

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE AND INVOLVEMENT




- † **Today:** Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.
 † Thanksgiving Service in tribute of the late Bro. Lisle Brathwaite and Bro. William Jones, at Fulnec at 5:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.
- † **This Week:**
- † **Office Hours:** **Tuesdays & Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. (D.C. Moore Centre.)**
- † **Tues.:** Women's Fellowship at 6:30 p.m.
 † **Wed.:** Consultation & Prayer at 7:00 p.m.
 † **Fri.:** New Generation Ministries at 6:30 p.m.
 † Church Choir Rehearsal at 8:00 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 at 9:30 a.m.

AVAILABLE: Offering Envelopes for 2017 — We invite each member of the congregation to receive a box of envelopes and thereby seek to faithfully support the work of the church. Please request that a box be provided for you if none has been provided as yet; **Missionary Collection Boxes**— If you had a box last year, please collect it from the Vestry. If you desire a box for the first time, please inquire at the vestry after worship or at the Church Office; **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 December 2017:

- † **Women's Fellowship Carolling / Christian Kindness** — 12th & 19th
 † **Men's & Women's Fellowship Christmas Social & Gift Exchange** — Thursday, 14th
 † **Sunday School Christmas Candle-Light Service** — Sunday, 17th
 † **Sharon Carol Singing** — Wednesday, 20th at 7:30 p.m.
 † **Worship on Christmas Day** — Monday, 25th at 5:00 am.
 † **Talk / Discussion** on the topic, "*Moving Forward After Loss*" — Thursday, 28th, 7:00 pm at the D. C. Moore Centre.
 † **Watch-Night Service** — Sunday, 31st, 10:30 p.m.

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:** Patricia Maynard, Cynthia Walrond, Ansonia Cox-Burgess
 **The Bereaved:** We express condolences to and pray for: Relatives and friends of Bro Douglas Taylor. A Service of Thanksgiving for his life will be held here at Sharon on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 commencing at 3:00 p.m.

Thanks to our readers, ushers, contributors to the Basket of Hope, our floral donors/arrangers, our sound technicians and visual aids technicians.

-  **Today:** Margaret Best & Sheila Greenidge
Advanced: Teyye-Kaori Parris & DeLisle Phillips (11th), Caitlin Best (12th), Shauntelle Springer & Shakera Springer (13th), Glendene Harris & Derece Osbourne (14th), Richard Lewis (15th), Judy Dear & Pauline Stevenson (16th)



Congratulations to Bro. Hal & Sis. Marjorie Ifill who will celebrate their 37th Wedding Anniversary on December 13, 2017

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

Down from His splendor in glory He came,
 Into a world of woe;
 Took on Himself all my guilt and shame,
 Why should He love me so?

GOD HAS BOTH AN ALL-SEEING EYE AND ALL-FORGIVING HEART

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

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

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164



A Festival of
 Nine Lessons
 and Carols



Sunday, December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: We greet each other in the name of Christ today, and we rejoice in the knowledge of God our Saviour. May his light be shed abroad in our hearts as we worship. Welcome.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris

(Manse: 246-425-0344)

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Movelle Kellman

Organist:

Bro. Carl Ifill

WATCHWORD: He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his arms.

(Isaiah 40:11)

ORDER OF WORSHIP**Organ Prelude**

Introit

Call to Worship

Hymn 61 – “Once in royal David’s city” (59)

Liturgy – Second Sunday in Advent (pg 87 Liturgy Book/ leaflet)

Welcome & Celebrations

* *The Service Proceeds Unannounced* *

Anthem – “Light A Single Candle” (Choir)

Lesson 1 – Genesis 3: 8 – 15, 17 – 19 (God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent’s head.)

Anthem – “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus” (Choir)

Lesson 2 – Genesis 22: 15 – 18 (God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations on earth be blessed.)

Hymn 143 – “O come, O come, Immanuel” (129) (Congregation)

Lesson 3 – Isaiah 9: 2, 6, 7 (The Prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.)

