

The Trinidad est. 1904
PRESBYTERIAN

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

JUNE 2021 | \$4.00



COMMEMORATING THE
Arrival
OF OUR FOREFATHERS


**MODERATOR
SPEAKS** P. 2

TRINITY SUNDAY
P. 11

**A PRAYER FOR
FATHERS** P. 18

www.pctt.org.tt

**A NEW LEVEL
OF SACRIFICE**

A white rectangular sign with the word "CLOSED" in bold black letters is hanging from a string. The string is tied to a small white object, possibly a light fixture or a hook, at the top. The background is a blurred store interior with shelves of products.

CLOSED

Moderator *speaks*

Sadly, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to dangerously interrupt and alter our lifestyle, as we face another lockdown as well as a State of Emergency (SOE). As a Church we are called upon to be in solidarity with the secular authorities and agencies in their effort to contain this pandemic. These actions, we hope, will help in "flattening the curve" in the struggle for containment.

In addition, we must not forget that our response of compassion and prevention needs to be surrounded and guided by continual prayer for the well-being of all people, especially the most vulnerable. As a community of faith, we invoke the compassionate presence of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, and we continue to do our part to mitigate fear and persuade others to practice acceptable health and safety protocols. Working together, we can stop the spread of this virus.

Hence, we must continue to keep our faith in a faithful God. We must care beyond the call of duty for those who are struggling economically, socially and in other ways. Our compassion must reach those who are excluded and are on the margins of society. We must continue to provide necessities to those who are in need while taking precautions to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus. Clearly, we must make hard but necessary

choices to limit our participation in community interaction to preserve human life. Serving the common good in this way calls for a level of sacrifice, as an act of Christian discipleship.

Albeit we have suspended physical worship services again, we continue to be inspired by the weekly virtual worship services and activities organised by Pastoral Regions. In this regard, I must commend all Church Workers and Sessions for their devotion and dedication. The mission and work of the PCTT must continue at every level, especially now that all Standing Boards and Committees were convened in the first week of May. Let me take this opportunity to sincerely thank all persons who have served in the past and those who have accepted the responsibility to serve for the new Synodical Term 2021-2023. I am incredibly grateful for your committed and humble service to God and the PCTT.

My prayer for the PCTT is to find itself drawn into a greater sense of solidarity and communion that invites us to change our thinking, our lifestyle and our relationship with one another. I therefore look forward to the PCTT uniting in an historical virtual National Day of Worship and Prayer on Pentecost Sunday 2021 and the Commissioning of another Deaconess, Ms. Amber Seesahai-Payne on Trinity Sunday which is also Indian Arrival Day 2021.



THE RT. REVEREND JOY ABDUL-MOHAN

I mourn with those throughout the PCTT, our beloved country and the world who lost loved ones and offer a prayer of comfort and consolation. I pray for those recovering from this virus. I also remember those who have lost their livelihood because of measures to stop the spread of the virus. I offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the medical professionals and those on the frontline who risk their personal health to serve and support others.

Let me also wish all fathers and those who are like fathers to many, a blessed and Spirit-filled Father's Day. May you daily remember the words of Joshua 24:15, "...but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

God bless you and your loved ones!
Keep safe, keep healthy

our youths leading the way forward



We have been experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic for over a year with no clear end in sight. Unmistakably, when the world stopped, plans and opportunities vanished for all. However, research has shown that children and youths have been affected to a greater extent since they are in periods of maturation, growth and learning social interaction. The pandemic has put a damper on their existence since they are physically, socially, and emotionally stuck, detached, and isolated.

UNICEF urges parents and communities to assist in promoting youth participation. Not only to hear their voices but to provide a space of expression outside of the screens of schooling and to have the opportunity to participate in activities that foster a sense of belonging.

As a Church which practices the Sacrament of Baptism, we have all made a commitment to God to participate in actively nurturing our children and youth with the love of Christ. This vow remains, even in a pandemic and we, in the PCTT, should be attuned to the voice of our youth and should be held accountable for protecting their mental health.

In this new normal, our youths have been forced to explore various spaces within the digital sphere. They are able to personalise their digital experience through various social media but lack engagement and positive reinforcement. They also face overloads in screen time that can exacerbate both physiological issues and mental health issues of depression and anxiety.

Despite this, many youths have stepped up across the Pastoral Regions to assist in graphic work, creative problem

solving, pre-recordings and hosting meetings for virtual worship. Special note must be made of our National Youth Coordinator who held virtual activities throughout the year, which provided a space of encouragement and support for our youth whilst uplifting them. She also included the youth in the planning process of such events, which boosted confidence and affirmed their presence.

As the PCTT, we must recognise that our youths are versed in the mechanics of technology, but currently lack healthy social engagement. This youthful knowledge of technology can be paired with the elders' wisdom of our church to form intergenerational relationships of support and encouragement, whilst providing purpose and establishing a place for our youth to employ and explore their knowledge of the digital realm.

KNOW YOUR FAITH SERIES



WHAT CAN PRESBYTERIANS LEARN FROM CORPUS CHRISTI?

REVEREND ADRIAN SIEUNARINE, PRINCIPAL,
ST ANDREW'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

FIRSTLY

The first universal feast authorised by the pope in the history of the Church was Corpus Christi ("body of Christ"). It was the result of approximately forty years of work on the part of a woman called Juliana (c. 1192-1258). Orphaned at the age of five, she and her sister Agnes were entrusted to the care of the nuns at a convent and leper-hospital in what is now Belgium. From the age of about 16, Juliana had visions of a moon with a black stripe symbolising that something was incomplete in Christianity. For her, what was missing was the feast of Corpus Christi which she

promoted, and her Bishop Robert authorised to be celebrated in her area in 1246 and every year thereafter. *Whoever we are, we can work to make the Lord's visions, our reality. Let's examine our faith and mission today: What can we do to complete whatever may be missing in our faith and life now?*

SECONDLY

Juliana became the prioress of the convent and in charge of the leper hospital. However, corrupt plots by a man who despised her, stirred up people against her and she eventually died in seclusion. She remained faithful to the Lord and to her community. *Whatever may*

happen in our lives, the Lord is with us. We are the body of Christ in the world today.

THIRDLY

Pope John Paul II on the 750th anniversary of Corpus Christi paid tribute to Juliana and said that in communion, adoration, and contemplation "the Christian mysteriously contributes to the radical transformation of the world and to the sowing of the Gospel." *In Communion, we connect to the Lord and to one another to eradicate alienation and to create togetherness and belonging.*

CORRECTION

In the May 2021 issue of The Trinidad Presbyterian, the article "Elevation Service at Waterloo" (p.15) was written by Elder, Mr. Glenn Rajaram.

Our sincerest apologies to Mr Rajaram as the article was inadvertently credited to someone else.

UMRAW'S PHARMACY

#6 Clarke Road Junction, Penal
Tel: 647-4464

- For all your Pharmaceutical needs and more...
Wheelchairs, Walkers, Crutches...
- A Qualified Pharmacist is always present for consultation and advice.

We accept PALIGMED Network Plan Card
Sagicor CariCare International Medical Card
Guardian Group Life Care EASI-Clain Card



Pharmacists
Carol Umraw-Latchman
Arjoon Latchman
Roy Umraw



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

NATIONAL VIRTUAL WORSHIP &

PRAYER *Service*

PENTECOST SUNDAY

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THIS DAY OF UNITED WORSHIP & PRAYER

7:00 TO 9:00 A.M. | [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/PCTTPRAYER2021](https://tinyurl.com/PCTTPRAYER2021)

23
MAY

"When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place" - Acts 2:1

TERRANCE WARDE, THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF SYNOD OF THE PCTT

The first ever National Virtual Worship and Prayer Service was held on Pentecost Sunday 23rd May 2021. An initiative of the Moderator the Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan, this service was planned to bring all our churches together in a unified call to worship on a platform that is now becoming more common. Indeed, the entire Presbyterian community was united in the Body of Christ on this Pentecost Sunday. The unity of the Church was evident as the Book of Acts tells us: "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place." Each of the three Presbyteries co-ordinated the meditations and appointed persons to read Scripture, deliver messages in song and by spoken word.

The media used were the Zoom platform and the YouTube live-

stream facility. Technology was the key for transmitting this service and a very adept Technical Team ensured that the blend of pre-recorded and live clips were in the required arrangement for the flow of the service.

The Order of Worship was shared between Reverend Keron Khellawan and Reverend Ria Thompson-Jimdar. Sanctified Alliance provided music and hymns of praise for this service. The Moderator welcomed families who by their viewing, were expressing the language of Christ. The language of love has become truly relevant as we communicate across boundaries in a pandemic, where numbers have now become names as death comes nearer home, and where the message of Pentecost has become even more relevant in transforming our lives.

Reverend Sanya Beharry brought

the message on behalf of the Northern Presbytery, which she chairs. She was supported by Elder Robert Sagar, Presiding Elder Larry Kowlessar and Ms. Kimberly Ramoutar in song. Reverend Beharry's message was based on Ezekiel 37:1- 14 as she focussed on celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit as a fulfilment of Jesus' promise to the disciples. Rev. Beharry emphasised that this is a joyful time, as we mark the beginning or birthday of the Church. However, the Holy Spirit, she reminded, has been present since before Creation and referenced throughout the Old Testament as a sign of God's perpetual presence.

In the passage from Ezekiel on the Valley of Dry Bones, that same Holy Spirit comes to transform a place of dryness, hopelessness, and death into a place of new life:

1. God tells Ezekiel to “prophesy” over the dry bones, reminding us that new life comes to us through the Word of God. It is true, daring and unpredictable. There is no personal agenda communicated through prophesy – only God’s divine will.
2. The dry bones are covered with sinews (nerves), flesh and skin. It is a reminder that we are human, vulnerable and diverse. With God’s Spirit dwelling in our fleshy human hearts instead of stone hearts, we are capable of great love.
3. “Our bones are dry and our hope is lost” is the understandable expected response from the people yet God assures us and them, “I will put my spirit within you and you shall live”. “In-Spire” – God breathes into us, incites our passion and dwells in us for us to “Con-Spire” – to breathe with each other and act in harmony to proclaim new life for all creation.

