



Bethlehem Herald

Monthly Newsletter of the
Bethlehem Moravian Church



Volume 14, October 2017



*Bethlehem Herald –
1 Year Old
Congratulations!!*

'Get Wisdom'

*Submitted by: Rev. Julie Joefield-Parris
Christian Educator, Barbados Conference*

*"Get wisdom, get understanding; forget it not; neither decline
from the words of my mouth." Proverbs 4:5 (KJV)*

Scripture: Proverbs 4:5 says "Get wisdom; get insight; do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth". The word to us all from Proverbs 4:5 is clear, - it is that of getting wisdom.



CONTACT US:

Rev. Delroy R. Burley, Minister-in-charge
Mailing Address: Bethlehem Moravian Church
Moravian Gardens, Maxwell, Christ Church,
Barbados W.I.

Telephone: (246) 428-8266 / 428-8284 / 284-8758

E-Mail Address: bethlehemmoravianchurch@gmail.com

Herald E-Mail Address: bethlehemherald@gmail.com

Web Address: <http://www.moravians.net>

Inside This Issue

Meditation – 'Get Wisdom' Rev. Julie Joefield Parris	pg. 1
Anniversary Collage "A lot Can Happen in One Year"	pg. 2
Word Search : Natural Disasters	pg. 2
This Month in Moravian History:	
- At Bethlehem in Barbados	pg. 2
- Synod of 1857: The End of the Unity?	pg. 3
Unsung Hero/Heroine – Lydia: Diligent in Business...	pg. 4
Fun Corner: Teen's Corner - A Familiar Game – "B"	pg. 5
Recipe : Disaster-time Meals and Recipes	pg. 5
Pastor's Desk – "When Effects of Age starts to show"	pg. 6
Greetings/Information/News - from Home & Abroad:	
- Our Journey to Synod 2018 cont'd	pg. 7
- Synod 2018 Schedule and Sub-Committees	pg. 7
- Disaster Response	pg. 8
Helping Hands – Our Mission Fields/Financial Status	pg. 9
Mark Your Calendar – Celebrations/Announcements	pg.10
Truths/Tips – Something For Every Age – "Rebuilding"	pg.11

For all adults, and in particular for parents, this is particularly crucial since you have the mammoth undertaking of raising children in a challenging and changing environment.

Wisdom is needed to give direction and guidance to our youth and children.

Men, as well as women, need to recognise that children are a gift from God and, if we are given the charge of being responsible for

Let's Support!

ST. PHILIP MORAVIAN FELLOWSHIP

Annual Luncheon

Sunday,
October 29, 2017

\$60

"Castle Mania!"
Castle Heights, St. Philip
Time: 1:00 pm



that gift, we prove ourselves worthy by doing the best within our ability and resources to pass on true and positive goals, true and meaningful ways of life.

There is the need to be guided by the Word of God as to how to raise this generation. Many complain that it is difficult and challenging, however, if we are given the responsibility to nurture what belongs to God, do we not think that the same God would give directions as to how to accomplish this task?

If we seek to do it all on our own, in our own strength, then we will be severely tested in fulfilling our purpose to lead and direct. If, on the other hand, we should seek the wisdom and guidance from Almighty God through His Word, then we will gain much to pass on much more.

Prayer

God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, courage to change the things we can, and wisdom to know the difference. Amen.

Serenity Prayer: Adopted and edited

NATURAL DISASTERS

Word Search

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

STORM
FLOOD
TSUNAMI
BLIZZARD
DROUGHT

LANDSLIDE
HURRICANE
EARTHQUAKE
LIGHTNING
CAVE-IN

TORNADO
VOLCANO
WILDFIRE
AVALANCHE
TYPHOON

THE LETTERS WHICH REMAIN FORM THESE WORDS:

- * BE PREPARED
- * I AM ELOHIM
- * LEAN ON ME
- * PRAY ALWAYS

THIS MONTH IN MORAVIAN HISTORY AT BETHLEHEM IN BARBADOS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| ✠ 1963
October | Weekly Services introduced. |
| ✠ 1970
October 18 th | Laying of Corner Stone by the
Rt. Rev. Edwin W. Kortz. |



This Month in Moravian History

Synod of 1857: End of the Unity?



*Image: View of
the Widows'
House in
Herrnhut, where
the General
Synod met
(Scholz/Gregor)*

In the mid-19th century the Moravian Church faced a constitutional crisis that could well have ended the international Unitas Fratrum. While American Moravians were pushing for independence, others did not want to give up the centralised governance, based in Germany.

The Moravian Church had always known a highly centralized form of administration. 18th Century Moravians did not consider themselves to be a member of any specific congregation, but rather part of a world-wide unity. **All congregations were organised on the same principles**, and life in Bethlehem, Pa., was not much different from life in, for example, the Moravian congregation of Sarepta, Russia. This strong sense of global fellowship was reflected in the government of the Church.

After the death of Count Zinzendorf (1760) General Synod was the highest authority of the world-wide Moravian Church. General Synod consisted of representatives of all branches of the Unity and met at regular intervals in Herrnhut, Germany. **The executive leadership was placed in the hands of the Unity Elders' Conference (UEC). All important matters were coordinated by the Unity Elders' Conference: calls of ministers, purchase and sale of property, the beginning of new work, or the closing of a congregation.** The UEC resided in Germany. For many years its offices were located in Zinzendorf's old manor house, in Berthelsdorf.

