

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE AND INVOLVEMENT

- † **Today:** CHRISTMAS DAY
- † **This Week:**
- † **Office Hours:** Mondays & Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. (D.C. Moore Centre.)
- † **Wed.:** No Church Membership Class.
† No Bible Study or Prayer Meeting.
- † **Thurs.:** Meeting of the Board of Elders at 7:00 p.m.
- † **Fri.:** New Generation Ministries at 6:30 p.m.
† Church Choir Rehearsal at 8:00 p.m.
- † **Sat.:** New Year's Eve – Prayer Meeting at 6:30 a.m.
† Watch-Night Service at 10:30 p.m. Please invite your family and friends
- † **Next Sun.:** Christian Education Hour: Adults – 8:00 a.m., Youth — 9:30 a.m.
† Divine Worship & Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

In the Month of December 2016:

- † Watch-Night Service – Saturday December 31st at 10:30 p.m.
Invite your family and friends.

In the Month of January 2017:

- † Sharon/Dunscombe Renewal & Prayer Services — Tuesday 3rd - Friday 6th at 7:30 p.m.
- † Sunday School Teachers' Workshop — Saturday, 7th at Sharon.
- † Conference Youth Workshop — Saturday, 14th
- † Women's Fellowship Retreat — Saturday, 21st
- † Annual Church Council — Sunday, 22nd
- † Ordination of Bro Delroy Burley — Sunday, 22nd at Sharon at 6:00 p.m.
- † Moravian Church Barbados Conference at Prayer — Saturday, 28th
- † Moravian Disciples Concert — Saturday 28th at Sharon
- † Harvest Festival at Centenary — Sunday, 30th

CHORAL RESPONSE— *Doxology for Christmas*

(Tune: *O come, . . . Immanuel*)

Praise God for whom all blessings flow.
Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel, Shall come to thee, O Israel.



On this Christmas Day we remember in prayer ...

Our Shut-ins: Eunice Applewhaite, Aileen Bowen, Claudia Boyce, Genetha Bryan, Eugene Clarke, Royle Deane, Carl Forde, Clement Harper, Grace Lashley, Erla Reid, Carol St. John.



The Sick / Recovering: Ernesta Marshall-Jemmott, Howard and Beverly Arthur (Canada)

The Bereaved: The family of Sis Gretel Smith on her passing. A service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held here at Sharon on Thursday, December 29, 2016, 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. Flowers today have been donated by Sis. Joan Lewis in celebration of her birthday.

Belated: Mavis Adams (21st)

Today: Roseanne Eversley & Joseph Greaves

Advanced: Shamia Corbin & Merville Franklyn (27th), Curtis Drakes, Joan Lewis & Chanel Rock-Waithe (28th), Steven King & Edwin Sandiford (29th), Xolani Archer & Wendy Cadogan-Hoyte (31st)



Congratulations to Bro. Stephen & Sis. Donna Greaves who will celebrate their 12th Wedding Anniversary on December 26, 2016; Bro. Bertram & Sis. Norma Nicholls who will celebrate their 47th Wedding Anniversary on December 27, 2016; Bro Richard & Christie Prescod who will celebrate their 11th Wedding Anniversary on December 31, 2016.



Thought for the Day (RBC Extract)

Have you felt the joy of the shepherds,
Who were first to behold the sight,
Of that holy Child of Mary
On that wonderful Christmas night? — Brill. —



A WONDER-FILLED LIFE IS YOURS WHEN YOU KNOW THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS



PROVINCIAL THEME 2016:

Fulfilling the Mandate – “Advance The Kingdom”



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.

SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH



(Built by Slaves - 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164



Christmas Day

Sunday December 25, 2016

Nativity of the Lord

5:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

Welcome: “His name shall be called . . . Wonderful Counselor.” Welcome to one and all, as we celebrate the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, and give thanks for the hope we have in him.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris
(Manse: 246-425-0344)

Associate Pastor: Rev. Movelle Kellman

Organist: Bro. Carl Ifill

WATCHWORD: The law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

(John 1:14)

ORDER OF WORSHIP**Organ Prelude**

Call to Worship – Let us worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Hymn 56 – “Christians, awake, salute the happy morn,” (55)

Liturgy – Christmas Day (on leaflet/projected)

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

Welcome & Greetings

Hymn 62 – “It came upon the midnight clear” (60)

Worship in Tithes & Offerings: Offertory Sentence: “And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” **(Matthew 2:11)**

Offertory Hymn: 59 – “Angels from the realms of glory” (57)

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

Choral Response – *Doxology for Christmas*

Ministry of the Word:

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 52: 7 – 10

Church Choir Anthem – “Nativity Carol” (5:00 a.m.)

New Testament Reading – Luke 2: 1 – 16

Hymn 64 – “O little town of Bethlehem” (62)

Sermon – – Rev. Ezra Parris

Hymn of Reflection: 63 – “I heard the bells on Christmas Day”

Intercessory Prayers: Christmas Liturgy (continued)

Hymn: 49 – “Go, tell it on the mountain”

Benediction

Greetings – “We Wish You A Merry Christmas”

Organ Postlude

AVAILABLE:

✚ **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.

✚ 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.

**NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS**

1. Groups and Organizations are requested to prepare their reports for 2016 and submit such to the Pastoral team by Saturday, December 31, 2016.
2. Thanks to all who have supported our Missionary fundraising effort for 2016. Thus far we have raised \$20,379.80. Funds raised will go towards local missions, and to missionary endeavours across the region and the world through the various mission organizations of the Moravian Church.
3. 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 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.
4. Flowers are needed for our church! You will find on the wall 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.
5. 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).
6. Bus Fund —Contributions for the up-keep of the Bus can be made making use of brown envelopes which are available from the vestry.
7. 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.
8. Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 pm.
9. Provincial Theme 2016: *Fulfilling the Mandate—Advance the Kingdom!* The theme emphasizes the mandate of Developing God’s Church – Teaching, Reprimanding and Empowering God’s people. The foundation texts are Acts 1:8, Matthew 28: 16-20; Romans 15:20; 2 Timothy 4:2.

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



I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along th’unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head.
‘There is no peace on earth,’ I said,
‘For hate is strong and mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men.’

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
God is not dead; nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men!’

Till, ringing, singing, on its way,
The world revolved from night to day –
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,
Of peace on earth, good will to men!

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night
Behold, throughout the heavens, there shone a holy light:

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth.

Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation, that blessed Christmas morn.