Reverend Stephen Harripersad, Chairman of the South-Central Presbytery, brought the second message, based on the scripture from Matthew 24: 3-14. He believes that Jesus was preparing His disciples for cataclysmic events which were to take place on Earth so that they would not be caught unaware. Today, in our time, we wonder if we are going through such an event, except that the enemy is an invisible one. This pandemic is affecting the world. It is taking a toll on everyone, physically,

mentally, emotionally, socially, and economically.

Reverend Harripersad reminded that we would not be left alone. Jesus assures us. He promises to watch over our homes and families: to be with us each day, in our going out and our coming in, to never leave us nor forsake us. We are reminded that we need to check on ourselves, see where we have erred, see where we have fallen short as a nation and take necessary steps to change our ways. This is a time for prayer. A time for us to turn to God as a nation and personally as His people. These challenging times should bring us closer to God, confident that He will deliver us from pathway of danger. Reverend Harripersad was ably assisted by Deaconess Calpurnia Chance and Ms. Leanna Doodnath in song.

Reverend Daniel Chance proclaimed the Word representing the South-Eastern Presbytery, which he chairs. He focused on the theme “The Church That Is Empowered by God’s Spirit” based on the text from Acts 2:42. Reverend Chance stressed that as the body of Christ in the world, we have benefitted and continue to benefit from the outpouring of God’s Spirit. This first took place on the Day of Pentecost where a new community was brought into being. Ours is the responsibility to preach, teach, serve, and care for all people wherever they are and whoever they may be. He implored us to allow God’s Spirit to challenge us to make a shift from focusing on what has already been built and accumulated and work on being the church in the

world, where God’s love is made real and available to all. Assisting Rev. Chance were Deaconess Jenifa Sinanan and Dr. Alicia Gayah-Batchasingh, who sang.

Reverend Adrian Sieunarine, Principal of the St. Andrew’s Theological College, offered a Prayer of Confession and Thanksgiving. The General Secretary, Mr. Terrence Warde, brought greetings on behalf of the Synod of the PCTT.

Prayer requests were made by those listening and were facilitated by our Clergy, literally on-the-spot. This interaction and the responses received showed how much a service like this was needed. Viewers were urged to pledge their offerings to their respective churches.

The success of the broadcast of this service can be gauged by the online responses. During the live event there were 978 persons, in total, who had logged on. Days after the service there were over 6,700 views to this event. It was easily the single most watched PCTT event/service to be produced for the Online platform. Thanks to the blessings of Almighty God, this hugely successful Online Service may be the catalyst for many more National events of this kind.

God bless the PCTT and God bless our families as we continue to navigate this pandemic.



FAMILY CALAMITY: FATHERS IN CRISIS

THE FAMILY CAN: A MONTHLY THOUGHT TO HELP IMPROVE THE FAMILY | HILTON R SIBOO

Fathering has been in crisis for some time; the Covid-19 pandemic has further exacerbated this. How, may you ask? The role of fatherhood was once clearly established based on religion, tradition, culture, gender, and socio-economic structures. Over the years, however, this has been eroded. Today, the responsibilities of fathers – whether resident, visiting or absentee – are often lost in this ever-changing chaos that education and technology bring.

Presently in every sphere of life, the measures of manhood and fatherhood based on socio-economic, psychological, physical, intellectual, religious, and cultural, make it difficult for effective fathering and should not be used

as excuses but instead as for real and practical lessons. It should be noted that the roles of fathering and mothering have significantly overlapped but in most instances, fathering is still analysed – and its success is determined – using the traditional criteria and models, while mothering is considered with ever-changing eyes.

The dilemma and difficulties of being a father are additionally complicated by negativity, blame, name-calling, and shaming. The terms 'Dead-beat', 'absentee', and 'doh-care', have become prevalent and in our society. Additionally, there has also been a history of violent and abusive fathers, men who are considered failures and those who shirk the responsibilities of fatherhood. Who is there to help

the fathers in understanding their 'modern' roles and the issues of parenting?

These are among the predicaments facing fathers today and contribute to the range of crises within the family. In subsequent issues the writer hopes these can be addressed. FAMILY CALAMITY continues in the next issue.

Remember, the family is not just a group or gathering without a common purpose. Never let it be said that the family cannot adjust as changes occur.

Don't lose faith. Hold strong. Believe, The Family Can.

A HAPPY AND JOYFUL
FATHER'S DAY
TO EVERYONE. GOD BLESS.



trauma affects our *CHILDREN*



COUNSELLING COLUMN WITH BERNADETTE GYAN-MANICKCHAND

Q

What can parents or guardians do to help their child who has been traumatised? (Part One)



Before adults can attempt to help or get help for their child who has experienced trauma, they need to first understand what trauma is, as well as identify the behaviours of a child who has been traumatised.

Trauma, according to mental health specialists, can be explained as the response to a deeply disturbing or overwhelming event that brings about helplessness or inability to cope. It can diminish one's sense of self and one's ability to experience

a full range of emotions. It can even bring about uncontrollable inappropriate emotions.

Childhood trauma can occur when a child witnesses or experiences a devastating situation such as severe abuse, neglect, or violence. In a child's world today, there is exposure to physical, sexual, and psychological abuse. The News Media report on kidnappings and human trafficking, fatal shootings and robberies, natural disasters, and pandemics. These situations

and events can be frightening to an adult far more to a child.

How then, do we, as caring adults, identify that our child is being traumatised? There are basic and common signs that are evident. Displays of emotions such as sadness, anger, denial, fear, and shame, which can lead to nightmares, sleeplessness, bedwetting, isolation, nausea, loss of appetite and emotional outbursts.

It should be noted too, that traumatic events impact each child differently. A child's response will depend on his/her age, and stage of development. Personality and parental support also affect one's ability to cope. Adults should be mindful of this and know that their helping methods need to be unique. An important factor to also consider is one's own reaction to the traumatic event.

In relating with children between the ages of five and thirteen (online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic), my own observations reveal that reassurance from adults can restore some of the security that a child needs during a traumatic event. Adults should also recognise the need for professional intervention when cases are severe.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COURSE

Start Date: June 12th 2021
Duration: 12 Weeks
Day: Saturday
Time: 9am - 12 noon
Delivery: Online
Cost: \$1,500

Register online at:
satc.edu.tt

Deadline:
June 9th 2021

CONTACT US:

kimberly.ramkisson@satc.edu.tt
adrian.sieunarine@satc.edu.tt
raquel.paul@satc.edu.tt

REGISTRATION

Individuals can register online using the following link:
<https://forms.gle/fAsksJBAGxQiqkEL7>

REGISTRATION DEADLINE - WEDNESDAY JUNE 9TH 2021.

PAYMENT

Payment can be made through our website:
<https://satc.edu.tt/course/cec-101christian-education-course/>



Trinity

SUNDAY



REVEREND MANAN DEO, BARRACKPORE PASTORAL REGION

In the calendar of the Church, the Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to the Church's doctrine of the Trinity or the Triune God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. All believers need to understand some fundamentals about the Trinity. All three entities of the Trinity are co-equal, with none being subordinate to any other. This means that our Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit are truly God, just as God the Father is God.

Persons have attempted to explain the concept of the Trinity using the analogy of water, which exists in the modes of ice, liquid and vapour. However, this analogy is grossly erroneous, since the Triune God exists and works in three individuals at the same time, ever and always. Each character in the Trinity has distinct roles in creation and redemption which is called the Divine 'economy'. For example, the Father sent His Son to earth, the Son Jesus Christ died to redeem us from sin, while after Christ's

Ascension, the Holy Spirit became our Teacher, Guide, and Comforter.

It is in the Triune God that we are baptised and confirmed into the Body of Christ. The Triune God is the basis of our discipleship, as all our prayers are directed to God the Father, through Jesus Christ, by the Holy Spirit.

Thus, on Trinity Sunday Christians celebrate with adoration and praise, as we ponder with joy and thanksgiving what the Father, Son and Holy Spirit have done to accomplish the salvation of sinful humanity. In a sense, Trinity Sunday synthesises all the mighty acts of God that we have celebrated since the start of the Church calendar - the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ at Christmas; Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection during Lent and Easter; and the Holy Spirit becoming our Teacher, Comforter and Guide at Pentecost.

One of the many lessons we must take from the Trinity, is the potential to perfect our human relationships

with one another. While each member of the Trinity has a distinct identity, there is perfect oneness and community among the members. They relate to each other in the perfect 'indwelling' of mutual love. This love shared among the eternal Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit, can be a model for all human relationships to aspire to as we live our lives in relationship with others.

On Trinity Sunday, let us also be mindful that actually every Sunday is devoted to the honour of the Most Holy Trinity, that every Sunday is sanctified and consecrated to the Triune God. On the first day of the week, God began creation. On the first day of the week, God raised Jesus from the grave. On the first day of the week, the Holy Spirit descended on the newly born church. Every Sunday is special. Every Sunday should be a celebration of the Holy Trinity. Praise God.



Pentecost Sunday

JESSLYN RAMLAL, MORTON MEMORIAL

As the fledgling Christian church set about preparing itself for its role and mission, the power of Pentecost burst into the lives of those early believers, with a mighty rushing wind and tongues as of fire...