In years when transatlantic communication was slow, this centralised form of administration proved problematic. During the 19th century the Moravian Church was changing. The national identities of Moravians in America, in Britain, and in Germany, became more distinct. Traditional

communal forms that had originally been the same in all Moravian congregations grew outdated and were abandoned.

By the mid-19th Century, American Moravians felt the current constitution hindered the Church in its development. Many of the resolutions made by the General Synod did not apply to the American situation, and there did not seem to be much opportunity to discuss specific American issues at General Synod. Many American Moravians felt like "the step-children of the Unity" (Hamilton, 238). In 1847, Americans asked for more self-control. The next year, General Synod approved the establishment of Provincial Synods in America and the institution of the Provincial Elders' Conference (PEC) as the Executive of the Province.

The General Synod of 1857 had to consider the future Constitution of the Unity. Synod chose to establish three Provinces within the Unity: a British Province, a European-Continental Province, and an American Province (and after 1899: Northern and Southern Provinces).

Each of these Provinces had its own Provincial Synod and Executive PEC. **From then on, each Province had the authority to supervise its congregations and to legislate in provincial matters.** General Synod, however, remained the highest authority in the Unity, especially regarding Church doctrine, the administration of the missions, and other Unity undertakings. **The Synod of 1857 established the principles of the Constitution of the Moravian Church that are still valid today.** Today, the Moravian Church is comprised of 19 official Provinces (*as at October 2007*). Unity Synod (the current name for General Synod) meets every seven years.

What seems so sensible today, must have been a courageous step for the Moravians of 1857. Before Synod met, many of the delegates feared the idea of a world-wide fellowship was going to end. "I thought we were going to bury the Unity," one delegate remarked. At the conclusion of the Synod, Johann Martin Nitschmann, President of the Synod, said: "We realised we had to make changes. This made us stronger. Our bond has not been torn, but it has grown. We still feel inseparable."

Sources: Synod Records; Hamilton, History of the Moravian Church (1967).

Published by the Moravian Archives, Bethlehem, Pa. - Moravian Archives in Bethlehem Extract: (October 2007, Issue No. 24)

This Month's Unsung Hero/Heroine

"Lydia - Diligent in Business, et al"

Acts 16:12-15, 40; Philippians 1:1-10

Scripture does not supply us with any information regarding Lydia's background apart from the fact that she lived in Thyatira which was one of the Macedonian colonies. Lydia, however, is revealed as:

A Business Woman:

Thyatira was conspicuous for its many guilds which were united by common pursuits and religious rites. One of these guilds was that of *dyers*. The water of the area was so well-adapted for dyeing, that no other place could produce the scarlet cloth out of which fezzes were so brilliantly and so permanently dyed. This unique purple dye brought the city universal renown. Lydia was a well-known seller of this product (*Acts 16:14*), and typifies a successful business woman in a prosperous city. She owned a spacious home, and had servants to care for her. **Ability, enthusiasm, singleness of purpose and mental acumen** were hers, and she prospered greatly in an honorable and extensive calling of "selling purple".

A Devout Woman:

Lydia worshipped God. Often business people are so engrossed in their affairs as to have no time for religion; for God. But Lydia, in spite of all her secular obligations, found time to worship according to the Jewish faith. Daily she made her way to the riverside to prayer. She recognised that in order to successfully meet the stiff competition of the Philippian traders, **she needed grace**, as well as the **KEY of Knowledge**.

A Seeking Woman

Lydia was sincerely religious, however she was not a Christian. She did, however, have a hunger for a deeper spiritual experience. It is said that the mind is closed against the full truth either from ignorance or prejudice and cannot discern it, or from pride and perversity and will not admit it. 'Ignorance' was responsible for Lydia's closed mind, but as she attended to the truth of Christ which Paul spoke of as they gathered for prayer, the light dawned, and her heart opened to receive Christ as her Saviour. Her **faith was born** through hearing the Word of God (*Psalms 119:18, 130; Luke 24:45*).

Then as a Christian Woman:

As an evidence of her surrender to the claims of Christ she was baptised. Her conversion was declared by a public confession, and such was her **enthusiasm** that

she immediately told her household what had happened, and all within it likewise believed and were baptized as disciples of the same Saviour. Becoming a Christian did not make her less of a successful business woman. Now she had Christ as her Senior Partner and much of her profit was used to assist His servants in the work of the Gospel.

A Hospitable Woman:

Lydia's transformation of life was evidenced by her eagerness to give missionaries **hospitality**. Truth in her heart was manifested in kindness — "*Be ye kind one to another.*"

First came Lydia's faith, then the winning of her servants to Christ, then her love in gracious hospitality, and finally her reception of Paul and Silas into her home after their discharge from prison, bruised and battered though they were. She was not ashamed of the Lord's prisoners (see *1 Timothy 5:10; Hebrews 13:2; 1 Peter 4:9*). On parting from Lydia's home Paul praised God for all she had meant to him and his companions.

