

SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves - 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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Sunday, February 14, 2021

**Last Sunday after the Epiphany
Anniversary Sunday**

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: We are happy to welcome all our members and friends to this worship livestream as we celebrate the 253rd Anniversary of the gathering of this congregation and the 222nd Anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone here at Sharon. A special welcome is extended to all. May you be blessed as you share with us. Welcome.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris

(Manse: 246-546-0344)

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Movelle Kellman



WATCHWORD: For we do not proclaim ourselves;
we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as
servants for Jesus' sake. *(2 Corinthians 4:5)*

Provincial Theme 2021: "Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T."

ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Introit

Call to Worship: *The LORD lives; and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation, . . . For this I will extol thee, O LORD, among the nations, and sing praises to thy name.* (Psalm 18:46 & 49, RSV)

Hymn 467 – *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

Litany – New Year & Anniversaries (p. 200 – Liturgy Book)

Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Songs & Choruses

Solo: Bro. David Greenidge

Ministry of the Word

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:1 – 7 – *Sis Jean Straker, John Hus Moravian, Brooklyn, NY.*

Scripture Reading: Mark 9:2 – 9 – *Bro Gerry Downes, New Dawn Moravian, Toronto.*

Hymn of Preparation: 527 – *Be Still, For the Presence of the Lord*

Sermon – *Rev. Ezra Parris*

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn 399 – *Thy Hand, O God, has Guided*

The Benediction

Organ Postlude



Visit our Website at <http://sharonmoravian.info>; Visit our Facebook Page and subscribe to our YouTube Channel. These are means by which we can connect to our brothers and sisters, and get the word out on what's happening in the church. Like us; Follow us; Re-post us.



Mark 9:2-3

² And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them. ³ And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.



Opening Hymn: 467 –

**Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!**

**All thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.**

**Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.**

**Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us,
Binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.**



NEW YEAR AND ANNIVERSARIES

All standing.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits.

Who forgives your iniquity, who heals your diseases,

Who satisfies you with good as long as you live, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

TUNE: ST. ANNE

**O God our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast
And our eternal home.**

**Under the shadow of thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.**

Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748)

All seated.

Let us pray:

God of mercy, as we mark this moment, we confess our weaknesses, failures and transgressions:

Our broken vows,

Our slackness and misuse of time and opportunity,

Our selfishness and our love of ease,

Our unkindness and indifference,

Our self-indulgence and our pleasures taken at the expense of others,

Our moments when we have not been true to ourselves,

Our lack of faith in your providence.

For these sins of commission and omission, have mercy upon us.

Lord Jesus Christ, we remember in your presence our losses and griefs, our hopes and treasures which the departing year has carried away, the disappointments we have known, the friends who are no longer with us and whose steps we shall hear no more. We pray for grace to cherish the spirit which brings good out of evil, and which prevents adversities and sorrows from embittering our hearts. Give us comfort and a deep sense of your goodness in every circumstance of life, and when, despite our good intentions, we fail, be our strength and stay.

Lord God Father, hear us as we pray.

Let us pray as our Saviour has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

God will supply every need of ours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

TUNE: DISMISSAL

**Thanks we give and adoration
For the Gospel's joyful sound;
May the fruits of your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.**

**May your presence, may your presence,
With us evermore, be found.**

John Fawcett (1742–1817)

Lord Jesus, you are the same yesterday, today, and forever: your throne is established in righteousness, your compassion fails not, and your love endures from generation to generation. Lift the light of your countenance upon us, for we are exiles as our ancestors were. We thank you for all the ways by which you have led us in the past. Give us courage to set our faces toward the future. *Amen.*

Let us give thanks for all God's mercies.

For your grace given to us in days that are gone,
For the blessings of life, seen and unseen,
For the joy and peace of communion with you,

We give you thanks, gracious God.

For the sacraments of love and service which have made us conscious of your presence in our common life,

For the deeds we have been able to accomplish in the strength which you supply,
For the kindness of associates, the love of friends, and the fellowship of kindred souls,

We give you thanks, loving God.

For the disciplines which have enriched our living,

For your wisdom and gracious providence which we have recognized when you have denied our foolish requests,

For the faith which has guided us in days of trial,

We give you thanks, gracious God.

All standing.

God will supply every need of ours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

TUNE: WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and corner-stone,
Chosen of the Lord and Precious,
Binding all the church in one.
Holy Zion's help forever
And her confidence alone.

