

The Trinidad PRESBYTERIAN

The Official Publication of The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad & Tobago

April 2023



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

35th National Sunday School Rally

"Enter Into Jerusalem"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!" Matt. 21:9



Saturday 1st April 2023
Naparima College Auditorium
8.30 am - 1.30 pm

ST. ANDREW'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Easter SNACK BOX SALE

SATURDAY
8TH APRIL 2023

Collection Points:
St. Andrew's Theological College
11 am - 2 pm
Aramalaya Presbyterian Church
12 noon - 2 pm

Cost:
\$40

Contact the SATCAA Executive to purchase your tickets
Teesha: 680.0183 | Dave: 769.0813 | Nerissa: 790.6778 | Soleil-Marie: 754.6284



Friends in Christ
presents

An Easter Cantata

"Come to the Cross and Remember"



SUNDAY
16th April
2023
Aramalaya Presbyterian Church @7:45am

Come, as we remember in song and narration,
The Triumphant Entry, His Crucifixion at Golgotha and His Resurrection

HE IS RISEN

THE MODERATOR SPEAKS

The Call to Serve

Who were the people crucified with Jesus?

Celebrating President's Medal & Scholarship Winners

THE MODERATOR SPEAKS

PCTT Moderator, The Rt. Reverend Joy Evelyn Abdul-Mohan



Four-year journey of Moderatorship

BY the time this month's edition of the Trinidad Presbyterian reaches you, Holy Week would be upon us as we look with anticipation to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Living Lord and Savior.

In addition, the Synod will be preparing for its 63rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) later in the month. At this AGM, among other elections, there will be an election of a new Moderator, which will bring my four (4) year tenure as Moderator to an end. We will give an account of our stewardship and put on record the various events and activities that shape the vision and mission mandated to each Court, Standing Board and Committee of the PCTT.

However, it is intriguing that these reports will be read many years from now by many generations who may want to find out how we lived out the Gospel of Christ in the context of our times. Perhaps, through strategic planning and coordinated implementation, this may be the case when others read these Reports to see whether the recommendations generated actions that were relevant for today's needs and tomorrow's experiences.

As I complete this journey of 'Moderatorship', permit me to share how I travelled this four-year journey guided by a vision characterized by the CMC Models - **Care-Fronting; Midwifery; and Consensus.**

In pursuing the **Care-Fronting** model as Pastor Pastorum and by the Grace of God, I was able to visit our 108 congregations sharing in worship, struggles and celebrations. This was crucial in creating a Christian community for effective living because confronting plus caring brings growth just as discipline plus grace brings salvation.

The **Midwifery** model draws its inspiration from the Book of Exodus in relation to the Hebrew Midwives. It speaks of transforming social acts of oppression and marginalization into freedom, justice and peace. This model with the assistance of many stakeholders, empowered me and those who were facing issues of unemployment, gender-based violence, mental health and many other issues within and beyond the four walls of the church.

The **Consensus** model mirrors the 2003 World Council of Churches (WCC) decision-making model which ensured that no individual or group dominated the narrative or had their voices trivialised. This became more evidently real during the pandemic, when there was visible unity in community that strengthened ecumenical and interfaith relationships. Through consensus, togetherness, searching God's will together with prayer and deliberating with one mind and heart, the vision and mission of the church became a lived reality.

Therefore, let me take this opportunity to humbly express my gratitude to my dear husband, family and friends, the Officers and members of the Synod, colleagues in ministry (**all church workers - full-time and part-time**) and the general laity of our beloved PCTT for their advice, unanimous and overwhelming support for the past four (4) years, two (2) of which were unique due to the global pandemic. Indeed, it was a blessing to journey with you as the Moderator of Synod, albeit there were some challenging moments, but many exhilarating moments and everything in between. I was humbled for the opportunity to be part of the PCTT's servant leadership and Christ's magnanimous ministry.

