



THE INFORMATION

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

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)

June 2025, Issue



Rev. Algernon Lewis
Chair of PEC

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Family Month

Family month has become a regular activity in congregations in this Province. Family month runs from Mother's Day to Father's Day or the end of June. Congregations have observed family month with various activities. Sometimes, there is a standard repeat of activities and there is also a conscious effort to insert new and different activities to celebrate family month. However we observe family month, it is a good thing to emphasize family and the role it plays in our congregations and wider Christian family.

So, what now? Is family month about activities or is there something greater? The general view is that there is more. The church always has an evangelistic edge, seeking to draw people to drink deeper from the resources of the Christian faith. All families need help – help to maintain the bonds they have created or to grow into a better formed unit. The family is the smallest unit of society and should be central to the ministry of the church. When the church does its work of discipleship well, family members are better formed to operate in their families of origin, the church families, and the other spaces they occupy. Family month is over, but here are some things on my mind about how we might observe family month.

Let us view family month as an essential part of discipleship. Discipleship has been defined in many ways. From my perspective, discipleship is practicing the way of Jesus. In family month activities, we should be looking for ways to practice the ways of Jesus in the family. How does Jesus want us to relate to people? What is the gold standard?

Whatever programmes we choose to create for family month, they should answer the questions above. Our answers should be based on the life of the congregation. If the people in the congregation are being "kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave," then you are ahead of the curve and should move on to something else.

Vision Statement

A Church - Transformed,
United,
Victorious in Christ

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Family Month continued from Page 1

If husbands are loving their wives as Christ loves the church, then we are heading in the right direction. Remember the goal is to form people into disciples of Christ so that they reflect the character of Jesus.

As the body of Christ, our ministry must work with the faithful until Christ be formed in them (Galatians 4.19). This is not really the work of expert committees or pastors. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who works on people to transform them to reflect the image of Christ. The Holy Spirit must open people's hearts for this work to be done. Without the Spirit of God doing the work, its effects are superficial at best. It is worth saying that this work is not localized to family month. The activities may begin here and woven into the fabric of daily ministry.

The low-hanging fruit is a preaching series that emphasizes the practices that are needed in the family. Forgiveness comes to mind easily. There are also practices such as hospitality and generosity which are needed all the time. Many congregations also struggle with how to build relationships between the generations. How might we create conversations and training to help build capacity in these areas? How might we create the space for dialogue between the generations so that our young people can grow with the sense of being part of a wider community that affirms their intrinsic value.

This is where we need to lean into the biblical narrative and draw the stories and teachings that build both faith and community. The relationship between Paul and Timothy is a rich resource for such conversations. Further, the requirement of the Shema is Deuteronomy 6 is another resource to ground us in such practices.

One of the areas of struggle in our communities is family life. The church gets this opportunity to do a deep dive into what is the divine intent behind being family, being husband, being wife. These roles and images have been distorted by bad theology and secular perspectives alike. Exploring the divine intent is needed again. This is not just for adults but also for youth who are being disciplined and formed by cultural norms. The culture has been doing what the church should do – forming people according to its values. Our efforts must be intentional and strategic.

Clearly, this ministry of not an event that gets localized within a six-week period. The process of discipleship is continuous. This ministry requires passion which will force us to do the work required. Make no mistake, producing the material for the study is work. However, in these modern times, there is great online help to lessen the preparation time and effort.

In our planning for family month, let us always have an eye for those people who are not yet members. The church exists for people who are not yet here. We may need to have conversations with people who are not in church to find out what they are looking for. Movie nights, game events, public discussion, providing for people in need, among other things, have worked in the past. Notwithstanding, being a student of your community provides unique views of how to serve your community.

Family month for 2025 is over but the ministry continues. Some of those activities can come back because working with families is always relevant. As congregations evaluate their recent family month activities, it is a good time to lay tracks for what next year's activities can be. If nothing else, let the concept of family month being an opportunity to disciple families resonate and bear fruit, remembering to leave room for the Holy Spirit to do the formation.

Understanding Provincial Synod

The Provincial Synod is the highest decision-making body of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province. Constitutionally, in our Province, Synod convenes every three years. Each Synod should review the ministry of the whole church for the previous three years and through proposals project the path forward. It's a sacred moment to reflect, reset, and reimagine the future of the Church's ministry.

