



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)

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Rev. Dr. Adrian Smith
Vice Chair of PEC

Inside This Issue

Re: energizing the Montgomery Moravian Church in Tobago: Vision and strategies for the next Decade

Pgs. 1 & 2

Breast Cancer Awareness
by Sis. Tracelyn Joseph

Pgs. 3 & 4

Hurricane Melissa relief
Pg 4

Biography—
The Rev Ezra Parris Bishop
Elect Pg 5

Remember Tanzania:
A Call to Prayer and Solidarity Pg 6

Provincial Meeting & Consecration Service Birthdays and Anniversaries Pg 7
Rental of Moravian Multi-purpose Complex Pg 8

Re-Energizing the Montgomery Moravian Church in Tobago:

Vision and Strategies for the Next Decade

The Montgomery Moravian Church in Tobago stands as a beacon of faith, history, and community impact. As the first Moravian Church established on the island, its legacy is deeply woven into the fabric of Tobago's spiritual and social landscape. Today, as the church looks toward the next decade, it faces both challenges and opportunities that call for a renewed vision, strategic action, and a re-energized commitment to its mission.

Reclaiming Identity and Renewing Purpose

The journey toward revitalization begins with a return to the church's roots. The Montgomery Moravian Church is not just a building—it is a people of covenant and community. Reclaiming this identity means remembering the values and traditions that have shaped generations. It also requires a renewed sense of purpose, prompting every ministry and mission to ask "Why?"—ensuring that every action aligns with the church's core calling. Re-igniting passion for faith is essential, drawing on the fire of our Moravian heritage and a deep trust in God.

Growth, Engagement, and Sustainability

A thriving church is marked by both spiritual and numerical growth. Nurturing congregations means investing in discipleship, outreach, and meaningful worship experiences. Engagement with the wider community is equally vital; the church must deepen its connections, becoming a relevant and compassionate presence in Tobago and beyond. Sustainability is another pillar—ensuring the long-term financial and organizational health of the church. Wise stewardship of assets, from property to finances, enables maximum ministry impact and prepares the church for future generations.

Retelling and Reinterpreting History

The story of Montgomery Moravian Church is one of pioneering and innovation. Sharing this story inspires current and future members, reminding them of their spiritual DNA. Effective communication—through signage, pamphlets, books, and digital platforms—ensures that visitors and congregants alike understand the church's significance.

Vision Statement

A Church - Transformed,
United,
Victorious in Christ

Continue on Page 2

When people step onto the church compound, they should encounter not only a place of worship but a living testimony to faith, resilience, and community service.

Community-Minded and Mission-Driven

A critical question for any church is: “If our church closed today, who would miss it and why?” The answer lies in the church’s impact, influence, and inspiration within the community. Montgomery Moravian Church is called to be mission-driven, actively serving others and addressing social injustices. Faith-sharing, holistic stewardship, and leadership development are key measures of effectiveness. The church must empower congregants to share their faith, serve those in need, and embrace their unique gifts and callings. Preparing the next generation for leadership ensures continuity and growth.

Authentic Children and Youth Ministry

Reaching children and youth requires authenticity and inclusion. Rather than programming for young people, the church must engage with them—inviting them to participate in decision-making and ministry. Intergenerational approaches build family and foster belonging, creating spaces where all ages can learn, serve, and grow together. This “both/and” mindset strengthens the church’s foundation and prepares it for a vibrant future.

Data-Driven and Entrepreneurial Approaches

Modern ministry demands a data-driven approach. Understanding trends and metrics in Tobago helps the church make informed decisions and adapt to changing needs. Financial sustainability is increasingly reliant on entrepreneurial and business-funded initiatives, as traditional tithes and offerings may no longer suffice.

The church’s property and resources should be viewed as missional assets, leveraged for greater impact. Networking with other organizations and ministries allows for resource sharing and expanded opportunities for service.

Embracing Technology and Innovation

Technology is reshaping culture and ministry. The Montgomery Moravian Church must embrace technological innovations—not just for streaming services, but for engaging congregants, sharing the gospel, and shaping identity in a digital age. Understanding the impact of algorithms and attention is crucial, especially as artificial intelligence becomes more prevalent. The church must ask: “What kind of church will our children inherit?” Future-focused leadership, resource stability, and team health are essential for navigating this new landscape.

Love Matters Most

Above all, the church is called to embody love—the great commandment and the great commission. Love in action, expressed in every ministry and relationship, is the foundation of a truly re-energized church. As Montgomery Moravian Church looks to the next decade, it must be a loving church, committed to serving God and neighbour with compassion, integrity, and hope.

