

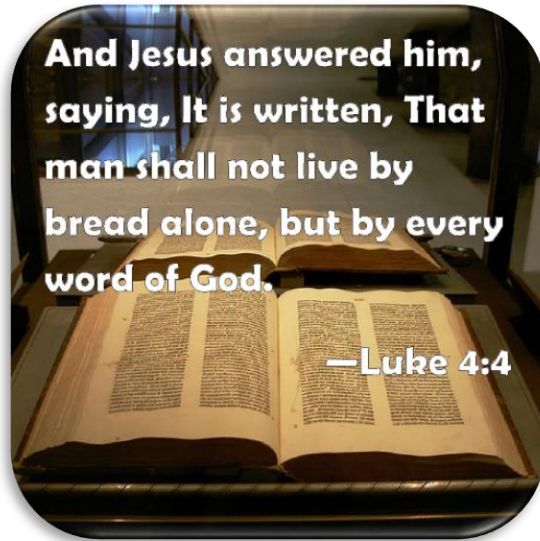
SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves – 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136



LENT



Sunday, March 9, 2025
The First Sunday in Lent
9:30 a.m.

Welcome: A warm welcome is extended to all as we worship, whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home and abroad. We rejoice in worship over the salvation and power Jesus Christ brings to our lives. To all our visitors and friends, welcome!

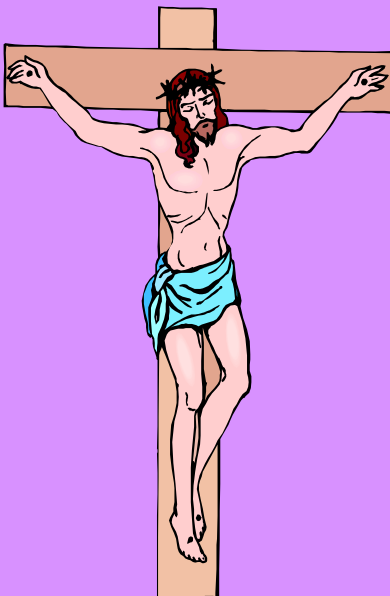
Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris
(Manse: 246-546-0344)

Associate Pastor: Rev. David Ince

Church Office/Pastor's Study: 246-425-4011

Email: sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164

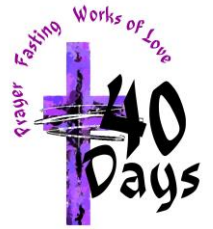


WATCHWORD: No one who believes in Christ will be put to shame. *(Romans 10:11)*

Provincial Theme 2025:

“SHIFT: Reclaiming Our Identity, Renewing Our Purpose, and Re-Igniting Our Passion”

ORDER OF SERVICE



Prelude

Introit – Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 91:1,2

Leader: Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

All: This I declare about the Lord: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him.

Opening Hymn: 24 – “Give to our God immortal praise”

Liturgy for Lent A (CMP Liturgy Book p.112)

Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: *The Lord says, “I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. I will reward them with a long life and give them my salvation.” – Psalm 91:14,16*

Offertory Hymn: 77 – “My dear Redeemer, and my Lord” (*Hamburg*)

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Doxology: “Thanks, Thanks, I Give You Thanks”

Greetings, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Song

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1 – 11

Second Scripture Reading: Luke 4:1 – 13

Church Choir – “Me Alone”

Sermon – *Rev. David Ince*

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn of Reflection: 30 – “You are wonderful, You are marvelous”

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.



Organ Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship (Psalm 91:1,2):

Leader: Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

All: This I declare about the Lord: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him.



Opening Hymn: 24 –

Give to our God immortal praise;
Mercy and truth are all his ways:
Wonders of grace to God belong,
Repeat his mercies in your song.

Give to the Lord of lords renown,
The King of kings with glory crown:
His mercies ever shall endure,
When lords and kings are known no more.

He built the earth, he spread the sky,
And fixed the starry lights on high:
Wonders of grace to God belong,
Repeat his mercies in your song.

He fills the sun with morning light,
He bids the moon direct the night:
His mercies ever shall endure,
When sun and moon shall shine no more.

He sent his Son with power to save
From guilt, from darkness, and the grave:
Wonders of grace to God belong,
Repeat his mercies in your song.

