God for the birthing of this outreach Ministry which is ongoing, and relevant for the time and season in which we live. It has also impacted the life of many as we continue to advance in our witness and share the love of God in the church and the community. Looking beyond religious background, nationality, especially since Trinidad is a multicultural society.

Pastor Marleen Browne  
Minister of Christian Education  
Trinidad Conference



*Members of the Rose Hill Moravian Women's Ministry at the Rose Hill Moravian Church the birthing place of Goshen Ministry in the Trinidad Conference*



*Pastor Marleen Browne  
Minister of Christian Education*



*Children at Rose Hill Moravian Goshen*



*Memorial Moravian Goshen Soup Kitchen*



*Children at L'Anse Noire Moravian Goshen*



*Rosehill Moravian Women at Goshen*



## The Lay Academy

The Moravian Church Lay Academy in the Trinidad Conference was initiated in May 2021 as a Preaching Academy to develop the skills within the conference at a point in time where there were only two clergy members in the conference. Given this reality, it was evident that a significant intervention had to happen so that the work of the church can not only continue, but flourish. The strength of the Trinidad Conference is vested in the remarkable laity, their skills and willingness to spend and be spent for the sake of the gospel.

The superintendent Rev. Dr. Ulston Patmore Smith tasked the Reverend Cherice Job-Lewis with all matters relating to lay academy development. The instructions were clear enough – there is need for the development of our laity – do it to the point of making the pastor unnecessary.



Simply put, equip them as much as we are equipped. The aim is to equip the laity so that they can not only assist in the various church ministries, but be able to manage the affairs of the church. There was a tremendous support throughout the province for this program. As a result of the high demand for similar courses, the lay academy was birthed.

The Lay academy focuses on Biblical courses, Counselling, leadership, and communication skills. We are thankful for our various facilitators who have given their time and talents toward the edification of the saints. In September 2023, we were able to have our graduations. The programs have not only helped the members of the various congregations, but the funding has aided the development of the RI curriculum for the primary schools.

The hope is to start to include non-bible subjects to peak the interests in other ministry options such as Introduction to Church and Technology as well as Faith and Business. We are grateful for the partnership with the province in this initiative and express thanks for their continued support. Please continue to keep this ministry in your prayers.

Below are our course options for 2024

- ⇒ The Pauline Epistles
- ⇒ Introduction to Old Testament 1
- ⇒ Introduction to Old Testament 2
- ⇒ Introduction to Counselling 1
- ⇒ Introduction to Counselling 2
- ⇒ Revelation
- ⇒ Church and Technology
- ⇒ Faith and Business

For further information and payment details contact [layacademymctc@gmail.com](mailto:layacademymctc@gmail.com)

Or WhatsApp Rev. Cherice Job at 1868702-2067



### Theological Offering

The Annual Theological Education Offering is collected each year on the 4th Sunday of March. This offering goes towards the training and formation of Ministers. Usually we collect less than it cost to train our Ministers. We encourage everyone to give generously to support this important ministry of the Church.

Gifts are received anytime during the course of the year.

## Light Dem Up!

by Krystal Baynes-Hoseinee



I woke up with a prayer for my nation in my heart. It is probably because I went to sleep with a groaning for my land and my fellow countrymen. The way that bodies and bullets are strewn across highways, malls, carparks, furniture stores, and markets in Trinidad and Tobago

today, clearly demonstrates the value of human life by some.

I wished that it would be enough to avoid the news, and certain social media pages to comfortably live in a bubble of delusion about how real and near is this issue of crime.

I prayed earnestly for my country because unfortunately, I can never be desensitised to the senseless loss of life. I believe that the darkness that seems to have enveloped this land started in the hearts of those who have an absence of light and continues partly because many who have the Light often conceal it. Too many voices of parents, leaders, and believers have gone silent.

Nevertheless, there is hope! God showed up to lighten my heart's load. I began to ponder on the light of Christ which is the glory of God, and His ability to transform the darkest spaces. His will for us is to live peacefully and bountifully where He planted us and to reflect the light of His glory wherever we are.

We are candles in God's hands, that He purposefully places in different countries, families, and workplaces, just so that His light will reign in those places. What I mean is that these flaming candles that we carry will make a difference to the spaces that we occupy by their very presence and nothing more. This is because the Light we carry isn't ours to wield or to work, it's God's. We are the light of the world because we have the Light of Christ.

You see light does more than just give us the ability to see in a dark place, it also drives out all the forces of darkness in that space. It's no different for a village, a city, a corporation, or a country. By no other activity other than being present, your Light's innate power, ushers in a new paradigm.

Light also gives warmth and comfort. A 100-watt incandescent light bulb has a filament temperature of approximately 2500 degrees Celsius and the surface temperature varies from 65 to more than 120 degrees. Turn on an incandescent light and try to touch it 3 minutes afterward and you'll experience first hand that light generates heat.

Thanks to LED technology we do not experience it as much and maybe people are evolving and advancing just as technology. The Light in us ought to exude the incandescent type of heat, but these days many people seem to be rolling with LED-like warmth because there is absolutely no temperature change when they step into a room.

