



THE INFORMATION

A communication from the Chair of the PEC of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province

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)

November, 2024 Issue



Rev. Algernon Lewis
Chair of PEC

Behold He comes!

It is that time of year again on the liturgical calendar – Advent. It is not a stretch to believe that some people in church do not really know what advent is about. We hear the term, we know the rituals, but we are not sure about the essence of the event. Advent is central to the Christian faith. Advent serves to add balance to the Christian work and witness.

The term “Advent” comes from Latin and means “coming” or “arrival.” It speaks to the anticipation of Jesus’ birth and His second coming. Advent helps us to prepare and joyfully look forward to Jesus’ presence among us. Advent marks the beginning of the liturgical year. It ought to be a time to align ourselves with Jesus and prepare for the journey with Him through the year.

I do not recall any special liturgical practices in my growing up years during Advent, short of the hymns we sang and the Moravian star. In recent times, the practice of lighting Advent candles has become popular. The practice varies but there are usually four candles which represent the four Sundays of Advent – three purple signifying penance, preparation, and sacrifice and one pink candle symbolising joy. Before each candle is lit, a narrative is read relating to the theme for that Sunday – Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. The candles are usually set on a wreath.

The central symbol of Advent in the Moravian Church is the Moravian Star. The star combines the Moravian tradition of constructing pointed paper stars for Advent and Christmas and the star of Bethlehem (Matthew 2:2) (Vogt, 2019). The Star is lit from the first Sunday of Advent until the end of the season of Epiphany. The congregations where I have served usually unplug the Star on the last day of Christmas.

The Star has a three-fold message:

1. Firstly, “it testifies to the greatness of the Creator who made the stars on the fourth day (Gen. 1:16), countless in number (Gen. 15:5), differing in glory (1 Cor. 15:41), and praising the might that laid the foundation of the world (Job 38:7) (Vogt, 2019, p. 43).
2. Secondly, the Moravian star is a reminder of the biblical text that speaks of the star that led the magi to the place where Jesus was with His parents (Matthew 2: 9-10). The Moravian Star is a potent reminder that God is still leading people to locate Jesus.

Continue on Page 2

Inside This Issue

Behold He comes Pgs 1 –2

New Herrnhut Moravian Church Anniversary Banquet Pg 2

Tour of the Holy Land Pgs. 3-5

Geneva Moravian Fellowship 5th Anniversary Pg 6

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Congratulations, Condolences Pg 7

Rental of Moravian Multipurpose Complex Pg 8

Vision Statement

A Church - Transformed,
United,
Victorious in Christ

Behold He comes Continued from Page 1

3. Thirdly, each time we see that star, we should be reminded that Jesus' light still shines in the darkness (John 1:4-5) of this chaotic world. The star is to bring us hope.

Of all the seasons of the church, Advent stands out for me. I know of the significance of Good Friday and Easter but there is something about the songs and hymns of Advent that gives this season the edge. The sense that God sent Jesus, from glory into the chaos of the world, in the "fullness of time" (Gal 4:4-7) speaks of Advent being a season when God steps into the fight for us – share power on display! Each time I sing the hymn, "Hail to the Lord's anointed" I get visions of God stepping into a fight where the odds are stacked against me and tipping the scale in my favour. "He comes with succour speedy to those who suffer wrong, to help the poor and needy and bid the weak be strong." In the hymn "O come, O come, Immanuel" Jesus comes to "free thine own from Satan's tyranny," to put "death's dark shadows" to flight." "No matter if you tie or if you dread, or if you have a crown on your head, no matter if you have no heart at all, Jesus brings love for one and all." Advent feels like a divine revolution – God stepping on the stage of history and declaring the presence of the Divine to tip the scales in our favour. It is a time of power! Of course, I have said nothing about the Hosanna Anthem, which is a profound cry for Jesus to act on behalf of His own.