It happened that before the church even knew itself to be a church, the members had received specific instructions from the risen Lord. That motley band of believers, comprising “the eleven” and other believers—possibly their friends and relatives, and friends and relatives of Jesus, including his mother, Mary—had received, and were awaiting further instructions to be given by Jesus prior to his Ascension. All four gospel accounts record these instructions in differing levels of detail: Matthew 28: 16-20, Mark 16:15-20, Luke 24:47-53, and John 21: 15-22. Verses 2 to 10 of Chapter 1 of the Acts of the Apostles also corroborate these accounts.

If we categorise the events that mark the genesis of the Christian faith, we discover that these unequivocal instructions, together with the actual experience of witnessing the ascension, with the further instructions of the “two men in white” (Acts 1:10) played an important role. These experiences prepared the individual men and women, as well as the group as a whole, the frontline leaders of this new movement that would itself become the Christian church. Acts 1 summarises these instructions:

“(Jesus) commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which said He, you have heard of Me...you shall be baptised with the Holy Spirit... you shall receive power after the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be witnesses to Me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth” (Acts 1: 4 - 5, 7 - 8 KJV).

The response of the followers to these instructions, grounded as it was in their experience of having witnessed the glory of God in Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension, was a key contributing factor to their preparedness for the glory of God as it came to be revealed in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. They followed the instructions they had received. They returned to Jerusalem and waited. They gathered unified as a community, both men and women. They surrendered themselves to prayer. They listened to the Word of God proclaimed amongst themselves, and they did what today we call "succession planning," while acknowledging the leadership and guidance of one of their number and acting upon that self-same guidance to the benefit and strengthening of the unit (Acts 1:13-26).

What an amazing example for the church of today to emulate!

And so it was that these original founders of our Christian church, were "all with one accord in one place" (Acts 2:1), when the power of the Holy Spirit came, as a mighty sound from heaven, filling the place where they had gathered, and cloven tongues, as of fire, the actual manifestation of the Holy Spirit's presence and gift, rested upon them. Most glorious of all was that these visionary

cloven tongues engendered what would be the first miracle of the church: the awesome unprecedented ability of the empowered ones to preach the word to all those in the multitude that had gathered to behold the event.

The stunning truth of that first Pentecost was that the Word proclaimed was received in the listeners' own languages... even without the speakers being intellectually able on their own to speak the dialects of the more than fifteen named groups (Parthians, Medes, Elamites, men of Mesopotamia, Judaea, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia, Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, Libya, Cyrene, Rome, Crete, and Arabia) that had assembled in that place! It was an event of literal miraculous proportions. It was, too, a foreshadowing of how the gospel message would come to penetrate "all the world/earth" (Matthew 28:20, Acts 1:8).

Further, in the harmony that reigns within all of Scripture, it was a fulfilment of the prophecy of Joel: 2:28. And further yet, in a blessed reversal of the dreadful event of the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9), human beings were no longer separated by language. Instead, as they placed reliance on God, He, himself, in His mercy, through the glory of the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit, presided over

a newly born, unified church, empowering God's witnesses and His people to speak, to listen, and to receive His one true message of love and salvation.

In this we too can rejoice, for even now in these trying times, because of the Holy Spirit's work at Pentecost, the Christian church continues to receive the promise, the presence, and the power of Pentecost.

- Jesslyn is an elder and lay preacher of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad & Tobago. She is also the Clerk of Session of her pastoral region, the secretary of her local board, the president of the women's group, a choir member, and a Sunday School Teacher.

This article was published online by The Caribbean and North American Area Council CANAAC as the Pentecost reflection.

BOATS IN A STORM

*We are all navigating a storm, but not in the same boat.
For some, quarantine is a moment of reflection, of re-connection or time to reboot
Some see this as a desperate crisis.
others view it as isolation and loneliness.
Some see it as a time of reconnection with family or a friend.
Others worry about the rice or bread coming to an end.
We criticise those who break the quarantine.
But some have no choice, for they are down to their last tin.
Some work in their "home office".
Others have lost their homes and offices.
Some choose to escape. To their country homes or favourite vacation place.
Others stand their ground leaning on luck or God's amazing grace.
Some have experienced the virus; some have lost someone from it.
Some are getting vaccinated. Some have procrastinated.
Some think the storm is passing, others think the worst is yet to come.
So, friends, we are not in the same boat.
But we are in the same storm. How we perceive it depends on the boat we are on.
And when the storm passes, each of us will emerge, to tell our story to the masses.
See beyond our own experience.
See beyond the politics, beyond race or religion.
Do not underestimate the pain of our nation
Do not judge the good life of one nor condemn the choices of the other.
Let us not judge the one who has, nor ignore the need of a Sister or Brother.
We are all simply on different boats. Let's stay afloat.
Let's navigate our routes with respect, empathy, and responsibility.*

--Author unknown

A photograph of a boat in a storm. The boat is in the center, surrounded by large, white, crashing waves. The sky is dark and cloudy, suggesting a storm. The water is a deep green color. The boat is a small motorboat with a cabin and a mast. The overall scene is dramatic and powerful.

Referenced by Reverend Stephen HARRIPERSAD in his sermon for the "National Day of Service and Prayer".

.....HAPPY.....

Father's Day



TO ALL OUR BELOVED READERS



THE ROLE OF MEN AS FATHERS, GUIDED BY GOD

GARRY SOOMARAH, BOARD OF MEN SECRETARY, LA ROMAINE/DEBE PASTORAL REGION

"Train up a child in the way he should go—but be sure you go that way yourself."

"One father is more than a hundred schoolmasters."

"A man ought to live so that everybody knows he is a Christian... and most of all, his family ought to know."

"My father didn't tell me how to live; he lived and let me watch him do it."

The above quotes embody the significance fathers play in the lives of their children. As stated, a father teaches his children how to live by the way he lives through his actions and deeds. In today's society, fathers are needed more so than ever to be their families' pillars of hope and comfort during this pandemic. The father's role is to reassure his family that all will be well if they trust in God.

Therefore, fathers have been given the mantle to educate their sons and daughters on the Power of our Heavenly Saviour, Jesus Christ. According to Deut. 6: 6-9, fathers are commanded to teach their children the commands of the Lord. This is done when they sit with their families for a meal, take an evening stroll in the communities or perhaps a late evening drive are a few ways in which they can teach their children about God and His never-ending love for us.

Fathers, are therefore ordained to be the Spiritual Leader and the Spiritual Head of the home. Hence, with this privilege comes great responsibility and accountability. It is the responsibility of the men of the church to show by example the way they live their lives faithfully in Christ by trusting His Word and living it by their very own actions.

Through these actions they are

able to build relationships not just in their homes but can also act as a beacon of hope to kids who have been neglected by their own fathers, either by not making time to spend with them or having abdicated their role and responsibility of a father.

It is imperative that the men of the church change this narrative by building meaningful relationships in their communities so that they can act as mentors to children without fathers. The role of the church is constantly evolving along with the communities that they serve. What this simply means is that the MEN of the church need to be proactive in dispensing the teachings of our Lord and Saviour through His word in the Bible and by practising what they preach.

Remember we are all connected through God's Love for us.

A Prayer for Fathers

REVEREND DANIEL CHANCE, BOARD OF MEN CHAPLAIN

Gracious God, loving Father.

As a faith community, we acknowledge You to be the God of all creation.

Father, You have planned every human life and You regard us all as being holy, precious and of great value.

Today, as we celebrate Father's Day, we are ever mindful of Your unconditional love towards us, as our heavenly Father.

Bless this day, all our biological fathers and all those who have gladly, lovingly, and humbly accepted this sacred responsibility because of their unique circumstance. God, we turn to You for strength, wisdom, and inspiration

as we live and fulfil our God-given responsibilities in these dark and challenging times. Keep us ever-aware and mindful of Your ever-abiding presence within us. We need Your help, holy Father, to establish a home that honours You. We need the resources which are necessary to care for those who live beyond the walls of our home.

Continue to remind us that we remain accountable to You for the quality of life that is lived. Bless O God, Your church in the world as she continues to bring hope and encouragement to all people everywhere. This we ask in the wonderful and precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.



Happy Indian Arrival Day Greetings

TO ALL OUR READERS. GOD BLESS!



THEY CAME TO SAVE

CAROLINE DIANA SAMPATH, ARAMALAYA

*On sixteenth February eighteen forty-five
Indians from Calcutta left their country behind.
Aboard the Fatel Razack they were called Jahaji Bhai
With hope in their hearts, a better life to find.*

*They crossed the Kala Pani with stories to share,
And together arrived at Nelson Island.
Some with anticipation, some with fear,
They were the Indentured Servants of the land.*

*They began their lives on estates far and wide,
In Caroni, Canaan and Otaheiti.
From dawn to dusk they worked side by side,
As they tended the sugarcane, cocoa and coffee.*

*The Reverend John Morton arrived at last.
Along with him was Sarah his wife.
New ideas were formed and time quickly passed.
Our ancestors now began a better way of life.*

