

The Trinidad PRESBYTERIAN

est. 1904

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



JUNE 2022 | \$4.00

"Fittle Rozack."
30th May - 1845

Age.	Name.	Father's Name	Sex.	Age.	13.	Remarks
141	Gypaul.	Dosthee	Male	35		Eliza.
142	Choin.	Caure.		20	50	
143	Doolan.	Faugou.		20	50	
144	Comul.	Faugou.		17	50	
145	Mungur.	Saugou.		32	50	
146	Whitton.	Saugou.		25	50	
147	Prick.	Saugou.		27	50	
148	Cume.	Saugou.				
31/5/64. 149	Doolan.	Saugou.				
150	Rughoo.	Saugou.		31		Eliza.
151	Somar.	Saugou.		30	50	
152	Nicentio.	Saugou.		26	50	
153	Bhola.	Saugou.			50	
154	Doolle.	Chetamun.		24	50	
155	Amun.	Saugou.		27		Clarendon
156	Seriatun.	Saugou.		27	50	
157	Cundrou.	Mundoo.		25	50	
158	Ram Sing.	Besur Sing.		20	50	
159	Sorah.	Mittoo.		23		
160	Shoyrub.	Roop.		23	50	
161	Dapoo.	Roopoo.		19	50	
162	Mundo.	Chuze.		20	50	
163	Mohur Sing.	Mth Sing.		26	50	
164	Gypaul.	Saugou.		25		Eliza.
165	Soma.	Saugou.		25	50	

Celebrating Indian Arrival

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THE MODERATOR SPEAKS

STAND UP IN DEFENCE OF OUR CHILDREN

AMONG the many serious social issues facing us at this time, the one that makes me sick in the stomach is the neglect and abuse of our children by parents and caregivers. Children are the treasures of our nation. But, what is the reality? The mindless abuse leading to their horrific deaths reveals the depth of the moral and spiritual degradation that exists in our society.

Why do we bring them into the world if we cannot take care of them?

This 1971 song made famous by the Carpenters becomes more real to me with the rise of child abuse and neglect. It says:

*"Bless the beasts and the children; in this world they have no voice;
they have no choice. Light their way when darkness surrounds them;
give them Love (pure love), let it shine around them. Give them
shelter from the storm; keep them safe; keep them warm."*

The statistics of child abuse are sickening. A total of 27,437 cases of abuse were reported to the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago for the period 18 May, 2015 and 28 February, 2021. Of this number, 9,713 or 35.4 percent of the abuse cases of children were inflicted by their mothers.

Of the remaining 17,724 cases, an estimated 11,112 or 40.5 per cent involved relatives or people known to the child victims.

And now we learn with dismay that a 1997 Report of a Cabinet-appointed committee to investigate reports of abuse at children's homes and related matters had been kept from public view for 25 years. Understandably, many persons were angry, appalled, and horrified that the revelations in this report were not acted upon and perpetrators brought to justice. Many are still confused as to the reasons for shelving such horrific findings. As one Newsday letter-writer wrote, "To sit on such information and allow these dastardly acts to continue for so many years is purely evil and demonic." I could not agree more.

It is our hope that the 2021 Report of the Justice Judith Jones committee on the same subject matter will not suffer the same fate. We urge the Government to implement this committee's findings in the shortest possible time.

We, in Trinidad and Tobago, observe National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April each year. The focus is on families and communities working together to prevent child abuse. What role can the PCTT play to prevent abuse of children?



The Rt. Reverend Joy Evelyn Abdul-Mohan

We need, as a church and nation, not only the restoration but the transformation of the family.

The fundamental values which create a civil society must be practiced in the home if our nation is to survive. The neglect and abuse of children are perhaps a reflection of the lack of parental skills and as well as the sorrows, the stresses, the weaknesses and the frustrations of the adult world.

The PCTT has a moral obligation to work with all stakeholders to develop child abuse prevention strategies and promote its prevention across the country. We must seek to educate our congregations and citizens on the nature of child abuse; to provide victims and families with resources to gain help and to remove the guilt and shame associated with child sexual abuse.

Children have a special place in God's kingdom. We are reminded, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belong" (Mark 10:14, NRSV). Let us, therefore, bless the children keep them safe!

EDITORIAL

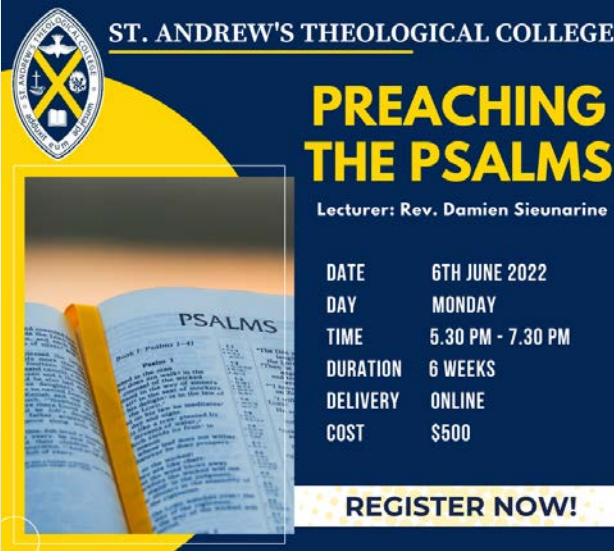
THE EFFECTS OF OBSERVING VIOLENCE

One ancient view of drama is that the action on stage provides the spectators with an opportunity to release their own emotions harmlessly through identifying with the people and events depicted in the play. Those who share that view argue that filmed violence, far from leading to real violence, can actually have beneficial results in that the viewer may rid himself or herself of antagonistic impulses by watching other people behave aggressively, even if these people are merely actors appearing on a screen. On the other hand, there are those authorities of equal stature who argue that, filmed or staged violence, is a preparation for school delinquency. This view holds that emotionally immature individuals can be seriously affected by fighting or brutality in films or in their living

environment and disturbed young people, in particular, can be led into the habit of expressing their aggressive energies by socially destructive actions.

Initially, neither of these arguments had the support of data which were obtained through controlled experiments. Today, however, based on tests done with the support of the National Science Foundation (USA), one conclusion drawn is that the observation of aggression is more likely to induce hostile behaviour in normal people as well as by those who are emotionally disturbed. Associations between the screen and real world are important. People seem to be emotionally affected by a screenplay to the extent that they associate the events of the drama with their own life experiences. These findings have obvious social significance.

Have our educators considered the effects of filmed school violence shared through social media? What are the effects on students who see that aggressive behaviours which result in 'hero worship' and 'commanding respect' among their peers? Would they, then, conclude that displays of aggression and, the more violent the aggression, the more admirable or desirable? In our world today, and right here in our island Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, some of our students are exposed to 'live' violence on a daily basis. Measures need to be taken to halt that type of violent physical and verbal aggression not through more aggression but in the home, in the school community, in the national community and through the speech and behaviours of our leaders. Our children are worth our collective effort to get them on the right track.