As we observe Advent this year, do not just look ahead to Christmas or the Christ event. Linger! Take the time to journey through. Observe the signs of Advent during worship and use the time to prepare yourself for the arrival of Jesus. During Lent, we engage in sacrificial practices. In Advent, I suggest we choose practices that enlarge our faith. Simple things like choosing someone to pray for during the season. Maybe you could choose who will benefit from your acts of kindness or choose one person per week who will benefit from your kindness. You may volunteer at a hospital or some care facility.

Since Advent is about our big God stepping into the chaos of our times, maybe you can step out in faith in some area of your life. Whatever you choose to do, make sure that it is an act of faith to draw you closer to Jesus.

I am looking forward to the songs and hymns. I am looking forward to being reminded that I am not a victim to the things that happen to me – we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us (Romans 8: 37). When you look up to the star, be reminded that Advent is a real thing; it speaks of preparation that you must make before meeting Jesus. As you see the star, get excited that Jesus comes to fight for you. "Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call; lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee, and out of Zion's hill salvation comes".

Works Cited

Vogt, P. (ed.) (2019). *Our Moravian treasures*. ProRex Forlag.



New Herrnhut Moravian Church
Church Anniversary Banquet
"Celebrating Moravian Mission Through Music!"
Honoring:

LeRoy V. Trotman, PhD

Monet I. Davis

Lionel "Magic, Mike" Mulrairie, Jr.

Lorna Freeman Woodley

Robert Maginn

December 13, 2024
6:00 P.M.

MUSIC: The Eljhaie Brathwaite Project
SILENT AUCTION
 Donation: \$125.00
 Location :
 Mark Marin Center
 More Information :
 340-775-3255

Continue on Page 4

TOUR OF THE JORDAN AND THE HOLYLAND

Some of you may or may not know that I have been a successful Script-Writer / Broadcaster and Travel Consultant for most of my working life in Barbados, and I have travelled extensively before taking up an administrative appointment with the Saudi Ministry of Aviation and Defense in the largest Military Medical City in the Middle East. During my 13+ years in the Middle East, I was asked and accepted the role of Elder in the British Fellowship. Some of my free time was spent hiking in the vast desert and also organizing numerous successful group tours for the thousands of Expats and some Saudi nationals to interesting sites in the country, the region and as far afield as some African countries - Egypt, Ethiopia, South Africa China- to name a few, and many, many tours to Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Jerusalem and other parts of the Holyland. This being said, I have recently reconnected with Jamal, my trusted Jordanian/ Holyland Tours Service Provider, and I am planning a group tour to Jordan and The Holyland leaving Barbados on Friday evening 23 May 2025 returning on 05 June. The proposed itinerary, cost and payment schedule is outlined below .

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Friday, 23 May - Depart Barbados for London Heathrow arriving on Saturday 24 May 2025

Day 2 – Saturday, 24 May - Depart London Heathrow and arriving Amman, Jordan on Sunday 25 May

Day 3 – Sunday, 25 May - Meet and greet on arrival at Queen Alia Airport and transfer to Amman West Hotel.

Day 4 – Monday, 26 May - 8'0'clock Breakfast & Introductory City Tour including Jerash and Petra; a visit to Amman's Citadel which is located in a mountain in central Amman. We will also see the most obvious and impressive remnant of Jordan's Roman past - the huge amphitheater from where thousands of people once watched Chariot racing. Jerash is one

of the largest and most well-preserved sites of Greek and Roman architecture in the world, going back to 6,500 years. If we are lucky, we will get to enjoy a historical re-enactment of gladiators and chariot race.

Dinner and Overnight in Petra (you might wish to attend the fascinating Night Show. (This is optional - Cost US\$24)

Day 5 – Tuesday, 27 May - Breakfast. Your day's adventure will start by exploring Petra - An awesome Rock City built by ancient Nabateans - Sister City to World Heritage Site - Meda'in Saleh in The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Just grasp the fact that the Arab Nabateans- more than 2000 years ago, carved this 45m high monument Treasury into the red mountain rock. The Petra tour starts with a walk through the Seeq (canyon). You may go by foot or enjoy a short horse 'n buggy ride (at a cost).