John M. Neale Tr. (1818 – 1866)



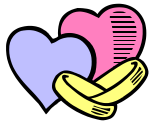
Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

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Today: Aidan McClean & Tristan Whitehall

Advanced: Kyle Blackman-Gibbons (15th), Annetta Browne (17th), Cheryl Alleyne & William Ifill (18th), Zachary Hoyte, Ashley Marshall & Jaaziel Parris (20th)



Congratulations to Bro. Malcolm & Sis. Claudette Jones who are celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversary today.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

† Today: Anniversary & Friendship Sunday
† Worship – 9:30 a.m.

THIS WEEK

† Office Hours: Tuesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.
(D. C. Moore Centre).

† Wednesday Ash Wednesday
† Pastorate Joint Ash Wednesday Service – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

† Thursday & Friday Lenten Devotions – 8:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

† Saturday Women's Prayer-Fast – 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

† NEXT SUNDAY Worship – 9:30 a.m.



In the Month of February 2021:

- ✝ **Women's Prayer-Fast – Saturday, 20th, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm.** In place of the Annual Prayer Breakfast, the Women's Fellowship Island Conference will meet on the Zoom platform for a virtual Prayer-Fast from 08:00 – 1200hrs on Saturday 20th February. Each Fellowship has been allotted a prayer session and each of our 5 female Pastors will be joining to bring a short message of encouragement during the Programme.
- ✝ **Superintendents' Conference – 22nd & 23rd**



A Son of the Soil

In this Black History Month, we at Sharon salute our black heritage. This week we take a look at Rev. Duncan C. Moore.

Rev D.C. Moore, Barbadian by birth, was one of the longest serving ministers at the Sharon Moravian Church, serving from 1945 – 1963. He became the first black Chairman of the Provincial Elders Conference (PEC) and paved the way for many young Caribbean men to become members of the ordained ministry.

In recognition of his dedicated life and work at Sharon, the building of the former Sharon Mixed School was refurbished and renamed THE DUNCAN C. MOORE CENTRE. The compound today houses the Office of the Barbados Conference of the Moravian Church, the Moravian Credit Union, a Conference Room and a Hall.

Rev Duncan C. Moore – a true son of the soil!!!



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. From the PEC:

- ✝ **Warm Christian greetings in the name of Jesus, our Chief Elder!** As we look toward Lent and Easter, the Province is called to an intentional time of prayer and fasting for the duration of Lent. We are encouraged to adhere to the basic principles Daniel followed in Daniel 10: 3 – Prayer, no sweets, no meat, and no alcohol. The Provincial Newsletter for February has more details on the Daniel Fast. During this period, Mondays – Fridays, scripture verses to guide personal morning reflections and prayer will be distributed. In the evenings, there will be short, impactful devotions beginning at 8:00 pm on Zoom. Each Conference will lead evening devotions for one week during Lent as follows:

Conference	Devotion Dates	Sub-Theme
Trinidad	February 18-19	Seek
Tobago	February 22-26	Submit

Barbados	March 1 – 5	Hear and Heed
St. Kitts	March 8 – 12	Imagination and Insight
Antigua	March 15 – 19	Focus and Function
Virgin Islands	March 22 – 26	Total Transformation

- ✝ We need God to do mighty things in us, through us, in the church, in our communities, and the world. Let us ready our hearts and minds for the journey
 - ✝ March 07, 2021 is Unity Sunday. At this time of year, we remember the birth of the *Unitas Fratrum*, the Moravian Church, on March 1, 1457. We ask for your continued prayers for the work and witness of our Church. A special Unity offering will be taken in all Moravian Churches worldwide on Sunday, March 7, 2021. This offering will go towards constructing a multipurpose hall in Malawi in Africa. Details on the project are attached.
 - ✝ The Provincial Board of the European Continental Province (ECP) has drawn the Watchword for each Province and Unity Undertaking for 2021. The watchword drawn for the Eastern West Indies Province (EWIP) is *“He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth”* (Psalm 105:7). The watchword is assigned for April 3, 2021.
2. From the Superintendent: In compliance with the national directive to pause from broad social interaction to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the Moravian Church in Barbados will extend the suspension of gatherings or assemblies for a further month, through to February 28, 2021. We are encouraged to remain engaged by making use of our online resources such as our social media pages and our livestreamed worship services on YouTube and Facebook.
- ✝ Worship times are as follows:
 - ✝ Calvary / Grace Hill / Fulneq Pastorate – Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
 - ✝ Sharon / Dunscombe Pastorate – Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
 - ✝ Bethlehem / Faith Pastorate – Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
 - ✝ Continue to follow the directives and recommendations of our public health officials and agencies, that we may do our part in maintaining the health of our community and fighting the COVID-19 Pandemic.
3. We are thankful for the financial support we have been receiving thus far, particularly in the light of the economic impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are mindful that some of you may be facing reduced or lost income due to this crisis.
- ✝ We are challenged however, in maintaining our ministry, our facilities and paying property insurance. So, we ask for your continued faithfulness in giving as you are able.
 - ✝ Those who attend worship in the sanctuary are reminded that offerings are deposited in the baskets on entry.
 - ✝ Those who are not back out to church as yet are reminded that labelled envelopes can be dropped into the slot in the front door of the Manse.