ST. ANDREW'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

PREACHING THE PSALMS

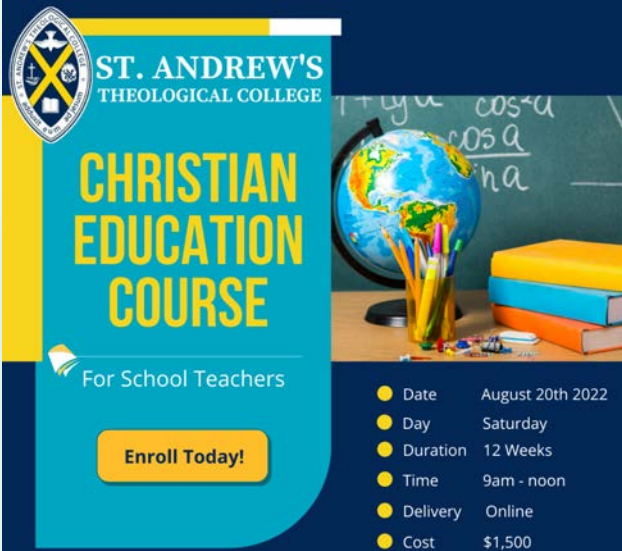
Lecturer: Rev. Damien Sieunarine

DATE	6TH JUNE 2022
DAY	MONDAY
TIME	5.30 PM - 7.30 PM
DURATION	6 WEEKS
DELIVERY	ONLINE
COST	\$500

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62ND SYNOD, AGM, 2022

After two consecutive Annual General Meetings (AGM) of Synod 2020 and 2021, which were held either virtually or hybrid, the 62nd Synod AGM 2022 was held in person at Naparima College's Auditorium from Thursday 28th April, 2022 to Saturday 30th April, 2022. This AGM marked 154 years of witness and mission of the Presbyterian Church in Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT). The theme was "Being the Church In and Beyond the Pandemic. What does the Lord require?" borrowing from the Scripture, Micah 6:8 "He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?"

The AGM was opened by the Moderator of Synod, the Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul Mohan. She was presented with a plaque by Board of Women's Chairperson, Reverend Moonoo, in recognition of her being awarded a National Medal for Women Development - Gold.

A new addition to the 1st day's proceedings was a feature address by Dr. Michael Dowlath, immediate past Principal of Naparima College, on the topic - "Being the church in and beyond the pandemic era, - moving forward with vision." Dr. Dowlath pressed on the need to critically analyse "The Perceived versus The Reality of the PCTT Today" in order to remain relevant going forward.

A preview of the 150th PCTT Anniversary Book was available for all to peruse.

On Day 2, a recommendation was accepted for Intern Minister

Robert Dinnoo's Ordination as Minister of the Word and Sacrament of the PCTT.

Day 2 also saw representation from all five Presbyterian Secondary Schools as their Principals' and Treasurers' reports were received. Present were Naparima College - Mr. Roger Ali (Principal Ag.) Naparima Girls' High School - Mrs. Karen Bally (Principal Ag.) Hillview College - Ms. Sharon Ramdeen (Vice Principal Ag.) St. Augustine Girls' High School - Mrs. Bonnie Bissoon-Gosine (Vice Principal Ag.) Iere High School - Mr. Roy Nandlal (Principal)



L to R; Presentation to Rt. Rev Joy Abdul-Mohan by Board of Women Chairperson Rev Radica Moonoo



Feature Speaker; Dr Michael Dowlath
Immediate Past Principal - Naparima College

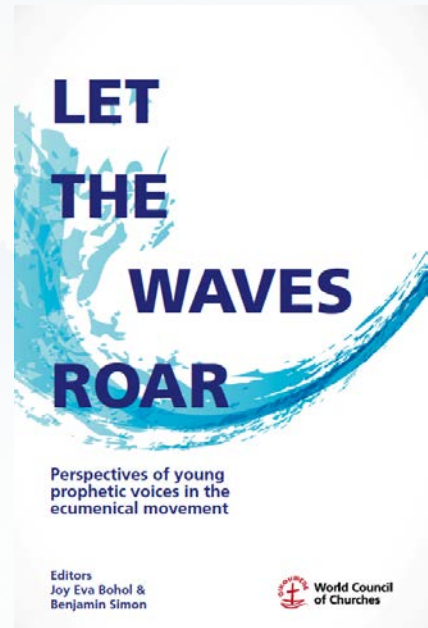


L to R; Naparima Girls' High School - Mrs. Karen Bally (Principal Ag.) St. Augustine Girls' High School - Mrs. Bonnie Bissoon-Gosine (Vice Principal Ag.) Iere High School - Mr. Roy Nandlal (Principal) PCTT Moderator - Rt. Rev. Joy Abdul-Mohan, PSSBE Chairperson - Mr. Ashford Tamby, PCTT General Secretary - Mr. Terrance Warde, Hillview College - Ms. Sharon Ramdeen (Vice Principal Ag.) Naparima College - Mr. Roger Ali (Principal Ag.) Photo Credit- Vincent Ramkhelawan

62ND SYNOD, AGM, 2022

St. Andrew's Theological College's (SATC) Principal, Reverend Adrian Sieunarine, introduced Ordinand Robert Dinnoo, Intern Ministers (IM), IM Cynara Dube-Khan, and IM Bjorn Warde, Student Ministers (SM) and SM Jessica Mahadeo, SM Peter Arjoon, SM Dave Jitta and SM Stefan Wilson, all served as stewards through the three days of the AGM. Reverend Sieunarine proudly announced that SM Stefan Wilson will be leaving for Geneva where he has been accepted on Scholarship to study for a Masters in Theology.

Intern Minister Cynara Dube-Khan and Student Minister Stefan Wilson gave a presentation on the World Council of Churches' latest publication in which they were contributing authors. The publication, "Let the Waves Roar" – voices on the ecumenical movement is an "updated resource to get to know young people of today and to explore ways for the church to effectively engage the 18–30-year-old age group in the ecumenical movement." The publication is available for free download at <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/publications/let-the-waves-roar>



L to R; SM Namelia Lutchman, SM Peter Arjoon, SM Jessica Mahadeo, SM Dave Jitta, SM Stefan Wilson, IM Cynara Dube-Khan, IM Bjorn Warde, Ordinand Robert Dinnoo

COUNSELLING COLUMN

WITH BERNADETTE GYAN-MANICKCHAND

QUESTION: CAN BABIES DEMONSTRATE AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOURS LEADING UP TO BECOMING AN ANGRY CHILD? PART 2



Bernadette Gyan-Manickchand

Aggression is one of the two primal emotions and curbing such has allowed for much research and experimentation. Not being able to control such an emotion has resulted in much chaos and mayhem. Outbursts in children of school age have again aroused interests by those in authority, therefore, it is vital that parents and caregivers have some basic knowledge in the development of anger from early childhood.

Psychologists, Stenberg and Campos, 1990, purport that anger is “thought to emerge developmentally around four months of age. It is more clearly

displayed as infants become stronger and more autonomous by nine months of age.” (Lemerise and Dodge, 2000)

The ill-effects of anger can result in poor mental health from an early age and should be recognised so that there is a control of this emotion. What can parents and caregivers do to promote self-control of temperament?

My main belief is that an angry parent begets an angry child. Parents and guardians, you are the model for your child. Observe anger outbursts, then explore and practise positive parenting strategies.

Strategies to help children cope with anger issues:

When children becomes angry, it is important to work with them so that they can understand and better control their frustrations.