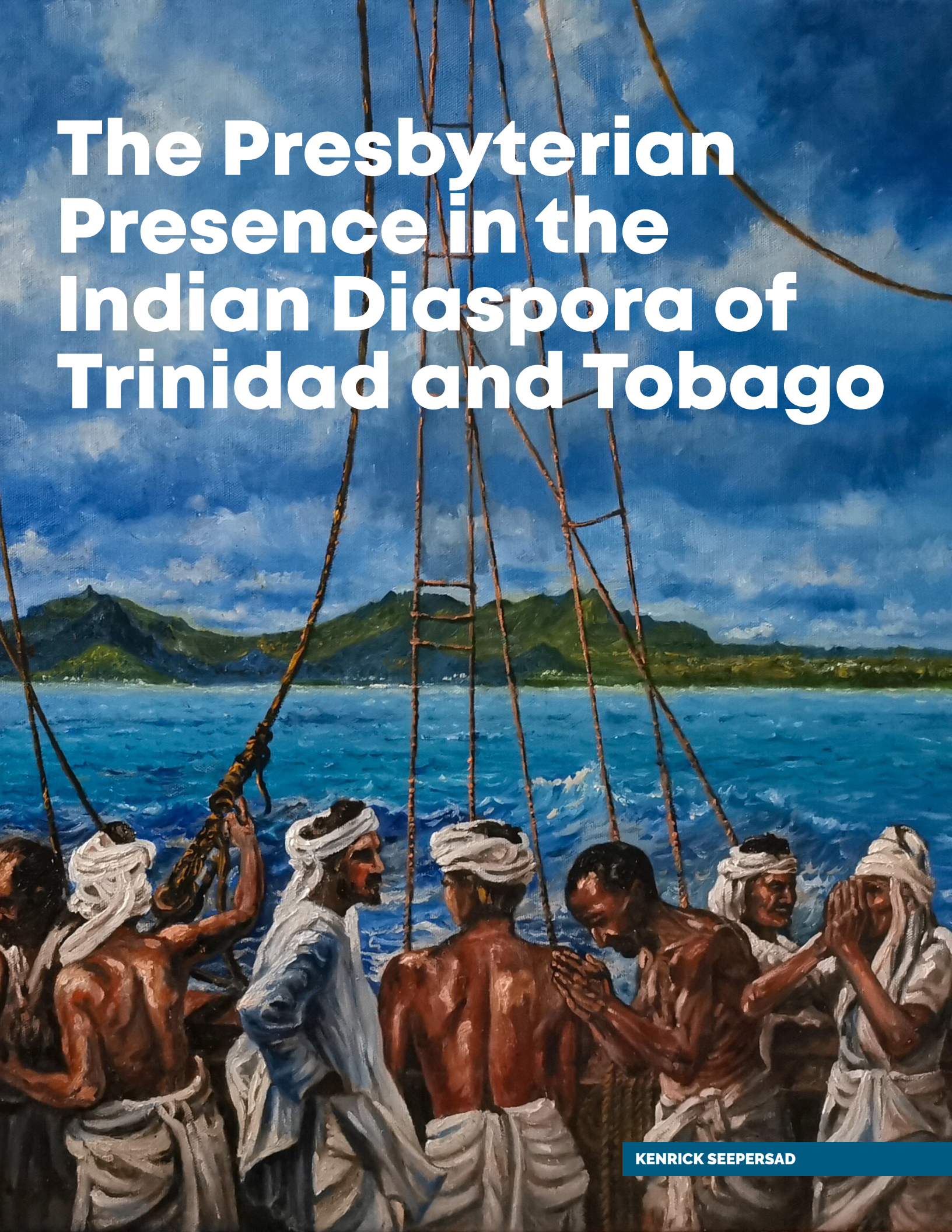
*Churches were built and the Gospel soon spread,
They learnt of Jesus, the Bible and the good news it tells.
In Communion they partook and on roti they were fed,
As hymns were sung in Hindi and in English as well.*

*Education now began to play a big role,
As Morton saw the need to teach the young.
Schools were built, children, welcomed into the fold
With missionaries there who taught them right from wrong.*

*Today we can boast of our many churches and schools
Aramalaya and Susamachar to name just a few.
We are educated people and nobody's fools,
Just ask NAPS, SAGHS, Hillview; that much is true!*

*Now as we celebrate one hundred and fifty-three years,
Presbyterians have much to be thankful for.
Our heritage and traditions passed down and shared,
And even today we still yearn to know more!*

The Presbyterian Presence in the Indian Diaspora of Trinidad and Tobago



KENRICK SEEPERSAD

On May 30, 1845, our grand and great grandparents stepped onto new land, into the midst of uncertainty, but garnered their strength and kept on walking, creating a path for generations to fulfil their destiny. After Gandhi fought against East Indian indentureship, on March 21, 1916, the British Government cancelled all indentureship in Mauritius, Fiji, Guyana, Trinidad, and other Caribbean islands. In Trinidad, it came to an end in 1917.

They came from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Central India, Nepal, Punjab, Mumbai, Orissa, and Ajmer. They came across the Kala Pani and sailed for almost 100 days. The first batch of 230 East Indian indentured labourers touched the soil of Trinidad at Nelson Island, where they were held in quarantine for health and social reasons.

It must be noted from the very beginning there were episodes of degradation, inhumanity, racism, ill-health, discrimination, and social, moral, and spiritual decay. To survive, it must have required daily prayers and "grit".

To be "gritty" is to keep putting one foot in front of the other.

To be "gritty" is to hold fast to an interesting and purposeful goal.

To be "gritty" is to invest day after week after year in challenging practice.

To be "gritty" is to fall seven times and rise eight.

Angelo Bissessarsingh in his book "Snapshots of the History of Trinidad and Tobago" wrote on page 21:

"Educational opportunities were few until the coming of the Presbyterian Church's Canadian Mission to the Indians. There was no voice who spoke for the Indo-Trinidadian woman. Nevertheless, the indomitable spirit of womanhood persevered and there were the mothers who raised generations of children who suckled on the milk of self-denial to rise from the cane fields and form a people who are now both economically secure and socially uplifted."

I agree with Angelo's statement. Do you? From 1868, Reverends Morton and Grant and all the early local church workers were inspired by John Calvin and John Knox who laid the foundations of Presbyterianism approximately 500 years ago. The leaders emphasised the sinfulness of human beings, the power of God and the importance of the Bible.

Schools and churches were interchangeable in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Wherever there were sugar and cocoa plantations, schools were established. Church services were held in schools until the community could afford to build churches. Today, services are still held in schools in Caratal (Cumuto), Jubilee (Tamana), Plum Mitan and Plum Road in the Northern Presbytery. More importantly, the content of church services and schooling emphasised the basic tenets of Presbyterianism. Over time, the school and church membership benefitted greatly from these arrangements.

The importance of bhajans (Hindi hymns) and Hindi were noticeable in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Naparima Teacher's College trained teachers to use bhajans and the Hindi language to reach their students between 1894 and 1950.

In 1961, and 1962, on Trinidad and Tobago becoming independent, our schools changed their names from Canadian Mission schools to Presbyterian schools. The principals and teachers remained devoted to the goals of the church. Their commitment laid the foundation for most of our Presbyterian Primary schools to become Gems. In the same way, our five secondary schools are our pride and give us a special recognition in this multi-racial and multi-religious Trinidad and Tobago society. Also, let us remember the first East Indian Prime Minister, Basdeo Panday, the first East Indian President, Justice Noor Hassanali and the second East Indian Prime Minister, Kamla Persad-Bissessar, who is also our first and only woman Prime Minister to date.

Today, May 31, 2021, there are lockdowns, COVID-19 restrictions, a curfew, and a national state of emergency. What an opportune time to consider what is the future for our nation. In working out a response, reflect on a saying from Mahatma Gandhi:

"I do not want my house to be walled in on all sides and my windows to be stuffed. I want the culture of all the lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible."

Let us all look forward to the 177th anniversary of Indian Arrival Day.

Thank you.

Churches with Hindi Names

REVEREND KEN KALLOO, ARCHIVIST | PHOTOS: RESHMA SOHAN

In the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago there are fourteen churches that proudly carry Hindi names.



Hindi Name: Akashbani
English Name: Just up Ahead Voice from Heaven
Location: Siparia



Hindi Name: Amar Jyoti
English Name: Eternal Light
Location: Siparia Road



Hindi Name: Anugrah
English Name: Grace of God
Location: Calcutta



Hindi Name: Aramalaya
English Name: Place of Rest
Location: Tunapuna

5



Hindi Name: Arunodai
English Name: Early Dawn
Location: Balmain

6



Hindi Name: Bhor Ka Tara
English Name: Morning Star
Location: Fyzabad

7



Hindi Name: Dharma Ka Surj
English Name: Sun of Righteousness
Location: Rousillac

8



Hindi Name: Diviya Achaya
English Name: Divine Rock
Location: Penal

9



Hindi Name: Jagat Ka Prakash
English Name: Light of the World
Location: Penal

10



Hindi Name: Jewan Kasota
English Name: Fountain of Life
Location: San Francique

11



Hindi Name: Krist Mandli
English Name: Temple of Christ
Location: Monkey Town

12



Hindi Name: Nistar
English Name: Redemption
Location: Chase Village

13



Hindi Name: Susamachar
English Name: Church of Glad Tidings
Location: San Fernando

14



Hindi Name: Yisu Jagat Ka Prakash
English Name: Jesus, Light of the World
Location: Coromandel

Globalisation and COVID-19



WINDY PARTAP, ESPERANZA | 25TH MAY 2021

Several years ago, the world embraced globalisation. The main purpose of this was designed to alleviate poverty amongst the poorer countries of the world. The mantra at that time was – and still is today – “a rising tide lifts all boats”. It certainly did to some extent. The poorer countries received a minimal increase in wages whilst the developed countries enjoyed a phenomenal increase in profits.

The underlying principle of globalisation was founded on equity, corporation, and justice. Countries were supposed to be under the umbrella of an economic growth pandemic. It worked very well for the rich countries.

The COVID-19 pandemic of today has seen all the grand ideas of globalisation evaporated. In its place now sits economic

imperialism not very different from the past. In full glare the poor countries have seen the rich countries monopolise the purchase of the COVID-19 vaccine to the detriment of the marginalised countries. Where then is the humanity and justice towards the smaller nations so greatly touted within the tenets of globalisation?

It is strange that countries such as the United States of America and Great Britain have chosen the path of survival of the fittest. It is heart-warming that the European Union themselves being a victim of vaccine starvation has chosen to assist the smaller countries.

