

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE AND INVOLVEMENT**

- † **Today:** NEW YEAR'S EVE
  - † Watchnight Service at 10:30 p.m.
- † **This Week:**
- † **Office Hours:** Tuesday & Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. (D.C. Moore Centre.)
- † **Mon:** Public Holiday – New Year's Day.
  - † Sharon Prayer & Fasting – 6:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- † **Tues. – Fri.:** Sharon/Dunscombe Renewal & Prayer Services at 7:30 p.m.
- † **Sat.:** Prayer Meeting at 6:30 a.m.
- † **Next Sun.:** Christian Education Hour: Adults – 8:00 a.m., Youth — 9:30 a.m.
  - † Divine Worship & Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.




**AVAILABLE:**

- † **Sharon Burgundy Shirts:** Polos — \$30 / T-Shirts — \$15
- † On order from the Church Office, **copies of Sunday sermons** on CD — \$2.00.
- † **Greeting Cards** (\$2.00) and **Prints** (\$20.00) of a painting of Sharon Church from the Church Office.
- † **Books** by Rev. Neilson Waithe: Understanding the Caribbean Worker— \$25.00; Provocation—\$20.
- † The Book, 'Created in Their Image: *Evangelical Protestantism in Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914*' written by Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts. The cost is \$50.00.


**In the Month of January 2018:**


- † **Sunday School Teachers' Workshop** — Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> at Sharon.
- † **Conference Youth Workshop** — Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup>
- † **Moravian Disciples Concert** — Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>
- † **Moravian Church Barbados Conference at Prayer** — Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup>
- † **Annual Church Council** — Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup>
- † **Harvest Festival at Centenary**— Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup>
- † **Superintendents Conference** — 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> in Antigua.

**Prayer Needs:**

-  **Our Shut-ins:** Eunice Applewhaite, Aileen Bowen, Genetha Bryan, Royle Deane, Carl Forde, Clement Harper, Grace Lashley, Erla Reid, Carol St. John.
-  **The Sick/Recovering:** Cynthia Walrond
-  **The Bereaved:** We extend condolences and pray for: Sis. Zenaida Ramsay and family, and Sis. Mencha Collymore and family on the passing of their sister, Angela Alleyne in the USA; the family and friends of Sis Patricia Maynard on her passing.

Thanks to our readers, ushers, contributors to the Basket of Hope, our floral donors/arrangers, our sound technicians and visual aids technicians. Flowers today have been donated by Sis. Joan Lewis in celebration of her birthday on December 28, 2017.

-  **Today:** Xolani Archer, Kerry Headley & Wendy Cadogan-Hoyte
- Advanced:** Jason Lewis & Charlton Moore (4<sup>th</sup>), Martin Codrington & Kempton Whitehall (5<sup>th</sup>)

 Congratulations to Bro. Richard & Sis. Christine Prescod who are celebrating their 12<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary today.

**MORAVIAN BIRTHDAY SONG**

With Thy presence, Lord, our Head and Saviour, Bless them all we humbly pray; Our dear heavenly Father's love and favour Be their comfort every day. May the Holy Ghost in each proceeding, Favour them with his most gracious leading; Thus shall they be truly blessed, Both in labour and in rest.

**Thought for the Day**

It matters not how dark the way,  
How thick the clouds from day to day;  
God will direct in all we do  
If we take time to pray it through. – Mead.

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR GUIDANCE FOLLOW CHRIST AS  
YOUR GUIDE

Visit our Website at <http://sharon.moravians.net> or  
<http://sharonmoravian.info>

**PROVINCIAL THEME 2017:**

Advance the Kingdom – Use the Keys.



Take a cell-phone moment: Take the time now to set your phone to silent or turn it off. Help us to maintain our worship focus.



# Worship



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves - 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

Email: [sharonmoravian@caribsurf.com](mailto:sharonmoravian@caribsurf.com)

Church Office/Pastor's Study Tel: 425-4011

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164



For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Romans 8:38-39

Sunday, December 31, 2017  
First Sunday after Christmas  
New Year's Eve

10:30 p.m.

**Welcome:** God, . . . Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son (Heb. 1:1-2). May we receive his message of love today and rejoice in God our Saviour. Welcome to all.