- Help them spot the signs. Make them aware that if their heart starts to beat faster, their muscles tense, their teeth clench or their stomach churns, this could be a sign that they are becoming angry. Helping them spot the signs early can give them the opportunity to make more positive decisions on how to handle it.

- Talk about helpful strategies. Encourage them to count to 10, walk away from a situation to calm down, breathe slowly and deeply, clench and unclench their fists in order to manage their anger more effectively.

- Help them know where to turn. Let them know that there are people to whom they can turn to when a certain situation is causing them to feel angry.

- Be positive. Praise children for any efforts they make in order to build their confidence.

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Please contact Naparima Girls' High School's office at 652-2049 for further enquires.



NB: Persons who have applied for the Mathematics/IT/Computer Science prior to 6th May, 2022 need not reapply.

Deadline: 10th June 2022

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SCHOOL MOTTO:
Per Ardua Ad Astra

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION
Friday 10 June, 2022

SACRAMENTAL INSIGHTS

Baptism and Faith **PART 4**

As we continue to seek insights into the Sacraments; this month we will unravel Baptism and Faith and begin an overview of Baptismal Practices.

Baptism is both a gift from God and mankind's response to that gift. As stated by Paul in Ephesians 4:13, "... until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ." The baptized is expected to grow and be completely absorbed into Christ. Churches admit that faith is essential to receive the salvation embodied and brought about by baptism.

Baptism is not just an experience that lasts for a moment; it is a lifetime of growing and developing into Christ. Baptized individuals are called to show forth the glory of the Lord, as they are being transformed by the Holy Spirit into His image, with fervent and glorious praise. "And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit" (II Cor. 3:18). The life of a Christian is filled with struggles but in the middle of them the grace of God is experienced. In the relationship set in motion at baptism, the baptized now live for Christ, His Church, and for the world which He loves, while waiting with hope for the revelation of God's new creation and for the time when God will be their all in all.

"I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen?" (Romans 8: 18-24). [1]

As baptized individuals grow in the Christian faith, they prove that humanity can be renewed and liberated. They now have a shared responsibility to witness in the present age to the gospel of Jesus Christ. The witnessing to which they are called takes place among the gathered community, the Church and in the world. Within a faith community of witness and service, Christians acknowledge the full meaning of baptism "as the gift of God to all God's people." [2]

Baptism does not only call for personal sanctification, but also encourages Christians to struggle for the fulfilment of God's will in all of life. (Rom. 6:9ff; Gal. 3:27-28; I Peter 2:21-4:6).



Rev. Dr. Anabell Lalla
Ramkelawan, Curepe/St Joseph
Pastoral Region

Baptismal Practices

As the church developed throughout the ages, so did the practices of baptism. There are churches which practice "Infant Baptism" and "Adult Baptism" sometimes referred to "Believers Baptism." "Infant Baptism" also called "paedobaptism" the Greek 'pais' "child" and 'baptizein' "to baptize." Paedobaptism simply means the administration of baptism to infants. In Roman Catholicism, it is essential for salvation. In the Reformed Tradition, it is a symbol of God's grace.[3] Some churches baptize infants when they are brought by their parents or legal guardians who, along with the Church, are ready to nurture the children in the Christian faith. There are other churches which exclusively practice baptism of adults/believers who can make a personal confession of faith. Some of these churches encourage the presentation and blessing of infants or children. This act is usually done at a service of thanksgiving for the gift of the children and dedication of mothers and fathers to Christian parenthood.

[1] Read New Revised Standard Version, 1 Cor. 15:22-28, 49-57.

[2] Faith and Order Paper No 111, Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry (Geneva, World Council of Churches, 1982) 3.

[3] Donald K. McKim, The Westminster: Dictionary of Theological Terms (Louisville, Kentucky, Westminster John Knox Press 2014), 27.

Adult/believers' baptism and infant baptism both take place when the faith community, the Church is gathered for worship. An integral part of the adult/believers' baptism service is the confession of faith that is declared by the person being baptized. When persons are baptized as infants, their personal confession will be made later. In both adult/believers' baptism and infant baptism, individuals will have to grow in their knowledge of the faith. For persons baptized upon their own declaration of faith, there is always the need for growth in their personal response to faith. In the case of infants baptized, their personal confession of faith is to be made at a later time. To help them reach this point in their journey of faith, Christian nurturing must take place to bring forth this affirmation of faith. All baptismal practices are firmly grounded in Christ and affirms to His faithfulness unto death. Baptism is set within the life and faith of the Church, and through the witness of the believing community, points to God's faithfulness - the foundation of all life and faith. At every baptism service, the congregation re-affirms its faith in God's promises to create an environment of witness and service. Baptism, therefore, should always be celebrated and take place in the setting of the faith community at worship.

When the terms "infant baptism" and "adult /believers' baptism" are used, it is important to keep in mind that the real difference is between the church communities that baptize persons at any age and those who only baptize individuals who can make a confession of their faith for themselves. The differences between infant and adult/believers' baptism becomes less important when it is acknowledged that both forms of baptism represent God's initiative in Jesus Christ and a response made by the faith community.

"Persons who are less than fully competent mentally have often been ignored by the church, much to our shame"[4] Churches that administer Infant Baptism, have baptized infants before their disabilities were diagnosed. Learning of their disabilities the church reneges on its responsibility to nurture the child in the faith. In Churches where baptism is only performed at a later age, persons with disabilities have been overlooked while others of their age were initiated. Adults, with mental disabilities, who have requested baptism over and over have been prevented from being baptized because it is believed they do not have the mental capacity to understand what they are saying, much more, to express and live out the faith daily. Though the Church may not refer to persons with disabilities as "sub-Christians" their marginalization by the church surely gives that impression. At times, condescendingly it is said that persons with disabilities are released from the customary requirements of faith, or they have a unique sort of faith that is different from that of other believers, thus baptism is not viewed beneficial in their circumstance.

Let us consider two facts: Firstly, the baptism of persons with disabilities may not only be helpful, but essential for the benefit of the whole church. The administration of baptism to persons with disabilities will push those who consider themselves "normal" persons to face the fact that divine love is for all humanity, not only for those of intellectual competence. The inclusion of those with disabilities into the congregation can be a channel of judgment and grace for members of the fellowship. The degree of spirituality displayed by persons with disabilities have exceeded the expectations of ministers and church leaders. The presence of persons with disabilities within the believing community can be edifying.

Secondly, is the more important fact that we should give careful thought to. Is that which lies behind the churches' Sacramental disregard of persons with disabilities, "A failure to understand one thing that distinguishes the Sacrament as from the more exclusively verbal and reasoned expressions of the gospel." [5] While the Sacraments use words, they function mainly at a level of action that can be understood visually, kinesthetically, and through the sense of touch and non-verbal sound; for example, when water flows or the wine is poured, as well as in music and through taste and smell in the acts that accompany the use of water being poured on at Baptism, and the pouring of the wine at Holy Communion. It is difficult to comprehend that God has chosen these as a means of communicating with persons with disabilities who cannot understand sermons or seize what is taking place at a study session.

