

The Trinidad
PRESBYTERIAN

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

MAY 2020 | \$4.00



hear our
prayer

PSALM 18:6

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GO HUNGRY** P. 4

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A DIFFERENCE** P. 32

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Moderator *speaks*

CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

The measures taken to mitigate the nCoVid-19 pandemic have had psychological, social and economic implications on all of us. They have forced on us a deeply stressful situation. We are therefore challenged to stay calm and hopeful in the full knowledge that to “flatten the curve” will require unprecedented responses.

I know that we fully understand this. Therefore, the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT), though in lock-down mode, is engaged in theological reflection and is using technology to disseminate information reminding God's people of Christ's love and compassion in a broken world. We have utilized all forms of social media in responding to this “new normal”. We have enhanced our digital outreach to congregate in virtual space bridging the gap created by self-isolation and quarantine.

As a people of faith, we discovered our ingenuity out of necessity. For this, I recognize and applaud the important part played by the Moments of Inspiration team; the Communications Committee; our Church Workers; officers of Synod; staff at Synod's office; Sessions, Local Boards and all congregations. I also thank them for the support, love, compassion, care, concern and resilience demonstrated in treating with this new reality. As a church, we celebrate the efforts of all, especially those on the frontline, in these challenging times.

Apart from the spiritual care of our people, the PCTT through the Board of Social Responsibility (BOSR), volunteers, social outreach committees and other stakeholders continue to make sacrificial efforts to minister to the psychological, social, financial and physical needs of people even beyond the walls of the church. I am grateful.

This year we celebrate our 152nd anniversary of our rich and noble heritage. And in the month of April the Synod would have marked its 60th Annual General “Diamond Jubilee” Meeting. Even though it has been postponed, we are urged to continue to pray for the Synod; its Officers; Church workers; Boards and Committees; and our educational institutions. We pray that the mission and work of the PCTT will continue to make a positive impact on society and the right decisions will be made in the interest of all. The work and mission of God's Church must not

Let us use this period to deepen our care for one another never becoming weary of doing good deeds.

THE RIGHT REVEREND JOY ABDUL-MOHAN

cease even in a crisis.

I urge all our members to keep in touch with each other, despite the need to practice social distancing. This is not the time for unconstructive criticism or to

condemn the efforts of others. It is the time for understanding, compassion and support of each other. Let us use this period to deepen our care for one another

never becoming weary of doing good deeds. We can use this new experience as opportunities for spiritual growth.

This is our moment of truth, knowing that we are God's people working for the good of all humanity. We must be true to our faith and continue to be our sisters' and brothers' keepers. In doing so, we will enter new unexplored areas of ministry and servant leadership.

Keep safe, keep healthy!



ADJUSTING TO THE “NEW NORMAL”

The nCoVid-19 pandemic has not only forced us to change the way we do things but gave us the opportunity to meet people at the point of their need.

It placed a spotlight on our Christian virtues and by the grace of God we responded as Jesus Christ would have. It was comforting to observe how Presbyterians mobilized their limited resources to provide food parcels and other necessities for the needy. Even though faced with an uncertain economic environment, church members and business owners did not hesitate to respond to the need. We commend them.

We also commend the Board of Social Responsibility (BOSR) and our church workers who were on the frontline providing the leadership as well as making themselves available to comfort and counsel those who were overwhelmed by this humanitarian crisis. We note the assistance provided by the PCTT Migrant Support Group and the La Romaine Migrant Support Group to Venezuelan migrants. We thank them.

Their work, however, is not yet finished. They will have more to do in the weeks ahead as the burden of this pandemic takes its toll on unemployment and poverty.

Already, the Government has moved to stabilize the economy and provide social assistance in various forms to deserving citizens. The Church also has an important role to play in meeting the emotional and spiritual needs of people. We applaud the decision taken by leaders of ten Christian denominations, including our Presbyterian Church, to join forces to battle poverty and hunger during this international crisis. Their declaration is published elsewhere in this issue.

However, neither the Government nor the Church must make these humanitarian efforts merely about giving handouts. Its outreach programs will have to be properly structured and designed to be sustainable. When our Lord Jesus Christ gave the mandate, “Love one another as I have loved you,” he did not mean it to be a one-off handout. He meant it to be sustainable.

This may mean that our congregations will have to give increasing support to their Outreach programs and find new and innovative ways to supplement resources. That will eventually become part of what is now described as “new normal”. So as we adjust to this “new normal” let us remember that we are not walking alone. Our deliverer, redeemer, sustainer and Lord goes with us.





NONE MUST GO HUNGRY

A DECLARATION OF SOLIDARITY AMONG CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Leaders of ten Christian Denominations in Trinidad and Tobago have pledged to work together to ensure that the most vulnerable members in the country do not go hungry in the current nCoVid-19 pandemic emergency.

Presbyterian Church Moderator the Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan is among the ten church leaders who met on a Zoom platform on 24 March 2020 to discuss the issue. The following is the full text of the official communique issued after the meeting:



"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me, to proclaim good news to the poor."

These are the words with which Our Lord Jesus Christ began his public ministry (Lk 4:18) as he read the scroll in the synagogue in Nazara. We too, as Christian leaders, read that same scroll as well as the scroll of the current global pandemic, which invite us as Christian leaders to act collectively

in solidarity with and in service of the poor.

With this in mind, ten Christian leaders gathered together on a Zoom platform on Friday 24th April 2020. The purpose of the meeting was to unite us in a common voice of concern and to be a voice for the voiceless so that all may have fullness of life.

We ten Christian leaders stand committed in the name of Our Lord and Risen Saviour Jesus Christ to attend to the poor and the most vulnerable in our society at this time. Jesus says to us clearly in Mt 25: "When I was hungry you gave me food; when I was thirsty you gave me drink." We promise to work together, to share resources, ideas and best practices for the benefit of those most in need in our society. The current challenge of the global pandemic cannot be adequately addressed by one voice nor by several individual voices, but by one collective voice reflecting our common concern for God's suffering people.

We invoke the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Wisdom, to guide us along this path, with no self-seeking purpose or self-aggrandizement, but with the sole commitment to help those most in distress and affected by the current pandemic. We ask you the people of our beloved twin island nation to pray for the success of this common Christian social undertaking. We encourage you to be your brother's and sister's keeper, and may God who has started this good work in us bring it to fulfillment (Phil 1:7).

Unanimously endorsed by:

The Most Reverend Charles Jason Gordon, *Roman Catholic Church*

Bishop Don Hamilton, *Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies*

Reverend Dr. Ulston Patmore Smith, *Moravian Church Trinidad Conference*

The Rt. Reverend Claude Berkley, *Anglican Church*

Reverend Mark David, *Siparia Open Bible Church*

Reverend Desmond Austin, *President, Trinidad & Tobago Council of Evangelical Churches*

Bishop Benjamin Agard, *National Elder/Director Open Bible Standard Churches, Trinidad and Tobago Inc.*

Superintendent Maxine Forrest-Edwards, *Methodist Church, North Trinidad Circuit*

The Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan, *Moderator of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad & Tobago*

Kes Clyde Nelson, *Ethiopian Orthodox Church*

Reverend Denyse Atwari, *Church of Scotland*

Father Martin Sirju, Vicar General, *Roman Catholic Church*

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UTOPIA IN A DYSTOPIAN WORLD



REVEREND ADRIAN SIEUNARINE

Utopia describes a situation or world where everything is perfect. Dystopia describes a setting where everything is wrong. There have been many stories and movies about dystopian worlds, showing the descent into dystopia and how dystopia can be endured or overcome.