Delegates

Each of the six Conferences sends delegates to Synod based on the size of their Conference, the maximum being three and the minimum, one. Along with the elected delegates there is a youth delegate, the Conference treasurer, and all the ministers and Lay Pastors in the Conference. Conferences whose provincial assessment or monthly quota is in arrears are not allowed to seat their elected delegates without special permission from the Synod. Persons who are not delegates but are members of the Moravian church, may attend as Observers to the Synod. They can be present, attend plenary sessions, and only speak when permission is given by the Chairman of Synod.

Synod Leadership

Synod is led by an executive team consisting of the Chairman of Synod, the Vice Chairman, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Chaplain, and legal counsel. The Provincial Board appoints the Chairman, Secretary, and Chaplain of Synod at least six months before Synod convenes. The Vice Chairman and Assistant Secretary are elected at Synod. While the Provincial Board organizes the Synod, it is the executive team that manages its execution.

The Business of Synod

Synod begins with a retreat. This retreat may cover any topic the Provincial Board deems necessary for the edification of the Synod. The business of Synod is varied given that this is the "highest legislative authority in the Province, with supreme legislative powers on all matters not committed to the Unity Synod" (BOO 2022 p.31). Much of the time of Synod is spent reviewing reports from the Provincial Board, the six Conferences, and any other relevant entities. From those reports and from the general membership, there may be other proposals to be discussed in the eleven committees of Synod – Constitution, Finance, Ministry and Theological Education, Doctrine, Ritual, and Worship, Christian Education and Youth, Evangelism and Mission, Social Action, Miscellaneous Business, Ministerial Review and Discipline, Editorial, and Fraternal Relations.

Committees refine, accept, or reject these proposals before they are brought to the full Synod. Approved proposals are voted on and, if passed, become resolutions added to the Book of Order—shaping everything from clergy compensation is allowed to be buried in the cemetery. Committees are allowed to pull back proposals for further editing based on the feedback on the floor of Synod.

Synod also elects the new Provincial Board. When electing members of the Provincial Board, there is no nomination. The ballot has the names of all eligible candidates and delegates/synodals vote accordingly. Each successful candidate must receive at least a two-thirds majority of the voting members present.

The same applies for the election of a Bishop. There is no nomination, and a two-thirds majority is required for election.

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How AI Scams are Fooling Smart People and what you can do about it—

by The Team at Fuller Investing
Fuller Investment Management Company

Voice cloning. Deepfakes. Hyper-personalized emails. AI scams are getting more convincing. Here's what to watch out for to stay safer and better prepared.

In the 1920s, a man named Victor Lustig convinced dozens of people he had the authority to sell the Eiffel Tower.¹ Twice.

He forged documents, spoke confidently, and preyed on trust.

Scams aren't new. The technology just keeps changing.

Today's scammers don't need forged papers or fake titles. They have artificial intelligence. And they're using it to clone voices, create fake videos, and craft eerily personal emails.

Even smart, cautious people can be fooled.

This issue of the Visual Insights Newsletter breaks down **five common AI-powered scam tactics**, and gives you practical steps to help protect yourself and your loved ones.

#1 Voice Cloning: Trust, Hijacked

AI can now clone a loved one's voice with exceptional accuracy (often using just a few seconds of audio scraped from online sources). Scammers use it to impersonate family members in distress, tricking victims into sending money during fake emergencies.²

Precautions to take:

Set up a family *safe word* for real emergencies, and never act based on a voice alone. If Something feels off, hang up and call the person back using a

number you know is real. Ask a personal question only they would know.

What to know:

Scammers can fake what shows up on your caller ID. It's called **spoofing**. Just because it looks like a call from your bank or a family member doesn't mean it actually is.

#2 Deepfakes: Seeing Isn't Believing

AI-generated videos and photos can now make it look like someone said or did something they never actually did.³

From fake celebrity endorsements to political misinformation, deepfakes are being used to deceive. They're getting harder to spot.

Precautions to take:

If a video or image seems off, don't react right away. Cross-check with a trusted source, look for coverage from credible outlets, and **avoid sharing emotionally charged content until it's verified**.

What to know:

Deepfakes often rely on urgency or shock to bypass your skepticism. Slowing down your reaction is one of the simplest — and most effective — defenses.