- ✝ Generally, those who would give electronically can do so by direct deposit to our account at Scotiabank, Warrens – 40274. You can also give via SurePay at a walk-in kiosk or using your online account. At SurePay you can make payments anonymously to the Moravian Church (*Account No: 1765-1768-0000, Name: Sharon Moravian Church*), or if you need your donations recorded for tax purposes and you have a box of envelopes; make payments to the Moravian Church (*Account No: 1765-1768-0-[your 3-digit envelope number], Name: Your Name*). Visit www.sharonmoravian.info/giving-monetary for these details.
4. Flower Festival 2021: As 2020 draws to a close, we look with faith to a brighter 2021 in every area of our lives. We seek a renewal physically, spiritually and morally, and we pray for a Rebirth!
- ✝ Hence the theme for the FLOWER FESTIVAL 2021 – REBIRTH! The Festival is scheduled for the weekend of June 12 – 13, 2021.
- ✝ The Flower Festival Committee has met and plans are in progress. This is an invitation to ALL members and friends to once again sponsor and donate to this event. Sponsorship fees remain unchanged at \$300.00. We look forward to your support as before. All persons desirous of sponsoring – again or for the first time – should indicate by the end of December, so that a location can be reserved for you.
5. 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.
6. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.
7. Remember our Basket of Hope Ministry. There are still those in our community that are in need of our assistance. You are invited each Sunday to make donations of non-perishable food items, which can be deposited in the basket placed at the rostrum (Altar).
8. Invite someone to get on board! Our Bus is back on Route on Sundays. The Route to and from Sharon remains: 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). Contributions to the Bus Fund are welcome. Envelopes are available from the vestry.



PRAYER NEEDS:



Our Shut-ins: *Daphne Bispham, Aileen Bowen, Royle Deane, Bro Sydney Gibson, Grace Lashley, Muriel Moore, Carol St. John.*

The Bereaved: *We express condolences to and pray for Sis. Shirley Smith and family on the passing of her daughter Patricia Smith. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at Sharon on Thursday, February 18, 2021 commencing at 3:00 p.m.*

Adoration In Songs & Choruses



Solo: Bro. David Greenidge



Ministry of the Word

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:1 – 7 – *Sis Jean Straker, John Hus Moravian, Brooklyn, NY.*

- 1** Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;
- 2** But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.
- 3** But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:
- 4** In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.
- 5** For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.
- 6** For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
- 7** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.



Scripture Reading: Mark 9:2 – 9 – *Bro Gerry Downes, New Dawn Moravian, Toronto.*

- 2** And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them.
- 3** And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.
- 4** And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus.
- 5** And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.
- 6** For he wist not what to say; for they were sore afraid.

- 7 And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.
- 8 And suddenly, when they had looked round about, they saw no man any more, save Jesus only with themselves.
- 9 And as they came down from the mountain, he charged them that they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead.



Hymn of Preparation: 527 –

**Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The Holy One, is here;
Come bow before Him now
With reverence and fear:
In Him no sin is found –
We stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The Holy One, is here.**

**Be still, for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
With splendour He is crowned:
How awesome is the sight –
Our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
Is shining all around.**

**Be still, for the power of the Lord,
Is moving in this place;
He comes to cleanse and heal,
To minister His grace –
No work too hard for Him.
In faith receive from Him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord,
Is moving in this place.**



Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Closing Hymn: 399 –

Thy hand, O God, has guided
Thy flock, from age to age;
The wondrous tale is written,
Full clear, on many a page;
Our fathers owned thy goodness,
And we their deeds record;
And both of this bear witness;
‘One Church, one Faith, one Lord.’

Thy heralds brought glad tidings
To greatest as to least;
They bade men rise, and hasten
To share the great King's feast;
And this was all their teaching,
In every deed and word,
To all alike proclaiming
‘One Church, one Faith, one Lord.’

Through many a day of darkness,
Through many a scene of strife,
The faithful few fought bravely,
To guard the nation's life.
Their gospel of redemption,
Sin pardoned, man restored,
Was all in this enfolded:
‘One Church, one Faith, one Lord.’

And we, shall we be faithless?
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
Shall we evade the conflict,
And cast away our crown?
Not so; in God's deep counsels
Some better thing is stored;
We will maintain, unflinching,
‘One Church, one Faith, one Lord.’