During this month, here are three theological realities to combat what we may feel is dystopia now:

LIFE AFTER LIFE:

The crucifixion was not the end. We know that. But the Resurrection also is not the end! Jesus re-appears often to his disciples and we get to hear about a few episodes of doubt, drama, discussions and delight involving the risen Lord. The afterlife of Jesus is our ongoing life with him. Some appearances and actions are unknown to us (John 20:30; 21:25). Our private encounters with Jesus are part of the divine message and

mission. Jesus continues his work in and through our lives now.

FORTY DAYS AFTER EASTER:

May 21st, we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus, who ascends bodily into heaven (Acts 1:1-11) to prepare us for new spirituality on Earth. Mary the mother of Jesus is mentioned for the last time in the Bible in Acts 1:14, reminding us that she and we form a new family of Jesus on Earth by being his "body."

FIFTY DAYS AFTER EASTER:

May 31st, we celebrate Pentecost, also called Whitsunday. The Spirit that at the dawn of creation was over the waters like a hen bringing her chicks to birth (Genesis 1:2) now comes as wind and fire and is harmoniously outpoured in unity of comprehended expression (Acts 2:6) and lifestyle (Acts 2:42-47).

Amid the problems that beset us, God shows us that dystopia is defeated. Christ is still walking with us. The Ascension points beyond what we see and understand. Pentecost assures us that the Holy Spirit fills the Church that is proclaiming and fulfilling the promise for those near and far and for those yet to come (Acts 2:39).

Thanks be to God!

*God shows us that dystopia is defeated.
Christ is still walking with us.*

DEAR GOD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Creator God, you taught us to pray not only for ourselves but for people everywhere, hear us as we pray for others in the name of Jesus.

Creator God, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, we look to you to hold our hands as we walk this difficult and uncertain journey during the nCoVid-19 pandemic. We feel safe as you walk with us knowing that you are there to pick us up when we fall; or whisper words of courage when we lose heart and our faith grows weak.

Creator God, move over this land as you moved on the face of the waters at creation and bring healing to all who are afflicted by this dreaded nCoVid-19 virus. You are the God who performs miracles and heals all our diseases.

Creator God, surround our front-line workers with Your grace, and mercy. Cover them with your spiritual armour that they will not be infected by the virus as they attend to those in their care.

Creator God, look with favour upon scientists as they work assiduously to find a vaccine for nCoVid-19. Give them a diligent mind as well as strength and courage to persevere in creating a vaccine.

Creator God, rekindle the Pentecostal fire in the Church universal, its ministry and those who minister to your people. Keep us alert to our responsibility to the poor, the oppressed, the outcast and the downtrodden. Open the ears of the Church, to their cry and by Your Spirit move the church to a speedy response.

Creator God, guide world leaders to set aside their ambitions, greed and selfish pride in the interest of the people. By the power of the Holy Spirit move them to make good and wise decisions.

Creator God, we pray for those who have lost loved ones to nCoVid-19, send the spirit of comfort to ease their pain, strengthen their faith and give to them the hope that their beloved is in Your presence among the saints.

This we pray in the name of our risen Lord. Amen.



ASCENSION

Ascension Day is one of the lesser known celebrations in the liturgical calendar for us in the PCTT. For the year 2020, it will be observed on Sunday 24th May. Ascension is an ecumenical feast, observed on the 40th day after Easter marking the resurrected Jesus ascended into Heaven. Christian writer, Oswald Chambers, describes it like this: "At his Ascension our Lord entered Heaven, and He keeps the door open for humanity to enter." In scripture, Luke describes the event in this way:

"So, when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

*When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted, and a cloud took him out of their sight."
(Acts 1:4-9 NRSV)*

Why was Jesus' Ascension necessary?

TO POUR OUT THE HOLY SPIRIT ON THE CHURCH:

Jesus told his disciples He had to go away, because only then He will be able to send the Advocate. Ten days after the Ascension, on the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended on the Church, initiating a new era in the history of salvation.

TO ADMINISTER THE BLESSINGS OF SALVATION:

Having achieved redemption through his suffering, the resurrection and ascension, the exalted Christ administers salvation by offering the gifts of forgiveness of sins and repentance.

TO CARE FOR HIS SUFFERING PEOPLE AS THEY BEAR WITNESS TO HIM.

When feeling weak and discouraged, we are reminded that Christ has given us his Spirit of power, boldness, and courage we need to face any circumstance. The Ascended Christ gives us hope, until He comes again.

Ascension Day calls us to remember that Jesus entered Heaven as the representative of humanity. The Son of Man completed the work of salvation through his birth, life, death and resurrection. We are assured that he will come again in the same manner that he left (Acts 1:10-11), and until then, he is holding the door of Heaven open for all who love Him.



REVEREND ANNABELL LALLA-RAMKELAWAN

PENTECOST



REVEREND DAMIAN SIEUNARINE

What is Pentecost? The word derives from the Greek for "the 50th day."

Pentecost, therefore, is celebrated on the 50th day after the Sabbath of Passover week (Lev. 23:15-16). It is also known as the Day of First Fruits (Num. 28:26) or the Feast of Harvest (Exodus 23:16). This Jewish celebration of the Feast of Weeks (Exodus 34:22; Deut 16:9-11), however, was transformed into a day when we celebrate the birth of the Church.

Pentecost marks the day the Church received Holy Spirit Power! On that Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-21), all the believers were empowered as the Holy Spirit exploded on the scene. The body of Christ was changed forever at this turning point in Church history. This Holy Spirit Power can be used in at least two ways: it can be unleashed, or it can be harnessed.

Think about 50 litres of fuel -- that energy can be unleashed explosively by dropping a match into the can. It explodes and all the fuel is consumed. Church, especially during this time, cannot be only about an explosive experience. Our zeal should not burn out or dissipate after having a

"WOW" moment or in the hype of a single service!

On the other hand, the same 50 litres can be channelled through the engine of a motor vehicle in a controlled burn and used to transport a person 500 or more kilometres. God is looking for a Church that has sustainability – a Church that is constantly on fire with people who are prepared to live like Christ every single day. Explosions may be spectacular and alluring, but a steady fire has a lasting effect.

Acts 2:3 says the Holy Spirit's presence was like "tongues of fire". Thousands were affected and changed by one burst of God's power. A mighty explosion – 3000 saved! However, that explosion of Holy Spirit power is continuously burning in the Church today, even during a pandemic. We have seen it demonstrated recently via social media, through a consistent effort of God's people to keep proclaiming His message. Pentecost this year will be an important reminder for all us to keep the Holy Spirit burning in our hearts and harness it for the world.



Explosions may be spectacular and alluring, but a steady fire has a lasting effect.

statement

FROM THE SYNOD OF THE PCTT

"We put our hope in the LORD. He is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. Let your unfailing love surround us, LORD, for our hope is in you alone." Psalm 33: 20-22

As a follow-up to other social media posts and information circulated as the pandemic crisis remains fluid and as legal restrictions are introduced daily the

prayer for upliftment to your church members. Note that there are programs for whole families, Sunday school and Zoom® worship for the youths. Now may be a good time to help persons learn how to access Facebook and YouTube so that they can keep connected and informed.

PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL NEEDS

DONATE medical masks to nearby health facilities, old age homes.

information can be given out in that regard. Organise with a supermarket to make up hamper packages (something supermarkets are already doing) that can be collected, paid for and distributed, to minimise the handling of each grocery item.

If there are persons who wish to donate to needy families and outreach, guide them to contact their Minister, Elders or The Board of *Social Responsibility, PCTT* via Rev Daniel Chance at 374-2818.