#3 Phishing Emails & Texts: Deception, Personalized

Scammers now use AI to craft phishing emails and texts that sound personal, look legitimate, and often mimic real institutions.

They can appear to come from your bank or delivery services like USPS or FedEx.

These messages try to trigger urgency or curiosity to get you to click a link or share sensitive information.⁴

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How AI Scams are Fooling Smart People and what you can do about it. Continued from page 4

Precautions to take:

Don't click on links in unexpected messages — even if the name looks familiar. Instead, **go directly to the source** (like your bank's website or your account on a retail site) to verify. If a message feels suspicious, **check the sender's address or number carefully** and don't respond.

What to know:

Scammers can spoof both email addresses and phone numbers. They can even use fake websites that look nearly identical to the real thing. If something feels off, **pause, verify, and never rush to respond**.

#4 Fake Websites: Familiar Look, Fraudulent Intent

Many phishing scams lead you to the next trap: a fake website that looks almost identical to a trusted brand.

Scammers use AI to build convincing clones that mimic real companies, complete with official logos, login forms, and messaging.

Precautions to take:

Avoid entering personal or financial information on a site you reached through an email or text message. Instead, type the website address directly into your browser or use a saved bookmark. Look closely for misspellings or unusual characters in the URL.

What to know:

Just because a website looks legitimate doesn't mean it is. Scammers use fake links to trick you into handing over passwords, credit card numbers, and other sensitive information.⁵

#5 Personalized Scams: Too Much Information

AI makes it easier for scammers to gather your personal details, from social media posts to public records, and use them to

create messages that seem tailored just for you. These scams might reference your job, family, hobbies, or recent events to catch you off guard and earn your trust.

Precautions to take:

Be mindful of what you share online. Adjust your privacy settings and avoid posting information about vacations, birthdays, or family milestones that could be used against you. If a message feels oddly specific or familiar, pause and verify before you respond.

What to know:

Scammers don't need to hack you when they can simply collect what you've made public. The more they know, the more convincing their scams become.⁶

Stay Ahead of the Scam Curve

Which of these scams caught you by surprise? Which ones could catch someone you care about off guard?

Digital scams don't just steal information. They target your trust, your time, and your financial sense of security.

The good news is, you don't need to know everything to stay protected. A few smart habits and conversations can make a big difference.

Staying informed helps you make clearer decisions, avoid costly mistakes, and support others who may be more vulnerable.

When it comes to protecting your wealth and peace of mind, awareness is a powerful first move.

And when digital threats are just one piece of the puzzle, a well-rounded financial strategy becomes even more important.

Whether you're planning for growth, legacy, or long-term protection, we're here to help you stay one step ahead.

Condolences on the Passing of Rev. Dr. Frank A. Barker



The Provincial Board shares the sad news of the death of a colleague and brother, Rev. Dr. Frank Barker. Bro. Barker died in Miami, Florida on May 29, 2025 - Ascension Day.

Bro. Barker was a native of Barbados and candidated for pastoral ministry in the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province from the Clifton Hill Moravian congregation in 1959. He was ordained to Word and Sacrament on August 15, 1963. He served the St. Kitts (1963-1966), Antigua

(1966-1971) and Barbados (1971-1975) Conferences. He served the Moravian Church in North American from 1978-2005. After retirement, she served as the Moravian Tutor and Warden at United Theological College of the West Indies in Jamaica from 2006 – 2012. Bro. Barker gave himself extensively for the cause of Christ and the gospel and touched many lives.

The Provincial family expresses sincere condolences to his wife, Sis. Gloria Frank, their children, and the extended family. Let us pray for the family as they journey through this place of grief and loss.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Rev. Dr. Frank Barker was held at the Prince of Peace Moravian Church in Miami Florida on Saturday, June 21, 2025 with visitation at 10:00am and funeral service beginning at 11:00am.

The Service of Thanksgiving with interment for Bro. Frank Barker was held at the Sharon Moravian Church in Barbados on Tuesday, July 1, 2025 beginning at 1:30pm. Burial will be at the Clifton Hill Moravian Cemetery.

Understanding Provincial Synod continued from page 3

Worship life of Synod

There are two main worship services for Synod – the opening and closing services. Typically, the Chair of PEC preaches at the opening service and another pastor (normally another clergy on the PEC) is designated for the closing service. The closing service is also a communion service and serves as an installation for the new Provincial Board.