As a Consecrated Woman:

Lydia's home became a center of Christian fellowship in Philippi for the saints of God. When Paul penned the triple exhortation — "*Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord*" (*Romans 12:11*), we do not know whether Lydia had inspired him due to her hospitality. She certainly exemplified these three virtues, and grace can be ours to emulate them.

"Not slothful in business":

If our business is honourable and we are diligent in it, and if we are the Lord's, we have the assurance that if we honour Him in all transactions, He will honour us. He places no premium upon idleness or indolence. Did not Paul say that if we are not willing to work we have no right to eat?

"Fervent in spirit":

By God's grace Lydia maintained a spiritual glow. Too often, we allow the secular to rob us of our glow. Our affection becomes too set on things below.

"Serving the Lord":

Lydia not only sold her dyes — she served her Saviour. She stayed in business that she might have the money to help God's servants in their ministry. How her generous care of Paul and Silas, and of many others, must have cheered their hearts. **Lydia was, first of all, a consecrated Christian, then a conscientious business woman who continued to sell her purple dyes for the glory of God.**

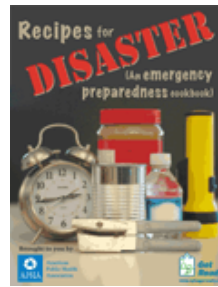
HOW DO WE MEASURE UP?

Adapted: <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/all-women-bible/Lydia>

Fun Corner

'A FAMILIAR GAME' THIS MONTH - THE LETTER "B" DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S IN YOUR BIBLE CHOOSE YOUR OWN FROM THE BIBLE USING "B"		
A N I M A L	BULLOCK (Jeremiah 31:18)	The BULLOCK , as yet unaccustomed to the yoke, is an image of Israel's insubordinate mind before he was subdued by captivity. <i>"...Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a BULLOCK unaccustomed to the yoke: turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou art the LORD my God."</i>
P E R S O N	BARAK (Judges chapters 4 & 5)	BARAK - means " LIGHTNING " in Hebrew. According to the Old Testament, BARAK was a military commander, a courageous warrior. Like many of us he struggled with doubt. But, under the guidance of the Prophetess Deborah, they defeated the Canaanite army led by Sisera (<i>see Chapter 5 : Song of Deborah</i>)
P L A C E	BETHLEHEM (Micah 5:1-5) (Luke 2:8-20)	BETHLEHEM is recorded as the birthplace of Jesus (prophesied in the Old Testament in the Book of Micah, and later recorded in the Book of Luke in the New Testament).
T H I N G	BLOOD OT: (Leviticus 17:11; Deuteronomy 12:23) NT: (Hebrews chapters 8-10; Hebrews 9:12; Luke 22:20; Ephesians 1:7)	BLOOD: symbol and source of LIFE . OT: (<i>Passover</i>), the blood of a lamb was posted on the top and sides of each door frame as a sign that death had already taken place, so the Angel of Death would pass over. (<i>Day of Atonement</i>), the High Priest would enter the Holy of Holies to offer a blood sacrifice to atone for the sins of the people. The life of the animal was poured out, given on behalf of the life of the people. NT: God's holiness and justice demand that sin be punished. The only payment for sin is eternal death. An animal and even our own death would not be sufficient sacrifices. Atonement requires a perfect, spotless sacrifice. Jesus Christ, the one perfect God-man, came to offer the pure, complete and everlasting sacrifice to make payment for our sin.

DO YOU HAVE A RECIPE YOU WANT TO SHARE?



DISASTER-TIME MEALS & RECIPES

Could people use creativity and culinary skills to overcome constraints in the kitchen that happen during an emergency; and still make good-tasting, nutritious food, without electricity or cooking gas?

❖ Salmon and Potato Salad

❖ Tuna Pizza

❖ Peanut Butter Granola Wrap Sandwiches

❖ Black Bean and Corn Salad (Serves 3-4)

Ingredients

- 1 can of black beans
- 1 can of corn kernels
- 1 can of diced tomatoes
- 2 tablespoons of vinegar
- 1/2 cup of olive oil
- 1 teaspoon of pepper
- 1 teaspoon of garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon of onion powder
- 1 teaspoon of cumin powder
- Dash of chili powder (optional)
- Baked tortilla chips (or healthy chips of choice)

Directions

1. Open and drain the cans of black beans, corn and diced tomatoes, and mix them in a large bowl.
2. Add the vinegar, olive oil, pepper, garlic and onion powders and cumin into the bowl. Mix thoroughly.
3. Top salad with baked tortilla chips.

❖ Easy Orange Curry Chickpeas (Serves 2)

Ingredients

- 1 (15 oz) can low-sodium or no-salt added chickpeas, drained
- 1 (11 oz) can mandarin oranges, drained (save about 2 Tablespoons of juice)
- 2 tablespoons raisins
- 2 tablespoons slivered almonds (optional)
- 2 tablespoons mandarin juice (saved from draining the oranges)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 1/4 teaspoons curry powder
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. Drain canned chickpeas and mandarin oranges. Save 2 tablespoons of juice from oranges to make the dressing.
2. Combine chickpeas, oranges, raisins and almonds in a medium-size bowl and toss together.
3. Pour over chickpea mixture and toss to coat.