Hymn 150 – “Thy Kingdom Come, O God,” (135) (Congregation)

Lesson 4 – Isaiah 11: 1 – 3a, 4a, 6 – 9 (The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.)

Anthem – “O Little Town” (Choir)

Lesson 5 – Luke 1: 26 – 35, 38 (The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.)

Anthem – “Gabriel’s Message” (Choir)

Lesson 6 – Luke 2: 1, 3 – 7 (St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.)

Hymn 68 – “Away In A Manger” (669) (Youth Hymn)

Lesson 7 – Luke 2: 8 – 16 (The Shepherds go to the manger.)

Hymn 48 – “While Shepherds watched ...” (48) (Congregation)

Lesson 8 – Matthew 2: 1 – 12 (The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus.)

Hymn 69 – “As with gladness men of old” (61) (Congregation)

Lesson 9 – John 1: 1 – 14 (St. John unfolds the mystery of the incarnation.)

Hymn 46 – “O come all ye faithful” (47) (Congregation)

Worship in Tithes & Offerings: Offertory Sentence: “Forget not to be kind and liberal; for with that sort of sacrifice God is well pleased” (Hebrews 13:16)

Offertory: “Lo, he comes ...” (Choir: congregation joins – last verse)

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

Choral Response – “Give Thanks”

Notices

Closing Hymn: 53 – “Hark! the herald angels sing,” (52)

The Benediction & Organ Postlude**NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS**

1. The congregation is invited to a time of **Consultation & Prayer** on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Sharon. At a recent Bible Study, as the matter of the Church’s role in society was discussed, it was proposed that the wider congregation be asked to reflect and then gather to share on how we can engage the community for change. Let us make the most of this opportunity.
2. You are invited to a **Talk / Discussion on the topic, “Moving Forward After Loss”** on Thursday, December 28, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre. The presenter will be Dr. Abel St. Amour, a clinical psychologist from Florida USA. He is the author of the book, “**Beyond the Mission; a guide for pastoral counseling on Traumatic stress in missionary relief workers.**” All are invited.
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 Moravian Cooperative Credit Union announces the availability of **Christmas Loans** of \$500 to \$2,500. Please see the flyer on the Notice Board for further details.
5. The PEC makes the following announcement: The **Rev. Hilton Joseph**, Superintendent of the Moravian Church in the St. Kitts Conference and Pastor of the Zion Moravian congregation in St. Kitts, has been granted four (4) months **furlough** from January 29, 2018 – May 29, 2018.
6. The PEC in consultation with the Superintendents across the Province has decided to postpone the **32nd Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province** for one (1) year, until July 5 to 11, 2019. This is to allow those Conferences in the North which were affected by Hurricanes Irma and Maria to recover. The full announcement from the PEC can be found on the Notice Board. The Barbados Conference therefore has a bit more time to prepare for the Synod and we ask members and friends of the Moravian Church to continue with their weekly contributions of at least \$1.00 towards those costs for which the Conference will be responsible. This contribution will be collected on the First Sunday of each month. Envelopes are available.
7. We express thanks to those who prepared for, contributed and supported our **Annual Fish Fry** in April. Receipts totaled \$17,581.45 and our Expenses \$4,797.18, giving a **surplus of \$12,784.27**. Thanks for your continual support.
8. Our **Missionary Festival at Sharon** was held on Tuesday, October 17, 2017. We gathered \$13,635 towards our target of \$20,000. Contributions can still be made until year end.
9. **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.

NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

10. 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).
11. **Bus Fund** — Contributions for the up-keep of the Bus can be made making use of brown envelopes which are available from the vestry.
12. 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.
13. **Moravian Radio Programme:** “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.
14. **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).

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending, once for our salvation slain;
 Thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Christ appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;
 Those who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to
 the tree,
 Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
 Shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears,
 Cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshippers;
 With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture
 Gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
 Saviour, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for thine
 own:
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.