It is well known that persons with disabilities tend to be more visibly loving than many of us who consider ourselves normal. Maybe, God makes known the gospel to persons with disabilities in the laying on of hands, and the kiss of peace after the application of the water at baptism. If the church refuses to administer the Sacraments to persons with disabilities because it is taught they do not fully understand what it is all about, the church may be denying them the means of grace that God has modified to meet their special needs. A serious review of the facts will reveal that it those of us who consider ourselves normal are the ones who do not fully understand what the Sacrament is all about. A reconsideration of the baptism of persons with disabilities is crucial for the ministry of the church. A serious review of our opinion may change the present policies and practices of the church.[6]

Next month we will continue with the Baptismal Practice of Re-Baptism.

[4] Lawrence Hull Stookey, *Baptism, Christ's Act in the Church.* (Nashville: Abingdon Press.1982) 58-59.

[5] Lawrence Hull Stookey, *Baptism, Christ's Act in the Church.* (Nashville: Abingdon Press.1982) 59.

[6] Lawrence Hull Stookey, *Baptism, Christ's Act in the Church.* (Nashville: Abingdon Press.1982) 59-60.



CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. LESTER GOETZ

SUBMITTED BY; JOY SAMMAH

Susamachar Pastoral Region extends hearty congratulations to our elder, Dr. Lester Goetz, for being conferred with a National Award, the Humming Bird Gold in the field of Medicine. A humble and generous servant and elder of the Susamachar Presbyterian Church, Dr. Goetz represented his alma mater, Queen's Royal College, at the school's drama festival and in the sports of hockey and swimming. He was also a Sergeant Major in the Cadet Force which instilled that discipline in him.

Dr. Goetz is married to the beautiful and devoted Ophelia and together, they have four children who all grew up actively participating in Sunday School, with the last daughter being a former Sunday School teacher.

Dr. Goetz did voluntary charitable work for the Cancer Society and the South Cancer Resource Centre, doing weekly prostate cancer screening. He assisted the Rotary Club of San Fernando West where he gave his time to conduct Voluntary health clinics. Incidentally, the Club won the Paul Harris award for these health clinics. Dr. Goetz is a founding member of the Trinidad & Tobago Urological Association and The Caribbean Urological Association, being their first President respectively. He has represented the Caribbean on the International Relations Committee of the American Urological Association and as a member of the Editorial Board of the Canadian Journal of Urology and the Caribbean Medical Journal.

He is an examiner for new and upcoming doctors. He was a trial Examiner for the British Urological Association in preparation for the FRCS Urology Exam. He has trained residents for the Postgraduate Urology Exam at UWI and was promoted to The Program director for the DM Urology at UWI and The first Senior Lecturer in Urology at UWI. He tutors to 4th and 5th year medical students.

He was Head of Department of Urology at The San Fernando General Hospital (SFGH) and while there, he introduced the first Dedicated Urology ward and the first dedicated Urology Theatre in T&T and in the English speaking Caribbean. He has organised 38 hands-on international workshops to train doctors in cutting edge Urology at SFGH, T&T and regional Urologists including those from Haiti.

Dr. Goetz was awarded Individual of the Year by the Ministry of Health and received awards from South West Regional Health Authority. As Medical Director/ Executive Medical Director at SFGH, he initiated the first Cardiac Ward in T&T at SFGH with a 40 percent drop in mortality. With his team he initiated an Oncology Suite at SFGH to provide chemotherapy for the first time at SFGH. He was also responsible in part for the start-up of a permanent GI service at SFGH.



Dr. Lester Goetz
Hummingbird Medal Gold recipient.

He was President of T&T Medical Association in 2000 and has been the Organizer of the Medical Research conference annually for many years. Other awards include the Scroll of Honour and the Research Award for excellence in Urology by the Medical Association. The SFGH Urology Department was recognized by The International Society of Urology as an official Training Centre for Urology in the Caribbean under Dr. Goetz' stewardship, having trained the majority of specialists Urologists in Trinidad at this time. He has also pioneered Laser surgery in Urology in Trinidad and the English speaking Caribbean.

What an impressive biography for a gentle soul! May God continue to shower His blessings on Dr. Goetz and his family.

REVEREND THOMAS ALI HOSEIN HONOURED POSTHUMOUSLY

SUBMITTED BY; HARRY PARTAP



In photo, Dr Wayne Haqq (second from right), a grandson of the late Reverend Thomas Ali Hosein, receives a plaque on behalf of his grandfather from Local Board Chair Ms. Taramatee Lookkhor. Looking on are (from left), other grandchildren, Ms. Donna Latiff, Dr Nigel Russell-Hosein, Dr Russell Hosein and Mr. Gerard Hosier.

Reverend Thomas Ali Hosein was honoured posthumously for his leadership in the construction of the St. James Presbyterian Church in Tableland one hundred years ago, this was done during an Easter Thanksgiving and Praise service, on April, 17th 2022.

The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church, the Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan, delivered the sermon while Presiding Elder Dennis Williams was leader of worship. At the end of the service a book on the history of the church written by former journalist and government minister, Mr. Harry Partap, was introduced. The book, *A Sermon in Faith: The Historical Journey of the St James Presbyterian Church in Tableland*, covered the period 1884 - 2022. It was introduced by retired senior journalist, Zorina Shah.

Five grandchildren of Reverend Hosein were present: Ms. Donna Latiff, Dr Wayne Haqq, Dr Russell Hosein, Dr Nigel Hosein and Gerard Hosier.

Reverend Abdul-Mohan is also related to Reverend Hosein. Dr Haqq received the plaque from Local Board's Vice-chair Ms. Taramatee Lookkhor. At the end of the service, Ms. Latiff planted a grafted Pommerac tree at the back of the church to mark the occasion. Local Board Treasurer, Ms. Urica Seepaul-Felmine, presented Reverend Abdul-Mohan with a box of locally grown produce.

Local Board Secretary, Ms Nazra Partap, welcomed the congregation which included the Chairman of the Princes Town Regional Corporation, Gowrie Roopnarine, Imam Fareed Mohammed of the Tableland Masjid and Pundit Rajendra Mohan of the Tableland Hindu Temple. Mr. Dave Puntai was honoured for his leadership in the construction of the present church building 34 years ago. Local Board Chairman, Mr. Trevor Phillip, thanked all who assisted in the work of the church since its establishment in the Tableland district 138 years ago.

In her Easter message, Reverend Abdul-Mohan noted that "we come to all our Easters by way of our Good Fridays." She said we were all living in a Good Friday world. She pointed out that the nations of this world "were staggering from one crisis to another in politics, economics and militarily." She observed, "It is a world anguished with tensions, viruses, violence of an old era dying while a new world with new lifestyles, goals and priorities and systems struggle to be born."

She concluded that while the church must learn from its past history, it has to move forward in "re-visioning" itself to meet the tasks that lay ahead, and "The Church has to re-think its mission and improve its stewardship with a living hope. This will lead us into the dawn of a new day filled with hope, faith and peace."

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. RANDALL SAMMAH

SUBMITTED BY; FLORABELLE LUTCHMAN

It has been said that certain people enter our lives briefly and fleetingly and then they move on just as quickly.

On Thursday 21st April, the Session of the Marabella/Bonne Aventure Pastoral Region gathered at the Fitzroy Bachan Memorial Hall at Marabella Presbyterian Church to bid farewell to Rev. Dr. Randall Sammah who was retiring from Ministry.

Reverend Dr. Randall Sammah had spent seventeen months in the Region. It was sad to see him go. Members from the Region all expressed similar sentiments.