Extract: <https://www.thespruce.com/disaster-cooking-481816>

<http://www.getreadyforflu.org/Recipes.htm>



From the Pastor's Desk

Rev. Delroy Burley

*"What Will You Do when the
Effects of Age Starts to Show Up?"*

Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. 1 Peter 3:3, 1 Peter 3:4

The month of October is a special month set aside to recognise women, especially the Women's Fellowship Organization of the Moravian Church in the Barbados Conference. It is a period in which women are privileged to showcase their talents, undertake friendly Quizz competitions in Bible, etc, and show how actively involved they are in the work of ministry among others. As the years roll by, and we are faced with the reminders of the effects of age, and the changes and shifts taking place in our physical lives, let us remain cognisant of what scripture has to say.

When we consider a young bride as she prepares for her wedding, she wants to be beautiful for her **BIG DAY**, but especially for the man she is about to marry. She goes to the Salon to have her hair styled, and her nails manicured. Everything has to look as perfect as possible for that moment when she says **"I Do"** to her husband at the Church altar or wherever in the presence of witnesses.

It is right and normal for a woman to desire to look 'gorgeous', even fabulous, for this eagerly-awaited moment in her life. As the Minister, when I am the one performing the homily for the wedding ceremony, there comes a point in the ceremony when I look into the 'happy' eyes of the beautiful young bride and say to her:

"Today you look so beautiful in your flowing white wedding gown. You are the perfect picture of a gorgeous bride. But a day will come when your body will begin to change, when wrinkles will start to appear, and time starts to age you, and will begin to move things from where they used to be! When that day comes, and it will come, the most beautiful thing you will have to offer your husband will not be physical, it will not be your body, but a godly, beautiful, unfading spirit. Never forget that your spirit is what will make your husband think you are beautiful to the very last day of your life."

People in general, and especially in the audience, always tend to giggle or nod in agreement when I say these words. Most of these giggles come from people who are middle-aged and who see wrinkles when they look in the mirror. They are beginning to experience the middle-aged effects as time rolls by. Parts of their bodies that used to be strong and firm are experiencing the effects of gravity, and they themselves feel tempted to lament when they look in the mirror.

That is why **it is important to remember that the most beautiful thing a wife has to offer her husband is not her body, but her spirit.** The good news is that when the body begins to show signs of age, the human spirit remains remarkably free from its effects. This is why Paul said, *'...Though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day'* (2 Corinthians 4:16). Perhaps you can think of a time when you met an elderly man or woman who was so young at heart that it simply amazed you. Now you know why! The process of aging affects the human body, but it has no effect on the human spirit.

When Peter wrote to wives in 1 Peter 3, he instructed them to give attention to the hidden man of the heart. These words are very significant, for they refer here to the spirit of a godly woman. The word hidden is the word which describes something that is hidden or veiled from the eyes. The word 'heart', which is the word for the physical organ of the heart. Just as the physical organ of a beating heart is hidden from human sight, so the inner man is not visible to the natural eye.

By using the word for the heart, Peter is giving us a powerful insight regarding the human spirit. The heart is the central vital organ of the body. Although the heart is invisible to natural sight, the human body cannot live without it. The heart has a direct impact on every single part of the body as it pumps blood through arteries and travels through many miles of blood vessels.

Paul uses the word 'heart' to let us know that the human spirit is very similar to the natural heart. For instance, although the human spirit is invisible to the eyes, it is vital to life. According to James 2:26, where there is no spirit, the physical body dies. Thus, the spirit is the life-giving force within a human being. Amen.

Prayer: Lord, help us give adequate attention to our heart so we can develop our spirit and become more 'godly' in how we live our lives. We pray that the strength and godliness that resides in our spirit will manifest in our lives, emanating from within us, and making us more gracious and more beautiful the older we get. We look to You, Lord, for help in growing old gracefully and emanating power in our older years. We pray this in Jesus' name! Amen.

Greetings, Information & News : From Home & Abroad

OUR JOURNEY TO SYNOD 2018 CONT'D

KNOWING ABOUT THE WORLDWIDE UNITY

Growth and Development

At the 43rd Unity Synod of our worldwide Moravian Church which gathered under the theme “Discerning Our Unity Together”, hosted in Montego Bay, Jamaica, by the Moravian Church in Jamaica and Cayman Islands, Synod ratified prior decisions by the Unity Board as follows:

Designation as Unity Mission Area:

- South Asia (2010)
- Sierra Leon (2010)
- Zanzibar (2010)
- Ruvuma & Njambe, Tanzania (2010)
- Sud Kiva & Katanga, Congo (2014)
- Iringa, Tanzania (2014)
- Kiwele, Tanzania (2016)

Designation as a Unity Mission Province:

- Honduras Unity Undertaking (2012)
- Czech Unity Undertaking (2012)
- Moravian Church in Burundi (2014)
- Moravian Church in Cuba* (2016)

*Armando Rusindo, from the Moravian Church in Cuba was granted voting privileges after this decision of the Synod.