I fervently pray that God will give us the wisdom to make the right and best decisions that will fulfil the will and purpose of God. I pray God's grace and eternal blessings upon the newly elected Moderator for 2023-2025 and our beloved PCTT.

I urge you - **never yield to negative energies and detractors; serve and lead with assertiveness, discernment, decorum, professionalism; and always be humble and kind!**

As we face the challenges and uncertainties of this earthy life with all its joys and sorrows, we can be confident that the Resurrection of Jesus Christ brings a Living Hope of a better life to come with amazing possibilities.
To God Be The Glory!

EDITORIAL

THE CALL TO SERVE

What gifts Christians have received are given to be shared in community, not in isolation. The way we use our time and talents is a good indication of what we consider to be of prime importance in life. We can always be counted to find the opportunity to pursue those things we consider most important, even if we may be reluctant to admit to ourselves or to others where our priorities lie – whether it is getting involved in church activities, politics, increasing our wealth, or identifying with family activities. Our use of time and special abilities indicates our priorities which in turn, reveals what we value most.

Elections to Presbytery, Session, Local Board, or groups within the individual churches have taken place. The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT) is now focusing on Synod and Standing Boards and Committees. There are many reasons we offer ourselves to serve. Some of us in the church will seek positions out of a genuine desire to serve, some want to assist in building the church, others may want to learn how the church operates, some of us will offer to serve so we can build our knowledge, while others are willing to serve out of gratitude because of the part the church has played in their lives. Whoever has chosen to serve, wishes to serve or offers himself/herself for service has to be careful not lose sight of his/her purpose or goals for serving.

The benefits of offering ourselves to serve can result in giving us a sense of self-worth, develop in us a conviction in our service to our fellowman, and develop friendships. Some of us genuinely want to serve so we grasp every opportunity to serve. Some serve in obedience to the gift/s they have received; they want to continue their relationship with God.

We pray that the Holy Spirit will empower us so that we are examples to others through an unwavering faith in the Lord. Each of us has a purpose in life and only we can fulfil the task God has called us to fulfil.

“This is a trustworthy saying, and I want you to insist on these teachings so that all who trust in God will devote themselves to doing good. These teachings are good and beneficial for everyone”

(Titus 3: 8). New Living Translation (NLT).

Beth-Rapha is an all-embracing and umbrella organization of the PCTT which is not limited by space and personnel. Its aim is to establish a religious/spiritual, bio-medical and psycho-social centre/agency, where the agency will provide interventions for healing, support, training and other services to members of the PCTT family and the wider community.



Objectives:

- To minister to the religious and spiritual needs of persons.
- To care for all persons who are experiencing life crises.
- To collaborate with external stakeholders for intervention.
- How we are going to operate?

Services at Beth-Rapha include:

- Meeting the Religious/Spiritual needs of persons
- Psycho-Social Bio-Medical
- Legal counselling
- Social Welfare advice and counselling
- Training for e.g. (Training would be made available for those who would like to serve.) Other services will be included as the project develops overtime e.g. 24 hours hotline access.

The highest quality of trained and licensed professionals in their respective fields will be engaged to ensure that those accessing these services are given the best care and that the highest level of confidentiality is maintained.

To access the services of Beth-Rapha you can call the Synod's Office at 652-4829/653-4788 or email: synod@pctt.org.tt.



KNOW YOUR FAITH

"WHO WERE THE PEOPLE CRUCIFIED WITH JESUS?"

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

Let us seek to expand our horizons of knowledge by looking at how the updated NRSVue can make us think about ourselves and our faith in different ways.

As we continue our look at the updated edition of the New Revised Standard Version, we can think about the people who were crucified with Jesus.