Change is inevitable and we were all very happy that at long last he would receive that long desired rest, free from responsibilities of a Pastoral Region. The Region is surely going to miss him-- his inspiring, insightful sermons, his physical presence among us, his friendship, his



Rev. Dr. Randall Sammah

mentorship, his good advice and guidance and his caring and commitment to all -never discriminating- always willing to help in spite of Covid, his refreshing sense of humour, his dignified personality and his general pleasant demeanour.

He has left indelible footprints in many of our lives. He aroused our interest so often by the challenging words preached from the pulpit.

We thanked him for his compassion and empathy willingly given in our time of need. His words of wisdom and unwavering faith lifted us up. His sense of humour lightened many a problem.

He gave of his time at a moment's notice to people from all walks of life and circumstances. We let the Reverend know that we remember not who he was but what he did. We all wished him a happy retirement and abundant blessings with his wife and daughter.

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BAPTISM

COMMUNION

CONFIRMATION

MOTHER'S DAY

SUBMITTED BY: GARY SAMAI

The St. John's church family strive to ensure each person has an equal place in the operations and management of the church. Sunday 8th May, 2022, was one of those days where proper coordination and cooperation led to a successful Service. The Local Board has adopted this approach to Church Management, which has resulted in an exponential growth in its membership. Our relational approach of providing genuine service to God's people has once more proven to be effective and can be useful by all those reading this article.

The Rt. Reverend Joy Evelyn Abdul-Mohan, Moderator of the PCTT, was able to encapsulate these sentiments in her Mother's Day / Holy Communion message to the enthusiastic congregation. She reminded those taking their Baptismal and Confirmation vows that just like the church, mothers sacrifice and strategize to achieve stability and safety that will benefit their offspring and loved ones. Introspectively, the church, today, endures many of those same challenges, but can over-come those issues if we thrust in God's guidance, place Christ at the center

of our strategies and operations, develop honest relationships while removing personal selfish motives and agendas from our lives generally and be pure in our undertakings. Jesus's life and sacrifice should be our ultimate template in achieving this purpose.

These words have not only inspired the twenty two new communicants (three persons were absent due to Covid 19 quarantine), but all those who attended this grand celebration. This Service has not only renewed the vision of the articulate Elders and Local Board members but has ignited the minds of those congregants aspiring to lead the church in the future. Figuratively, the life of a Christian should not only be put on display on a Sunday morning, but should be lived through our daily relations, mannerisms and conduct. Our lives and existence should reflect the inspired Words of God and not the worldly expectations.

The humbling experience was accentuated by our pianist, Ms. Caroline Pargassingh Paria; soloists, Elder Ms. Marilyn Boodoo-Lowtan, Elder Mr. Roopnarine Sankar and guest Ms. Sandra Ojar. All attendees, especially Mothers were presented with pineapples, refreshment and an array of personal gift items. God bless all our Mothers, including those who act in this role, on this commemorative day, and congratulations to all those who accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour.



Elders of the St. John Presbyterian Church with the Moderator of the PCTT

From Top Left: Gary Samai, Nicholas Deolal, Roopnarine Sankar

From Bottom Left: Samantha Samai Deolal, Bernadette Beharry, Marilyn Boodoo-Lowtan



Twenty Two Communicants with Moderator of the PCTT the Rt. Reverend Joy Evelyn Abdul-Mohan

NAVET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 92ND ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

SUBMITTED BY; MS. NALISHA K ROOPAN, NAVET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Front Row from left: Mr. Boochoon, Edmund Pragsingh (Elder) Nalisha Roopan, Viola Seepersad (Elder)

Back Row from left Routie Mungroo, Stephanie Seecharan, Alisa Boochoon (Elder), Neela Ramsingh, Celia Pragsingh, Tricia Seepersad

The Navet Presbyterian Church of the Nariva/Mayaro Pastoral Region celebrated its 92nd Anniversary on March 24th, 2022. The church was established on March 24th, 1930, by the late Rev. George Murray. Our present Church building was dedicated on April 23rd 1994.

Intern Minister assigned to the Region, Mr. Robert Dinnoo, conducted the Anniversary Service on Sunday, March 27th 2022. The Service was richly enhanced by young Kareem Narine's talented keyboard rendition of "You raised me up" and Sophia Soodeen's inspiring steelpan song, "Jesus loves me this I know." Ms. Tricia Seepersad read the scripture passage from James 5:13-19. A comprehensive and informative history of the church was presented by Elder, Mrs. Alisa S Boochoon.

Intern Minister, Mr. Robert Dinnoo, captured the attention of the entire congregation with his thoughtful and inspiring Sermon. He reminded persons to reach out to church and community members alike and always show love, compassion and care. He encouraged all to continue to do the work of the Lord and ensure that the Church is a place where all persons feel welcomed and encouraged.

The Navet Presbyterian Church is truly blessed. Over the 92 years, the congregation has



grown significantly numerically and spiritually with many persons serving in Ministry. At present, our Minister is Reverend Gloria Hay.

At the end of our service, Elder Mrs. Viola Seepersad thanked all those who attended the service and for their continued support throughout the years.

Bookmarks in commemoration of the 92nd Anniversary were distributed to members. Pre-packaged refreshment were served to all. The Navet Presbyterian Church extends special thanks to Minister Rev. Gloria Hay and Intern Minister Mr. Robert Dinnoo for their dedication to the work of the Lord and to our Church.

VACANCY

Judicial Secretary

A position is open for a Secretary to assist the Judicial Committee in recording and filing all Judicial matters.

Please send Applications with Resumes to gs.warde@pctt.org.tt
Deadline: 30th June 2022.

INSTALLATION OF NEW SIGNAGE AT COROMANDEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RUDOLPH SINGH, COROMANDEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.



L to R: Reverend Shirvan Siloch, Elder Jean and Trebeni Angard, Mr. Rudolph Singh, Mr. Ken Gomez, L. Bd. Members Boodlal Samaroo, Mr. Samaroo Dookoo and Secretary of the Local Board, Ms. Adana Boodoo.

On April, 3rd. 2022, the Coromandel Presbyterian Church, in the Point Fortin/Cedros Pastoral Region, received a new sign which was donated by the Angard Family in an expression of appreciation and thanks to the Church and in celebration of the 80th birthday of the Church's Honorary Elder, Mr. Trebeni Angard.

The Church Service featured a song item on the Harmonica by the Assistant Secretary of the Local Board, Mr. Rudolph Singh, who also delivered birthday greetings. Following the service, Reverend Shirvan Siloch, Minister for Pastoral Region, dedicated the sign and thanked the family for their contribution.

THE SOUTH-CENTRAL PRESBYTERY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Cordially Invites You
TO THE
Licensing Service
of
Ordinand Robert Dinnoo

ON
Wednesday 8th June, 2022,
at 6:00 p.m.

MORNING STAR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LUM TACK HILL, FYZABAD.

EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MOTHERS DAY

Submitted by Garry Soomarah, Emmanuel Presbyterian Church




"The Hand That Rocks the Cradle Is the Hand That Rules the World" is a poem by William Ross Wallace that praises motherhood as the pre-eminent force for change in the world. The Emmanuel Presbyterian Church Sunday School hosted an evening of dinner and entertainment in tribute to our mothers at the Naparima College Auditorium.