Thy mercy will not fail us,
Nor leave thy work undone;
With thy right hand to help us,

Thy victory shall be won;
And then by men and angels
Thy name shall be adored,
And this shall be their anthem:
'One Church, one Faith, one Lord.'



Benediction



Organ Postlude



AVAILABLE:

- † Moravian Daily Text 2021: American Regular Print Paperback Edition – \$24
- † Offering Envelopes for 2021 – 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.
- † 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.



Protocol for Worship Services during the COVID-19 Pandemic – 2020

In keeping with the directive given by the Prime Minister of Barbados:

1. Sanitisation stations shall be set up at the entrances and exits which shall be manned by ushers.
2. All attending shall sanitise their hands upon entering the church.
3. The names of all who attend service shall be recorded.
4. The temperature of each worshipper and minister shall be taken before entering the church, using a contactless thermometer;
 - † persons whose temperature exceed 37.5° C shall not be allowed to enter the church;
 - † persons who are coughing repeatedly, sneezing or exhibit any flu-like symptoms shall not be allowed to enter the church.

5. Face masks shall be worn throughout the service by all persons present in the church. Worship Leaders may remove their masks temporarily to fulfil their roles, provided that there is at least six feet between leaders, and between leaders and congregants.
6. There shall be no physical contact between attendees.
7. There shall be a physical distance of at least three feet between all attending except between members of the same household who may sit together; in which case, there shall be a distance of at least three feet between one group and adjacent groups or individuals.
8. Attendees shall be asked to deposit their offerings in fixed containers.
9. No hymnals, Bibles, leaflets or other materials shall be distributed to worshippers;
 - ✝ Bibles, hymnals etc. should only be shared by family members;
 - ✝ The Lectern Bible shall also be removed and lesson readers shall be asked to use their own Bible.
10. Infant Baptism, Confirmation, Dedication, laying on of hands or anointing have been suspended for the time being.
11. Windows and doors shall be kept open to allow for ventilation.
12. Attendees shall be asked to maintain the recommended social distance when leaving the building.
13. There shall be no congregating of worshippers inside or outside of the church, before or after service.



PROPOSAL REQUEST FOR SUPPORT TO CONSTRUCT A COMMUNITY MULTIPURPOSE HALL FOR MORAVIAN CHURCH IN MALAWI IN LILONGWE THE CAPITAL CITY OF MALAWI
REQUESTED ESTIMATED COST US\$ 50,000.00

REASONS FOR BUILDING A COMMUNITY HALL/PRAYER HOUSE

There is no place/land or any building where the Moravians can meet and warship in the capital city Lilongwe despite the presence of many existing members from other districts where the Moravian is, and also many willing members to warship with the Moravian. The church in Lilongwe will be a model congregation and attract many Christian who are not reached with the gospel

- The community hall proposed will be generating income through hiring for activities such as weddings, seminars and also kindergarten learning and the income will be used for church improvement and caring of the resident pastor
- The project will be on going considering that even the provincial head office, will be favored to be located at this congregation
- It will promote and strengthen networking and collaboration with other churches that are winning within the capital city such as the Lutheran Church, The Presbyterian Church (CCAP), The Baptist Convention of Malawi and many other churches.
- The project will also respond to Government demand for MoHDevS which is a strong partner in charitable work to also influence the opening of the church in Lilongwe as a need

The total estimate project cost is US\$ **50,000.00** for the year 2021

PROJECT SITE/LOCATION

The project will be located in Lilongwe the capital city of Malawi and possible suggested sites are, area 25, Mchinji Road, and Salima Road. However specific area and land, will be determined through consultations with the government through the city council and local traditional leaders. The sketch plan for the building have been provided as attachment.

PROJECT PRIORITY BUDGET FOR 2021 AND REQUESTED

Code #	Item	Cost Mk	Cost Euro	Exchange Rate
1	Land Acquisition	5,000,000.00	6,693.44	1US\$ = Mk747.00
2	Substructure	6,000,000.00	8,032.13	
3	Frames	2,800,000.00	3,748.33	
4	External Walls	3,200,000.00	4,283.80	
5	Doors	800,000.00	1,070.95	
6	Windows	1,100,000.00	1,472.56	
7	Roof	7,700,000.00	10,307.90	
8	Internal walls and Partitions	3,000,000.00	4,016.06	
9	Plumbing	1,200,000.00	1,606.43	
10	Electrical	2,000,000.00	2,677.38	
11	Finishings	2,100,000.00	2,811.24	
12	Site Works	2,450,000.00	3,279.79	
	Estimated Total	37,350,000.00	50,000.00	

CHURCH ENDORSEMENT The Provincial Board Chairman Rev. George Kaliati