You will enjoy a mouth-watering Lunch at Petra, after which, we will continue south and into Wadi Rum to join a two hour jeep tour and get to see the naturally multi-coloured canyons, towering sandstone mountains and high dunes of Wadi Rum, known as the Valley of the Moon. Today will end with dinner and overnight in Wadi Rum .

Day 6 – Wednesday, 28 May - Breakfast in Wadi Rum before heading to Moses' Memorial Church and stand on Mount Nebo to look over the Promised Land - Jordan Valley, the hills of Jerusalem and the Dead Sea. We will then go on a mosaic tour until reaching Madaba - Governorate in central Jordan. Here we will visit the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George to view the large Byzantine-era mosaic map of the old City of Jerusalem on the floor of the church. In the afternoon we will drive down to the Dead Sea for a swim / float. Lunch at the Dead Sea and then back to Amman for a farewell dinner and overnight.

Day 7 – Thursday, 29 May - Breakfast at the Hotel by The Dead Sea and then cross the Border (Allenby Bridge) by land, to begin our spiritual journey with a warm welcome at Allenby Bridge, then transfer to

Continue on Page 4

TOUR OF THE JORDAN AND THE HOLYLAND

Continued from Page 3

Mount Tabor to ascend the Basilica of the Transfiguration, commemorating Jesus' divine manifestation. We then continue to Nazareth and visit the Virgin's wells and the Basilica of the Annunciation where the Angel Gabriel appears to Mary. Dinner and overnight in Nazareth or nearby the Sea of Galilee .

Day 8 – Friday, 30 May - Discover the Sea of Galilee, starting at the Mount of Beatitudes, the site of the Sermon on the Mount. Here you may have time to stand at the foot of the Golan Heights and look across to Damascus Syria. We will visit Tabgha, where the miraculous multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes took place.

We then continue on to visit Capernaum, the base of Jesus' ministry, and explore Peter's House and the ancient synagogue.

Today we will also enjoy a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee, a journey that echoes the disciples' experiences, then return to the hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 9 – Saturday 31 May - Today we will proceed to the Mediterranean Coast and from the top of Mount Carmel enjoy a general view of Haifa with its harbour. Also viewing the Baha'i Gardens and a visit to Stella Maris - an ancient Latin title meaning 'Star of the Sea' so named for Mary, the mother of Jesus.

We continue the drive south along the coast to Caesarea, the residence of the Roman Governors, and explore biblical and historical events.

We will end today's tour with a visit to ancient Jaffa (Joppa), where many events are recounted in the old and New Testament. Overnight in Jerusalem.

Day 10 – Sunday 01 June - We will explore Shepherds' Field where the angels announced Jesus' birth to the shepherds, then proceed to the birthplace of Jesus - the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

We will also visit Ein Kareem, the birthplace of John the Baptist and the visitation site before returning to Jerusalem for overnight.

Day 11 – Monday 02 June - We begin today at The Mount of Olives for a breathtaking view of the City of Jerusalem, Prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane and/or The Church of All Nations and visit The Pater Noster Convent where Jesus taught the disciples the Lord's Prayer. We will then walk the Palm Sunday Road before going to Bethany to visit the Tomb of Lazarus.

Day 12 – Tuesday 03 June - Inside Jerusalem we will explore Mount Zion, visiting the Upper Room (the Cenacle) and the Church of St. Peter in Galllicantu. We will walk the Via Dolorosa (The Way of Sorrow) following the Stations of the Cross to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. We will also visit the Western (Wailing) Wall, Temple Mount, St. Anne's Church and the Pool of Bethesda.

Day 13 – Wednesday 04 June - Day Free to explore Jerusalem - inside and around the City Wall, as you wish. Yes! It is very safe to do so.

Day 14 – Thursday 05 June - Jericho City Tour including the Sycamore Tree of Zacchaeus, Elisha's Fountain, the Mount of Temptation and the Qumran Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered.

Transfer back Jordan via the Allenby Bridge and on to Queen Alia Airport to start the journey home.