In the world of globalisation countries were compelled to remove trade barriers. Strangely, certain countries did not lift the barriers towards sharing of the vaccines. The poorer nations as

a result will continue to suffer for years to come, with the hope that there will not be a resurgence of this pandemic.

However, under relentless pressure from non-governmental organisations the United States of America has relented and is willing to distribute vaccines that were never used for its citizens.

One can never hope to understand the rationale of decision making amongst developed countries. It appears to be that politics and economics are the drivers and equity, justice and fair play are just back seat passengers.

It is, therefore, imperative that the Church must continue to champion the cause of the poor and lend its voice now to break down the walls of inequity and injustice particularly with respect to COVID-19.



PRESIDING ELDER GEORGE SAMMY

THE FLYWHEEL OF OUR FAITH

A great engineering achievement in about 1765 was the invention of the steam engine. In just a few decades these behemoths were supplying power to factories of many different types, and they reigned supreme for more than a century before alternatives like the gasoline engine and the diesel engine were invented. But steam engines had a problem. Whenever there was a drop in pressure in the boilers, the engine slowed or even stopped, so they could be unreliable.

Engineers soon found a solution – the flywheel. They inserted a heavy wheel between the steam engine and the moving machinery in the factory. As the steam engine powered up, the fly wheel began to spin at the same time that the factory machinery began to work. Because the flywheel was very heavy, it developed tremendous

momentum in its spin. As a result, if the steam engine slowed or stopped while the factory was in operation, the flywheel continued to spin and powered the machinery on its own. Therefore, the machinery was much more efficient.

Our faith is very much like a steam engine. Through God's grace, it generates great power that drives many, many aspects of our lives. But, like the steam engine, our faith sometimes falters. We sometimes experience situations in our lives which fill us with sadness and doubt. We may even find ourselves doubting God. At times like those, we need a flywheel for our faith, to keep it going until we can resolve our doubts.

Jesus arranged for us to have a flywheel for our faith - the Holy Spirit (John 14:16 & 17). How does this flywheel work for us? Here are some important ways:

1. *the Spirit comforts us in all our troubles (2 Corinthians 1:3-4) and counsels us by teaching us all things (John 14:26);*
2. *the Spirit guides us to truth, and away from falsehood (1 John 4:6); and*
3. *the Spirit does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:7).*

But just as a flywheel has to be connected to the steam engine to be effective, so the Holy Spirit must be connected to us to uplift and strengthen our faith. To make this connection, we must open our hearts and minds, and welcome the Spirit in. When we do that, we will have a fully-functional flywheel for our faith.

This Is My Story: Guided by Faith

FRANKLIN DOOKHERAN

Last month The Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan blessed a book written by Franklin Dookheran – a worshipper at St. Charles Presbyterian Church.

In 1966, Franklin set out on a journey to the U.K. to pursue a career in Mathematics and Statistics, which was his choice – but God had other plans for him. Those plans involved a career in Information Technology.

By following God's guidance, Franklin's career in IT of over fifty years, took him to Europe, the Caribbean, North America (Canada and USA), South America, Africa and back to the Caribbean – in total, 33 cities. His jobs included Programmer, Systems Engineer, Systems Analyst, D.P. Manager, M.I.S. Director, Senior Consultant, Chief

Executive Officer and Managing Partner.

Throughout his career Franklin felt he was incapable of performing in these positions, but perform he did, and today he has retired as a computer scientist, writing over 250 articles and publishing research papers for international organisations (including the World Bank, PAHO and the European Union).

As he looks back over the years, he still believes that it was not at all possible. But the Bible says, "All things are possible to those who believe." From early childhood he was involved in the Presbyterian Church and his faith in God was what made it possible.

His 200-page book *"This Is My Story*

- *Guided by Faith*" is a summary of God's intervention in his career.

It was reviewed by The Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan and consultant advice was provided by Rev. Dr. Daniel Teelucksingh. In the foreword written by Rev. Joy Abdul-Mohan, she writes "Interestingly and in my humble estimation, Dookheran throughout his IT career, never saw his career only as a job but as a vocation– a calling from God. This Is My Story – Guided By Faith can definitely sharpen a critical view of the prevailing dominant approach to IT. It is worth a read in these unprecedented times, where IT dominates the scenes of life".

Two hundred copies were presented to PCTT for distribution to church workers. It is worth reading.



A Tribute to Roy Dookie

BEVERLY DOOKIE-FAYES

Roy Ajodha was born, second of twelve children, to Samuel Ajodha and Irene Dookie on Saturday 27th June, 1942 at Barrackpore. Smitten as a baby with marasmus, his father Ajodha stood firm in his faith in the divine healing power of Jesus Christ. With fervent prayer and the medical expertise of Dr. Marcelin, Roy not only recovered, but developed into a healthy, vibrant communicant member of the Clarke Road Presbyterian Church.

Roy received his early education at the Kanhai Presbyterian School where his academic performance and leadership qualities earned him the love of his teachers especially that of Mr. Haniff Mohammed, his standard three teacher. Roy not only excelled at his academics where he consistently topped his class but achieved the distinction of being appointed house leader. As expected, his house invariably emerged first each term. In the playing field he displayed individual prowess as well as an aptitude for collective leadership. He was appointed the captain of the

school's cricket team which he led by example as an all-rounder with the ball, bat and wicket-keeping gloves. Talent seemed to run in the family, on one occasion he and his brother, Navarro, dismissed the Lengua E. C for the grand total of 2 byes.

Roy Dookie's primary education culminated in his passing the School Leaving Certificate Examination in 1957, gaining a distinction in Arithmetic. On this singular achievement he was appointed a monitor. In his steady and arduous climb up the competitive education ladder he achieved many accolades. His crowning glory, however, was passing six GCE subjects at ordinary level without entering a secondary school.

After completing teacher training at Naparima Teacher's College, he was placed at Rochard Douglas Presbyterian School. His dedication, sense of devotion to duty and love for his fellow-being were displayed through the offering of free extra lessons to Common Entrance candidates from 1971 to 2002. Results show Rochard Douglas Presbyterian School's students being placed St. Joseph's Convent, Presentation College, Naparima College and, Naparima Girls' High School. During his tenure as principal of this noble institution, the school achieved excellence in the Republic Bank Agriculture Competition, National Reading Competition, and Drama Festival. Sports also blossomed under his leadership. The School was Victoria Education Champions five times, National Primary Schools' Boys Champions, National Girls Windball

Champions and National Boys Super League Champions. Mr. Roy Ajodha Dookie left an indelible mark on many students, Presbyterian Minister, Rev. Daniel Chance often praises the handwriting of his dear 'Teacher Roy'.

Roy shared an unbreakable bond with his siblings, he encouraged them to gain a sound education to break free from that vicious cycle of poverty. He was an inspiration to all his siblings, especially to his eldest sister, Rosemarie, who migrated to London with only a School Leaving Examination Certificate. Today, she holds a BSC in Nursing from the prestigious University of London. He adored his wife, Devika, and was a loving father to his children Beverley, Brian and Jevon. He did not like the words in-laws, he treated his son-in-law Robin and his daughter-in-law Dulcie like his own children. His grandchildren Shail, David, Rabin, Britney and Brianna were his treasures. He shared an extremely close-knit relationship with his nieces and nephews. He and his lifelong friends Daniel, Enite, Hansraj, Jahoor, Shadrach, Duncan and Deobaran shared many memorable moments.



27th June 1942 to 31st March 2020

Jubilee Celebrates

PRESIDING ELDER LARRY KOWLESSAR

The little church with a mountain of love in Caroni, Jubilee Presbyterian Church, was all abuzz when its very own Dylan Kowlessar shone brightly in capturing an Open Scholarship based on his outstanding scores in the 2020 CAPE Examinations. The results came after several months of reviews by examination body CXC, written under COVID-19 restrictions for the first time, and government's reduction from 400 to 100 scholarships.

Hillview College, his Alma Mater, was awarded 2 Open Scholarships – out of 5 across the entire country – in Natural Science, and Dylan secured one of them.

Hillview College held its traditional scholarship ceremony for its 2020 awardees, under strict Covid-19 protocols, a few days after the government's announcement on March 11th, 2021. In total, Hillview secured 4 Open and 6 Additional Scholarships. Dylan was the only scholarship recipient abroad, as he has been pursuing studies in Aeronautical Science since January. However, he was not to be left out as modern technology afforded him the honour of being 'present' on the

roll call, virtually. All ten winners spoke on the day, with Dylan on the big screen in the auditorium.

Prior to leaving for studies abroad, Dylan was the resident accompanist at his home church, and a member of the resident band of singers and musicians, the Jubelievers. His dedication to his church to the glory of God is unwavering. An accomplished Grade 5 pianist, Dylan never allowed lessons, assignments, or all-night studies to prevent him from being present on Sunday mornings at 7.00 a.m. to accompany "beautiful words, wonderful words of life", on the keyboard. In 2010, as a mere 8-year-old, the Trinidad Presbyterian highlighted him leading worship on Youth Sunday.

Dylan's academic achievements jettied-off from the primary level, when he placed 21st nationally in the SEA exams. He secured a spot at Hillview where he boarded 9 distinctions at CSEC before ascending to Form 6, obtaining five distinctions in each year and checking-in several CXC merit lists placements (Caribbean). While in-transit, he wrote the SAT exam and was immediately accepted at the renowned Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona



Beach, Florida, and landed a foreign-student scholarship.

Son of Presiding Elder Larry Kowlessar and Principal (Pr.) Jenny Kowlessar, Dylan has already completed his first semester of university. He was not able to return home for the three-month summer break due to the worldwide restrictions. He celebrated his 19th birthday on May 10th quietly but very contentedly and thanking Almighty God all the way. Jubilee acknowledges its son and remains proud of him!