**Pastor:** Rev. Ezra Parris  
(Manse: 246-546-0344)

**Associate Pastor:**  
Rev. Movelle Kellman

**Organist:**  
Bro. Carl Ifill

**WATCHWORD:** Paul wrote: But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

(Galatians 4:4 – 5)

ORDER OF WORSHIP**Organ Prelude**

Call to Worship

Reading of the Daily Text – December 31, 2017

Opening Hymn: 617 – “*Let hearts and tongues unite*” (575)Litany – New Year & Anniversaries (*Leaflet/pg 200 Liturgy Book*)

Welcome

Hymn 22 – “*Through all the changing scenes of life*” (23)**Ministry of the Word:**

First Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1 – 13

Choir Anthem

Second Scripture Reading: Romans 8:31 – 39

**Worship in Tithes & Offerings: Offertory Sentence:** *As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.* (1 Peter 4:10)Tithes/Offertory Hymn: 620 – “*At thy feet, our God ...*” (578)

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

Choral Response – “*Doxology*”Hymn of Preparation: 551 – “*Master, Speak! Thy servant ...*” (508)**Sermon – Rev. Ezra Parris**Hymn of Response: 305 – “*Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*” (277)

Prayer of Commitment &amp; Rededication

Hymn of Affirmation: 240 – “*I’m pressing on the upward way*”

Ringing in the New Year

Reading of the Daily Text – January 1, 2018

Closing Hymn: 621 – “*Standing at the portal*” (579)**The Benediction & Organ Postlude****In the Month of January 2018:**

- † **Sharon Prayer & Fasting** — Monday, 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.
- † **Sharon/Dunscombe Renewal & Prayer Services** — Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.
- † **Sunday School Teachers’ Workshop** — Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> at Sharon.
- † **Conference Youth Workshop** — Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup>
- † **Moravian Disciples Concert** — Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>
- † **Moravian Church Barbados Conference at Prayer** — Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup>
- † **Annual Church Council** — Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup>
- † **Harvest Festival at Centenary** — Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup>
- † **Superintendents Conference** — 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> in Antigua.

**NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS**

1. You are invited to a **workshop on Sharing Your Faith** conducted by Bishop Sam Gray of the Moravian Church in North America on Saturday, January 6, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Mount Tabor Moravian Church. The purpose of the workshop is to equip members and leaders to reach out to their communities and to members who are now dormant. Bring along a snack.
2. Please note that the **telephone number at the manse** has been changed to 246-546-0344. We had some disappointments with the previous service and decided to change. The Office number remains the same: 246-425-4011.
3. Groups and Organizations are requested to prepare their **reports for 2017** and submit such to the Pastoral team by Saturday, December 31, 2017.
4. The **32nd Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province** will be held July 5 to 11, 2019. We invite members and friends of the Moravian Church to make weekly contributions of at least \$1.00 towards those costs for which this Conference will be responsible. This contribution will be collected on the First Sunday of each month. Envelopes are available.
5. Our **Missionary ingathering for 2017** has to date realized \$17,409.90 towards our target of \$20,000. We say thanks to all who supported. Contributions can still be made until year end.
6. **Flowers are needed for our church!** You will find on the Notice Board next to the main door to the church, a roster in the shape of flower. You may sign up to indicate that you would (1) cover the cost to obtain flowers for the arrangements or (2) provide the complete arrangements, for a particular Sunday(s). Feel free to join with others to provide the flowers to celebrate your birthday(s) etc.
7. **Sunday Morning Bus Route to Sharon:** Quarry Road (8:30 a.m.), Redman’s Village (8:35), Padmore Village (8:45), Melrose, Edge Hill Terrace (8:50), Canewood, Jackson Tenantry (9:00 a.m.), Sharon (9:05).
8. **Bus Fund** — Contributions for the up-keep of the Bus can be made making use of brown envelopes which are available from the vestry.
9. Remember the “**Basket of Hope**” ministry wherein you have opportunity to make contributions of non-perishable food items, which are distributed to those in need. Contributions can be made every Sunday, during the offertory hymn.
10. **Moravian Radio Programme:** “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.

**NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS**

11. **Provincial Theme 2017: “Advance the Kingdom: Use the Keys”** There are many keys but ONE door. By studying the many keys to the kingdom we will be brought to the knowledge that keys are accessible, available and ought be fully utilized: **The Key of Jesus** (Philippians 2:1-11, Revelation 3:7-13); **The Key of the Word** (John 8:31-36, Psalm 1, Luke 4:4); **The Key of Knowledge** (Proverbs 3:5-12); **The Key of the Holy Spirit** (Luke 4).

**OFFERTORY CHORAL RESPONSE—Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**240**

I’m pressing on the upward way,  
New heights I’m gaining every day;  
Still praying as I’m onward bound,  
“Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.”

*Lord, lift me up, and let me stand  
By faith on heaven’s table-land;  
A higher plane than I have found,  
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.*

My heart has no desire to stay  
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;  
Though some may dwell where these abound,  
My prayer, my aim, is higher ground.

I want to live above the world,  
Though Satan’s darts at me are hurled;  
For faith has caught the joyful sound,  
The song of saints on higher ground.

I want to scale the utmost height  
And catch a gleam of glory bright;  
But still I’ll pray till Heav’n I’ve found,  
“Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.”