By reclaiming its identity, renewing its purpose, and embracing innovation, the Montgomery Moravian Church in Tobago is poised to make a lasting impact for generations to come. The strategies outlined here offer a roadmap for revitalization, ensuring that the church remains a vibrant, relevant, and transformative force in the community and beyond.

Breast Cancer Awareness

By Tracelyn Joseph – Breast Cancer Survivor

As Antiguan and Barbudans, we join the Global Community in raising awareness about Breast



Cancer under the Themes:

- ♦ Commitment, Community, Courage
- ♦ Every Story is Unique
- ♦ Every Journey Matters

Let us show our support for everyone affected by Breast Cancer, those who fought and won, those

who fought to the very end and those who are yet to fight.

Breast cancer is a disease in which malignant or cancer cells form in tissues of the breast. It starts in the cells of the breast as a group of Cancer Cells and then can invade surrounding tissues or spread to other areas of the body. When this happens, a buildup of cells often forms a mass of tissues referred to as a mass, growth or tumor. These cells can spread by breaking away from the original tumor and entering blood vessels which branch into different tissues throughout the body.

Breast Cancer does not discriminate, it occurs almost entirely in women, however, it is very rare but also occurs in men as well. Statistics has shown that Breast Cancer is the most common non skin cancer diagnosis among women and is the second deadliest cancer among women. One out of 1,000 men will be diagnosed with Breast Cancer.

- ♦ Nipple discharge
- ♦ Breast or nipple pain
- ♦ Redness of the breast
- ♦ Changes to the skin texture
- ♦ Lymph node changes
- ♦ Swelling of the breast
- ♦ Lump in the under-arm area

Be responsible and make an appointment to see your Gynecologist or your Medical Practitioner and get your mammogram and ultra-sound done. A medical checkup might just save your life. Statistics has also shown that women who got screened early for Breast Cancer has a lower chance of dying from the disease. Reduce your alcohol intake and add some physical activities to your daily routine will help to reduce getting breast cancer. If diagnosed with Breast Cancer, it is not a death sentence.

There are 4 stages of Breast Cancer.

- ❖ **Stage 1** – Tumor is limited to the areas within the breast tissue and the mass is small and the good news, the cancer is curable.
- ❖ **Stage 2** – Tumor is greater than 5cm, but limited to breast tissues only and it is also curable.
- ❖ **Stages 3 & 4** – Tumor has spread beyond the breast tissues and the lymph nodes.

Ask your Doctor to show you how to do self-examination of your breast.

I am a Breast Cancer Survivor who caught my Breast Cancer early because I was responsible in doing my yearly check up with my gynecologist who sends me to do both mammogram and ultrasound yearly.

I endured 3 surgeries, 8 rounds of chemo and 15 rounds of radiation therapy. It was a difficult journey, but my God blessed me with the spirit of strength, faith and courage which kept me pressing on and allowed me to beat the deadly disease known as Breast Cancer.

Continue on Page 4

Breast Cancer Awareness con'td from page 3

Cancer. It is very important to have a supporting team around you when you are going through breast cancer; and that Team has to have your back and understand the emotional, psychological, mental and physical changes your body is going through.

Trust God and never quit on God when you are facing cancer. The power of prayer is so real, don't ever doubt it. Pray without ceasing and just trust God he will carry you through this storm. He is a Miracle Working God. I am a survivor of 3 years and 3 months. All Glory, Honor, and Praises belong to Almighty God. He remains My Rock, My Constant and my hero in the room.

I will be your God throughout your life time, I made you and I will care for you. Isaiah 46:4.



Hurricane Melissa Relief

This past week, Hurricane Melissa caused significant destruction across Jamaica and other Caribbean islands. Many areas in Jamaica, including places of strong Moravian impact and witness, have suffered severe damage. Members in these areas have been left without basic supplies, and some suffered major property loss. The devastation has also affected houses of worship with at least two of their historic cut-stone sanctuaries having been totally destroyed.

Our brothers and sisters in Jamaica are currently assessing the full extent of the damage. Due to limited access to some affected areas, the situation remains uncertain. What is clear is that they will need significant support through tangible and intangible means. The Provincial Board is already in communication with the Jamaica Province and the work has begun.

In the meantime, let us pray for all those affected by Hurricane Melissa that they will not lose their hope in God and that God will make ways for them despite this tragic disaster.