PSSBOE
Presbyterian Secondary School Board of Education

CHRIST-CENTERED SCHOOL MANAGEMENT

The Presbyterian Secondary Schools' Board of Education was convened on Thursday 29th April, 2021 via zoom platform. An Executive team of experienced and highly trained, qualified professionals were elected to lead the distinguished Board of Management for the Synodical term 2021 -2023.

The Board at its first meeting cemented its vision of upholding God at the center of their management strategy. This focus was reaffirmed by the infectious words of Rev. Keron Khellawan as he impressed on all representatives to never be derailed in upholding the tenants of Holy Scripture and the PCTT in the conduct of their duties.

The major objectives of the Board will be to provide service primarily to our Presbyterian Secondary Schools' teachers and administrators, while fostering collegial relations with the various Administrative Committees. The Board will also engage the wealth of knowledge that exists within our Presbyterian Community and relevant stakeholders in a transparent and accessible manner.

For public information the following persons were elected as the Executive Management team, and would conduct the various operations on behalf of the Board between meeting sessions.

The Executive Members include representatives from both the Pastorate and Synod:

Mr. Ashford Tamby (Chairman)	Tableland Pastoral Region (<i>Synod Rep</i>)
Mr. Roy Umraw (Vice-Chairman)	Penal Pastoral Region
Mr. Gary Samai (General Secretary)	Chase Village Pastoral Region
Mr. Elijah Motieram (Treasurer)	Arima Pastoral Region
Ms. Susan Mathura (Recording Secretary)	Marabella/Bonne Aventure Pastoral Region

The Executive of the Board wishes to thank all School Administrators and Representatives, both Pastoral and Synodical, for their support and commitment in the coming years in ensuring the successful management of its affairs. To all serving Committees of the Board, the Executive extends a heartfelt expression of gratitude for the contribution that would be necessary towards the realization of the Board's objectives. God grant us the strength and will-power to serve our PSSBOE and PCTT with professionalism and love.

Any information, enquires and comments can be accessed via the following media;

Website: www.pssboe.com

Email: info@pssboe.com

Telephone contact: 749-5851

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Samai

General Secretary



The Board of Men announces our

NEW CONFERENCE DATE

31 JUL 2021

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Theme: Living faithfully in Christ and Building Relationships in an evolving church and community.

Thursdays in Black
towards
a world
without
rape and violence

Towards a world
without rape and violence

THURSDAYS IN BLACK



World Council
of Churches

EDDIE'S PHARMACY LTD.

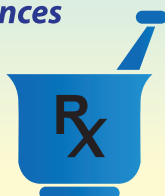
For ALL Pharmaceutical Products

OPEN EVERYDAY (including PUBLIC HOLIDAYS)

We accept most Medical Insurances

#53 Rochard Douglas Road, Barrackpore
654-2655

1135 S.S. Erin Road, Penal (GN Shopping Centre)
Tel/Fax: **283-7083**



Boards and Committees

The following is the listing of elected officers for the various Boards and Committees of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago for the 2021-2023 Term.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Rev. Keron Khellawan	South Eastern Presbytery
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Roy Umraw	Penal
SECRETARY	Mr. Gary Samai	Chase Village
ASSISTANT SECRETARY		
TREASURER		
ASSISTANT TREASURER		

BOARD OF YOUTH AFFAIRS		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Rev. Damien Sieunarine	South Central Presbytery
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Stephen Kaseram	Princes Town
SECRETARY	Ms. Fadilah Mohammed	Chase Village
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Ms. Roann Mahabasingh	Curepe / St. Joseph
TREASURER	Mr. Andre Thompson	Chaguanas
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Ms. Nicole Khellawan	Guaico

BOARD OF WOMEN		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Rev. Radica Samuel-Moonoo	Synod's Representative
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Mrs. Sandra Singh	Marabella/Bonne Aventure
SECRETARY	Ms. Roann Mahabalsingh	Curepe / St. Joseph
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Mrs. Gloria Paul	Point Fortin/Cedros
TREASURER	Ms. Sharon Sagam	Guaico
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Ms. Amelia Sonja Kanhai	San Juan / Santa Cruz / Woodbrook

BOARD OF THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Rev. Shirvan Siloch	South Central Presbytery
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Daniel Haradan	Arima
SECRETARY	Rev. Ria Thompson-Jimdar	Synod's Representatives
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Mrs. Karen M-Jaggernath	Penal
TREASURER	Rev. Sanya Beharry	Northern Presbytery
ASSISTANT TREASURER		

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Robert Sagar	Curepe/St. Joseph
VICE CHAIRPERSON		
SECRETARY	Mrs. Chandra Umraw	Penal
ASSISTANT SECRETARY		
TREASURER	Ms. Stasha Sammy	Marabella/Bonne Aventure
ASSISTANT TREASURER		

BOARD OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Rev. Errol Ragnauth	Northern Presbytery
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Mrs. Donna Partap	Synod's Representative
SECRETARY	Ms. Alana Bissessar	Chaguanas
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Ms. Roann Mahabalsingh	Curepe/St. Joseph
TREASURER	Ms. June Baboolal	Marabella/Bonne Aventure
ASSISTANT TREASURER		

BOARD OF MEN		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Rawle Seepersad	Siparia
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Terry Mohammed	Curepe/St. Joseph
SECRETARY	Mr. Garry Soomarah	La Romaine/Debe
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Mr. Wayne Maicoo	Barrackpore
TREASURER	Mr. Tyabali Khan	Couva/Balmain
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Mr. Paul Gyan	Guaico

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Mrs. Raquel S. Paul	Susamachar
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Martin Sahadath	Diamond
SECRETARY	Intern Minister Robert Dinnoo	South Eastern Presbytery
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Ms. Shaleine Sooklal	Princes Town
TREASURER	Mr. Damien Surajbally	Claxton Bay
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Ms. Shelley Ann Ali-Ragbir	Guaico

PRIMARY SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Vickram Ramlal	Synod's Representative
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Carlos Lackhan	Aramalaya
GENERAL SECRETARY	Ms. Geeta Kalapnath Maharaj	Claxton Bay
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Mr. Daniel Sahadeo	Synod's Representative
TREASURER	Mr. Curtis Seepersad	Synod's Representative
ASSISTANT TREASURER		

SECONDARY SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Ashford Tamby	Synod's Representative
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Mr. Roy Umraw	Penal
GENERAL SECRETARY	Mr. Gary Samai	Chase Village
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Ms. Susan Mathura	Marabella/Bonne Aventure
TREASURER	Mr. Elijah Motieram	Arima
ASSISTANT TREASURER		

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE		
OFFICE	OFFICER	REGION
CHAIRPERSON	Michael Cooper-Ochiengh	Synod's Representative
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Dr. Reynold Baldeosingh	Aramalaya
SECRETARY	Geeta Kalapnath Maharaj	Claxton Bay
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Intern Minister Robert Dinnoo	South Eastern Presbytery
TREASURER	Angela Arjoon	
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF	Presiding Elder Aasha Mahabir	Oropouche



THE THREE



THE PCTT CARES,
PLEASE REMEMBER THESE

CORONA VIRUS

PREVENTIONS

“Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.”
– 3 John 1:2



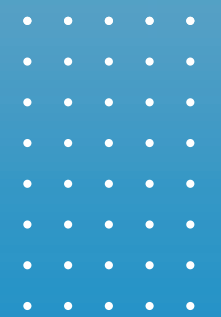
Wear a face mask properly



Wash your hands often

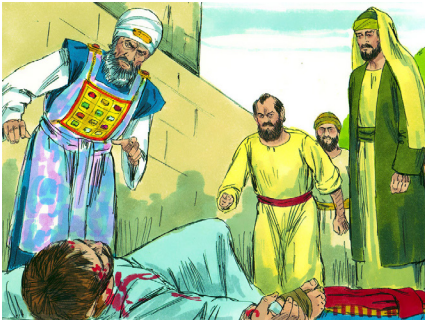


Watch your distance



Paul's Conversion!

DEACONESS AMBER SEESAHAJ-PAYNE, COUVA/BALMAIN



BIBLE STORY

Paul Learned about Jesus (Acts 9:1-20)

In the early days of the church, a man named Saul worked hard to stop people from telling about Jesus. He did not believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He thought that people who believed in Jesus should be put in jail or be killed. Many believers left the city to get away from Saul. Saul decided to go to the city of Damascus (duh MASS kuhs) to arrest believers there.

He was traveling along when all of a sudden, a very bright light came down from heaven. It flashed around Saul, and he fell to the ground. Then Saul heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you against Me?" "Who are You, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus," He said. Jesus told Saul to go into the city and wait for more instructions. Saul got up and opened his eyes, but he couldn't see anything! So the men who were traveling with Saul led him into the city. A man named Ananias (an uh NIGH uhs) lived in the city. Ananias loved Jesus. God spoke to Ananias in a vision and told him to go visit Saul. Ananias knew that Saul was an enemy of Jesus, but God had a plan for Saul. God said, "I have chosen Saul to tell many people about Me."

Ananias obeyed God. He went to Saul and said, "Jesus sent me here to help you." Then Ananias put his hands on Saul, and Saul could see again. Saul got up and was baptized. For the next few days, Saul stayed in the city with other people who believed in Jesus. He went to the synagogues to tell people about Jesus. "Jesus is the Son of God!" Saul said. The people were amazed. They knew Saul had been an enemy of Jesus, but now he loved Jesus! The Jews did not like what Saul was saying, so they made a plan to kill him. The other believers helped Saul sneak out of the city at night. Later, Saul started using the name Paul.

MESSAGE

What would you do if you heard that there was someone in our country who was trying to hurt all Christians? We might have to meet in secret places.

If you heard that that person was close by what would you do? You might have to use secret codes to tell other Christians where to meet. Have you ever seen a fish symbol like this?