LOSS OF INCOME

If we are aware of anyone in our congregations and communities who has had a loss in income, please advise them of the Government's Salary Relief Benefit Program. Local Boards can assist the respective persons by printing and completing the relevant form on their behalf if necessary. Or refer them to the website www.nibtt.net

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services, Emergency Food Support Contact Numbers 488-8920 / 9261 / 9287

PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING SERVICES

Set up a local prayer chain or assign special times to members for prayer. Arrange a listing of numbers for Ministers, Church Workers, Elders, other interested persons who can be contacted when someone needs



LIVING CHURCH IN THESE PANDEMIC DAYS

PCTT is incredibly grateful to all our members for their support and resilience during the "stay at home" period. Please take special note of the following as we re-imagine Church in this situation and make every effort to tend to the needs of God's people.

Spiritual needs share to all your friends and families the hope that is found in the word of our Lord by forwarding our *Church Without Walls* web series and online Worship Services being shared by our Pastoral Regions. Invite them to worship with us via all our online services. Send daily messages of motivation, songs of inspiration and

BENEVOLENT FUND USE

Each church should network to identify at risk persons who have difficulty leaving home (older persons, those who use public transport, differently abled, etc.) or families that are in need of food supplies. The Benevolent Funds can be utilized to make provisions in such cases. Persons who are not on the "vulnerable list" can be approached to make supply runs and distributions.

Persons can also be informed to contact us if they need or if they know of families in need, so elders and church workers contact

prayer or simply wants to hear someone's voice in their anxieties. Person to person contact is extremely important to decrease chances of anxiety attacks, depression and other effects of loneliness.

The PCTT has partnered with the following persons and organizations:

Mr. Haniff Benjamin, *The Centre For Human Development Limited*, if extended help is needed. Contact Numbers, 317-3471, 374-9996, 374-9814

Mrs. Lystra Mongroo-Mahabir, *Psychotherapist/ Clinical Social Worker*, 393-4546.

Mrs. Sabrina Mowlah-Baksh, *Coalition Against Domestic Violence*, 624-0402

EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

In keeping with the information released by the Ministry of Education to all schools and Principals, identify children in your church and community who may have special needs. PLEASE contact The Officers and representatives to the Presbyterian Education Boards for further information.

Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education: Reverend Brenda Bullock, *Chairperson*. Mrs Geeta Maharaj, *General Secretary* 652-3717

Presbyterian Secondary Schools' Board of Education, Mr. Christian Dookhoo, *Chairman*

PASTORAL CARE

The PCTT continues in its outreach programs to recognize the vulnerable in our communities - the homeless, the elderly, the children, those most challenged by viral outbreaks, the abused, those with the least resources available to them.

The Mission of our church to extend Pastoral Care to our members as well as our communities continues by touching lives in a meaningful and spiritual way.

We are thankful for church workers and lay persons for piloting the various projects in your regions in this regard. Our sacrificial love must truly be exhibited by our reaching out to the

needs of God's people during this time of restrictions and limitations.

We encourage ALL Pastoral Regions to extend their benevolence by evaluating the needs of your communities and responding to those needs as may be necessary. Please, be reminded of the protocols as directed by our government agencies to be safe and in keeping with health regulations.



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World Read Aloud Day

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Prime Minister's Wife at Hermitage Presbyterian School

LIANE NAYAN

Mrs. Sharon Rowley, wife of Prime Minister Dr The Honourable Keith Rowley celebrated World Read Aloud Day with students of the Hermitage Presbyterian School.

Hermitage Presbyterian School was the only Presbyterian school selected for the event this year by *Hodder Education* in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Curriculum School Supervision and the *National Library Information Services* (NALIS).

World Read Aloud Day is a celebration of the written word and

the power of stories to bring people, communities, and the world a little closer together. It is an initiative to celebrate the joy of reading aloud and to promote literacy in schools. It also aims at developing a child's thinking, listening and conversational skills.

Mrs. Rowley did not only read aloud to students but reminded them of the importance of education, equality, compassion towards others and obeying laws. The Principal and staff gave thanks to God for the wonderful opportunity to encourage parents to also read to their children.



Picture 1: Principal Jeneen Marie Mohammed, Guest Speaker Sharon Rowley, Hodder Education Consultant Penelope Roodal-Mohammed and Ministry of Education Representative Zandra Kailah-Deonarine.

Picture 2: Mrs. Sharon Rowley and the students of Hermitage Presbyterian School.



CARE FOR THOSE IN NEED

The Board of Social Responsibility responds to the nCoViD-19 Pandemic

BELLA SOOKNANAN, SECRETARY BOSR

The Church has been called upon to intensify its Outreach Ministry to meet the needs of families facing financial and other difficulties during this nCoViD-19 Pandemic.

The Board of Social Responsibility (BOSR) is responding to the increasing need for basic food items as well as psychological support for families. Local Congregations, over the past weeks, have adopted creative approaches, in an effort to assist. The BOSR is actively involved in this relief effort. The BOSR has identified persons within the three Presbyterial areas who are gathering data on the need and then responding to them.

In the Northern Presbytery the point persons are Robert Ramsahai, Bella Sooknanan and Evangeline Bhagan. The point persons in the South-Eastern Presbytery are Carol Narsiah, Chelsea Nanan and Reverend Daniel Chance; while the

point persons in the South-Central Presbytery are Andrew Neemai, Sandra Singh and Christine Bachan-Balkissoon.

The Board embraces the opportunity to serve, especially in these challenging times. The Board has already responded to requests for help and stand ready to assist based on the existing needs. The BOSR wishes to thank members of the Presbyterian Community who continue to respond generously to the appeals made to support the various projects undertaken. May God continue to bless you, your family and your ministry, as you respond with the love and compassion of Christ, reaching out to those who have been affected by this pandemic.

Persons in need of Counselling Services can make such requests through the representatives of the Board of Social Responsibility.

Robert Ramsahai | 784-4471
robertramsahai@gmail.com

Bella Sooknanan | 682-1846
bella.sooknanan@gmail.com

Evangeline Bhagan | 713-3485
annalisabhagan@gmail.com

Carol Narsiah | 358-9502
carolnarsiah@outlook.com

Chelsea Nanan | 761-2762
chelseananan@gmail.com

Reverend Daniel Chance
374-2818 | *dc2ofairfield@gmail.com*

Andrew Neemai | 751-2582
andrewneemai@gmail.com

Sandra Singh | 330-8571
sandrapns56@gmail.com

Christine Bachan-Balkissoon
689-2188 | *chris_bachan@yahoo.com*



CARING

FOR THE MIGRANTS

ALICIA MATHURA

The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago Migrant Support Group is assuring migrants that they have not been forgotten as the country faces this pandemic.

The group is liaising with the Board of Social Responsibility (BOSR), the Rapid Fire Kids Foundation and members of Presbyterian churches in providing relief to the migrant community.

On 14 April 2020, the PCTT Migrant Support group responded to a request from the La Romaine Migrant Support (LARMS) to provide assistance to migrant families in their community.

These migrant families are in dire need since breadwinners have been laid off due to the closure of non-essential business places. They are not recipients of unemployment benefits nor can they access relief

funds provided by the government. The PCTT Migrant Support group was able to give out 30 hampers to LARMS to assist the families.

The PCTT Migrant support group is urging church members to show compassion to the migrants. "The love of Christ compels us to do so," the PCTT Migrant Support group said. The group has offered some tips to assist church members in their support for the migrants:

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH MIGRANTS.