Each day of Synod opens with devotions by the Chaplain and closes with vespers by one of the Conferences. The worship life and particularly the singing, is usually a highlight of Synod. Both traditional hymns and contemporary songs are sung with the same passion and commitment. There is often potent scriptural change and encouragement from the chaplain and the other pulpiteers.

Fellowship

The psalmist says, “Behold how good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity” (Psalm 133:1 NIV). The fellowship is usually great as colleagues get to spend extended time together, members to renew or form new friendship, and the people of God build the relational capital required for ministry. It is not perfect, but it is beautiful. Synod brings together the best of us.

Conclusion

The Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province convenes Synod every three years unless extenuating circumstances dictate otherwise. It is where work, worship, and fellowship meet to produce a beautiful tapestry. We look forward to the next Provincial Synod scheduled for 2028 in St. Kitts.





Birthday Celebrants

June 16—30

Sis. Jocelyn Connor	17
Sis. Elva Richards-Goodwin	25
Bro. Selvin McMillan	25
Sis. Jasmin Crooks	26
Sis. Roslyn Hamblin	29

July 1—31

Sis. Movelle Kellman	05
Bro. Winston Chase	08
Bro. Michael Goodwin	09
Bro. Neilson Waithe	10
Cherice Job-Lewis	10
Bro. Ralph Prince	11
Bro. Kirk Barker	21
Sis. Earleen Simmons	25
Bro. Andrew Roberts	28
Bro. Rudolph Roberts	28
Sis. Althea P. Jarvis	29
Sis. Elisa G. Hodge	29

Anniversary Celebrants

June 16—30

Sis. Elva Richards Goodwin & Bro Michael Goodwin 23

July 1—31

Sis. Anique Elmes-Matthew & Bro. Colin Matthew	04
Bo. Nigel Daniel and Sis. Belinda Manswell-Daniel	06
Bro. Neilson Waithe & Sis. Vera Waithe	07
Bro. Erflin Browne & Sis. Marleen Browne	19
Bro. Devon Mannix & Sis Stacey Herbert Mannix	21
Bro. Rowan Simmons & Sis. Earleen Simmons	24
Bro. Mikie Roberts & Sis. Winelle Kirton-Roberts	24
Bro. Walton Frederick & Sis. Angela Frederick	26



Provincial Day of Prayer



Our next Provincial Day of Prayer will be held on Friday August 1, 2025. This prayer meeting begins at 6:00 am and will be led by the Moravian Church Tobago Conference.

The link for the meeting will be shared in due course.



Ordination Anniversaries



Bro Errol Connor June 18, 1991
Bro. Ezra Parris June 19, 1992
Bro. Nevin Lewis June 27, 2010

Bishop Albert K. Lewis July 15, 1973
Bro. Winston Chase July 02, 1978
Bishop Conrad D. Spencer July 11, 1982
Bro. Joseph Nicholas July 11, 1982
Sis. Cicely Athill-Horsford July 11, 1982
Bro. Cortroy Jarvis July 17, 1983
Bro. Elroy Christopher July 24, 1983
Bro. Walton Frederick July 22, 1984
Sis. Roslyn Hamblin July 21, 1985
Sis. Esther Moore-Roberts July 22, 1990
Bro. Algernon Lewis July 19, 1995
Bro. Andrew Roberts July 20, 1998
Sis. Anique Elmes-Matthew July 23, 2000
Bro. Rowan Simmons July 30, 2000
Bro. Hilton Joseph July 30, 2000
Sis. Adelyn Mgonela July 28, 2002
Bro. Devon Mannix July 30, 2006
Sis. Cherice Job-Lewis July 16, 2010
Bro. Erwin Warner July 11, 2015
Bro. Moise Jean July 11, 2015
Bro. David Ince July 11, 2021



Condolences



The Provincial family extends condolences to :

- ♦ The Rev. Esther Moore-Roberts on the death of her brother, Wayne Moore of Tobago, on May 30, 2025 at age 65 years.
- ♦ The Rev. Dr. Errol Connor on the death of his aunt, Clarian Connor of Anguilla, at age 95 years.

Please pray for Sis. Moore-Roberts and Bro. Connor and their families in their time of grief and loss.

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. This area is fully air-conditioned.
- ◆ 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.

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