MEMORY VERSE

But the Holy Spirit will come to you. Then you will receive power. You will be my witnesses in every part of the world.

- Acts 1:8

Christians used to use this secret symbol to represent Jesus. That way, the mean people didn't know what they were talking about.

In the book of Acts we read about many people who became Christians. There were also some people who got very angry that anyone would follow Jesus. One of those people was Paul. Paul wanted to please God but didn't understand who Jesus was. He did not believe Jesus was God's Son. He even tried to stop people from loving and following Jesus. He would travel from town to town and put people who loved Jesus in jail. But Jesus loved Paul and wanted him to believe in Him and follow Him.

We talk a lot about "being saved" at church. When we say Jesus saves someone, we mean that Jesus rescues that person from sin. We are separated from God because of our sin, but Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for sin. A caterpillar changes to become a butterfly. All these things changed on the outside. In today's Bible story, Paul changed on the inside. Jesus saved Paul from his sins. Paul was an enemy of Jesus and His followers, but then God changed him. Jesus came to earth to save sinners like Paul. When we trust in Jesus, He changes us from the inside out.

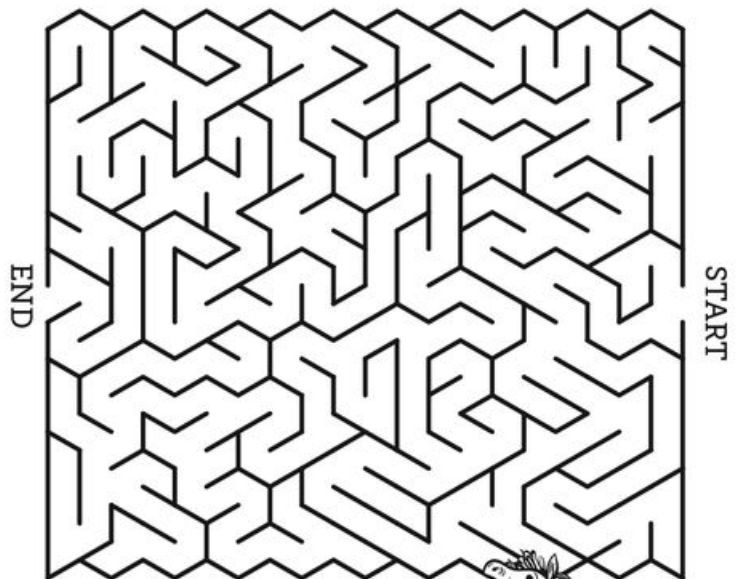
Paul was Jesus' enemy, but Jesus saved Paul from his sins and Paul changed. Instead of being Jesus' enemy, now Paul loved Jesus and wanted to tell EVERYONE about Him.

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



THE CONVERSION OF PAUL

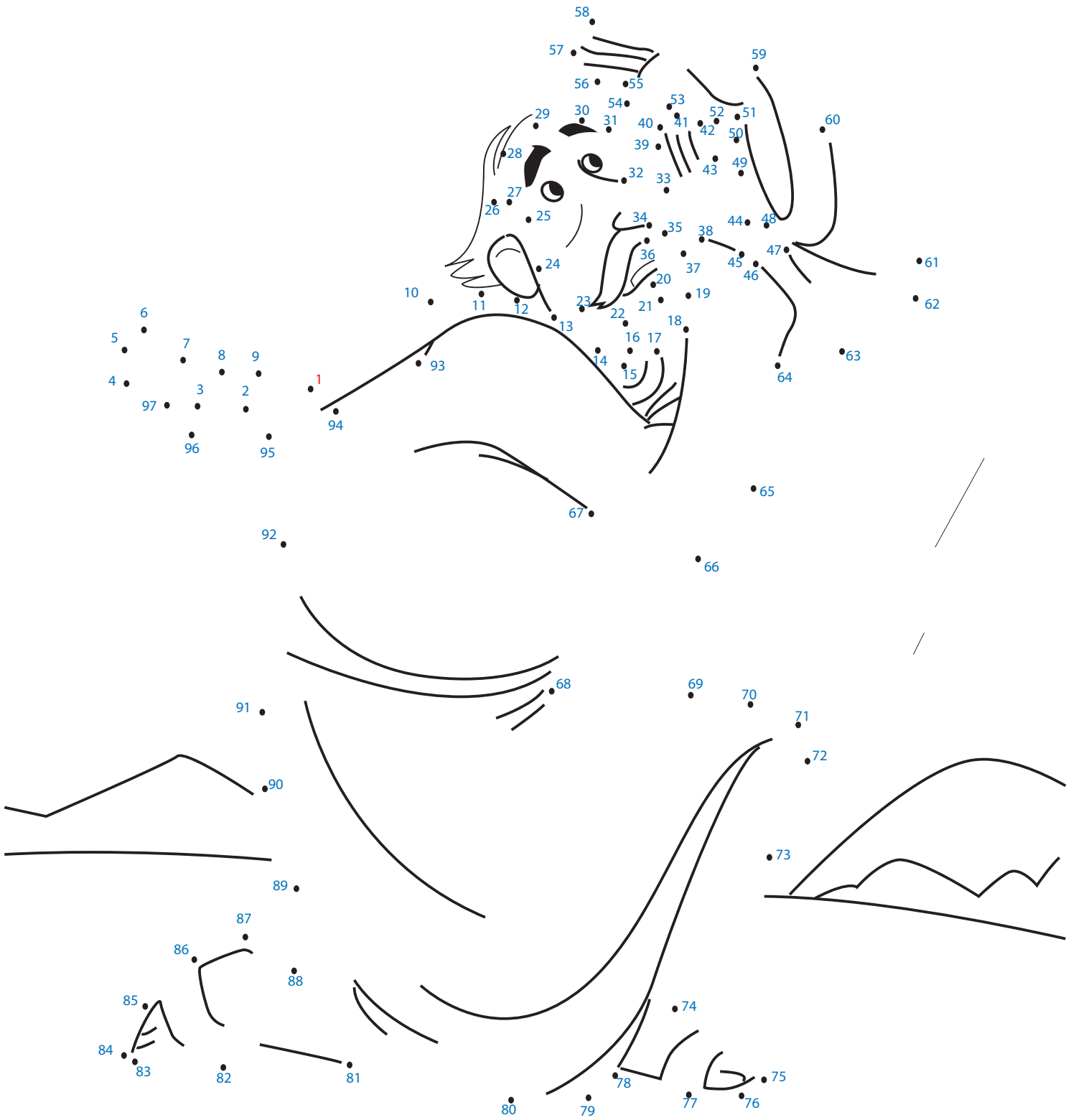
Help Paul on his journey to accepting Jesus.



THE CONVERSION OF PAUL



Connect the Dots





VACANCY

Communications Manager (Full-Time) Contract Position

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Be a Confirmed member of the PCTT
- A Degree in Communication, Social Sciences or related
- At least 5 years Experience in the field
- Understanding of the function and polices of the PCTT



Please send applications with resumes via email to

synod@pctt.org.tt or gs.warde@pctt.org.tt

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 11TH 2021, 4:00 P.M.



Father's Day Chocolate Chip Cookies Recipe

Level	Easy
Prep	15 minutes
Cook	9 minutes
Servings	5 dozen cookies

The chocolate chip cookie that is so easy and yummy that the fun is sharing in making it together with your loved ones and seeing who could eat the most! The original chocolate chip cookies are a true classic and the go-to cookie for all occasions! Especially for Father's Day.

INGREDIENTS

2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
3/4 cup granulated sugar
3/4 cup packed brown sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 large eggs
2 cups (12-ounce package)
Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips
1 cup chopped nuts
(Nuts are optional and if you choose to omit, add 1 to 2 Tbsp. of all-purpose flour.)





MAKE IT

Step 1 : Preheat oven to 375° F or 190° C

Step 2: Combine flour, baking soda and salt in small bowl. Beat butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar and vanilla extract in large mixer bowl until creamy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in chips and nuts. Drop by rounded tablespoon onto ungreased baking sheets. Not on daddy's face, lol.

Step 3: Bake for 9 to 11 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on baking sheets for 2 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely. Yes, you have to wait, or the cookies would be too soft and too hot to enjoy.





Jesus cares about our mental wellness.

STEPHANIE SAM, REGIONAL YOUTH COORDINATOR, GUAICO PASTORAL REGION

The Guaico Regional Youth Assembly hosted a Mental Health Seminar and Origami Session on Pentecost Sunday evening. Our Minister, Rev. Sanya Beharry, opened with worship reminding us that despite the challenges we are facing in these unprecedented times, God is still faithful, and the Holy Spirit is our comforter and strength.

The guest speaker was the President of Trinidad and Tobago Association of Psychologists (TTAP), Clinical Psychologist Mrs. Wendy Jeremie. Her presentation was truly impactful, as she reminded the young people of the importance of taking care of their mental health and staying grounded. She shared some useful tips that can help us all during this lockdown period when feelings of anxiousness arise. Anxiety

has been a mental health issue that has been affecting many during the Covid-19 pandemic. It is an emotion characterised by feelings of tension, worried thoughts, and physical changes such as increased blood pressure, pulse, chest pains etc.

Coping methods for anxiety:

- 1. LIMIT SOCIAL MEDIA EXPOSURE:** The constant and negative media coverage of Covid-19 can be overwhelming, can contribute to excessive anxiety, and cause eye strain and headaches. Take frequent screen breaks. Ensure that the information we feed our minds is factual and credible and comes from through trusted and reliable sources – e.g. The World Health Organization (WHO) and Ministry of Health (MOH).

2. PRACTICE SELF-CARE: This improves emotional health and generates soothing feelings. Examples include: exercising, maintaining a healthy diet, getting enough sleep, doing something you love like – watching a movie, listening to music, art, reading a book, baking etc.