The evening was filled with scintillating performances by the children of our Sunday School through songs by Miss Anali Horrel, Kaitlyn Sarwan, Sion Nandram and Ravesh Balramsingh; instrumental by Ashish Balramsingh on pan and Indra Ramsaran on the harmonica; with poems recited by Ravina Balramsingh, Kyle Sarwan and Zachary Mohammed; and a liturgical\contemporary dance performed by Andrea Ramsaran Nandlal.

Closing of our entertainment was Extempo Icon Black Sage who wowed all in attendance with his lyrical mastery on various topics posed to him by members of the audience. The evening was filled with amazing door prizes, appliances such as blenders, toasters, and electric kettle, also, bowl sets, beach bags and bottles.

Special thanks must also be given to the Minister of our Pastoral Region, Reverend Stephen Harripersad, Ravesh Balramsingh, members of our sister churches in the Region, Mr. Roger Ali (Ag.), Principal of Naparima College, for allowing us to use the venue as well as his auxiliary and clerical staff for the support they provided. In closing, we pray that as a community in Christ we always remember the role mothers play in the spiritual development of their children and the family.


**The Synod of the Presbyterian Church
of Trinidad & Tobago**
Invites you and your family to
The Ordination Service of
Ordinand Robert Dinnoo
as
MINISTER OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT
Of The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad & Tobago

on Sunday 12th June 2022
at 4:00 p.m. at
The Susamachar Presbyterian Church
Coffee Street, San Fernando.

The Ordination Service will be streamed live via our You Tube Channel
"Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago"

THE BOOK LAUNCH OF 'ADRIAN COLA RIENZI: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF AN INDO-CARIBBEAN PROGRESSIVE' BY BRINSLEY SAMAROO

SUBMITTED BY: LEEANNA JOY SEELOCHAN

"Context is everything from which we can understand ourselves"

(Feature Speaker, The Hon. Mr. Justice Peter Jamadar)

On Saturday 14th May, 2022 at the Naparima College Auditorium, some of the members of the Archival committee gathered with others to celebrate the work of Adrian Cola Rienzi, through the words of Professor Emeritus Brinsley Samaroo. The title of the book is 'Adrian Cola Rienzi: The life and times of an Indo-Caribbean progressive'.

The Naparima alum introduced Rienzi as an "Indo-Caribbean progressive", as his work during the 1930s to the 1960s, resonates today.

He countered hate with love regarding discrimination against inter-racial marriages; "Love knows not race, nor birth nor creed" (2021, 9).

He equated women's empowerment with evolution; "those who do not keep astride with the other communities would not be able to claim equality and

He devoted his public service to the "upliftment of the Indo-Trinidadian population" (2) through advocacy for non-Christian movements. He was also a "constant liaison" between the British and Mahatma Gandhi (10).

His activism was pronounced during the uprising in 1937, as T. Uriah B. Butler's legal representative and the birth of unions in oil and sugar (92).

Professor Samaroo recommended socio-economic reform and reemphasized Rienzi's political youth empowerment. The 'Trinidad Presbyterian' was one of the publications that was an "organ for resistance" against the spread of an imperial idea, which influenced Rienzi's political activism (22).

Mr. Joel Simmons, President of the Naparima College Association of Past Students, closed the launch linking sentiments to the current digital context. He encouraged intergenerational dialogue around historical legacy and called for practices in preserving and promoting institutional legacy and memory through digital transformation.

Similar research and studies can be initiated at the Archives of PCTT.

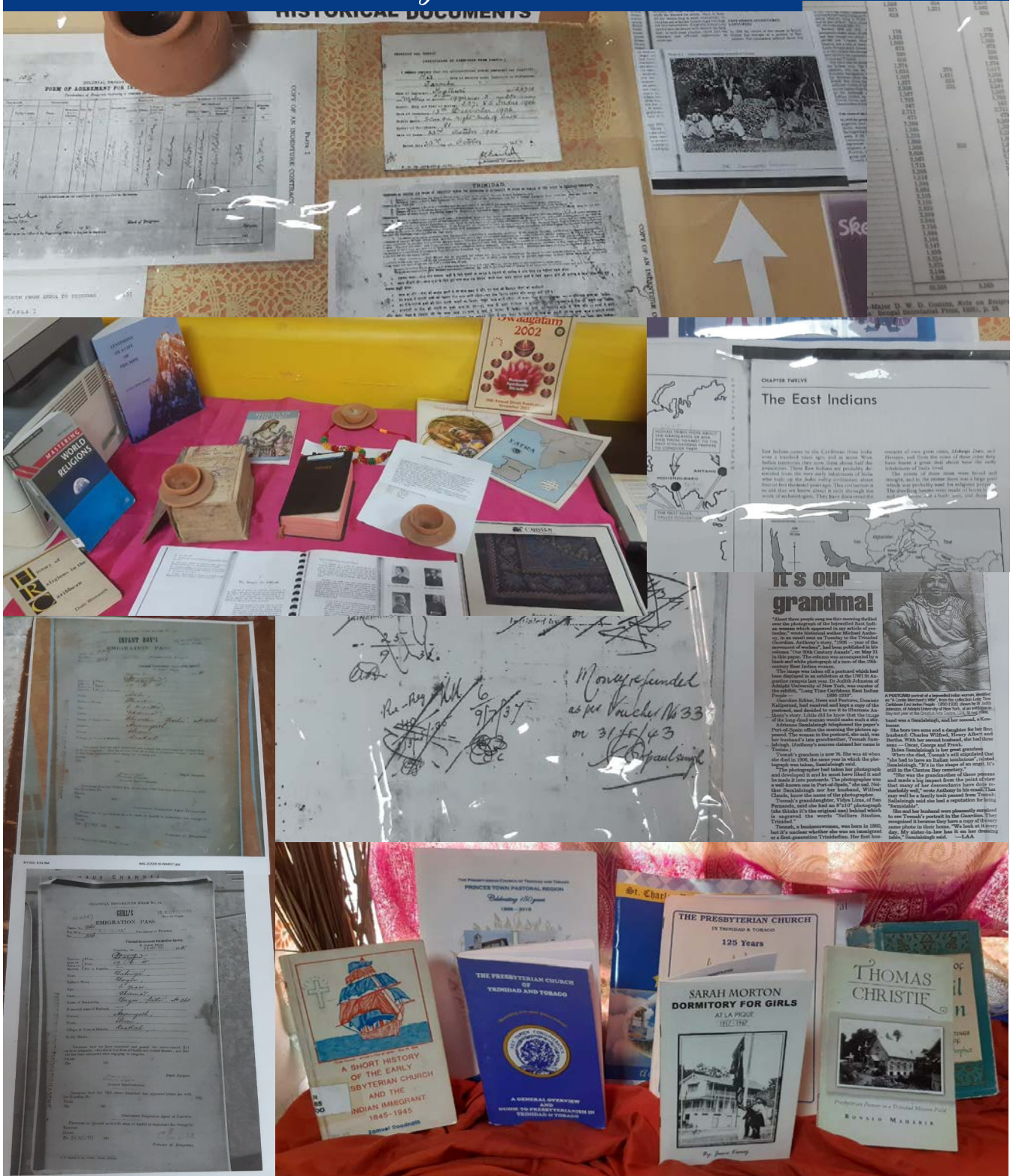


Contact the Archives through the Synod @ 652-4829

Contact the SATC Library @ 653-4166 or visit on Tuesdays and Thursdays during 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Indian Arrival Day 2022 display:

A collaboration between
SATC's Library and the PCTT Archives.