Designation as a Unity Province:

- The Moravian Churches in:
 - Democratic Republic of Congo (2010)
 - Tanzania, Northern Province (2012)
 - Malawi (2012)
 - Tanzania, Lake Tanganyika Province (2012)
 - Zambia (2014)
 - Tanzania, Eastern Province (2014)
 - Guyana (2016)

Hospitality

Synod delegates toured the Beaufort, Carmel, Bethlehem and Faith congregations, and joined in the dedication as a national cultural heritage site of “Old Carmel” (ca. 1756), the mission station established by Moravian missionaries after their arrival in Jamaica in 1754. Volunteer staff from the Jamaica Province provided ongoing care and support to delegates throughout Synod.

<http://mcspp.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/2016-Unity-Synod-Summary.pdf>

ESSENTIAL FEATURES OF THE UNITY

The Unitas Fratrum was called into being by God as a Church which stresses fellowship. We recognise that it is the Lord's will to confront and call to Himself each individual through His Spirit, and that formal membership in a congregation is for no one a substitute for a personal encounter with the Saviour, nor does it relieve any from making a personal decision to accept Him. We learn from the Scriptures however that it has pleased God to make the Church the place where God's fellowship with men and women becomes a reality. A living Church is the clearest witness for its Lord to the world.

A Church is and remains a living one when it:

- *is attentive to God's Word,*
- *confesses its sins and accepts forgiveness for them,*
- *seeks and maintains fellowship with its Lord and Redeemer by means of the Sacraments,*
- *places its whole life under His rule and daily leading,*
- *ministers to its neighbour and seeks fellowship with all who confess Christ,*
- *proclaims to the world the tidings concerning the Saviour,*
- *awaits wholeheartedly the coming of its Lord as King.*

<http://www.unitasfratrum.org/index.php/an-international-organisation/essential-features-of-the-unity/>

SYNOD 2018

Proposed Synod Schedule:

- Thursday, July 5 - Arrival (Delegates & Observers)
- Friday, July 6 - Synod Retreat, & Opening Service
- Sat., & Mon.-Wed, July 7; & 9-11 - Synod Sessions
- Sunday, July 8 - Synodals worship; Evening Program
- Wednesday July 11 - Closing Service & Holy Com.

Sub-committees have been set-up to support the management of the upcoming Synod. They are:

- ✓ Finance and Fundraising
- ✓ Protocol and Public Relations
- ✓ Transport
- ✓ Hospitality
- ✓ Health Care and First Aid
- ✓ Secretariat
- ✓ Media and IT
- ✓ Worship and Music

Greetings, Information & News : From Home & Abroad

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PROVINCE

HURRICANE RELIEF EFFORT:

The devastation caused by hurricanes Irma and Maria across the North-eastern Caribbean Islands in September, and the losses experienced as a result by so many of our members in St. Maarten, St. Thomas, St. John, Tortola and St. Croix, dictate that **all Pastors need to be at home base to take care of the flock.**

In addition, the devastation caused in Barbuda, Anguilla and Dominica, has **challenged and stretched our commitment to Mission.**

Members in the different Conferences have been asking **“how else can we help”** apart from the **special offering on Sunday, September 24th, 2017.** As a Province, we will endeavour to **help our members in rebuilding their houses.** We will be organising cheques and vouchers to them.

At this juncture, Dominica, St. Maarten, Anguilla, Tortola, St. Thomas, St. Croix, and St. John are all **in need of relief supplies.** Supplies can include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Bottled Water
- ✓ Foodstuff (that do not require refrigeration)
- ✓ Baby Foods
- ✓ Toiletries
- ✓ Sanitary napkins
- ✓ Diapers (children and senior citizens)
- ✓ Undergarments (children, males and females)
- ✓ Clothing (new)
- ✓ Soap; Laundry Detergents
- ✓ Disinfectants
- ✓ Baby Wipes; Hand sanitisers
- ✓ Pillows; Sheets (all sizes)
- ✓ Blankets
- ✓ Large garbage bags
- ✓ Tarpaulin
- ✓ Batteries

Shipments are being organised.

Each Conference's **shipment should clearly identify the Conference (ie: marked “From the Moravian Church - ____ Conference”).** All

packages should also be clearly marked **“Hurricane Supplies”** and be delivered to the various territories as follows:

PACKAGE FOR:	CLEARLY ADDRESSED TO:
St. Thomas or St. John, V.I.	Rev. Eulencine Christopher, c/o Rev. Dr. Errol Connor
St. Croix, V.I.	Rev. Eulencine Christopher
Tortola, V.I.	Rev. Eulencine Christopher, c/o Rev. Erflin Browne
St. Maarten	Mr. Joel Pinas
Anguilla	Any local Agency transporting supplies/materials such as The Red Cross
Dominica	Any local Agency transporting supplies/materials such as The Red Cross

For appropriate follow-up, as soon as the shipments have been made, kindly inform the Superintendent of the Virgin Islands Conference, as well as the Chairman of PEC.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration in these matters.

Adapted: Missive from the Chairman of PEC (Ref. 332/17)

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CONFERENCE

SKILLS TRAINING CLASSES:

The Moravian Church – Barbados Conference – has commenced its Skills Training Programme (the week of Monday, September 18th, 2017) at the Duncan C. Moore Educational Centre in St. Thomas.