Ask for updates on their circumstances, and find out what kind of help they need. Remember to be prayerful about their situation.

HELP MIGRANTS HELP THEMSELVES.

"Teach a man to fish and he will never go hungry". When providing hampers/ care packages within your region, think sustainability. Whether it be providing the tools to create their own facemasks, sanitizers or seeds so they can start their own gardens.

CONNECT WITH FARMERS FOR CHEAPER HAMPERS.

Many farmers have a surplus of produce and are on the verge of dumping them due to their inability to reach the markets. You may be able to purchase their produce for migrants at discounted prices. Reach out to them before going to the supermarkets.

CONNECT WITH LOCAL DESIGNERS FOR FREE MASKS.

Many local designers have begun giving away FREE cloth masks. Make contact with them and include their masks in the hampers/care packages. Contact Tobyemgill@gmail.com or Instagram @tobyemg for Free cloth masks

HAVE THE GROCERS PACK THE HAMPERS AS A SAFETY PRECAUTION.

Less contact is better, especially if you are delivering the hampers/ care packages. Include sanitizers, masks and gloves if possible.

Lastly, we must be our sisters and brothers keepers as 1 Peter 4:10, (NIV) "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."



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BOARD OF WOMEN CELEBRATES WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



The Board of Women of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (BOW) in association with the World Day of Prayer International Committee celebrated World Day of Prayer 2020 on Friday 06 March 2020. The World Day of Prayer International Committee is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women.

Since 1927 women have been gathering to pray with their counterparts from different countries. This year the BOW was invited to pray with the women of Zimbabwe. The World Day of Prayer Committee of Zimbabwe prepared the programme with the theme "Rise! Take your Mat and Walk". This was based on the New Testament Book of St. John 5: 2-9a. This theme inspired informed prayer and prayerful action.

Both adult and children's programmes for the World Day of Prayer Services were distributed to all Pastoral Regions. The Presbyterian Church Women's (PCW) Groups conducted these services in their individual churches or assembled together for a regional service.

Many interesting facts were learnt about Zimbabwe. Included in the programme was a letter to be read during the service. The PCW groups expressed their satisfaction on the inspiring and spirit filled worship services.

The letter from the *World Day of Prayer Committee* of Zimbabwe is published in the following page in this issue of *The Trinidad Presbyterian*.

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WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
CELEBRATION 2020

A LETTER FROM ZIMBABWE

This year the Board of Women was invited by the World Day of Prayer International Committee to pray with the women of Zimbabwe. The programme to mark this occasion was prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Zimbabwe. The following is a letter from the Committee:

"Friends, in the path for justice, let us reflect and place before God our stories for the world. Our people are diverse and have a long history. From the Great Zimbabwe Empire to today, there are many stories to tell. We have fought for independence from the colonial power, then for the formation of a national government led by leaders of the majority of the population.

However, we faced political violence during past national elections. Efforts to bring all sides into a process of truth and reconciliation are taking longer than most of the people had hoped. The traumas imposed by the armed conflict are still affecting Zimbabwe society.

Since 2017, the country has been going through changes in government. People, ecumenical organizations and churches are actively raising awareness for a peaceful transition. The 2018 national election saw a great number of young people and first-time voters peacefully going to the polls. Even though tensions were still present afterwards, we continue to pray and educate ourselves to be peace builders standing for reconciliation in our land.

We recognize that there is unemployment in our communities. We have difficulty providing for our families. Many of the households in the rural area are headed by women, who have nothing to feed their families. The husbands have moved away to search for jobs in towns and mines, while the young men and women migrated to find work in the neighbouring countries and all over the world. Zimbabweans in the diaspora have also faced the global anti-migrant sentiment, which has made their lives more difficult.

We hear so many bad things about our country, but we can change this and be proud to be Zimbabweans. We value the community-based

culture and our closely knit families, even though individualism and domestic violence affects our families. Awareness and lobbying for gender equality have increased, and there are laws to protect women against gender-based violence.

Women look after their children with special needs and disabilities without external help. The access to schools for autistic children is limited. Many families are headed by children who have lost their parents due to HIV and Aids.

There are so many among us who live in need of social assistance. We expect the improvement of social services and more opportunities for training, education and sustainable economic development. We note that the majority of the Zimbabwe population is Christian, and we are always praying for the integrity of our churches and our country.

As Christian women we want to do more, like our predecessors. They had a strong sense of identification with the needs of women and children. By the grace of God, we are working hard to follow their path."

GOD IS OUR ENABLER

Nistar Presbyterian Church celebrates International Women's Day 2020

Nistar Presbyterian Church joined with the rest of the world in celebrating International Women's Day on Sunday 08 March 2020. The service was led by the Women's Group and other women from the wider congregation.

Intern Minister Sanya Beharry shared a message on the theme 'Each for Equal: An Equal World is in an Enabled World'. Ms Beharry said the word "enable" is usually used in

a negative context making it appear as helping people to continue negative or destructive behaviours. However she indicated that in this context, the word enable is being used in a positive context meaning, to be the best helpers possible.

Referring to Book of Genesis, Ms Beharry emphasised that woman as created as a help-mate and partner to man. She said it was erroneous to assume that man should dominate the woman. She noted

LISA BHOLAI

that in Scripture the words help and helper are most frequently used to describe God and asked the question, 'Does this mean that God is subservient to us? No, she said, when God acts as our helper, he is our enabler.

Ms. Beharry said it is in this context we can better understand the man/woman relationship as it relates to the slogan, 'Each for Equal'. She said, "Men and women work in partnership to help each other". Ms. Beharry said we can all be assured of God's unconditional love whether we are male or female; a person with a disability or a person without a disability.

As the service ended, a Special Statement from the PCW was shared by Choir Leader Hazel Kramer, and choir members Nirmala Chinebas-Dindial, Delia Sitahal and Patsy Rajaram.



Picture 1: Intern Minister Sanya Beharry demonstrates the Each for Equal pose to the congregation at Nistar Presbyterian Church

Picture 2: Members of the Nistar Presbyterian Church congregation show support by striking the Each for Equal pose.