1 - Matthew 27: 38 and Mark 15: 27 use a word (lestes) that has been previously translated as thieves or robbers but in the NRSVue is translated as "rebels." The Roman Empire was the only authority that could order and carry out crucifixion. In Roman law, thieves were not crucified. Crucifixion was a cruel, public, humiliating death penalty used for those who were seen as threats to the state. The people who were crucified with Jesus were, therefore, those who had opted for a path which involved some sort of violent threat to the authority of the Roman Empire. Matthew and Mark's word for those crucified with Jesus therefore recognizes that these people may have engaged in some kind of rebellion against the Roman Empire. Jesus is not only King of Kings and Lord of Lords, but he is the greatest challenge to the oppressive work of the empire so he is crucified with the rebels.

2 - Luke uses a word (kakourgoi) that derives from the word for bad (kakos) and the word for work (ergon). For Luke, those who were crucified with Jesus were "evil-workers" and, therefore, Luke's translation of their identity as "criminals" is retained in the NRSVue.

3 - John simply refers to the "others" who were crucified with Jesus. It is a reminder to us that we, also, are crucified with Christ.

Different understandings of different parts of the Bible can enhance and enliven our faith!

ST. ANDREW'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

ELDERS' TRAINING COURSE 2023

Date	6th May 2023
Day	Saturday
Time	9 am - 11.30 am
Cost	\$500
Duration	6 Weeks
Delivery	Online

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RISEN INDEED!
(An Easter Poem)
by Caroline Sampath
(Aramalaya Presbyterian Church)

Two angels rolled that stone away,
 and Jesus came forth in bright array.
 The tomb once encased Him, now laid bare,
 for Jesus has risen - without pomp and flair.

Two women found the empty tomb,
 and so their fears began to bloom.
 Do not weep, for He is not here!
 For Jesus has risen - that much is clear!

Two men named Peter and John,
 fled to the tomb and found Jesus gone!
 Oh what is this? What news it brings!
 For Jesus has risen - O Death, where's thy sting?

Two angels, two women, two men,
 and Jesus saying: "I've yet to ascend.
 My Father waits, so teach My Creed."
 For I am risen - RISEN INDEED!

COUNSELLING COLUMN

**SUBMITTED BY VICTORIA AVIAN RAJKUMAR
(B.ED., M.ED., CERT. GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING)**

BENEFITS CHILDREN GAIN FROM EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

In March's issue, preparation for the Secondary Entrance Assessment (S.E.A.) Examination was discussed. Even as we prepare to celebrate the joys of Easter, many parents have already enrolled their primary school aged children in extra lessons. Locally, there has been a growing practice of registering children from as early as second year infants in extra lessons. Unless one's child has severe (diagnosed) learning deficiencies, this trend can have long lasting harmful effects. Parents and guardians often sacrifice the child's holistic development for perceived academic excellence. One of the drawbacks of this is that this works counterintuitive to future success. Universities and colleges are now requiring supporting evidence that prospective students have all round development: academic, social, physical, and even altruistic. One of the ways that this can be done is through extracurricular activities.

An extracurricular activity is any activity children perform beyond the school's standard curriculum based on their personal interests that can help develop a new skill. Around the age of five, children begin to have the discipline to participate in organized after-school activities. Schools, community, and faith-based organizations can provide multiple opportunities for children to get involved with sports, interest groups, and after-school activities. Some common extracurricular activities for children include team and individual sports, clubs associated with interests or spiritual/cultural beliefs, student organizations and publications, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Martial Arts, and academic competitions.

Extracurricular activities have a range of benefits for students, these include:

- Improve social development and instill a sense of belonging.
- Improve self-esteem and build interests and skills.
- Better mental health and positive habits.
- Safety considerations and risks

Ultimately, extracurricular activities promote academic excellence. Additionally, they help children develop the social skills that they will need as adults. They provide opportunities for leadership, cooperation, and peer interaction. These foster a sense of self and improve self-esteem. Both self-esteem and a sense of belonging contribute to more general benefits involving mental and psychosocial health. Adolescents who participated in extracurricular activities demonstrated higher levels of satisfaction with life, optimism and lower levels of anxiety and depressive symptoms. Extracurricular activities help children develop positive habits that steer them well throughout their lives and contribute to their general health and wellbeing. These include:

- Time-management skills and the development of structure and routine
- Community involvement
- Persistence and follow-through

Before rushing off and signing up one's child for many extracurricular activities here are some considerations that one should be mindful of:

- Don't make it harder for yourself
- Evaluate your child's strengths and weaknesses as well as their likes and dislikes
- Align with long term goals and support academics.
- Fun

Our children already have to juggle full time school days and complete their homework; therefore, the selected extracurricular activities must not burden them or exhaust them to the point that they cannot function at school. The main purpose of extracurricular is to convert your child's free time into productive time, therefore, do not make your children extra busy with extracurricular activities. As such, before selecting an activity assess your child's daily schedule and pick an activity that fills that extra time window. We must be considerate that the activities selected should also allow for our families to be able to engage in Sunday morning worship, and participate in Sunday School and Youth Group activities as well.

***“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God”
(1 Corinthians 10:31, NIV).***

THE FAMILY CAN

CRISIS IN THE FAMILY: THE BREAKDOWN IN FAMILY LIFE - PART 2 - DEFINITIONS

A MONTHLY THOUGHT TO HELP IMPROVE THE FAMILY - HILTON R SIBOO: CONTACT: 788-2685)

As we consider Part 2 **The definition of 'Family'**, it is suggested that Part 1 be re-read.

In the study, ***Social Structure*** (1949), Murdock concluded that the family was 'a universal social institution' which he defined as "a social group characterised by common residence, economic co-operation, and reproduction. It includes adults of both sexes, at least two of whom maintain a socially approved sexual relationship, and one or more children, owned or adopted, of the sexually co-habiting adults." Whilst the structure of the family varies from society to society, the smallest unit is known as the nuclear family, referred to as the 'ideal type'.

This two-generational 'nuclear type' definition of Family is continuously debated but can any single or this

'ideal type' of family be held as a 'norm' to which different family types can be compared or analysed to explain and understand the instability and problems, challenges and chaos or the breakdown of family life?

The family unit has always existed and will continue to exist and evolve from society to society. The traditional norms of structures, roles and responsibilities of family members are now undermined and exacerbated by social changes, political actions, national legislations, global universal conventions and now media and technology. These impose and force adjustment in the interest of the few and at the expense of the many. Traditions, morals, ethics and values of cultures, religions, and the spirit of the law of human life and existence has become irrelevant in the modernising society and the global village where

tribes and civilization must give up its historical foundation of the family to become like the dominant often undemocratic superpowers based on military might and resources.

The definition of the family has changed as are the roles and responsibilities, structures and functions. How are family 'leaders' and society prepared to treat and resolve with all that which impose and force adjustment and obedience in the interest of the few and at the expense of the many? ... Part 3. Remember, the family is not just a group or gathering without a common purpose. Never let it ever be that the family can NOT adjust and adapt as changes occur.

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

Encounteringthe Archives of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago

BY MS ROSALIND MOOTOO

Ms Rosalind Mootoo, a volunteer, shares PART 2 of her encounter at the Archives of the PCTT.

I have noticed that documents of our church's history are not as organized and displayed for easy access. Most documents are held in files, folders, and boxes while some lie on shelves but I have learnt that Reverend Kalloo and Mr Hilton Siboo have spent time and effort to have these documents arranged.

I was touched to the core when I saw the old 'Minutes' books of Local Board meetings of my church so beautifully handwritten in ink by our grandparents and other fore-parents. Another set of documents that struck me were the record book of Baptism

and Communicants of the Oropouche Pastoral Region. Looking through the pages I had to be careful because of their fragile condition. I saw my ancestors' records from before 1900. Through these documents, I can feel the loyalty, commitment and love for the church displayed by our ancestors. I realized that I was in the right place to do something about preserving the history of our beloved church. To see the old wooden cabinets with glass doors that contained the Trinidad Presbyterian since 1904, most now bound, were something to behold and hold.