For persons not registered before Friday, September 15th, registration may be done on the evening of the first week of classes.

- ❖ Classes will run for 10 weeks.
- ❖ Registration Fee: \$10.00/student.
- ❖ Class Fee: \$80.00/class.

Disciplines include Needlecraft; Dress-making; Jewelry-making; Flower Arranging; Smocked Cushions; Curtains/Soft Furnishings; Wig-making; Barbering; Embroidery/Plastic Canvas. Classes under-subscribed will not be carried.

Extract: Memo from the Coordinator, Sis. Betty Bowen

Helping Hands – Our Mission Fields

✓ **Church Quota and Arrears** – In an effort to help lower our debt to the Conference, it would be prudent for us to pay an additional \$500 each month towards our quota arrears, while maintaining our monthly quota payments. As a result, to aid in achieving this target, each member is encouraged to contribute towards this amount on the 4th Sunday of each month. Any amount donated will be appreciated.

✓ **Greetings/Birthdays/Anniversary Cards** – Strengthen our fellowship in Christ as we welcome visitors and help celebrate special occasions in the life of members and visitors. You can make a contribution of any amount to Sis. Diana Yarde or Sis. Anthea Barrow.

✓ **The 32nd Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province** is scheduled to be held in Barbados from July 6-14, 2018. The Barbados Conference has begun to make preparations for this event, including fundraising. Members and friends of the Moravian Church are asked to make a weekly contribution of \$1.00 towards those costs for which the Conference will be responsible. This contribution will be collected on 3rd Sundays.

✓ **The Cuthbert Pilgrim Memorial (CPM) Hall** is available for rentals – Conferences/Seminars, Meetings, Wedding Receptions, Graduations, etc. Just off the Maxwell Coast Road, minutes away from the Airport, it is situated within a quiet residential area, with ample parking available. To view/book, contact CPM Hall Manager, Sis. Eudora Mascoll (246-428-4784) or Assistant, Sis. Desma Linton (246-428-2962).

✓ **Bethlehem's Beautification Project** (Church and Grounds) is an on-going project. Lend your support.

✓ **This Newsletter - The Bethlehem Herald** is a monthly publication. Send ideas and articles are to <bethlehemmoravianchurch@gmail.com>

Remember In Prayer

❖ Our Sick & Shut-In/Recovering:

Shut-in Communion/Visitation – 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

NAMES	CONTACT NUMBERS
Sis. Boothe Chase	246-428-6068
Sis. Mavis Chase	246-428-6258
Sis. Emily Forde	St. Philip Family Care 246-622-1897
Sis. Gracie Maynard	246-428-3678 / Q.E.H.
Sis. Dorothy Waite	246-428-2877
Sis. Marjorie Worrell	246-437-1805
Sis. Odessa Haynes	246-426-8663

❖ **People & Regions affected by natural & man-made disasters/crises** (such as Anguilla, Barbuda, Dominica, Mexico, St. Maarten, the Virgin Islands).

❖ Persons grappling with **the loss of a loved one**.

❖ **The work of the Unity and the Chairman.**

❖ **Synod 2018 and the Barbados Conference.**

❖ **The Jamaica Province** throughout this crisis.

Financial Status

Target: \$ 9,000 monthly

Bethlehem's monthly Quota to Conference: \$4,796.67

Quota Arrears: \$82,026.20

Special Envelopes (October): HURRICANE RELIEF

Please make your contribution to assist with much-needed support to the islands/homes/families severely impacted by hurricanes this Season.

Please give to God what He truly deserves

<u>Income for September 2017</u>		\$
Envelopes	2,171.50	
Loose Offering	968.30	
Sunday School	63.60	
Bible Study	26.50	
Deeper Life Services	328.50	
Missionary	3,555.35	
<u>Other Monies raised September 2017</u>		
Rental – CPM Hall	600.00	
Donations to Gas	5.88	
Sub-Total	7,719.63	
<u>Other funds collected</u>		
'Quota Arrears' to Conference	159.00	
Hurricane Relief Fund to Province	829.00	
"Youth With A Mission" Outreach	78.00	
"2018 Synod Walk-Up" to Conference	114.75	
Sub-Total	1,180.75	
TOTAL	8,900.38	

Walk-Up Offerings - Sundays:

1 st	BMC Building Fund	2 nd	"Youth With A Mission"
3 rd	32 nd Provincial Synod	4 th	BMC Quota Arrears

Thank You

- To all persons, groups/organisations who contributed articles/ideas to the **Bethlehem Herald** over its **first year of Ministry**.
- Special "Thank You" to the **Evangelism Outreach Committee**, a sub-committee of the **Board of Elders**, who coordinated the start of Mission efforts for the year 2017-18.
- To all who came out to, or otherwise participated in, the various activities thus far:
 - o **Prayer Month**
 - o **District Walk Thru'**
 - o **Mission Rally**
 - o **Mission Festival**
 - o **Deeper Life Services**

To God Be The Glory! Great Things He Hath done!