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CELEBRATION 2020

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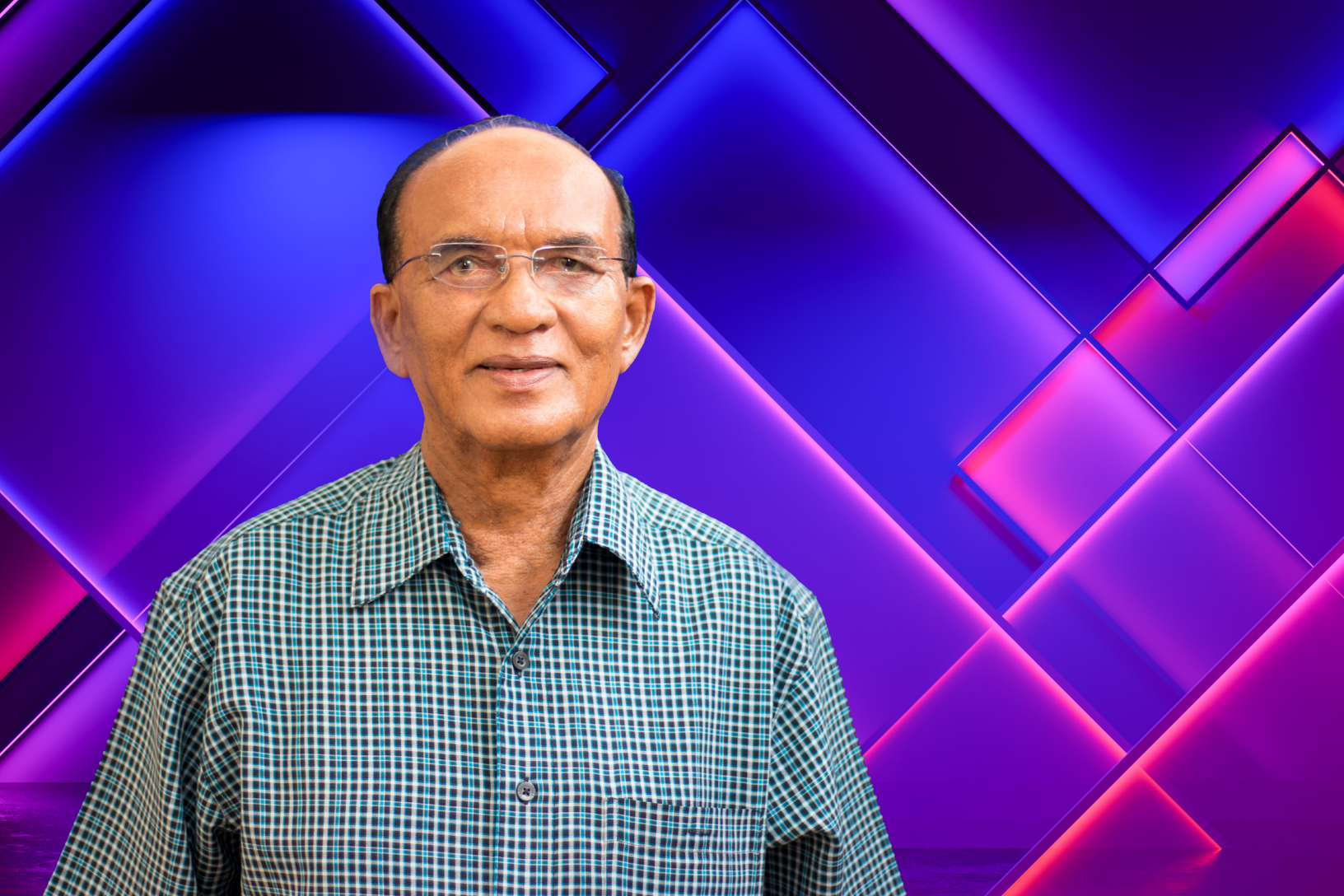
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Organist Needed



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Mr. Ranjit Boodoo (798-4057)
Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



from
postman
to reverend

REV. ARTHUR YORKE
REACHES 90 YEARS

TARA PERSAUD

At 90, Reverend Arthur Yorke is the oldest serving Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT).

He celebrates his birthday on 5 May 2020. Reverend Yorke is currently the Minister of the Sangre Chiquito Pastoral Region. Born in Fishing Pond, Sangre Grande in north-east Trinidad in 1930, he joined the Public Service as a postman after leaving school.

It was while as a postman, his potential to be a preacher of the Word, was recognized by Canadian missionary Reverend Edward Yoshioka. The missionary oversaw Christian Education. On Reverend Yoshioka's recommendation, Reverend Yorke was appointed a Lay Preacher in 1952 by the Woodbrook/Guaico Presbytery.

He served in the Arima Pastoral Charge after the death of Reverend Joseph R. Sukhu even while being a postman at the Government Post Office. Reverend Yorke was appointed by the Field Secretary for the North to assist from time to time in congregations at Longdenville, Flanagin Town, Caroni, Las Lomas, St. Helena and Kelly.

Reverend Yorke attended week-end classes at St. Andrew's Theological College which were conducted by Reverend Arthur Dayfoot who was Principal at that time.

In 1962, Rev. Yorke left the Postal Services to serve the Church full-time and was appointed to the Barrackpore Pastoral Charge under the guidance of Reverend Charles G. Kitney, a Canadian Missionary.

Later he served in the Mt. Stewart/Iere Pastoral Charge when the Presbyterian Church was celebrating its Centenary in 1968. He was then attached to the Oropouche Pastoral Charge where he served until 1970.

Reverend Yorke later served at the Caroni Pastoral Charge and was given residence in Cunupia. He was one of five persons who were first ordained as Presiding Elders in 1970. He was ordained by Reverend Isaac Smith, who was the Moderator of the Northern Presbytery. His next appointment was in Arima and then Sangre Chiquito and then to the Aramalaya Pastoral Region.

From 1973 to 1976 Reverend Yorke studied at St. John Vianney Seminary at Mount St. Benedict. He was the first Non-Catholic to be admitted to this Seminary. He left Aramalaya in 1976 to study at the United Theological College of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.

On his return he was posted to the Chaguanas/Freeport Pastoral Charge with special responsibility for Chase Village, Carapichaima, Bank Village and Waterloo. At that time Reverend Harold Sitahal was the Minister of this Pastoral Charge.

In 1979 Reverend Yorke was ordained a minister of the Word and Sacrament at the Curepe Presbyterian Church when Reverend Cyril Paul was Moderator of Synod. He was appointed then to the Riversdale/Tabaquite Pastoral Charge where he served for twelve years.

When the Rotation system was instituted Reverend Yorke was sent to the Guaico/Sangre Chiquito Pastoral Region. From

Guaico/Sangre Chiquito his next appointment was to Chase Village, where he reached the age of retirement in 1995.

After his retirement, Reverend Yorke answered a call to assist the Church in Grenada where he spent some time until the Church there was able to find a minister from Canada.

In 2002 Reverend Yorke was the first retired minister to re-enter the service of the Church when a decision was taken to rehire retired workers. He was appointed to the San Juan/Woodbrook Pastoral Region.

His next place of duty was the Balmain/Couva Pastoral Region, then Chase Village, Chaguanas, Aramalaya, Guaico, Chase Village and Sangre Chiquito. Reverend Yorke has served as a retired minister for eighteen years and is still in the active service of the Church. He has served the Church as a Lay Preacher, Lay Pastor, Presiding Elder, Student Minister, Minister, and "Retired" Minister for almost seventy years. Reverend Yorke prays that he will continue serving long after he becomes a centenarian.

The Trinidad Presbyterian joins with the PCTT and congregations throughout the country in congratulating Reverend Yorke and wish him God's richest blessings as he continues giving committed service to the Presbyterian Church. Happy Birthday!

PLEASE NOTE: Reverend Yorke will be inviting all Presbyterians to join with him in his birthday celebration at the Manzanilla Carpark at a date to be announced.



Today the whole world is facing the nCoVid-19 Pandemic, and many of us are wondering what we should do or not do. But ours is not the first generation to face a pandemic. Martin Luther, one of the fathers of the Reformation, faced the Black Death Pandemic in his lifetime. In 1527, his colleague, Johann Hess, wrote Luther to enquire "whether it is proper for a Christian to run away from a deadly plague". Luther responded with a long letter of which following paragraph seems particularly relevant to us today:

facing a PANDEMIC

GEORGE SAMMY, PRESIDING ELDER

"You ought to think this way: Very well, by God's decree the enemy has sent us poison and deadly offal. Therefore I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine, and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance infect and pollute others, and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbour needs me, however, I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely, as stated above. See, this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God".

Luther's response has much to teach us about our own situation. After acknowledging the presence of the plague, Luther prays for God's protection; and so, should we all. But he does not rely on prayer alone. He takes practical steps, such as cleaning his surroundings and taking necessary medication. Similarly, we are advised to wash our hands frequently and disinfect our surroundings. Unfortunately, we do not yet have a medication for nCoVid-19, but those of us with pre-existing medical conditions should diligently take our medications.