FIVE COMMUNICANTS WELCOMED AT MARABELLA

SUBMITTED BY; FLOREBELLE LUTCHMAN

On 14th April 2022, at Marabella Presbyterian Church, a Regional Communion Service was held. Officiating were the Reverend Dr. Randall Sammah and Presiding Elder, Mrs. Indra Debysingh.

Five members of the Marabella Presbyterian Church were welcomed and confirmed as Communicant members-- Jeremy Jagessar, Arianna Khan, Matthew Khan, Gabriel Mattias Baksh and Harry Bissoondatt.

After confirmation, Mrs. Florabelle Lutchman, Secretary of the Local Board, presented each one of the five Communicant members with a Confirmation Certificate and a Bible.

Before giving his message, Rev. Dr. Randall Sammah warmly

welcomed all those who represented the Pastoral Region.

Rev. Sammah reminded the congregation of the new Commandment Jesus gave to His disciples- to love one another -and that He set the example Himself. He instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and as St. Paul said, "This cup is a new covenant; this bread-take, bless, break and share."

Before giving his message, Rev. Dr. Randall Sammah warmly welcomed all those who represented the Pastoral Region.

Jesus also demonstrates the

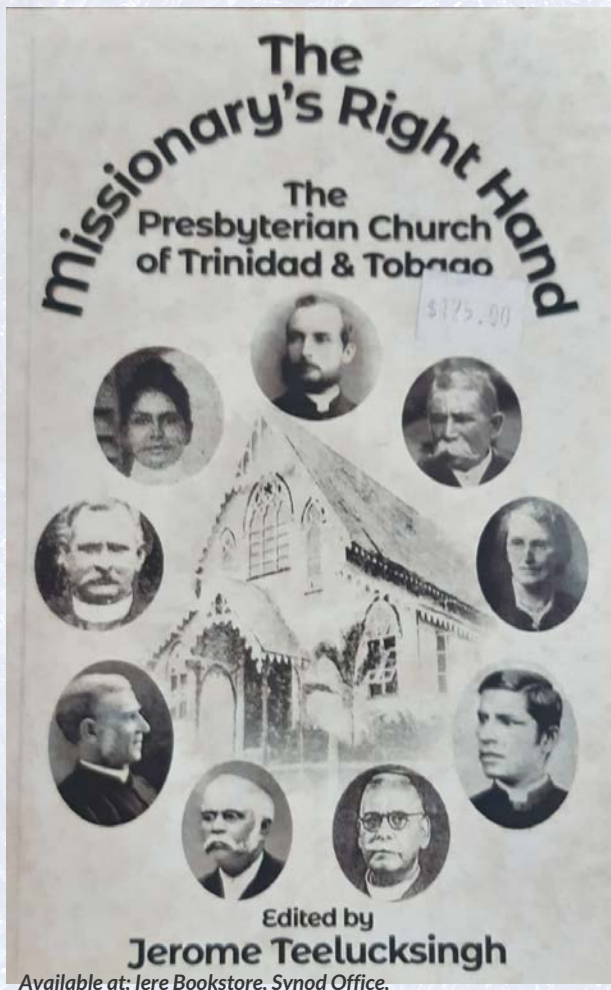
depth of His love by washing the feet of the disciples.

He knelt down in front of each one and washed their feet.

He even washed the feet of Judas who would eventually betray Him. Jesus broke the barrier of division by doing this humble task. We need to do the same in our lives.

Rev. Sammah reminded the new communicants that they need to recognise also that if they cease coming to church they lose that opportunity to be in community.

The service ended with the Hymn 'O Master Let me Walk with Thee' followed by the Spoken Benediction.





The Northern Presbytery Of the Presbyterian Church
of Trinidad and Tobago

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"JEOPARDY STYLE"

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17TH JULY 2022

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Do you know

THE BIBLE?

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CHURCH

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THE THOUGHT OF SUICIDE (PART II)

DR. DIANA NARINESINGH, PSYCHIATRIST, ARIMA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

You can't always tell when a loved one is considering suicide. However, common signs include : talking (or posting on social media) about suicide e.g. " I wish I were dead", " I wish I was never born, "good-bye", becoming withdrawn and wanting to be left alone, changing normal routine- including sleep and eating habits, increase in use of alcohol and other drugs, obtaining a firearm/ rope/ poisonous substance/ stockpiling pills, giving away belongings, feeling trapped or hopeless about a situation, mood swings- emotionally high then deeply

discouraged, developing personality changes or being severely anxious, depressed or agitated.

Many people who die from suicide endure deep psychological pain leading up to the act, but suicide may also be impulsive. Women attempt suicide more often, while men complete the act of suicide more frequently. Historically, in our predominantly agricultural society, methods such as ingestion of weedicide or pesticides were more common. In recent times, this

has shifted to other lethal means such as hanging possibly due to influence from social media and the internet.

We can all help prevent suicide. Mental health education and building resilience is a must from as early as lower primary school level. This starts at home, at school, the community and the nation. Strengthening of economic supports, access and delivery of suicide care, creating protective environments, promoting connectiveness, teaching coping/problem solving skills and early identification of persons at suicide risk are some public strategies to reduce suicide risk.

Depression and other mental health conditions are treatable with use of medications, psychotherapy and other adjunctive methods e.g. meditation, prayer, exercise, abstaining from alcohol and other drugs, socialization, good sleep hygiene and fulfilling a sense of purpose. Misinformation with regards to seeking mental health care (especially the use medication) is flagrant, another barrier for treatment.

For far too long, generational misinformation of mental health has led to stigmatization leading to decreased access to care especially in men. As we soar through these uncertain times, open discussions and education about mental health and suicide is a priority. Too many have suffered and are suffering with the thought of suicide.



MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."
- 2 Timothy 1:7 -



Breath Prayer

- Inhale - Jesus
- Exhale - In You, I find perfect rest.

Christ cares for our mental wellness.



THE PRODIGAL SON FORGIVENESS & LOVE

SUBMITTED BY BOCE

This story is about a wealthy farmer who had two sons whom he loved. The father hoped that the two boys would grow up to be successful farmers. They lived a happy life on a huge farm.

The younger son got fed up with the life on the farm. He wanted to go to the city to experience a different type of life. He approached his father for his share of the property. The father did not want his son to leave, but he gave him his share of the property.

The younger son took the money and left for the city. Soon he made a lot of friends with whom he spent his money, enjoying fine food and parties. He thought that he was having an exciting time with his many friends.