So, carry the light into your organisation, and let the light do its work. Carry it into your business and let it do its work. Teachers, carry your light and warmth into the classroom. Executives, carry your light and warmth into the Boardroom. Lawyers carry your light and warmth into the courtroom.

Parliamentarians and Prison Officers carry your light and warmth into the parliament and penitentiary.

Watch to see how God will use you to transform this nation, one room at a time. Family by family, borough by borough, in every city, and eventually this country will feel the Light and see its effect.

On every level to which the Lord elevates you, let your light beam into the hearts of others. On every platform that He has called you to remain, reflect God's glory to impact and change lives.

It may seem superfluous to some, but I deeply believe in the transformative power of God and His light that He placed in us through His son Jesus.

*"Arise, Shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord rises upon you" (Isaiah 60:1)*

*"Let Your light so shine before men..." (Matthew 5:16a)*

*Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)*

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# Montgomery Moravian Church



## Heavenly Hives Apiary; (March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

This Montgomery Moravian church project, The Heavenly Hives Apiary, with its slogan, "Only the Blessed Bees Will Do", was the brainchild of our dearly departed, Brother John Lawrence. He conceptualized this church project and brought it to fruition, as a means of ensuring that God's kingdom and the church family prospered.

Heavenly Hives was initially established on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021, under a team comprising of eight (8) church members, astutely guided by an experienced beekeeper, Sis. Wellette Toby-McMillan, who ensured that education was part of the process. The team included Brother John Lawrence (deceased), Brother Victor Callendar, Brother Daymion Laptiste, Bro. Kerron Anthony, Sister Carol John, Brother Akel Carrington, Sister Eryn Gardner, and Sister Natoya James-Sylvester initially. The team has modified since then, and continues to grow.



Manual Extraction

The initial apiary site comprised of five (5) colonies, which was further increased to ten (10) colonies in a couple of weeks, was blessed by our then Pastor, Reverend Nevin Tito Lewis, who wholeheartedly supported this venture. Resultantly, the first honey extraction process occurred within two months of our brief existence, on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Although the extraction process was manually done, it was a labour of love. This first extraction was mainly used as gifts and souvenirs to the church family, and a bottle was used to create church memorabilia for future reference. At present, due to a generous donation by a blessed church member, the Heavenly Hives group was gifted an electronic extractor, which reduces the extraction time.



The Brood boxes/ Hives

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, a second apiary site was established due to the business acumen of our beloved chairman, and the products of the Heavenly Hives apiary expanded; to not only bottled honey, but other honey products such as honey-based cooking, hive products, candles, balms, lip-scubs and bath soaps.

Presently, under construction, in accordance with the Beekeeping and Bee Products Acts of Trinidad and Tobago, is a honey home, annexing the church kitchen, as a way of ensuring that the Heavenly Hives Apiary, adheres to the specified regulations and is provided with its own production and storage area.



Honey Products-Gift Package

This apiary, bottles and provides honey for the church members, and members of the community. As a matter of fact, the product is highly sought after and always in demand, due to its exceptional quality. This blessed initiative and committed team of church members, continually proclaims infinite success and growth to this church venture, that was indeed a blessed initiative in all realms of its brief existence thus far.

Over one hundred 750ml bottles of honey have been obtained thus far; bottled and sold as a means of generating income for the church family. As this initiative continues to thrive, succession planning and continuity of our Apiary is part of the plans. Resultantly, the Heavenly Hives group uses every possible opportunity to educate and inform the members from the VBS (Vacation Bible School) groups, Sunday School groups and also the general



First Honey Extraction.



Blessing the second Apiary Site.



Cooking with Honey. Conducted by Chef Sonia Phillips

congregation, via power point presentations and video presentations, about the amazing world of bees and honey production. Members are also encouraged to join the group and be a part of this exceptional initiative.

## BUCCOO MORAVIAN WOMEN OF MISSION HOUSE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Written by Missionary Hyacinth Taylor.

**We are dedicated to God: We have a mind to work.**

Galatians 6:10 says, "As long as there is opportunity, do good to all, especially to those of the household of faith". It is with these words in mind that we, the Women of Mission of the Buccoo Moravian Church, were led to embark on a house construction for **one of our sisters and her family** who experienced some unfortunate circumstances that caused both her and her husband to become non-ambulatory. This project was done from the acquisition of land from the state to the registration of property, water, and electrical connections, and the building of the physical structure.

A lot of preparatory work had to be done on the foundation because we are not building a shack, but a home for the family. As Moravians, #11 of The Brotherly agreement states, 'By our industry, sobriety, and thrift we will endeavor to erect proper houses and maintain good homes'. It is imperative that we represent our King well in all walks of life.

It must be noted that although the construction of the house seems to be "taking long," the reality is, we are ultimately building lives for God's kingdom, and we all know that this process is not easy, but it is undoubtedly worthwhile, since every soul matters to God.