Luther avoids places where his presence is not needed, in order not to become infected nor infect

others, the same as our "stay-at-home" instruction for non-essential personnel. Then comes the tongue-in-cheek comment that if God wants to take Luther, God knows where to find him. We can and should isolate ourselves from others at this time, but the heart of our belief is that we will never be isolated from God.

Luther then notes that we must help others, and he says that to help a needy neighbour he would not avoid any place or person. This is exactly what we are advised NOT to do. Understand that Luther did not have a phone, far less computer-based social media. We in 2020 are called to practice social distancing, but this does not mean that we should abandon others. Like Luther, we should help needy relatives and neighbours, just not in person.

Finally, Luther cautions us that our faith in God should not be brash nor foolhardy, nor should we tempt God; almost a direct response to those among us who say that we need not take precautions because God will protect His people. God has given us far more information about our Pandemic than Luther had about his. Considering this information, God does not expect us to act foolishly and call it "faith". We must use our God-given intelligence.

REFERENCES:

<https://blogs.lem.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Plague-blogLW.pdf>

Matthew 4:5-6

TURN INTERRUPTIONS INTO OPPORTUNITIES

Reflecting on the humanitarian crisis brought about by nCoV19, Presbyterian Church Moderator the Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan said God may be calling on Christians to speak up on behalf of those who cannot defend themselves.

Reverend Abdul-Mohan made the point in an On-line meditation on Easter Sunday entitled, "Interruption or Opportunities". She said the church has the responsibility to defend innocent children since they may not be able to do so for themselves. According to the Moderator, Christians are called to go "beyond the walls of the church, beyond the pew and pulpit to heighten our awareness of the tragedies unfolding" even within families.

On the matter of interruptions and opportunities, Reverend Abdul-Mohan said, they can yield lasting results. She noted that some interruptions to normal life especially in the case of violence against children brought relief with

the introduction of the Children's Authority. She also noted that the interruptions caused by nCoV19 introduced the concept of social distancing now necessary in order to protect our health. She said the nCoV19 interruption also forced people to "deepen our care for one another". According to Reverend Abdul-Mohan the pandemic forced people to become "more law-abiding" and focus a light on "the wrong practice of hoarding food supplies and medicine that others may need more than you."

Reverend Abdul-Mohan said Jesus Christ is still about the business of "breaking into our lives today, especially if we put everything and everyone else before God." She said the Easter experience should change people. She said, "We cannot possibly be the same after we encounter the Resurrected Christ. If we remain the same, then we will need more interruptions and more interruptions we will receive if that is what it takes to transform us into a new creation or to change our way of life."



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HALLELUJAH AT LAST

CAROLINE SAMPATH, ARAMALAYA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*On Passion Sunday You rode into Jerusalem,
People throng the streets, palm branches in hand.
You were hailed that day as the crème de la crème
For they knew You were the Messiah – no ordinary man.*

*The week that followed, You did great things,
You healed the sick and made the lame to walk.
The Jews rejoiced with their praises sing
But Scribes and Pharisees alike at You did scoff.*

*With feet stumbling, a cross You did carry,
On that dreadful, dark and fateful day,
It ripped and tore the flesh from Your body
And when they crucified You, there you did stay.*

*In Joseph's tomb You rested there,
Three days came and three days past.
The angel appeared and the grave was made bare
You rose triumphant – Hallelujah at last.*

*Jesus, Redeemer and Light of the world,
You brought us salvation when You came to this earth.
You paid the price and ransomed our souls
So today we can celebrate our rebirth.*



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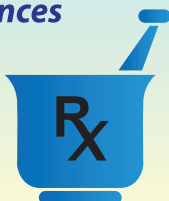
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THE CROSS BRINGS HOPE

GOOD FRIDAY MEDITATION ONLINE

The "new normal" and "social distancing" brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic have challenged people to sacrifice personal agendas for the good of all.

This was the view of the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT) the Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan in a Good Friday meditation On-line. She spoke on, "Cross bearing in the 21st Century". She said this "necessary sacrifice is a form of cross-bearing which we may feel we do not

deserve." She pointed out that Jesus Christ did not deserve his cross but, he endured it as a price for the salvation of humanity.

Said Reverend Abdul-Mohan, "If Jesus had come down from the cross, as his distractors were demanding, he could not have finished the work God had given him to do. How blessed we are that Jesus did not come down from the cross. If Jesus had thought of himself only, the will of God would not have been accomplished." Reverend Abdul-Mohan warned that

"cross-bearing is not easy". She said it is hard and becomes burdensome at times. There is a severity and harshness about crosses, she said. At any rate, she said, Christianity challenges the best there is in the soul.

According to the Moderator, the cross brings hope as well as a blessing in disguise. Reverend Abdul-Mohan said, "The cross prevents us from throwing away the real values in life. The cross brings us back to God."

ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING TIPS FOR USE

ACCESS

Zoom can be used from a Computer, Tablet or Mobile Phone.

LOGGING ON

First time users can log on by clicking the link to the meeting that was given via email or message.

Zoom can be used from your web browser or downloaded onto your device as an app.

SET-UP

Log into your meeting 5 minutes before time, to adjust your audio, video and microphone. Ensure that your Name is displayed. Turn your video on/off as required by the host. Mute your audio, until you need to speak.

NOISE REDUCTION

To reduce the noise carried you may:

- use a headset
- sit in a quiet location

HOSTS should use the Chat and Raise Hand options available to manage speakers.



The Synod Office is offering its Licensed Zoom Account for use by all Sessions, Boards, Committees and Presbyteries to host their statutory meetings.



Until the Covid-19 scenario subsides and physical meetings are possible, kindly consider this medium to meet on-line.

Whenever we are able to physically meet, all our Boards, Committees and Presbyteries should be in a position to seamlessly continue their work.

Email the General Secretary of Synod
presbyterianchurchoftt@gmail.com
to access this virtual platform.



PEWview

SURVIVING NCOVID-19 LOCKDOWN



Editor,

I have been preparing since 2013 for the Secondary Entrance Examination (SEA) original set for Thursday 02 April 2020. It has been a long journey for me, especially over the last two academic years. I had my fair share of ups and downs and just as I was about to reach the finish line come the announcement that schools would be closed due to nCoViD-19 pandemic.

My momentum declined and is declining with each passing week even though I have been receiving learning resources from my teachers by WhatsApp, TTT Channel and On-line.

I had so many plans to execute after the SEA examination. I dreamt of starting my post-SEA journey with a bang as my twelfth birthday was on 08 April 2020. I was angry with the world because I could not get closure and start my post-SEA activities. SEA preparation was a burden for me. I just prefer to get it over with. However, the news media gave me a clearer picture of the pandemic. It made me tremble with fear. My parents appeared to be calm. But I know they are trying to shield me from the grim reality.

I decided to ask myself who I wanted to be during this nCoViD-19. My dad showed me a chart that highlighted three zones – FEAR that leads to panic buying; LEARNING that leads to acceptance of the current situation; and GROWTH that results in developing skills or talents. We all start in the FEAR zone, and quickly shifts to the LEARNING zone and then in the GROWTH zone. Here I have discovered the art of cooking, gardening and writing.