Mark Your Calendar - OCTOBER

- ☐ **Bethlehem's Hours of Worship:**
 - **Sunday School** : Sundays @ 9:00 am
 - **Divine Worship** : Sundays @ 10:00 am
 - **Mid-Day Bible Study** : Wednesdays @ noon
 - **Evening Bible Study**: Wednesdays @ 7:30 pm
 - **Pastor's Office Hours** : Fridays, 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm (*by appointment*)
- ☐ **Rev. Delroy Burley** will be **on vacation until October 14th, 2017**. During his absence, Rev. Roslyn Hamblin will have pastoral oversight of the congregation. Rev. Hamblin may be contacted *via* 428-4193.
- ☐ **Assisting with the Worship experience:**
 - **The Men's Fellowship** will be assisting with Cleaning and Preparing the Sanctuary.
 - **The Women's Fellowship** will be assisting with Readings and Prayer
- ☐ **Women's Fellowship Meetings** every second Tuesday @ 6:00 pm.
- ☐ **Dance Ministry: Liturgical Dance Classes** on Saturdays @ 4:30 pm. All are invited.
- ☐ **The Bathroom Project** has re-started and is underway to ring-beam.
- ☐ **Worldwide Communion Sunday** will be celebrated with a **Joint Service of Holy Communion on Sunday, October 1st, 2017**. St. Philip Fellowship will join Bethlehem for **10:00 am** Divine Worship and Holy Communion.
- ☐ **Harvest Programme** preparations are underway – **rehearsals** for children & adults, Fridays & Saturdays. **Please also prepare your produce.**
- ☐ **Shut-In Communion** will be administered on Tuesday, October 3rd starting from 10:00 am.
- ☐ **Evangelism Outreach Committee Meeting** slated for Thursday, October 26th @ 7:30 pm.
- ☐ **Ushers' Workshop** on Saturday, October 21st, 2017.
- ☐ **Elders' Board Meeting** on Thursday, October 31st, 2017 at 7:30 pm.

Reminder

- ☐ **Build a Block** – We invite each member of the congregation to receive a **Build a Block** card and thereby seek to faithfully support the Church Bathroom Project. Please request a card
- ☐ Order your copy of the new "**Caribbean Moravian Praise**" Hymnal - COST: \$70.00.
- ☐ **Membership/Confirmation Class** for persons (adults and teens) interested in becoming full members. Registration forms are available. Contact any member of the Elders' Board or make arrangements at the Church Office.

Announcements

- ☐ **PEC's meeting** scheduled for Sept. 29th to Oct. 3rd, 2017 in the Tobago Conference **has been postponed**. The Airports in St. Thomas, St. Croix, Tortola and St. Maarten have all been closed indefinitely due to damages caused by the hurricanes
- ☐ **The Moravian Voice Broadcast** airs on LIFE 97.5 FM every **Wednesday @ 8:00 pm**. Tune in.
- ☐ **Evangelism Explosion Training** on Mondays at 5:30 pm. Interested persons are invited.
- ☐ Upcoming **Mission Festivals:**
 - Penuel : October 3rd; 7:30 pm
 - Dunscombe : October 10th
 - Sharon : October 17th
 - Calvary : October 24th
- ☐ This month is **celebrated as Women's Fellowship Month** across the Conference. Key events during the month include:
 - Sat., Oct. 7th : AGM (Clifton Hill)
 - Sat., Oct. 14th : Craft/Culinary Exhibition (Sharon)
 - Sun., Oct. 15th : WF Sunday (across the Conf.)
 - Mon., Oct. 16th : WF Quizz (Bethlehem)
 - Sun., Oct. 22nd : Candlelight Service (Calvary)
- ☐ **Flea Market, in conjunction with the Island Council's Women's Fellowship's Craft Display and Exhibition**, will be held on Saturday, October 14th, 2017 at Sharon.
- ☐ **Youth Workshop** on **Saturday, Oct. 21st from 2:00 pm at Sharon**. Two (2) representatives from each Congregation are invited. They will be considering the Report from the recently held Provincial Youth Leaders' Conference.
- ☐ **Gracehill Moravian Pre-School** presents "**In Harmony**" featuring the St. Leonard's Boys Choir & the Darryl Jordan School Steel Orchestra (*among others*) at **Gracehill Moravian Church - Saturday, Oct. 21st, 5:00 pm**. Admission: \$15, Under 12: \$5.
- ☐ **St. Philip Fellowship's Luncheon** at **Castle MarLL** (Castle Heights, St. Philip), takes place on **Sunday, Oct. 29th, 2017 from 1:00 pm**. Tickets are available from Sis. Desma Linton or Sis. Verve Alleyne.

BIRTHDAYS - OCTOBER

08TH – Sis. Donna Wiltshire
 08TH – Sis. Desma Linton
 17TH – Sis. Loretta Forde
 26TH – Bro. Maurice Quintyne



ANNIVERSARIES - OCTOBER

31ST – Bro. Tom and **Sis. Cecily Spencer-Cross**

HURRICANE AWARENESS SEASON CONT'D – RE-BUILDING

Understanding Disasters:

As per the Oxford dictionary a disaster is “a sudden accident or a natural catastrophe that causes great damage or loss of life”. A Disaster is an event or series of events, of nature or man-made, which gives rise to casualties and damage, or loss of properties, infrastructure, environment, essential services or means of livelihood on such a scale which is beyond the normal capacity of the affected community to cope with or to restore normalcy after that disaster. Disaster is also sometimes described as a “catastrophic situation in which the normal pattern of life or ecosystem has been disrupted and extraordinary emergency interventions are required to save and preserve lives and/or the environment”.