The preservation and restoration of our church's history is so important that Reverend Kalloo, in wanting to equip the volunteer group with skills, conducted with the assistance of the

Assistant Archivist, Mr Siboo, an 'in house' course in Book Binding and Book Repairs. This course has been interesting and invaluable. The assistants have started to use these skills at the Archives and at home. I have found a new appreciation for the value of old things as books, artefacts, pictures, letters, documents, etc to which we do not pay attention.

In the Archives every day is well spent, I value the camaraderie that is shared. Working together with the staff tells me that I have made a good choice by accepting Mr Siboo's invitation to spend some of my retirement here.

Our Archives is a place for all to visit, especially for Presbyterians. I encourage you to visit as an individual or as a group. You will be inspired and enlightened by the history of the PCTT.

An encounter with the Archives is an encounter with ... yourself. Hoping to be there for your 'Encountering ... the Archives' . . .

Asst Archivist: Hilton R Bill Siboo, Archivist: Reverend Ken K Kalloo, Contact: 652-4829 [Synod Office] and 653-4166 [SATC Library], or Visit in person on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

SACRAMENTAL INSIGHTS

The Lord's Supper

Reverend Dr. Annabell Lalla-Ramkhelawan, Curepe/St Joseph Pastoral Region



In this article, we will unravel the second of the six “Components of a renewed Eucharistic Theology” put forward by Laurence Hull Stookey in Chapter Five of his book, *Eucharist: Christ’s Feast with the Church: 2. A necessary corollary is that the Eucharist is a reliable means of Grace yet is not grace itself.* “Grace translates the Greek word (Charis) in the New Testament to describe the free and unmerited love of God for us. Salvation “by grace alone” (sola gratia) received “by faith alone” (sola fide) were watchwords of the sixteenth-century Protestant Reformation.”[1] The term “Means of grace (media gratiae) the ways by which God’s grace is extended and received by humans. In Protestant theology, the emphasis has been on the Word and Sacraments as God’s instituted means of conveying the grace that leads to justification and sanctification.”[2]

God revealed himself to humanity in the person of Jesus Christ. Christians believe that grace dwells in the work of God accomplished in Jesus Christ. The Lord’s Supper/ Eucharist is our memorial, remembrance of Christ. In the celebration of the Lord’s Supper, a Christian recognizes Christ’s presence in a manner he or she would not have otherwise seen Him. Hence, the Lord’s Supper/ Eucharist is a means of grace because it is one of the many spiritual ways in which believers experience the living Christ among us.[3]

There is a great deal of controversy as to the presence of Christ in the celebration of the Lord’s Supper/Eucharist. The Roman Catholicism’s teaching is that there is a real change in the elements. The bread becomes the real/actual body of Christ, and the wine becomes the real/actual blood of Christ even though the appearance does not change. This doctrine is called “transubstantiation” this means that the believer is assured of Christ’s real presence in the Eucharist. The Fourth Lateran Council of 1215 endorsed the doctrine of “transubstantiation” and affirmed it at the post-Reformation Council of Trent in 1551.

The Reformer Martin Luther agreed to the “real presence” of Christ at the celebration of the Lord’s Supper/Eucharist, but totally disagreed with “transubstantiation”. His position was that of “Consubstantiation” Christ’s body and blood is in, with and under the elements of bread and wine. Christ is with the bread and wine consecrated at the Lord’s Supper/ Eucharist.

The Reformer John Calvin affirmed the real presence of Christ in the Lord’s Supper/ Eucharist but did not use a philosophical or metaphysical basis for his argument. His argument was built on the mysterious but reliable work of the Holy Spirit. Calvin wrote:

“Now, that sacred partaking of his flesh and blood, by which Christ pours his life into us, as if it penetrates into our bones and marrow, he also testified and seals the Supper—not by presenting a vain and empty sign, but by manifesting there the effectiveness of his spirit to fulfill what he promises.” (Calvin, Institutes, 4.47.11. 1373) [4]

Christ is present to the believer through faith which is God’s gift. As the bread and wine are present to our outward senses, Christ is present to the faith of those who receive the elements. All the actions and elements connected with the celebration of the Lord’s Supper/ Eucharist are used by God to awaken faith so the people of God may experience the presence of Christ and His saving work in their lives. In this sense, the Sacrament is a means of grace, an instrument of Salvation. In writing to the Ephesians, Paul prayed “that Christ may dwell in your heart through faith” (Ephesians 2:17).