GROUND COST ONLY

15-25 Persons - BD\$3,700.00 each.

26-35 Persons - BD\$3,500.00 each.

36-50 Persons (max) - BD\$3,300.00 each. This coach seats 51.

If we have more than 50 persons, the cost will be revised. Above Costs include:

TOTAL GROUND COST ONLY - INCLUDING ALL ABOVE

Continue on Page 5

TOUR OF THE JORDAN AND THE HOLYLAND

Continued from Page 4

Four Star Hotel Accommodation with Breakfast & Dinner and Lunch where stated.

Some tours will include lunch as stated. Where lunch is not mentioned, you will be responsible for lunch. We usually make sure we have some breakfast as a take-a-way to fill in where lunch not is not listed, or buy lunch which is really not expensive. Also included in the total ground cost is the Jordan Visa (Bd\$28) and the tax at Allenby Bridge (BD\$100)

TO BOOK

I will need the full name, nationality, date of birth, passport number and details (date of Issue/ expiry) email address and telephone number, any allergies and an immediate deposit of BD\$1,200.00 to secure your seat.

I will need to forward the deposit to the Service Provider no later than 30 September. So please be aware that to delay is to deny.

I will need to forward the deposit to the Service Provider no later than 30 September. So please be aware that to delay is to deny.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Full balance of ground cost to be paid no later than 31 October 2024. This is extremely important to ensure the hotels are booked as well as negotiating a group airfare. What this means for you is that if you delay making the full payment of the ground cost, it will delay the guarantee of an attractive group airfare since I will be unsure of our numbers.

So please, if you are seriously interested in taking this tour, do not delay your deposit as requested.

Airfare will be advised as soon as a group fare is approved by the Airline and booking is confirmed.

Once this is done and your seats booked, an immediate deposit will be requested to secure the seats. Hopefully this negotiation will take us into late November / mid- December Balance of ticket cost will then be no later than Tuesday 15 April 2025. So you will have adequate time after November to put aside the balance of the cost of the airfare.

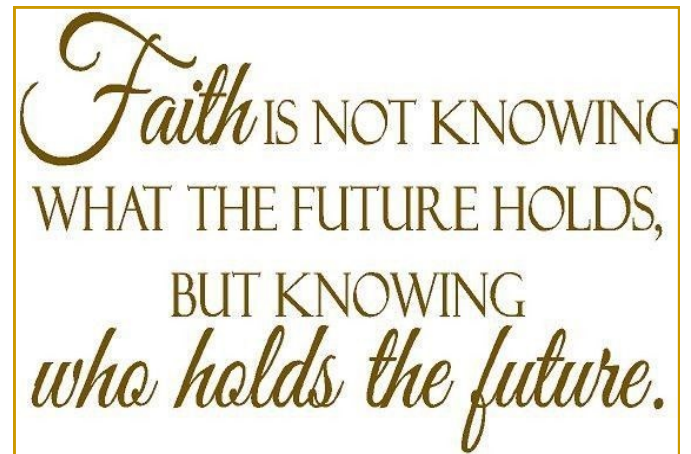
I have lost count of the number of times I have done this trip. For most of you, this will be one of the most memorable trips of your lifetime. Therefore, after all payments have been made we will have a face to face and / or Zoom group meeting during which I will walk you through the tour and answer all of your questions/ concerns etc.

Yes! The tour is safe. Very safe!

Sis. Cora Cumberbatch Arthur Seat, St. Thomas Barbados Any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via email (classicculturetours@gmail.com)



Quote of the Day





GENEVA MORAVIAN FELLOWSHIP
2019 - 2024

5TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebration

"FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS"

ESTHER 4:14

Anniversary Events

SERVICE

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER

15h/3pm (Swiss)

Paroisse du Petite, Saconnex

PREACHER:

REV DR JERRY PILLAY,
GENERAL SECRETARY, WCC

DINNER

FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER

19h/7pm (Swiss)