The Post-Disaster Phase Recovery:

Recovery is used to describe the activities that encompass the three overlapping phases of emergency relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Rehabilitation: Rehabilitation includes the provision of temporary public utilities and housing as interim measures to assist long-term recovery.

Reconstruction: Reconstruction attempts to return communities to improved pre-disaster functioning. It includes such things as the replacement of buildings; infrastructure and lifeline facilities so that long-term development prospects are enhanced, rather than reproducing the same conditions which made an area or population vulnerable in the first place.

Development: In an evolving economy, the development process is an ongoing activity. Long-term prevention/disaster reduction measures [for example: construction of embankments against flooding, irrigation facilities as drought-proofing measures, increasing plant cover to reduce the occurrences of landslides, land-use planning, construction of houses (as far as possible) capable of withstanding the onslaught of heavy rain/wind speed and shocks of earthquakes are some of the activities that can be taken up as part of the development plan].

Damaged properties, businesses, homes and possessions can lead to a feeling of helplessness and asking the question - **‘where do I even begin?’**.

After a disaster, you will use a lot of emotional energy coping with your fears, frustrations and other feelings. It is important to bear in mind that stress can affect your mind, body, feelings and relationships. Stress symptoms may be:

- **Psychological** (trouble thinking clearly, planning or making decisions; low attention span or difficulty concentrating or remembering details; continually thinking about the problem or other difficult times)
- **Physical** (tension, stress or tightness in muscles; weakness, tiredness and a loss of energy or enthusiasm; lack of appetite or an increased desire for stimulants, sugar, alcohol, tobacco or coffee; feeling tired but unable to sleep, or having disturbed sleep, dreams or nightmares)
- **Emotional** (detached and don't care about things anymore; irritable, bad tempered, impatient or restless; overwhelmed and everything seems too difficult; tearful for no reason; easily upset or oversensitive to what others do and say; insecure or wanting to stay in familiar places)
- **Relationships** (blame others for the stress; tend to blow things out of proportion; can't feel happiness, enjoyment or affection for loved ones; changed relationships with those close to you; no longer want to be with family or friends, or always need them around; need to always talk about the emergency; feel others don't understand or don't care)

Understanding how stress can impact your well-being helps you, and others around you to begin to cope.

<https://www.qld.gov.au/community/disasters-emergencies/managing-stress> & http://nidm.gov.in/PDF/Disaster_about.pdf

Truths/Tips...Something For Every Age

HURRICANE AWARENESS SEASON CONT'D – RE-BUILDING

Victims of disasters need all the assistance they can get, from something as simple as a toothbrush and blanket, to medical attention, psychological and therapeutic counselling, and more. Even persons not directly impacted may struggle with the need to feel useful, even in a limited environment. Following a disaster, if you find yourself wanting to help, there are many ways to do so.

Donate:

Donate goods and/or money. Be sure to research and only use legitimate organisations.

Donate blood, even if you are not in country. It is useful and it helps with the need to feel you have done something useful.

Volunteer:

Volunteer for search-and rescue teams, or to cook at a local shelter, for clean-up and reconstruction, to support local charities, etc.

Volunteer to assist with the packaging of relief supplies, etc.

Organise:

Organise fundraisers or benefits for victims.

In-country, if you have access to electricity and/or WiFi, you can share this with your family/friends/neighbours, enabling them to recharge their electronics, to make contact with worried friends and relatives, to let them know they are safe.

Text, rather than talk (unless there is a life-threatening situation) so that you do not tie-up phone lines needed by emergency workers.

Use social media to begin education, newsworthy, donation pages.

Plan Ahead for the next emergency:

Children should be informed of the possible disasters and dangers your area may be prone to – it teaches them foresight and responsibility. Dangers may include:

- Stay away from moving water – it can knock you off your feet
- Do not pour water down the drain! There may be another use for it (like watering vegetables).
- Take short showers, not baths (showers use less water).
- Do not eat any food that was in the refrigerator if you were without power for more than one day. Food could have spoiled and will make you sick.
- In a thunderstorm:
 - Do not lie on concrete floors or lean against concrete walls – they conduct electricity.
 - Stay away from windows and doors.
 - Faucets and anything metal may also conduct electricity.
- Stay out of the way of emergency workers so they can do their job easily.

School gives children a routine environment that can be especially beneficial post-disaster as it creates a sense of stability and security for them. Even an informal school setting would be beneficial.

Children have a more difficult time than adults in formulating their feelings into thoughts that can be expressed outwardly

- Be empathetic
- Give them a forum to share their experiences; and help them understand that their feelings and fears are normal and expected

ADAPTED: http://nidm.gov.in/PDF/Disaster_about.pdf; <https://adjustersinternational.com/help-your-community-after-disaster/>; <https://adjustersinternational.com/helping-children-cope/>; <https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/>

“Supporting the work of Ministry”

“Advance the Kingdom: Use the Keys”