To declare that the Sacrament is a means of grace is to support the belief that the Sacrament can truly bring Christ into our human experience. This presence of Christ does not take place by magic or in a manner that all communicants will be offered a grace that they cannot refuse. The Sacrament creates an atmosphere for our renewal as we enter the promise set in motion for us and with us by the one who hosts the celebration. [5] In the feeding of the five thousand, Jesus’ role as the host is clear (John 6:1-14). When we look at the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus it was Jesus who invited Zacchaeus to dine with him (Luke 19: 2-10). There are other occasions in the New Testament when Jesus describes Himself at meals as the bridegroom who hosts wedding guests at His feast (Luke 5:34). [6]

[1] Daniel L. Migliore, *Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology.* (Grand Rapids, Michigan William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company 2014). 452.

[2] Donald K. Mc Kim, *The Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms.* (Louisville Kentucky, Westminster John Knox Press 2011), 138.

[3] Laurence Hull Stookey, *Eucharist: Christ’s Feast with the Church.* (Nashville Abingdon Press. 1993) 96.

[4] Ronald P. Boyars, *The Sacraments in Bible Perspective* (Louisville Kentucky, Westminster John Knox Press 2011). 243.

[5] Laurence Hull Stookey, *Eucharist: Christ’s Feast with the Church.* (Nashville Abingdon Press. 1993) 97.

[6] Stephen Edmondson, *Theology Revisited: Open Table, Baptism, Church* (Oregon Eugen Cascade Books 2015) 5.

DIAMOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CELEBRATES ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Submitted by Ms. Kaydalle Kissoon



On February 12th, 2023, the Diamond Presbyterian Church celebrated its 150th anniversary and commemorated its existence and devotion to the Almighty. The theme for this year's celebration is "God's faithfulness continues to all generations." It perfectly describes the love and grace the Heavenly Father has bestowed on this church.

The evening was perfect for this celebration. The leader of worship was our newly inducted minister, Reverend Stephen Harripersad, with the Moderator of Synod, the Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan, as the guest preacher. A sweet-sounding introtit by the Diamond Regional Choir heralded the start of the service. The hymns: 'Blessed Assurance' and 'Your hand, O God has guided' exhibited the members' faithfulness and trust in God's guidance throughout the years. Mrs. Jean Ramsamooj, Elder, gave the history of the church

which emphasized the endurance of the church as a symbol of the dedication of the congregation and community. The Chairman of the Local Board, Mr. David Battoo, welcomed all.

The Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan gave a powerful message about God choosing regular people with no essential skills but possessing a strong heart to do his will. She also stressed on God's plan to strengthen our faith through trials and hardship.

Greetings were brought from Mr. Matthew Mathura on behalf of Session, Mrs. Rumonia Drepaulsingh on behalf of the South-Eastern Presbytery and Mr. Terrence Warde on behalf of Synod. Tokens of appreciation were distributed to various church workers and guests. Ms. Ariel Dharam, member of the PCW, presented a beautiful painting of the present church building to Mr Battoo.

The church's growth and prosperity are true examples of the presence of the Holy Spirit at work.

We thank God for blessing his people with the ability to expand and blossom his ministry here on earth. The Diamond Presbyterian Church will not be what it is today without the assistance of the many church workers who proclaimed God's Word, the past and present Local Board members as well as the congregation. May God continue to bless all.