Through this vain world he guides our feet,
And leads us to his heavenly seat:
His mercies ever shall endure,
When this vain world shall be no more.



Lent A

All stand

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Give unto us your peace.

Lord God, our Father in heaven, you have manifested your great love toward us, for you sent your Son into the world to atone for our sins.

We give you thanks, for you have enabled us to share in the inheritance that belongs to your people who live in the light.

God has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son;

Who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.

Lord God, Son, the Saviour of the world, because God's children are human beings – made of flesh and blood – the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil.

Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people.

Minor Chant

(Or read responsively)

**Thou wast despised and re | jected of | men; || a man of sorrows | and ac |
quainted with | grief.**

*And we hid as it were our | faces | from thee; || thou was: despised, and | we es |
teemed thee | not.*

Surely thou hast | borne our | griefs; || and | — — | carried our | sorrows:

Yet we did es | teem thee | stricken, || smitten of | God and af | flicted.

**But thou wast wounded for our transgressions, thou wast bruised for | our in |
iquities: || the chastisement of our peace was upon thee; and | with thy | stripes
| we are | healed.**

*All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to | his own | way; ||
and the Lord hath laid on thee the in | iquity | of us | all.*

Lord God, Holy Spirit, you descended and dwelt upon the Son; you anointed him to bring Good News to the poor; to heal the broken-hearted; to proclaim that captives

will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free and that the time of the LORD's favor has come.

In Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body.

Tune: WELLS

(Choir) Now with angels round the throne,
Cherubim and seraphim,
And the church which still is one,
Let us swell the solemn hymn:
Glory to the great I Am,
Glory to the slaughtered Lamb!

(All) Blessing, honour, glory, might,
And dominion infinite,
To the Father of our Lord,
To the Spirit and the Word;
As it was all worlds before,
Is, and shall be evermore.

Josiah Conder (1789 – 1855)

From the sin of unbelief,
From all defilement of the flesh and spirit,
From all self-righteousness,
From every neglect of our duty,
From ingratitude and selfishness,
From lukewarmness,
From all indifference to your meritorious life and death,

Deliver us, gracious Lord and God.

By your holy incarnation and birth;
Your early exile;
Your pure and blameless childhood;
Your willing obedience;
Your humility, meekness, and patience;
Your faithfulness in your earthly calling;
Your perfect life before God and humanity.

Help us, O Christ, to dedicate both soul and body to your service.

By your tears and agony, your crown of thorns and cross,

Lead us to repentance for our sins.

By your willing sacrifice of yourself even unto death:
Make known to us the mystery of your love.

All sit

Tune: STUTTGART

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more lustre to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

John Bowring (1792 – 1872)

All stand

By all your sacred wounds and precious blood,
By your innocent suffering and dying,
By your rest in the grave,
By your glorious resurrection and ascension,

Bless us and save us, O Christ, our Redeemer.

Tune: MARTYRDOM

Dear dying Lamb, thy precious blood
Shall never lose its power,
Till all the ransomed church of God
Be saved to sin no more.

William Cowper (1731 – 1800)

Grant, O Lord, that we may abide in you, and walk worthy of God. As a result, we can show others the goodness of God, for he called us out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

O Lord, abide in us that we may abide in you.

Fulfill in us your prayer that all who love you may be one, as you are in the Father, and the Father in you.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Tune: MEDIA VITA Pt. II

(Minister) Most Holy Lord and God, Holy, Almighty God,
(Choir) Holy and most merciful Saviour, Thou eternal God!
(All) Grant that we may never
Lose the comforts of thy death;
Have mercy, O Lord.

Moravian Liturgy 1808, anon.



Worship In Tithes & Offerings:

Offertory Sentence: *The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. I will reward them with a long life and give them my salvation." – Psalm 91:14,16*

Offertory Hymn: 77 –

My dear Redeemer, and my Lord,
I read my duty in thy word;
But in thy life the law appears
Drawn out in living characters.

Such was thy truth, and such thy zeal,
Such deference to thy Father's will,
Such love, and meekness so divine,
I would transcribe and make them mine.

Cold mountains and the midnight air
Witnessed the fervour of thy prayer;
The desert thy temptations knew,
Thy conflict and thy victory too.