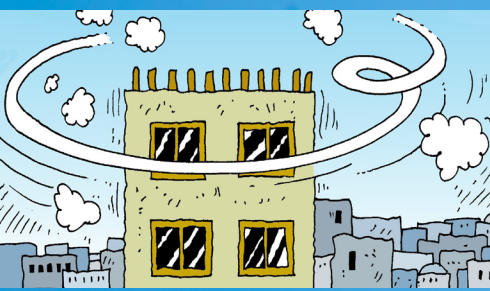
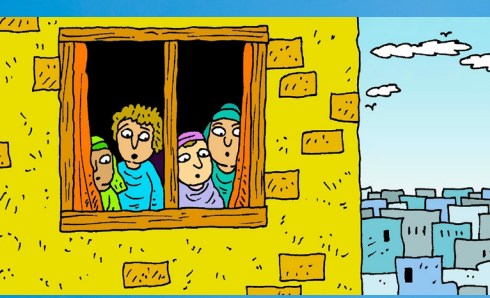
My musical exposure as a member of several groups at the Susamachar Presbyterian Church has taught me how to worship through music. This has proven to be a spiritual way of helping me cope. In times like this with overwhelming fear, music has the power to help us grow our faith and soothe our anxiety. I am forever grateful to Mr George Poliah, Music Director of the Susamachar Presbyterian Church Choir for this. My favourite verse is Psalm 100: 1 – “Make a joyful noise unto the Lord”.

I strongly recommend music if you are having a hard time coping. I believe this too shall pass. The pandemic may have come to awaken us. We must learn from it.



Jaden Anderson Ramrattan

12 years old, Standard Five,
Grant Memorial Primary School
Cub Scout, 5th Naparima Scout Group



THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

**KIMBERLY RAMKISSOON
MORNING STAR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Forty days after Jesus was resurrected, He was with spending time with His disciples and told them something very important. He told them to stay in Jerusalem and wait for a wonderful promise from the Father. This Promise was the coming of the Holy Spirit. Jesus told them that a few days from that day, they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit. This Holy Spirit will give them power and they will all be witnesses to Jesus to the entire world.

Soon after Jesus said these things, it was time for Him to ascend to heaven to be with his Father. His followers saw him rising from the ground and into the skies where He became hidden by the clouds above. When the disciples saw this, they continued to stare into the skies, looking for Jesus. Just then, two beautiful angels appeared to them and asked, "Why are you looking at the sky? Jesus will return to the Earth one day the same way He left." The disciples then journeyed back to Jerusalem as Jesus told them to and returned to the place where they were staying.

When the day of Pentecost came, the disciples were gathered in one room. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven, the sound was like a rushing mighty wind and it filled the entire house where they stayed. Then divided tongues of fire appeared to them and one sat upon each of them. They all became filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak different languages. The disciples then went outside and began to preach to crowds, and everyone was amazed by what they saw. Being filled with the Holy Spirit, the disciples travelled far and wide and spread the Good News about Jesus to as many people as they could.

The coming of the Holy Spirit is considered the birthday of the Church! This year, we can all celebrate on Sunday 31st May 2020. How will you celebrate this birthday?

KIDS CORNER

CRAFT

We will also be celebrating Mothers' Day in May! Let's make a beautiful handprint flower-card for our moms, aunts, and all the people who "mommy" us (even if it's dad!).

Items you will need:
Floral colours and green paints,
paintbrush, 2 sheets of white paper
scissors, glue, ribbon



STEPS

- 1 Lay one sheet of paper down securely
- 2 Use a paintbrush and apply the colour paint to child's hand
- 3 Make 2 - 4 handprints on paper
- 4 When the paint is dry, carefully cut out the handprints
- 5 On the second sheet of paper, make a pretty border, and glue the handprints on
- 6 Use the green paint (or a marker) to draw stems for your "handprint flowers"
- 7 Glue the ribbon on to "tie" your flowers together in a bouquet, gluing securely at the base of the drawn stems.





Like it or not (sigh)...change is here. Everything about the way we do life - youth ministry included - has shifted. We all have a choice to adapt or resist this new reality. Usually, when one thing dies, often something new emerges.

What does this mean for

YOUTH MINISTRY?



SIMONE SINGH-SAGAR, THE NATIONAL YOUTH COORDINATOR OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

The starting point to answering that question lies in our openness to accept change. To let go for now our longing for things to be the way they were. To be at peace with the tension of how we want things to be and the reality of how they actually are. Only when we are truly open to change can we see the opportunities it brings.

WHEN IT COMES TO THE PRACTICAL ANSWER TO THAT QUESTIONS...I DO NOT THINK ANYONE HAS THE ANSWERS YET.

We are all figuring it out as we go.

MOST IMPORTANTLY – we cannot wait for someone to figure it out, we must try. So, we must attempt to connect with our youths via the online platforms they frequent.

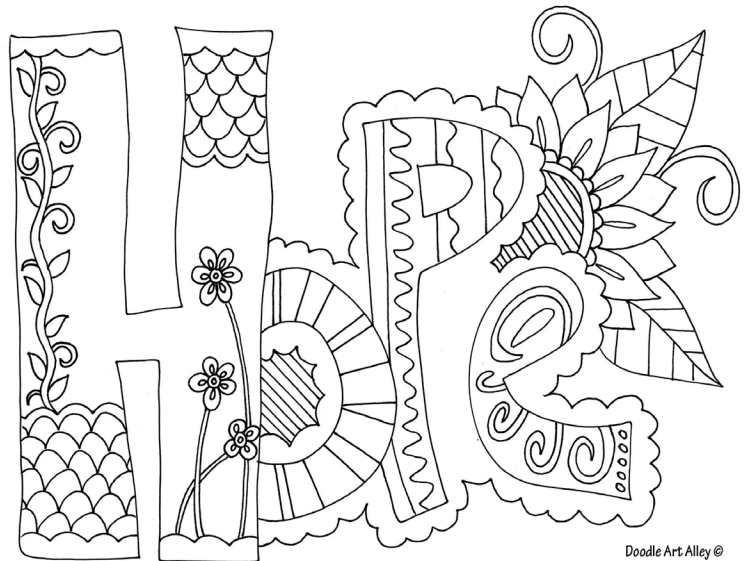
Now, a lot of people believe that because youths are born into the virtual world, that they are easy to find on there and that they will respond to us – uhhhh, not always.

Positively though, we are here to plant the seeds of faith in their lives, even if we do not get back the over-the-top enthusiasm expected.

KEEP PUSHING YOUTH LEADER! KEEP DOING! KEEP SHARING! KEEP POSTING!

The message is being sent and is reaching our young people, even though you do not get the response you want from them. Remember, **GOD IS WORKING THROUGH YOU!**

In that light – here are some ways you can connect your youth group together!



Doodle Art Alley ©

PUT SOMETHING IN PLACE WHERE THEY ALL ARE ON AN ONLINE PLATFORM.

This can be either a Group Chat on WhatsApp or via a Video Conferencing app, like Zoom.

HAVE A LISTING

This could be via WhatsApp, where parents are informed of what is upcoming for their young people to be involved in.

KEEP IN MIND THE AGE RANGE OF YOUR YOUTH GROUP.

It may be a good idea to have separate video chats for teenagers and young adults, as you would be better able to meet their current faith needs.

FIND OUT BEFOREHAND

Research what each of your youths are dealing with at this time, so you can best plan for them.

ENGAGE A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES

In-house Treasure Hunts, Worship and Bible Study, Prayer and Song evenings, Bible Trivia, Youth Challenges, Crafts, Exercise or even host a Games Evening with easy-to-plan games that do not require a lot of material.

CREATE A BUDDY SYSTEM

This can help with more one-on-one interaction and help develop relationships and community among the youths. You can either have each youth paired with another youth or match teens with young adults.