Geneva Hotel and Convention
and Exhibition Center

SPEAKER: SIS ROBERTA HOEY
CHAIRMAN OF THE MORAVIAN UNITY

ON LINE SERVICE

WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER 19h30 (Swiss) 1:30pm (AST) 2:30 (EST)

PREACHER:

RT REV DR MICHAEL JOHNSON
MORAVIAN CHURCH, NORTHERN PROVINCE

We Prayerfully ask for a donation of 50US/50CHF Europe CH 4909000000200006399
(swiss post finance) or PayPal: winellekroberts@gmail.com

PASTOR: REV. DR. WINELLE KIRTON ROBERTS

SHIFT: RECLAIMING OUR IDENTITY, RENEWING OF PURPOSE, AND RE-IGNITING OF PASSION



Birthday Celebrants



November 15—30

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

December 1-15

Bro. Alban St. Hill	02
Bro. Ulric V. Smith II	02
Sis. Eloise Stephens	02
Bro. Kevin St. Hill	08
Sis. Liselle Roberts	08
Sis. Bonnie E.B.W. Smith	10
Sis. Cicely Athill-Horsford	12

Wedding Anniversary Celebrants

November 15— 30

Bro. Alban St. Hill & Sis. Cynthia St. Hill	24
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December 1—15

Bro. Cortroy Jarvis & Sis. Pearline Jarvis	07
Sis. Alicia Ross-Floyd & Bro. Myron Floyd	08
Sis. Bonnie E.B.W. Smith & Bro. Ulric Smith	10
Sis. Judy Winspeare-Phillip & Bro. Sean Phillip	12



- ❖ To The Rt. Rev. Dr. A. Kingsley Lewis was consecrated a bishop of the Moravian Church on November 13, 1999 in Antigua. Heartiest congratulations to Bishop Lewis on the 25th anniversary of his consecration. Bishop Lewis has served the Province as an ordained minister for 52 years and is a source of wisdom and counsel.

May the love, grace, and provision of God remain his constant source.

- ❖ To Sis. Tovia Daniel, daughter of Rev. Nigel Daniel and Rev. Belinda Manswell-Daniel of the Tobago Conference on her graduation from the University of the West Indies. Sis. Tovia graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Counseling Psychology.

Condolences

The Provincial Family mourns the death of :

- ❖ Retired Pastor, Rev. Matthew Crooks. Bro. Crooks died on November 7, 2024 in Tobago. He served the Eastern West Indies Province in Barbados and Tobago from September 1992 to April 2003. His service was interrupted by illness.

The Provincial family expresses sincere condolences to his widow, Sis Jasmin Crooks and their children Christal, Clifton, and Paul.

The funeral service was held on Thursday November 14, 2024 at the Montgomery Moravian Church in Tobago. Please pray for this family in their time of grief and loss.

The Rt. Rev. John Wilson into the more immediate presence of our Savior.

Brother Wilson has been in declining health for some-time, however his passing is felt by many in the Miami area where he served as a Moravian pastor under appointment following his retirement as a Moravian pastor and Bishop in Nicaragua in the 1990s.

Please join me in lifting prayers of gratitude for his life as well as prayers of comfort for the Wilson family, those touched by his ministry in Nicaragua, and the many Moravians in South Florida he impacted - especially the King of Kings Moravian congregation. The Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province offers thanks for his service in this part of the Vineyard over the years.

The funeral arrangement is as follows: On Sunday November 24, 2024 visitation for Family 5pm-6pm., Public visitation 6pm—8pm at Caballero Rivero Westchester 8200 Bird Road, Miami, FL.

On Monday November 25, 2024, Viewing and Service will be held at Prince of Peace Moravian Church 1880 NW 183 ST. Miami Gardens, FL 33056

Viewing will begin at 9:00am Service at 10:00a.m

All clergy participating are being asked to wear Black Gowns. All clergy will gather at POP at 9.30a.m prior to procession into the Sanctuary.

Moravian Multipurpose Complex Conference Center & Apartments



Graduations
Conferences
Weddings
Banquets
Meetings
Dinners

- ◆ 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.

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.

Our Mailing Address

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