The House Construction project has been our primary focus for the past two years. However, we encountered inclement weather for most of the first year, in 2022. Nevertheless, giving up was, and shall never be, an option for us. We firmly believe that He who has begun a good work shall see it to completion.

Fundraising in all its forms played an integral role in acquiring funds to support our project. People donated willingly, and we hosted two major fundraisers: the Annual Easter Monday Drive-by Breakfast and Tea Party, Ice Cream Party and Multicultural Fashion Show on the Divali holiday.

We received approval for a grant of \$50,000.00 from the Tobago House of Assembly, Division of Settlements, Public Utilities & Rural Development. We sought assistance from the Division of Infrastructure, Quarries & Urban Development regarding labour,

and it was granted via the Unemployment Relief Programme (URP). They committed to assisting with labour from their URP Division until the house is completed. They began work on the building in mid-January 2023. After various strategy meetings with their supervisory heads and our building team, which comprised of our Under Shepherd, Rev. Belinda Manswell Daniel, Missionary Hyacinth Taylor, Sister Dianne James, and Brother Selwyn Johnson (Project Manager), the construction began.

The Communications Department for the Works Division created a video and posted it on their website, sparking significant public interest, which worked in our favour. Two Local television stations (TTT and TV6) approached us for interviews, resulting in donations pouring in both locally and internationally. We continue to live by the words, "the people who know their God shall be strong and do exploits".

Currently, the physical house is completed, with plastering finished, and electrical installation being carried out by one of our own, Bro. Vaughn Caesar, and plumbing works undertaken by a good Samaritan. Extensive excavation work was done around the house in preparation for the erection of a brace wall to prevent soil erosion. All of this was provided by Parks Construction Ltd as a benevolent act. The owner, Parks Construction Limited, is a former classmate of the member we are constructing the house for. What an awesome God we serve!

It is important to note that because labour was provided by the URP Division, whose work policy involves only a few hours daily, the progress of the work has been slower than we anticipated. However, on the contrary, if we had to pay for labour, we may not have had the materials to sustain the project consistently. Therefore, we believe that all things work together for good to those who love the Lord and are called according to His purpose. We never ran out of material, and the workmen always had what they needed to get the job done. The family is expected to occupy their home shortly by God's grace, as our God makes everything beautiful in His own time.

*Continue on Page 9*



*Light dem up continued from page 6*

One answer to my prayer for a breakthrough from the deep darkness of greed, *hate and depravity* that covers our land, is the fierce, unyielding, and transformative light that we carry.

My soul profoundly desires a better place for my son, nieces, nephews, and godchildren to live in the next 20 years, and it is our responsibility to do everything we can today to safeguard their tomorrow. I do not doubt that God will keep me and my loved ones, but that's not enough, I want that same safety for all of us.

May God show you that the Light of the World (Jesus Christ) is accessible to you and that He first illuminates, warms, and comforts your own heart and soul, which then equips you to beam out that Light to the rest of the world.  
Love Ya!



### **BUCCOO MORAVIAN WOMEN OF MISSION HOUSE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

*continued from Page 8*

We are truly grateful for the overwhelming response we received locally, regionally, and internationally for this project. The Superintendent of the Moravian Church Tobago Conference, Reverend Nigel Daniel, and all the other ministers assisted whenever a request was made to their congregations. Special thanks to our Under Shepherd, Reverend Belinda Manswell Daniel, who has been journeying with us and encouraging us throughout all the various challenges.



Today, we confidently declare, "Hitherto hath the Lord brought us". Great is His faithfulness!



## Let us Celebrate



### **Birthday Celebrants**

#### **April 16 – 30**

Sis. Rosalind Prince	26
Bro. Mikie Roberts	27
Sis. Evannie Jeremiah	30



### **Birthday Celebrants**

#### **May 1—15**

Bro. Patmore Smith	10
Sis. Ivy Vessup	10
Sis. Gloria Barker	11



### **Wedding Anniversary Celebrants**

#### **April 16– 30**

Sis. Esther Moore-Roberts & Bro Rudolph Roberts	22
Bro. Elroy Christopher & Sis. Jane Thomas	27
Bro. Jeremy Francis & Sis. Rena Francis-Warner	28



### **Wedding Anniversary Celebrants**

#### **May 1– 15**

Bro. Adrian Smith and Sis. Andrea Lorde-Smith	14
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### **Unity and Good Friday Offering**

- ❖ The 2024 Unity Offering has been earmarked for churches in Germany and the Czech Republic helping to resettle Ukrainian refugees and provide missional help in Ukraine.
- ❖ The Good Friday offering is now directed towards Provincial missions. In 2023 we raised EC\$43,667.91. These funds were allocated to The parallel pension fund, the Grenada Mission, and Unity Printers debt servicing. The 2024 Good Friday Offering will be shared by the Bishop John E Knight Golden Age Home Inc in Antigua and purchasing a vehicle for the Grenada Mission.

Thank you for your generous giving.

**SHIFT: Reclaiming our identity, Renewing our Purpose, and Re-igniting our Passion**

# Moravian Multipurpose Complex

## Conference Center & Apartments



*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.