CHECK INS

Each youth gets some time to share on one good thing that happened and one not-so-good thing that happened since you all last met.



Mother's DAY WITH A DIFFERENCE

FLORABELLE LUTCHMAN

The nCoVid-19 pandemic will force us to celebrate Mothers' Day differently this year. The disease coming as a thief in the night has imposed on us "social distancing" and "stay-at-home" in order to "flatten the curve".

This is heart-breaking, but for good reason.

Mothers' Day has always been a day of reflection, love and honour to the one who nurtured and loved us from the time of being tiny babies to adulthood. Mothers are the channels of loving energy for their children long after they become parents of their own. One author wrote, "The instant we are born, we already owe someone for nine months of room and board. And we never really pay the debt." How true!

A preacher puts it this way, "The greatest privilege and trust God ever gave women was motherhood- Mother's love is the greatest love outside the love of God."

Most of us have always done something special for our mothers on this day.

Many mothers live away from their adult children. Some are even in self-isolation. How will they cope on this important day? Children can show their love by not visiting but using technology to share moments of joy and appreciation.

There is always the virtual situation created by Zoom and Skype platforms to interact with our mothers.

Stay-at-home mothers with children should never get tired of them. Be innovative. Be their teacher in on-line schooling; planning fun afternoons; and movie nights. Do some gardening together as well as get them involved in the preparation of meals. Let them join with you in prayer every single day. Teach them to become closer to God as you read the Bible with them. Use this lock-down period to show greater love, better communication, deeper trust, closer friendship and most of all praying together. These attributes build a stronger foundation for our family life.

"Another foundation can no man lay than that which is laid by Christ Jesus." (1 Corinthians 3:11) Jesus is the foundation upon which we can build a life and especially a home.



Happy MOTHERS Day

TO ALL OUR READERS OF THE TRINIDAD PRESBYTERIAN
AND ALL MOTHER FIGURES



THIS MOTHER'S DAY, get the family dressed up...
prepare a nice meal for Mom, Grandma, Aunt...
and stream the performance **LIVE**
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Layout for the May's Digital Edition of *The Trinidad Presbyterian* done by: Vincent Ramkhelawan.

*"The Trinidad Presbyterian" was established in 1904
It is the official publication of the Presbyterian
Church of Trinidad and Tobago.*

*DISCLAIMER: The Editorial Committee may not agree
with the views expressed by the writers.*

Dear Readers please email ALL article submissions to this address ONLY.

TrinidadPresbyterian@pctt.org.tt

Please keep all article contributions between 300 - 350 words.

Please send all articles by the 15th of each month.

Kindly note that articles sent after the 15th will NOT be acknowledged for the upcoming publication, but may be considered for future issues.

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Read Your Bible

“The Lord is my Shepherd: His Rod and Staff comfort me.”

SUNDAY	(31st May) Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 23	1st Peter 2:2-10	John 14:15-21	John 17:1-11
MONDAY		Exodus 32:1-20	1st Thessalo- nians 4:13-18	Leviticus 25:35-55	Ephesians 3:1-13
TUESDAY		Exodus 32:21-34	1st Thessalo- nians 5:1-11	1st Timothy 2:1-6	Ephesians 3:14-21
WEDNESDAY		Exodus 33:1-23	Leviticus 19:1-18	Ephesians 1:1-10	Ephesians 4:1-16
THURSDAY		Exodus 34:1-17	Leviticus 19:26-37	Luke 24:44-53	Matthew 9:1-8
FRIDAY	(1st May) Exodus 24:1-18	Exodus 34:18-35	2nd Thessalo- nians 2:1-17	Matthew 7:22-27	Matthew 9:9-17
SATURDAY	Colossians 3:1-17	Exodus 40:18-38	Matthew 7:13-21	Number 11:16-17, 24-29	Matthew 9:18-26

2020
May



IN LOVING MEMORY

Dr. Selwyn Claudius Beharry

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Your humble servant was called.

He heeded your call.

His faith in You Lord never did fall.

In your footsteps his service to mankind was exemplary.

His servant leadership was temporary.

S - Servant, Sincerity, Simple, Saving lives

E - Everlasting faith in his God

L - Loving and kind, helping everyone he came into contact with

W - Winning souls for Christ

Y - Yearning for the word of God

N- Never giving up, he served in his capacity until the last day before submitting himself to the hospital.

*Lovingly remembered by his children: Selwyn Beharry, Jr.,
Alethea Beharry, Christiana Beharry, Briana Beharry
and also: Cheryl Beharry*



SUNRISE : 14 08 1965
SUNSET: 08 03 2018

Franklin Partap

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

*"You will always be in our hearts
because in there you're still alive".*

Lovingly remembered by:-

Wife: Yolande Partap

*Children: Wendy Partap, Jacqueline Partap,
John Partap and Carolyn Mohammed.*

*Grand child, Brothers and Sisters, nieces and
Nephews, in-laws other relatives and employees.*



SUNRISE : 15 07 1937
SUNSET: 01 05 2019

IN LOVING MEMORY

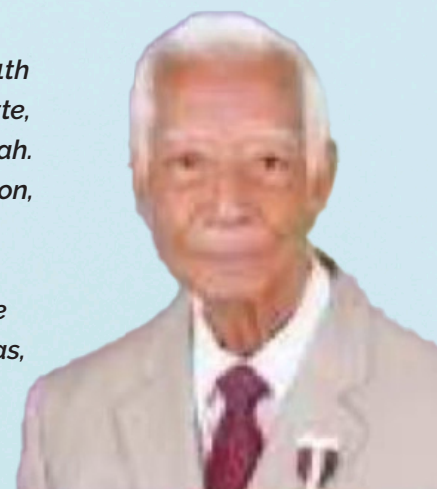
Nicholas Manson

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Retired Principal Nicholas Retired Principal Nicholas Manson, fondly known as "Teach" or "Nico" was cremated on Saturday 11th April 2020 at the Shore of Peace. He was the Husband of Jeanette, Father of Joanne, Lauren, Richard, Jennifer, Douglas, and Deborah. Loving Grandfather of Andre, Marvin, Janelle, Jerome, Niclas, Leon, Rene, and Tamara.

*Great, Great Grandfather of Kaiden & Caicus
Brother of Maria & Florence, Nephew of Sylvie, Relatives of the Butchers, Alleyne, Allards, Mackenzie-Cocks, Partaps, De Matas, Mahabirs & Dookies.*

The family thanks everyone who supported them in their time of grief.



SUNRISE : 21 04 1932
SUNSET: 08 04 2020

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

*A man of integrity, courage and love
The life of a hero
Now resides up above*

*He lived to protect
And served with compassion
Years of fighting
To his death, was his passion.*

*One day we will see him again
Unknowing of that day,
Only God knows when.*

THE TERENCE ALGERNON BISSESSAR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES INVITES APPLICATIONS
FOR AWARDS FROM THE ABOVE NAMED FUND

The closing date of application is

31st August, 2020.

All applications should be forwarded to :

Terence A. Bissessar Scholarship Fund
c/o Nistar Presbyterian Church,
Southern Main Road, Chase Village.

Email: tabscholarshipfund@gmail.com
Phone 662-4086 / 673-0375

APPLICATIONS MUST REACH
NISTAR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ON OR BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & ABUSE HELPLINES



Domestic Violence & Abuse Hotline: 800-7283

Rape Crisis Society North Office: 627-7273

Rape Crisis Society South Office: 657-5355

Families in Action: 628-2333 / 622-6952

National Help Line: 800-4357

Rainbow Chat: 321-3393

Lifeline: 645-2800/622-6952