ELDERS RETREAT 2023 PERSEVERE IN YOUR WITNESS

Submitted by Mr. Nello Ramkissoon

The 2023 Elders' Retreat was held in a hybrid format (in-person and virtually) at the St Andrew's Theological College's (SATC) Chapel on March 18th. The theme of the retreat was, "Persevere in Your Witness". The sheer blessing of being out in person once again coupled with the dynamic, young and powerful speakers contributed to the retreat being one of the best and most enlightening held with a refreshing ecumenical thrust.

The Retreat began with greetings from the President of the newly formed SATC Alumni Association, Ms Teesha Dass- Gordon, who reminded all of the roles and sacred responsibilities of the elders which are steadfast and certain in times of uncertainty and challenges.

Student Minister, Mrs. Namelia Lutchman-Pulwarty, brought the message of the Lost Sheep and "how to bring the lost sheep back home" a return to church. In her message, she articulated some prescriptive guidance to bring back the lost sheep to the flock which include: sharing the Word of God, pastoral care, uplifting one another, hospitality and sharing the love of God with others.

Principal of SATC, Rev Adrian Sieunarine, provided some insight into the theme of the retreat on what it meant to "Persevere in Your Witness" in the headwinds of changing times and challenges. He reminded us that when "we are called by God, we are sanctified by God" that is why we must persevere and be persistent to make things different. He gave reference to the establishment of SATC well over 100 years ago, in very different times but with a dream and purpose to become self-sustaining, self-governing and to encourage others in spreading God's work and Word. Brother Stephen Jones of the Anglican Church engaged the congregation as he presented his perspectives on the theme: "The Ministry of Hospitality". He reminded us that as we are benefactors of God's love and hospitality, we needed to extend the same to others, Christians and

Non-Christians alike. We are instructed "to contemplate/pray and then to give to others the fruit/gifts of for which we contemplate/pray." Brother Jones advised that we are accountable to hold true to and practice the Gospel's values. He prescribed that, as we extend God's love and hospitality, we engage in listening, and service to others. True words indeed to bring God's people and the lost sheep back to the flock.

Sister Nicole Poyer of the Roman Catholic Church gave an enlightening discourse on "The Welcoming Church" and introduced us to the concept of the Ministry of the Smile through which God's grace and light can radiate to others (even behind the mask). She noted that before we can genuinely welcome others to the Church, we needed to transform ourselves and be happy and hospitable to ourselves. Our bodies need to be a welcoming space for the Holy Spirit and through us we can welcome all of God's people regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, health, religion, and economic status. Our churches also need to become a more welcoming space physically as we strive to welcome mothers, young children, the aged and differently abled.

Reverend Sanya Beharry positively coordinated the Q&A Session with the speakers answering questions from those in attendance, in-person and virtually, and providing additional clarifications to issues raised.

Our young and newest Presiding Elder Martin Sahadath performed his first Communion Service since his induction.

Our Moderator of Synod, Rt Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan brought closing remarks and prayers, and thanked the organisers for a spiritually uplifting event.

The perspectives shared by our young speakers at this Elders' Retreat give us the confidence that the Church and God's work are in good hands, notwithstanding the work to be done, as we "Persevere in our Witness".



INTERN MINISTER MR. PETER ARJOON



Intern Minister Mr. Peter Arjoon received his early foundation into the Christian Faith at the Lengua Presbyterian Church in the Barrackpore Pastoral Region.

His parents were largely responsible for his walk with God. As he recalls, from his baptism, many years ago, his parents were always firm in their belief that their children be an active part of the Church. His parents taught their children moral and spiritual values. He remembers his mother would sing hymns with them, teach them to live as a family, to always make God the number one priority in their lives and to serve the Church without expectation of self-gain. Now as an adult with a family of his own, Peter has passed on these teachings and practices to his children.

From an early age, apart from Sunday School, Peter was always involved in the Youth Group. Much later, he became a member of the Local Board, the Regional Development Committee (RDC), an Elder, Vice Chairman of the Local Board and Central Treasurer of the Pastoral Region.