3. PRACTICE BREATHING EXERCISES: Deep breathing is one of the best ways to lower stress in the body. It sends a message to your brain to calm down and relax. A great tip to remember when you are anxious: Pause – Smell the Flower (Inhale) – Blow the Candle (Exhale).

4. PRACTICE MINDFULNESS: This is a type of mediation in which an individual focuses on being intensely aware of what he/she is sensing and feeling in the moment, without interpretation and judgment.

5. CULTIVATE SOCIAL SUPPORT: Stay connected to your family members, friends and church family through the use of technology for positive emotional development.

6. 5-4-3-2-1 COPING TECHNIQUE FOR ANXIETY: A grounding technique that involve the use of our 5 senses. Pause, breathe, acknowledge: 5 things you see around you, 4 things you can

touch, 3 things you can hear, 2 things you can smell, 1 thing you can taste.

Mrs. Jeremie shared TTAP's hotline numbers and indicated that anyone can contact the association if they experience symptoms of anxiety and depression. She reminded us that we are not alone and to reach out for professional psychological help if needed.

We know at this time there is so much uncertainty taking place, but remember that you are not alone. Be kind to yourself and others. Be kind to your mind. "Stay in the positive and stay Covid negative. Mental Health matters!"

We Are *still* Here For You *during* Covid-19

TTAP
psychologytt.org

Call Us!

From 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.:
Wendy: 787-0975
Michelle: 469-9983
Deborah: 757-9348
Kareen: 731-2386
Marion: 485-7382
Merisha: 266-5751

From 3 p.m. - 10 p.m.:
Raymond: 732-2702
Margaret: 342-1578
Jefferson: 689-1243
Stacy: 718-4387
Karine: 7025281276

If you (or someone you care about) are burdened with persistent & overwhelming emotions like sadness, anxiety or depression, please call our members on the following lines during the stated hours, to talk to someone.

The CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) of the **Trinidad and Tobago Association of Psychologists** is available to help you to cope.

Find us also on findcarett.com and on virtualwellnesstt.com. Updated May 2021

IN LOVING MEMORY

Dr. Selwyn Beharry

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN



SUNRISE: 14 08 1965
SUNSET: 08 03 2018

We love you forever.

It is so hard to believe that three years have gone by so quickly.

*There isn't a day that goes by,
that does not remind us of your servant leadership to humanity.
Your humility and kindness are indelibly engraved in our hearts.
It seems like yesterday you were here sharing our lives.*

Rest in peace dad.

*From Selwyn Beharry Jr., Alethea Beharry, Christiana Beharry,
Briana Beharry and Cheryl Kalicharan-Beharry.*

Deaconess Beryl Dassie Kalicharan

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

*Mom your unbelievable departure shocked the lives
of your loved ones. We were left numb and empty,
surviving on a faith in God that you instilled in us.
Our wonderful gift here on earth was taken from us.
Your purpose here on earth was finished. At the time,
we could not understand, because of the pain and
emptiness we felt inside. Our loss was one added
angel in heaven. Well done thou good and faithful
servant. Rest in peace mom.*

*From your grandchildren Selwyn Beharry Jr. Alethea
Beharry, Christiana Beharry Sarah Inderbitzen and
your daughters Cheryl Kalicharan- Beharry and
Susan Inderbitzen*



SUNRISE: 15 10
SUNSET: 22 04 2010

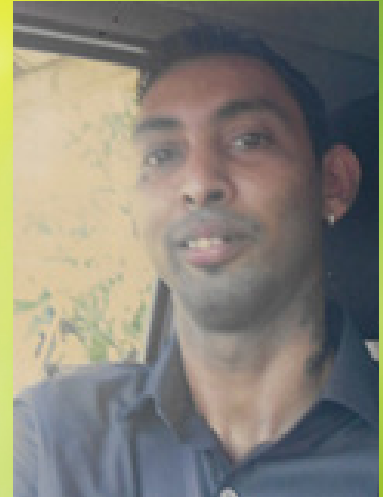
IN LOVING MEMORY

Adriel Nicholas Gokool

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

*We're missing you a little more each time we hear your name,
We've cried so many tears yet our hearts broken just the same.
We miss our times together things in common we could share,
But nothing fills the emptiness now you're no longer there
With soo many precious memories to last our whole life through
Each one of them reminders how much we're missing you.*

*Adriel is lovingly remembered and sadly missed by his
Parents: William & Margaret Gokool Sister: Kathryn, Niece: Kaitlyn,
Nephew: Kaelan Brother-in-law: Kishan,
Relatives and Friends. May his soul rest in peace!*



SUNRISE: 07 07 1983
SUNSET: 17 6 2015



SUNRISE: 15 07 1937
SUNSET: 01 05 2019

Lincoln Raghunanan

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

*Peacefully sitting at the right hand of Jesus
The loss is immeasurable but so is the Love left behind
Lovingly remembered by his*

Wife: Leela

Children: Dianne and Ronnie

Grandchildren: Kirsten and Sarah - Lee

Son-in-Law - Carl Jacob

Past member of Lower Barrackpore Presbyterian Church

The Trinidad PRESBYTERIAN

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN	Michael Cooper-Ochiengh
VICE CHAIRMAN	Dr. Reynold Baldeosingh
SECRETARY	Geeta K. Maharaj
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Intern Minister, Robert Dinnoo
TREASURER	Angela Arjoon
EDITOR	Presiding Elder Aasha Mahabir
MEMBER	Aphzal Ackbarali
MEMBER	Bernadette Gyan-Manickchand
MEMBER	Donna Partap
MEMBER	Percy Dassyne
MEMBER	Reverend Stephen Harripersad
MEMBER	Robert Ramsahai
MEMBER	Stephen Kaseram



Layout for the June 2021 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.

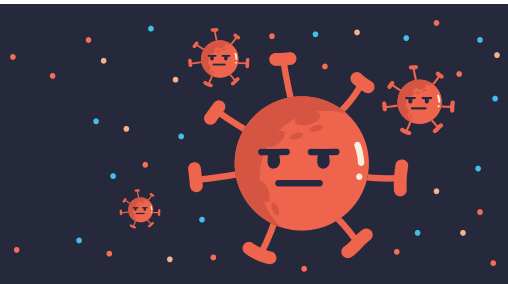
Kindly note that articles sent after the 15th will NOT be acknowledged for the upcoming publication, but may be considered for future issues.

Postal Address: P.O. Box 187, Paradise Hill, San Fernando | Email: trinidadpresbyterian@gmail.com

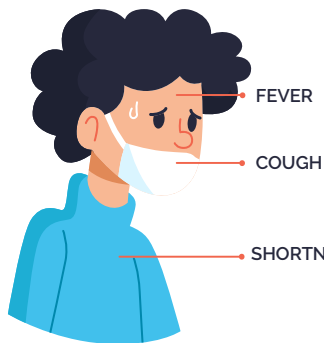
nCoVid-19

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS 2019

Help us beat the virus' spread. Keep practicing these for the prevention of the virus's impact for everyone



MOST COMMON SYMPTOMS



38°

FEVER

COUGH

SHORTNESS OF BREATH

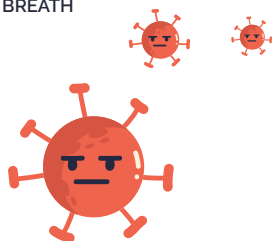


OTHER

- DIARRHEA
- VOMITTING

ADVANCED CASES

- PNEUMONIA
- RENAL FAILURE



TRANSMISSION

- AIR-BORNE DROPLETS
- CONTAMINATED OBJECTS
- ANIMALS
- HUMAN DROPETS

PREVENTION



WEAR A MASK WHEN YOU GO OUT IN PUBLIC



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM OTHERS (6 FEET)



COUGH INTO A TISSUE OR INTO THE CROOK OF YOUR ELBOW



STAY AT HOME AND REST IF YOU ARE ILL



AVOID TOUCHING YOUR OR ANYONE'S FACE



WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN WITH SOAP AND WATER OR USE AN ALCOHOL-BASED HAND SANITIZER



CLEAN THEN SANITIZE SURFACES (E.G. TABLE TOPS, DOOR KNOBS AND CELL PHONES)

(SOURCE: MINISTRY OF HEALTH, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO)

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



Read
Your Bible

2021
June

“Your decrees are very sure...”

SUNDAY		<i>Mark</i> 3:20-35	<i>Mark</i> 4:26-34	<i>Mark</i> 4:35-41	<i>Mark</i> 5:21-43
MONDAY		<i>2 Corinthians</i> 10:1-18	<i>1 Samuel</i> 1:1-20	<i>Luke</i> 21:29-36	<i>Luke</i> 22:52-62
TUESDAY	<i>Deuteronomy</i> 12:1-12	<i>2 Corinthians</i> 11:1-21a	<i>1 Samuel</i> 1:21-2:11	<i>Luke</i> 21:37-22:13	<i>Luke</i> 22:63-71
WEDNESDAY	<i>Deuteronomy</i> 13:1-11	<i>2 Corinthians</i> 11:21b-33	<i>1 Samuel</i> 2:12-26	<i>Luke</i> 22:14-23	<i>Luke</i> 23:1-12
THURSDAY	<i>Deuteronomy</i> 16:18-20, 17:14-20	<i>2 Corinthians</i> 12:1-10	<i>1 Samuel</i> 2:27-36	<i>Luke</i> 22:34-30	
FRIDAY	<i>Deuteronomy</i> 26:1-11	<i>2 Corinthians</i> 12:11-21	<i>1 Samuel</i> 3:1-21	<i>Luke</i> 22:31-38	
SATURDAY	<i>Psalms</i> 122	<i>Psalms</i> 63	<i>Psalms</i> 104	<i>Psalms</i> 56	

