



ONWARD

The Newsletter of the Moravian Mission Society, Southern Province

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MUSINGS FROM THE MISSION SOCIETY—

MISSION SOCIETY LOVEFEAST



On Sunday, November 3, 2019, mission supporters gathered at Christ Moravian Church for a time of worship and fellowship in celebration of God's work in the world through the Moravian Church. The Moravian Provincial Band, under the direction of Carol Johnson, welcomed worshipers with choral music on the lawn of the church

Laura Hayworth, Organist, and Adam Conrad, Instrumentalist, opened the service with the Prelude "Rejoice, the Lord is King." The Provincial Praise Group, directed by Bishop Sam Gray, followed with the Call to Worship, "Into Your Courts."



Our guest speakers for the service were Michael and Cecilia Tesh. Together they direct the Ray of Hope Orphanage in Kenya. They met at a YWAM training school for missionaries and married in 2006. They are the parents of Blessing, 9 years old, and Love, 2 years old.

Michael shares his thoughts about the service on page 2.

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TESHES SPEAK AT LOVEFEAST 2019

Greetings to all in the name of our lord Jesus. We are so grateful that we were able to share the word of God and also about the Ray of hope Orphanage during the lovefeast worship service. Being our first time speaking as missionaries at a Lovefeast, we are so humbled by everyone who came. Let's keep sharing God's love from our families to the church and to the rest of the world. Jesus is present at our tables to feast with us. Brothers and sisters in Christ, thank you for supporting us as your missionaries and believing in what we do.

God bless you all, The Tesh family

Michael, a member of **Christ Moravian**, decided to go into the mission field after his first mission trip to Wilmington NC. After high school, he served 1 year with **Service Adventure** at a daycare for homeless children in New Mexico and 2 years in mission training at **Youth with a Mission School** in Nashville TN. Traveling to Africa, he trained with YWAM in children's ministry outside of Nairobi. He helped reopen a YWAM base outside of Nairobi which became **Ray of Hope Orphanage**. There he met Cecilia Musembi who also trained at **YWAM**. Ceci is in charge of the preschool and day to day things at **Ray of Hope**.



God has called us to reach the Kenyan coastal communities with His good news. Whether in cities or rural "bush bush" communities together with our co workers and partners we desire to see the lives of people transformed wholistically; the gospel of Jesus changing lives and communities.

Michael Tesh,

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ARMF DINNER SUPPORTS MINISTRIES IN CUBA



This year's annual fund-raising dinner was held on Nov. 16th at the Winston-Salem Masonic Center. The event proved to be a huge success due to a lot of hard work from many volunteers. In attendance was over 150 wonderful people that are not only dear to our hearts, but to our brothers and sisters in Cuba as well.

With us this year as our guest speaker was Justin Rabbach, executive director of the BWM who provided an enlightened presentation that was enjoyed by all. Also, we were fortunate to have Yolanda Brita Alvarez who is from Jaguey Grande, Matanzas, Cuba. Yolanda was granted a U S visa to visit us here in the states for her first time.



Dinner consisted of a perfectly prepared authentic Cuban meal overseen by Alina Ricardo. The silent auction was a hit as always. The evening ended with the live auction which is always a highlight of the event. What a wonderful evening to raise support for our Cuban Moravian brothers and sisters who we love so dearly.



Our deepest appreciation to all who have supported ARMF with your prayers, thoughts, and money. We assure you that our dear friends in Cuba are much appreciated as well.

GOD IS WORKING IN CUBA!!!!

By Joe Jarvis, ARMF President



SIERRA LEONE

On each of my visits to Sierra Leone, West Africa, there are people of all ages to renew friendships with, but always new folks to meet. I can usually anticipate familiarity in my daily schedule (such as rising at 5:15am for morning prayers and walking around the village each afternoon greeting everyone possible), yet there are always new experiences as well. Let me share some of the highlights from my eighth trip to Sierra Leone that took place in October.



When Mohamed and Safie Braima returned to their native country in 2006, the first church they planted was in the village of Ngiehun where they lived. Now there are five villages with Moravian congregations, the fifth one having just recently formed in Yandohun. It is so new that the members have nowhere to meet except in a temporary hut. Of the five congregations, of course the pastor at Yandohun is new, but so are the pastors at Morfindor (where the former church leader died) and at Ngiehun (where the former pastor could no longer serve). I was pleased to get to meet the three new men, and talk about ministry with all five of them ... Pastors Fabah, Arona, Kailu, Lamin, and Braima.

A completely new experience that I very much appreciated was attending the Moravian Quarterly Meeting for five and a half hours on Saturday. Since Mohamed's death about a year ago, the churches have been coming together every three months to share ideas and encourage each other. This was Safie's idea, and it is an excellent one. Part of the meeting was spent in total group with introductions, worship (lots of singing throughout the day), and reports. Before lunch the 65-70 people present gathered in small groups of pastors, youth, Sunday School teachers, financial people, men, and women. After lunch each group shared what they had talked about. They even honored Mama Donna (as I am known there) by inviting me to speak for 15 minutes. Never is that a problem for me, when the subject is this place so dear to my heart!