Be thou my pattern; make me bear
More of thy gracious image here;

Then God the Judge shall own my name
Among the followers of the Lamb.



Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Thanks, thanks, I Give You thanks

*Thanks, thanks, I give You thanks
For all You've done
I am so blessed
My soul is at rest
O Lord, I give You thanks.*



Greetings, Celebrations & Notices



Adoration in Song



Ministry of the Word:

First Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1 – 11

1. And it shall be, when thou art come in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance, and possessest it, and dwellest therein;
2. That thou shalt take of the first of all the fruit of the earth, which thou shalt bring of thy land that the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt put it in a basket, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose to place his name there.
3. And thou shalt go unto the priest that shall be in those days, and say unto him, I profess this day unto the LORD thy God, that I am come unto the country which the LORD sware unto our fathers for to give us.
4. And the priest shall take the basket out of thine hand, and set it down before the altar of the LORD thy God.
5. And thou shalt speak and say before the LORD thy God, A Syrian ready to perish was my father, and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there with a few, and became there a nation, great, mighty, and populous:

6. And the Egyptians evil entreated us, and afflicted us, and laid upon us hard bondage:
7. And when we cried unto the LORD God of our fathers, the LORD heard our voice, and looked on our affliction, and our labour, and our oppression:
8. And the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terribleness, and with signs, and with wonders:
9. And he hath brought us into this place, and hath given us this land, even a land that floweth with milk and honey.
10. And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which thou, O LORD, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, and worship before the LORD thy God:
11. And thou shalt rejoice in every good thing which the LORD thy God hath given unto thee, and unto thine house, thou, and the Levite, and the stranger that is among you.



Second Scripture Reading: Luke 4:1 – 13

1. And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,
2. Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered.
3. And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.
4. And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.
5. And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.
6. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.
7. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.
8. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

9. And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence:
10. For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee:
11. And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.
12. And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.
13. And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.



Choir Anthem – “*Me Alone*”



Sermon – – *Rev. David Ince*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn of Reflection: 30 –

*You are wonderful,
 You are marvelous,
 You are good O Lord to me!
 You are faithful,
 You're incomparable,
 You are good O Lord to me!*

In the annals of creation,
 In the history of the world,
 Man has not known nor heard
 Of a God as good as You.

You fill the heavens and the earth,
 You fling the stars in space.
 You made us all in Your image.
 And there is no God like You.

Your goodness fills all the earth
And your love surpasses all.
Unmatchable is Your power;
Lord, there is no God like You!



Benediction



Organ Postlude



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

A warm welcome is extended to all as we worship, whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home and abroad. We rejoice in worship over the salvation and power Jesus Christ brings to our lives. To all our visitors and friends, welcome!



*Today: David Greenidge, Earlyne Walrond & Shirnelle Yorke
Advanced: Kailani Armstrong & Steve Garnes (10th), Gregory Hazzard (12th), Joyce Kellman (15th)*



Flowers today were donated by Sis. Cynthia Odle in celebration of her birthday.



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.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

- † Today: **Divine Worship at 9:30 a.m. Election of Delegates to Synod**
 - † **Adventures in worship (All ages) – 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre**
 - † **Harvest Festival at Gracehill at 3:30 p.m.**
- † **This Week:**
- † **Office Hours – Tuesday & Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (D. C. Moore Centre).**
- † **Tuesday: Women’s Fellowship – First & Third Tuesdays: In Sanctuary at 3:30 p.m. All other Tuesdays: Online via Zoom at 6:00 p.m.**
 - † **Meeting of the Board of Stewards at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**
- † **Wednesday: Bible Study – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom. Meeting ID: 861 4335 8604 / Passcode: 244093.**
- † **Friday: Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.**
- † **Saturday: Mount Tabor’s Harvest Fair at 11:00 a.m.**
- † **Next Sunday: Divine Worship at 9:30 a.m.**
 - † **Adventures in worship (All ages) – 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre**
 - † **Harvest Festival at Mount Tabor at 3:30 p.m.**



Activities in the Month of March 2025:

- † **Harvest Festival at Gracehill – Sunday, 9th**
- † **Mount Tabor Harvest Fair – Saturday, 15th, 11:30 a.m.**
- † **Harvest Festival at Mount Tabor – Sunday, 16th**
- † **Theological Education Sunday – 23rd**