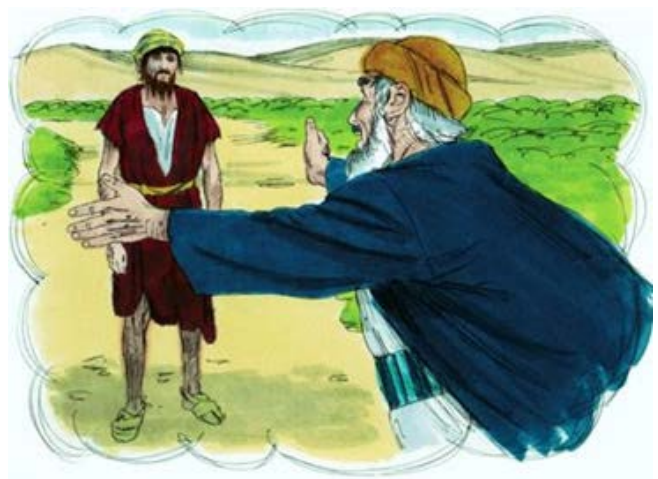
After some time, his money ran out and because he could not spend as before all his friends left him.

Now he was forced to look for work. He found a pig farm where he had to look after the pigs. He earned a small sum which he used to buy some food. Sometimes, he ate some of the pigs' food.

One day, he remembered how even the servants on his father's farm, had plenty to eat and drink. He decided to return home and beg his father to employ him as a servant. When the son returned home, he asked his father to accept him as a servant.

He said he was sorry for leaving but the father loved his son so much that he called his servants and asked them to bring new clothes for him. Then he ordered them to organise a party for his son who had returned to him. "He was lost and now he is found again, he was dead but he is alive!"

Children, this father is like God, He is full of joy and forgiveness when someone decides to follow Him. No matter what we have done or who we are, God always loves us. God treasures every child, every man and every woman. From this story, we can learn an important lesson on how to live, and how everyone is special to God! Memory Verse: "He was lost and now he is found again he was dead but he is alive!" Luke: 15 :24



The Parable of the Prodigal Son
Luke 15: 11- 32

"I will be merciful and remember their sins no more."
Hebrews 8: 12

www.happysaints.com

Jesus told a story about God's mercy: A man had two sons. The younger one said, 'Father, give me my share of your estate.'



After taking his money, the son left to a far country and squandered his wealth.



Soon, he had to work in a pig farm to feed himself. He felt sorry for his sins and decided to go home to beg for forgiveness.



As he approached his house, his father came out to hug him. The son said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.'



The father told the servants to prepare a big feast as he said, 'My son was dead, and is alive again!'



The elder son was angry when he heard this but his father said, 'Son, all that is mine is yours. We should rejoice for your brother was lost and is found!'



This story shows how God is like. He is a Father Who forgives us despite our past wrong-doings and He asks us to forgive those who have hurt us. He eagerly waits for us to return to Him everyday!



KID'S
CORNER

ME

READ

& COLOUR

ME

READ

& COLOUR

ME

READ

KID'S
CORNER

IN LOVING MEMORY

Gone but not forgotten Rita Sookdhan

Mrs. Rita Sookdhan was a graduate of Naparima Training College and a member of the Local Board, Official Board and Session of the Penal Presbyterian Church. She was an Elder for thirty nine years, 1982-2021. She participated in Sunday Services, preparing Elements for Communion, reading the Scriptures and Praying. She was also involved in Lay Preaching. She contributed to Local Board discussions. She was responsible for the Teachers' Register. She was also a member of the Pre-School Board. She was active in Sunday School, training children in Choral Speaking and was involved in caroling for Christmas. She served as a Youth Group Coordinator. She was also an ardent sports fan and never missed a Regional or a National Sports Day. She was a terrific homemaker and an accomplished baker. She would surely be missed by all who knew her especially her husband, Simon Sookdhan; her daughter, Sharlene, and her husband, Ansar; and grand children: Stephanie, Christopher and Ava.



Sunrise October 3rd 1941
Sunset January 21st 2022

IN LOVING MEMORY of
PE Harold Latchu
SUNRISE: 30/09/1931
SUNSET: 02/06/2020



YOU WILL FOREVER
REMAIN ALIVE IN OUR
HEARTS AND MEMORIES
DADDY, AND HOWEVER
WE ARE LEARNING TO
LIVE WITHOUT YOU
WE STILL MISS
YOU SO MUCH

www.fancyodds.com

IN LOVING MEMORY of

Daniel "Jack" Sahadeo

SUNRISE: 19 /05/1956
SUNSET: 14 /06/ 2021

Husband of: Jasodrah Lalla -
Sahadeo (dec.)

Father of:

Michael and Nerissa

Brother of: Rosanna,

Agnes Sultanti,

Abraham (dec), Esau,

Rosabell (Julie) and Samuel.

*"Your smile has gone forever,
and your hand we cannot touch.*

*We have so many wonderful
memories of you, Dad. We love
you so much."*



SUNRISE: 07 07 1983
SUNSET: 17 6 2015

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 are 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 so many precious memories to last our whole life through Each one of them reminders of how much we're missing you. Remembered and sadly missed by Parents: William & Magaret Gokool, Sister; Kathryn, Niece; Kaitlyn, Nephew; Kaelan, Brother-in-law; Kishan, Relatives and Friends. May his soul rest in peace!



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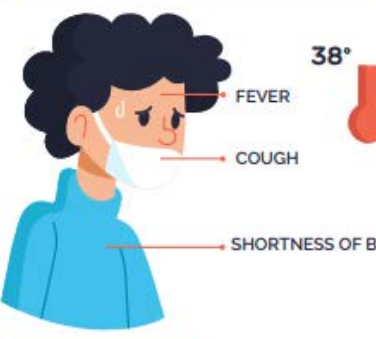




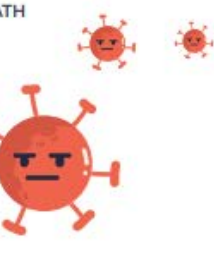


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nCoVid-19

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	OTHER	PREVENTION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DIARRHEA • VOMITTING 	 WEAR A MASK WHEN YOU GO OUT IN PUBLIC	 AVOID TOUCHING YOUR OR ANYONE'S FACE
TRANSMISSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIR-BORNE DROPLETS • CONTAMINATED OBJECTS • ANIMALS • HUMAN DROPETS 	ADVANCED CASES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNEUMONIA • RENAL FAILURE 	 KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM OTHERS (6 FEET)	 WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN WITH SOAP AND WATER OR USE AN ALCOHOL-BASED HAND SANITIZER
		 COUGH INTO A TISSUE OR INTO THE CROOK OF YOUR ELBOW	 CLEAN THEN SANITIZE SURFACES (E.G. TABLE TOPS, DOOR KNOBS AND CELL PHONES)

(SOURCE: MINISTRY OF HEALTH, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO)

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Read your Bible June

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			Luke 9:18-27	Galatians 5:16-25	Galatians 5:16-25	Luke 1:5-17
Acts 2:1-21	Joel 2:18-29	Ezekiel 11:14-25	Numbers 24:1-14	Proverbs 3:13-18	Proverbs 3:19-26	Proverbs 4:1-9
John 16:12-15	Ephesians 4:7-16	Ephesians 5:15-20	Luke 1:46-55	Romans 2:17-29	Galatians 3:15-22	Matthew 9:27-34
Psalm 42-43	1Corinthians 1:18-31	Ephesians 2:11-22	Luke 9:37-43	2Corinthians 13:5-10	Galatians 4:8-20	Luke 9:21-27
Psalm 16	1 John 2:7-11	Ephesians 5:6-20	Matthew 10:16-25	Romans 7:14-25		