It has been three years since our Moravian Secondary School has been in session on one of my visits. I quickly realized how interesting it was to sit in on classes, and I did so every day. Interacting with the students and teachers as I answered questions about life in America, and sometimes even teaching a little of the subject matter, was enjoyable. Some classes seemed very crowded, but I understood when I learned that this new school year's enrollment is way over 400, with grades 7-9 in junior secondary and grades 10-12 in senior secondary. Some of the students are Moravians, and one of them invited me to speak at the morning assembly when the students gather before their first class. Even though the majority of youth are Muslim (as is the country), this assembly always ends with everyone praying together the Lord's Prayer.



SIERRA LEONE



During my last few trips, a new relationship has been growing between a 10-year old named Basshu and myself. He and his mother live at Safie's house, so I see Basshu a lot (which means I get plenty of hugs). Last year I took a puzzle for us to play with, and also to show the other kids. It's really difficult to put together, until you've done it multiple times. When I showed up with that same puzzle in October, the children and I enjoyed the challenge once again. But I was amazed when I noticed that Basshu had moved to a higher level ... he was putting the pieces in their correct places with his eyes closed!!



Since Mohamed's death, Safie now leads the mission, as she too is putting the puzzle pieces together to support and encourage our Moravian School plus the five congregations. A strong and capable lady, Safie is focused on seeking God's guidance in helping the mission survive and move forward. What a privilege and blessing it is for me, each time I'm able to share life with the people of Sierra Leone.

Donna Hurt

FORSYTH JAIL AND PRISON MINISTRIES SHARE TOYS & COOKIES

Christmas 2019 is just around the corner, which means it is time to gear up for our annual "In the Name of the Father" program with fathers and children at Forsyth Correctional Center and the "Cookies & Carols" outreach at the jail downtown. The "In the Name of the Father" program will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14, and it is a time that the offenders can act as fathers to their children and share in the Christmas spirit. We have local churches that share the Christmas story with the participants and others that provide refreshments, but as always, the gifts for the children are such a special touch. We will be collecting \$20-25 gifts for ages birth to 17 years old, to allow the fathers to shop and wrap for their children. The men often share with us that we just cannot truly imagine how much they appreciate what this program means to their families. Toy drop off is Friday, Dec. 6 at the FJPM office (307 Craft Drive, W-S, NC 27105).

The "Cookies & Carols" outreach will be held on Sunday, Dec. 15, at the jail downtown, for approved jail volunteers to share the Christmas story and share in a time of cookies, punch, laughter and caroling. We hope to collect over 3000 cookies in order to share a bag of cookies with each of the 800+ inmates at the jail. Cookies can be store bought or baked at home, and should be sturdy cookies 3-inches in diameter. Cookie drop off day is Friday, Dec. 13.

If you or your church can provide gifts for the "In the Name of the Father" program or would be willing to bake or purchase cookies for the jail outreach, please contact Brooke@forsythjpm.org or (337)759-0063.

Chaplain R. Jeff Carter, Chaplainjeff95@gmail.com

SANDRA'S CORNER

“Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you.” Joshua 3:5 What does consecration mean? Complete surrender to the lordship of Jesus Christ, to be designated for a special purpose; completely dedicated to God.

Our Board, who are all surrendered to God's will and special purpose, have participated in the 40 Day Prayer Challenge from Draw the Circle by Mark Batterson twice now. We have seen amazing things occur because of prayer as we circled what we believe God was calling us to do. He has connected us with so many in our community this year in order to accomplish His plan and purpose in our city and in the prisons. We have learned to look to God for His direction and guidance like never before and have seen Him work in ways we couldn't imagine.

As we begin our fourteenth year of ministry at OWLAD, we look forward to where He will take us in 2020. We have been in our current space for seven years and we love it, but please pray for a larger space to store Treasure Box supplies and donated materials. Our space runneth over.

You can help by circling this in prayer. We also want to see ladies housing take place in partnership with others in the city with the same vision so we are seeking God's provision and timing with that.

I want to say a big thank you to all of you who continue to support us with your prayers, donations, and hands-on help. I love this quote from Henry Blackaby: “We don't choose what we will do for God. He invites us to join Him where He wants to involve us.”

INMATE LETTERS

“My name is Willie and I am a Bible student of On Wings Like a Dove. I do the Bible Study and also receive the newsletter each month from On Wings. I enjoy reading them and all that people have to say and share about the Lord and what He has done or is doing in their life. It was because of On Wings that I started reading the Bible and doing the study. My life was upside down and the Bible Study helped to get me on track. I began to read God's word and gave my life to Jesus. Ms. Sharon and Mr. Ernie helped encourage me to keep giving God my problems and your letters helped me as well. I just want to thank you for all you do for us guys in prison. You are all a shining light in this darkness so keep praying as we guys keep praying for you and your families.” Willie.