As I bring this report to a close, I recapitulate, my petition that support in prayer, funding and attendance to such ecumenical forums should be fervently undertaken. It has further fanned the flames of trust in God's power, love for God's people and excitement for what God will do in the age to come in my heart and I am confident they can do the same for every disciple of Christ. I remain forever grateful for the opportunity and will seek to explore opportunities for new or revised ecumenical partnerships in my own church communities, I pray that this document has encouraged us all to do likewise.



**Early detection saves lives.
Get your mammogram today.**

Quote of the Day

Remember how far you've come, not just how far you have to go. You may not be where you want to be neither are you where you used to be. —
Rick Warren

BIOGRAPHY- The Reverend Ezra Parris Bishop Elect of the Moravian Church



The Reverend Ezra Lauriston Parris describes himself as a “Blue Collar Pastor.” His roots are firmly embedded in the rural parish of St. Thomas where he spent his formative years and where he has served as Pastor of the Sharon and Dunscombe Moravian Congregations since 2002. Born into a family for

which Christianity was a way of life, he believes that his upbringing and the influence of his family prepared him for his life in Ministry.

The last of four children born to Julian, a joiner and Clarine a seamstress who later pursued a career in nursing, he received his primary education at Sharon Mixed School and Buxton Boys’, both Moravian schools and his secondary education at Harrison College, where his Christian values were further affirmed as a member of the Inter School Christian Fellowship.

Reverend Parris has fond memories of growing up in the close-knit community in the Shop Hill Moravian Church (now Centenary) and taking part in all the usual church activities. In fact, he credits the Youth Fellowship which he attended in his teen years, for much of his development including his leadership skills. He was confirmed in the faith at Sharon.

Sharon has played an important role in the life of Reverend Parris for it was in the year 1985, during a Provincial Youth Camp on the compound at Sharon that his decision to answer the call to Ministry was crystallised. The camp holds a special place in his heart because it was there that he connected with several other young Moravians who would also go into full-time Ministry and these included his late wife- the Reverend Julie Joefield.

Reverend Parris entered the United Theological College of the West Indies (UTCWI) in 1987 to begin his journey as a full-time servant of God.

After graduating and being ordained at Sharon Moravian, he proceeded on his first assignment at Cedar Hall in Antigua.

His memories of his time in Antigua are fond ones. He remembers being warmly welcomed there and he speaks with gratitude about the bonds he formed with church and community members who were very supportive as he and his wife combined caring for a young family with full-time Ministry.

Reverend Parris also served for several years on the Board of the Provincial Elders Conference, East West Indies Province.

In 2002, Reverend Parris answered the call to return to his homeland and his home parish to serve as the pastor of the Sharon and Dunscombe congregations and he has continued to serve there to date. He is also currently the Superintendent of the Barbados Conference. He considers it a privilege to have been able to contribute to the spiritual development of persons who live in the area in which he was nurtured.

Reverend Parris, a father of two, is not only loved by his congregants as a caring spiritual leader but respected for his humility and down-to-earth approach as a pastor. He is known to be very hands-on and so is he is deeply involved in all aspects of the life of his church whether it be routine maintenance such as cutting the lawns or trouble shooting issues with the audio-visual system.

Reverend Parris was elected Bishop on July 14, 2025 at the 34th Synod of the East West Indies Province of the Moravian Church, held in Trinidad. As he prepares to be consecrated as only the second Barbadian Bishop of the Moravian Church, he affirms the principle that has guided his journey as a pastor and as a leader. It is that God calls us to be faithful. While he is thankful that his 33 years of Ministry have allowed him to touch many lives, he responded to a question about his success in this way.

“God does not call us to be successful. He calls us to be faithful. The question before me is: Have you been Faithful?”

Remember Tanzania: A Call to Prayer and Solidarity

Standing with our brothers and sisters who proclaim Christ amid persecution and unrest.

In late October and early November 2025, I attended the All Africa Youth Congress in Kenya. Among the many meaningful encounters, I share my encounter with Sister L. from a Unity Province in Tanzania.

Our meeting was filled with laughter, encouragement, and shared faith. Yet behind her bright smile, she carried the weight of a story that I feel compelled to share with you — the story of our Tanzanian brothers and sisters who are enduring trials that test both courage and faith.

A Church in the Midst of Turmoil

Throughout our time together, our sister shared the reality of persecution faced by Christians and human rights advocates in her country. She spoke of clergy who have gone missing or been killed after speaking publicly for justice and protection of citizens. She also shared of the economic and social struggles confronting young people, including widespread unemployment and new restrictions on communication that make even simple connection difficult.

Sister L. further shared Tanzania's political climate. She noted that opposition leaders have been arrested or silenced, and even critics within the ruling party were abducted or killed by “unknown people.” The citizens of Tanzania call for peaceful reforms and the release of detainees. In the absence of an affirmative response protests have become violent, leaving many dead.