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. At its meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 the Board of Stewards elected its Executive for 2025 as follows: **Chairman – Sis. Evelina King-Harper, Vice-Chairman – Sis. Sylvia Arthur-Hurdle, Secretary – Sis. Sian Cumberbatch, Treasurer – Sis. Patricia Brathwaite-Marshall, Assistant Secretary – Sis. Joy Best, Assistant Treasurer – Sis. Jennifer Clarke.**
2. We have closed our year of celebrating 225 years since the laying of the cornerstone here at Sharon. One planned event remains outstanding, that is the Planting of a Time Capsule, which will be completed when all the items have been gathered.

† We are still open to contributions under our “225 for 225” drive, in which we ask persons to donate \$225 or multiples of \$225 towards the continuing work of the church. You don’t have to give it all at once, you can fill the envelope over time and bring it in at your convenience. We look forward to your participation in our “225 for 225” drive. **Envelopes are available for collection.** For 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. Pay to: *Biller – The Moravian Church, Account No – 1765-1768-0000, Name – Sharon Moravian Church.* A specimen of the envelope is displayed below.



3. From the Provincial Board:

- † At the discretion of the Provincial Board, Rev. Adelyn Mgonela has been granted a six-month extension of call as Pastor of the Ebenezer Moravian Church, from March 1, 2025 to August 31, 2025.
- † Lay Pastor Isilin Lewis has been reassigned to serve as Lay Pastor at the Ebenezer Moravian Church effective March 16, 2025.
- † Lay Pastor Ivyn Williams will proceed to official retirement on May 31, 2025. Bro Williams served as Lay Pastor in the St. Kitts Conference since April 1998. Sincere thanks and appreciation are extended to Lay Pastor Williams for his service to God and this Church.
- † Please pray for Rev. Adelyn Mgonela, Lay Pastor Isilin Lewis, and Lay Pastor Ivyn Williams and their families as they respond to the call of God on their lives.
- † The Provincial family extends condolences to Rev. Belinda Manswell-Daniel on the death of her father, Mr. John Hensley Manswell, who died on Saturday, February 22, 2025. The funeral service will be held on Monday, March 10, 2025 at the Goodwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Goodwood, Tobago at 11:00 am. Please pray for Rev. Manswell-Daniel and family in their time of grief and loss.

- † The Provincial Board has granted furlough to the Rev. Denise Smith-Lewis, Acting Superintendent of the Moravian Church Antigua Conference and Pastor of the Cedar Hall and Cashew Hill congregations in the Antigua Conference. Sis. Smith-Lewis' furlough runs from March 16 – June 30, 2025, and August 16 – 31, 2025. The Rev. Nevin Lewis, Pastor of the Lebanon and Newfield Moravian Church, will have responsibility of the Superintendency for the duration of the above-mentioned furlough. Your prayers and encouragement are requested for Sis. Smith-Lewis and Bro. Lewis and the Antigua Conference as they make these transitions.
- † The Unity Prayer Watch is a special service to the world, offered by the worldwide Moravian Church. The Eastern West Indies Province will participate in the Unity Prayer Watch from April 03 – April 17, 2025. The Schedule is as follows:
 - † Tobago – 12 a.m. April 3 – 11:59 a.m. April 5, 2025
 - † St. Kitts & The Grenada Mission – 12 p.m. April 5 – 11:59 p.m. April 7, 2025
 - † Trinidad – 12 a.m. April 8 – 11:59 a.m. April 9, 2025
 - † Barbados – 12 p.m. April 9 – 11:59 p.m. April 11, 2025
 - † Antigua – 12 a.m. April 12 – 11:59 p.m. April 14, 2025
 - † Virgin Islands – 12 a.m. April 15 – 11:59 p.m. April 17, 2025
- † Conferences are asked to use creative and innovative ways to observe the time allotted for our members to participate in this unbroken prayer chain.
- † This prayer meeting began on August 13, 1727, when the Moravian Church had its Pentecost experience. Prayer is still a vital part of our walk with God and the life of the church. Let us therefore be in readiness for this prayer event as we continue to seek God's guidance and direction for our Church, the world, and ourselves.
- 4. From the Superintendent:
 - † The 34th Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province will be held in the Trinidad Conference in July 2025. The Synod will be both virtual and in-person. Synod will convene virtually on May 15, 2025, and June 12, 2025, to conduct housekeeping matters and to receive reports. The in-person sessions will be held from July 10 – 16, 2025 in Trinidad, with the 10th and 16th being travels days.
 - † The Congregations of the Province are being asked to cover the fees and costs of their Pastor(s)/Clergy Delegate(s) as usual. The estimated cost per delegate from Barbados is BD\$3,000, covering a Synod Fee of US\$1,000 and travel cost from Barbados to Trinidad of approximately BD \$1,000.