“Knowing your newsletter comes from my hometown is a blessing to me. My prodigal family lives on Peace Haven Road (near Calvary Baptist Church), to the best of my knowledge. I haven't seen them in three and a half years. I miss them more and more each day. There are no words to describe the empty place in my heart! If only I had a few years to do over again, and know Jesus like I do now. I pray daily that God would restore my family in blessed reconciliation. I have given my life to Him and pray that my family will as well.” Frank

“I went off the grid with God. In fact, I became a Muslim. For a very long time I thought that being a muslim was the missing piece of the puzzle. Man was I so wrong! I was completely disconnected from the Holy Spirit. I felt nothing! Jesus kept opening doors for me to walk away, but I kept slamming those doors shut. Christ would often tell me ‘Come back home my son, my prodigal son, my burden is light, my yoke is easy.’ Learning the Islamic language and trying to memorize every detail and praying 5 times a day, which was the same exact prayer over and over again was very hard, and very dry. One night while dreaming, something was holding me down. I couldn't move and I felt a very strong demonic force which was very, very scary. I tried to speak, but couldn't I was trying to call out for Jesus, but it was like I was stuttering, then finally I was able to yell His name “Jesus.” When I did the evil force was gone. I knew I had been worshipping a dead god. I've accepted Jesus into my heart as my Lord and Savior, and I have been digging into the Bible with a good friend. For the first time in 45 years I am truly loving God and have actually given Him my life!”

Joshua

Fall 2019 Newsletter



PRAY EVERY DAY—DECEMBER 2019

1. First Sunday in Advent-Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord. Pray for Steve and Ann Marx, MAF, ID.
2. There is no fear in love. Perfect love casts out fear. Pray for Unity Women's Desk, Julie Tomberlin, Coordinator.
3. Help us, Oh Lord, to rely on you. Pray for the Hoffman's in HIV/Aids ministry.
4. The Lord said,"I will defend this city to save it for my own sake. "Pray for Moravian outreach in Nepal.
5. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. Pray for Brian & Heather Marx , MAF, Indonesia.
6. All things work together for good for those who love God. Pray for Jenna and Rev. Andrew Craver in Bethel, Alaska.
7. Send out your light and your truth; lead me to your dwelling. Pray for Moravian Volunteer Resources.
8. 2nd Sunday in Advent-Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near. Pray for Dr. Benno and Teresa Marx, WA State.
9. You will be judges as you judge and the measure you give will be the measure you get. Pray for Moravian Disaster Relief-TX,NC
10. The Lord said to Moses "All people among whom you live shall see the work of the Lord." Pray for Moravian Clinic and Church in Honduras.
11. Just as you received Christ Jesus, continue to live your lives in Him. Pray for the food program in Sierra Leone.
12. When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases. Pray for Allen and DeeDee lobst in Spain.
13. The Lord will not forsake his people, nor abandon his heritage. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
14. The free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Pray for Charlie and Vickie Brent in Texas.
15. 3rd Sunday in Advent - Be strong, do not fear! Your God is here. Pray for Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
16. Nothing in all creation is able to separate us from the love of God. Pray for 16 Mission Areas and 5 Mission Provinces.
17. God so loved the world that He gave His Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will have everlasting life. Pray for Moravian Ministers and leaders everywhere.
18. I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
19. You must be patient. Strengthen your heart for the coming of the Lord is near. Pray for the students and teachers at the Bible Seminary in Bethel, Alaska.
20. My hand is not shortened that I cannot redeem. I have power to deliver. Pray for Safiatu Braima and the church in Sierra Leone.
21. Do not be far from me for trouble is near. Pray for the Thiessens in Mexico.
22. 4th Sunday in Advent-Let your gentleness be known to everyone. Pray for the Teshes in Kenia.
23. I will cleanse and forgive them of all the guilt of sin against me. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek University.
24. Lift up your heads, O gates and be lifted up ye everlasting doors! Pray for Moravians in Peru.
25. Christmas Day-The law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. Pray for Justin Rabbach and BWM.
26. When the shepherds saw this, they made knowm what they had been told. Pray for the Sineaths in Campus Outreach.
27. O that today you would listen to His voice and not harden your heart. Pray for those suffering loss due to flooding and fires.
28. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. Pray for the Armando Rusindo Foundation and the Cuban church.
29. 1st Sunday after Christmas-God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love. Pray for Annie B Mission at Star Mountain, Palestine.
30. A harvest of righteousness is sown in peace. Pray for R and B in the Sudan.
31. Keep far from a false charge. Pray the new tribe and village in Sierra Leone, building a Moravian Church and spreading the Gospel.

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COMING SOON!

Dewey's
BAKERY
Holiday Store

Located at:
Lewisville Crossing Shopping Center
5070 Styers Ferry Road, Lewisville
In the old Farm Bureau location.
Next to Molly Maids

To volunteer call Sunnyside
Ministry at 336-724-7558
Or visit
[www.sunnysideministry.org/
volunteer-1](http://www.sunnysideministry.org/volunteer-1)



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