Sister L. expressed deep concern about the situation in Tanzania. She shared that political tensions have escalated within recent weeks, leading to violence and death. Many students are unable to attend school, and national examinations have been postponed due to the unrest. She further shared news of a young brother — the son of our clergy within the Unity — who was shot and killed on October 29th, 2025 while returning home after witnessing violence in the streets. His death, along with many others, has left the church and nation mourning.

As a result of the political protests and national unrest, the Tanzanian delegation to the congress struggled to cross their borders to attend the event. Many were delayed, and some were prevented from leaving altogether. Still, when two-thirds of the group finally

arrived, they entered the meeting hall with songs of praise and joyful dancing — a testimony that even in hardship, their faith remains alive.

Faith that Endures

The Unity in Tanzania, and the wider body of believers, continues to serve faithfully despite these conditions. They are not silent. They call for peace, urging people to seek dialogue, prayer, and love over retaliation. Church leaders remind the faithful that true change begins in the heart, and that peace — though fragile — is a gift from God that must be protected even in the hardest of times.

In the midst of persecution, the Gospel continues to be preached. Young people continue to offer themselves in service as pastors, evangelists, and missionaries, believing that obedience to Christ outweighs every fear.

A Call to the Wider Church

As I reflect, I acknowledge that our call as a church does not end at our own borders.

The writer of Hebrews reminds us:

“Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.” (*Hebrews 13:3, NIV*)

Let us therefore pray earnestly for Tanzania — for the brethren there, for all who suffer, and for God’s justice to roll down like rivers of peace. Let us remember especially the families who grieve, the youth who struggle to learn amid unrest, and the leaders who risk their lives for justice.

Even in suffering, our faith teaches us that Christ remains our Redeemer and Judge. He is the Saviour who sees, the Lord who delivers, and the One who will one day make all things right.

May God stretch forth His righteous right hand, as He envelopes His people into His comforting embrace. May the Gospel of Christ continue to be preached without fear, in the hope of His completed and coming salvation.

Brothers and sisters, I invite us to join in prayer as an act of faith in the God who still reigns. Let us stand with our brethren in Tanzania. Let us pray without ceasing. And let us hold fast to the hope we share in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Yours in Christ,

Tia Phillip

*Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province
Young People in the Ecumenical Movement
World Council of Churches*

Provincial Board Meeting & Consecration

The Provincial Board will convene its final scheduled meeting for 2025 in the Barbados Conference from November 12-15, 2025. Please pray for us as we seek God's guidance in finalizing plans for 2026 and beyond.

Following the conclusion of the Board meeting, the service of consecration for the Rev. Ezra Parris will be held on November 16, 2025, at the Sharon Moravian Church at 4:00 pm. Please pray for Bro. Parris, all involved in this worship service, and the entire Provincial family, that the Holy Spirit may challenge and encourage us in the work of ministry.



Condolences



- ❖ The Provincial family extends condolences to Sis. Joyce John on the death of her brother Anthony John, the son of the late Rev. Alva John and Margaret John. Anthony died at the Scarborough Hospital, Tobago. May his soul rest in peace.
- ❖ The message of the passing of our Rev. Brother Martin Abrahams is received with thanks and lamentation. It has been such a blessing to have known him as having worked together with Brother Abrahams as he was serving as chairman of the Provincial Board of the Moravian Church in South Africa. I recall many occasions of good and trustful cooperation during the years. We will be missing Br. Abrahams, but we take courage in the hope in Christ, that we are looking forward to a joyful resurrection and eternal life in God.

Please give our regards and condolences to Sr. Millicent and the family. May God bless them and be close to them in the time of grief and loss.

Jesus says: "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never



Birthday Celebrants



October 16—31

Bro. Algernon Lewis	24
Bro. Erflin Browne	25

November 1-30

Sis. Onita Samuel-Warner	01
Sis. Cherry-Ann Ince	01
Sis. Katrina Reece Burley	17
Bro. Rowan Simmons	19
Bro. Ezra Parris	21
Bro. Delroy Burley	24
Sis. Joyce Walters	24
Bro. Nevin Lewis	27

December 1—15

Bro. Alban St. Hill	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

October 16—31

Bro. Vankys Isacc & Sis. Myrtle Isaac	26
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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 and Bro. Myron Floyd	08
Sis. Bonnie E.B. W. Smith & Bro Ulric V Smith	10
Sis. Judy Winspeare Philip & Bro. Sean Philip	12

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 are 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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