- ✝ The election of delegates is scheduled for Sunday, March 9, 2025, in the congregations of the Conference. Pastors have been asked to begin the process of having the Joint Board nominate one person from their congregation.
- ✝ As per the Book of Order (Paragraph 4.17), members of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province may submit proposals on any aspect of our church's life, for resolution at the 34th Provincial Synod. Proposals should be seconded by a member of the Moravian Church and submitted to the Conference Office by February 14th, for consideration by the Island Conference and further submission to the Provincial Office by April 15, 2025.
- ✝ Please begin to make preparations and to pray for the Synod.
- ✝ You can sign up for the upcoming courses offered by the Moravian Institute for this Semester 2. Classes will resume on Saturday, March 15, 2025. The courses offered this semester are:
 - a. Introduction to the New Testament 1
 - b. Introduction to Counselling 1
 - c. Mission and Discipleship
 - d. Acts of the Apostles
- ✝ You can learn more and register by following this link: <https://bit.ly/TheMoravianInstitute2025>
- 5. We have resumed the "Basket of Hope" ministry. Each Sunday you are invited to make contributions of non-perishable food items, which will be distributed to those in need. Contributions can be made during the offertory hymn. We are appealing for volunteers to provide the needed management and helping-hands for this ministry. Please let the Pastors know of your interest.
- 6. We are thankful for your financial support.
- ✝ We do need your ongoing support so that we can maintain our ministry, our facilities and paying property insurance. So we ask for your continued faithfulness in giving as you are able.
- ✝ You 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.

7. Our radio broadcast ministry Moravian Voice has been on the air for some 32 years, since Wednesday, July 18, 1990. We rejoice that we have been able to offer this ministry and we are thankful to all our listenership and all who hosted and provided content over the years. We are thankful to our congregations which faithfully sponsored the programme.
- ✝ We invite you to tune in for inspiration and information to enable you in your Christian walk and service.
 - ✝ Moravian Voice will also be available on Instagram (www.instagram.com/moravianvoice/) and the YouTube Channel of the Moravian Church Barbados Conference (<https://youtube.com/c/TheMoravianChurch-BarbadosConference>).
 - ✝ You can email your comments and requests to: moravianvoice@gmail.com
 - ✝ Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on Life 97.5 FM.



PRAYER NEEDS:



1. Our Shut-ins: *Sis. Aileen Bowen, Sis. Vernice Alberta Osbourne*
2. The Sick/Recovering:
 - ✝ Of our congregation: *Sis. Ansonia Cox-Burgess, Sis. Zelia Kellman, Sis. Shanna King (USA)*
3. World Peace



AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

- ✝ Offering Envelopes for 2025 – 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 2025 – 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
- ✝ Books:
 - ☐ Rev. Neilson Waithe: Understanding the Caribbean Worker – \$25; Provocation – \$20.

- ▣ **Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts: Created in Their Image: Evangelical Protestantism in Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914 – \$50.**
- ▣ **Rev. Dr. Joseph Nicholas: Baptism Is a Gift of God: As Such It Is More Than Water – \$35.**
- ✝ **Greeting Cards (\$2.00) and Prints (\$20.00) of a painting of Sharon Church.**



Provincial Theme 2025

“SHIFT: Reclaiming Our Identity, Renewing Our Purpose, and Re-Igniting Our Passion”

The focus for 2025 will be: Re-igniting our passion; for souls, service, and sustainability.

“Broadly speaking, renewing identity speaks of who we are as Christ-followers; renewing our purpose speaks to why the church exists; re-igniting our passion speaks to our willingness to share our faith with others. — Chairman of PEC