Peter uses his God-given talents and abilities to reach out and connect with God's people to serve them and to bring them closer to God. Bringing people closer to God is where Peter focuses his attention as he sees this as an area which is so needed in the times in which we are living. Peter sees it as God's gift to him to be able encourage people in his Pastoral Region to see the Church as a place of refuge of which they could be a part. Most importantly, they can be encouraged to be in a relationship with God and accept Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Peter thinks that many people have difficulty describing their calling which he recognizes as something he, too, has trouble articulating. His explanation at this point is that it is God's Holy Spirit that inspires and guides him to make decisions that govern the way he operates, and the life that he lives. He further explains that there are experiences in life which manifest innately in terms of the direction one should take and what one should do. His experience is your life may divert in all directions, but God will always lead you back to the place where he wants you to be for the purpose he wants you to fulfil.

There is a purpose for his sermons which is to encourage people to have a more meaningful relationship with God, with one another and to expand God's Church.

There is so much going on in our world today that God's people are crying out. We have the Word of God in scripture. A sure assurance in all situations that God is steadfast and faithful to his people. Scripture speaks about our current realities. It also speaks to us on how we should respond to those realities and the relevance and importance of God's Word. It is of great importance that we make scripture more meaningful, make it relevant and relatable to what we are facing and to show by God's grace we can endure.

Congregational participation, an interactive service, always leads to a more vibrant worship experience. Another approach is with music and singing. Peter likes to have music in all his services. Music inspires and helps set the tone for worship and allows people to focus on the message within the words that are being communicated through song.

Increasing the membership in a Pastoral Region is not wholly the responsibility of the minister. It is a partnership between the minister and the leaders in that Pastoral Region. However, the minister plays the leading role. Visitation, dialogue and in some cases, reconciliation can be applied. As a new minister, one should seek the help and advice from other learned and more experienced colleagues.

Aside from assisting to fill the pulpit in the Barrackpore Pastoral Region, Peter served as a Student Minister in the Penal Pastoral Region, and as an Intern Minister in the Aramalaya Pastoral Region. He is now assigned to the Curepe/St. Joseph Pastoral Region as an Intern Minister.

The Trinidad Presbyterian wishes Peter God's blessings, and guidance in his ministry.

EVENING OF TEA AND CONVERSATIONS AT MARABELLA

SUBMITTED BY BY FLORABELLE LUTCHMAN

Friday, March 10th 2023, at 3:30 p.m. began an evening of Tea and Conversations. Over fifty guests, including women and a few men, packed the Fitzroy Bachan Memorial Hall to enjoy tea prepared by the women of the PCW Groups of the Marabella/Bonne Aventure Pastoral Region and to listen to the Moderator of Synod, the Rt. Reverend Joy Abdul Mohan, and Mrs. Sabrina Mowlah – Baksh speak on the theme, “Empowerment of Women and Girls”. Also, present at this event were Reverends Indra Kokaram, and Radica Moonoo, Deaconesses Jenifa Sinanan and Marlene Seenathsingh as well as Presiding Elder, Mrs. Indra Debysingh. Apart from these Church Workers, there were members from each church in the Pastoral Region.

After partaking of the delicious tea to the accompaniment of pan items played by Mr. Brandon Paul, the Rt. Rev. Joy Abdul-Mohan began speaking

on the Theme: “Embracing Equity and Faith and Empowering Women”. She commended the Regional PCW for organizing such an important event, welcomed and acknowledged everyone and expressed her deepest appreciation to Miss June Baboolal, President of the Marabella PCW, Mrs. Sandra Singh, Vice Chair of the Regional PCW and Reverend Radica Moonoo, Chair of the Board of Women. International Women’s Day, she continued, is when we celebrate the achievements and successes of women, but expressed her sadness at the brutal violence women still face today. She advised all to be generous with whatever resources we possess and demonstrate our faith by following the Golden Rule. As Christians we should always speak with a level of compassion and forgiveness. How can we love a God whom we cannot see if we do not love people whom we can see? Women need to respect one

another and work together as a team. We should all embrace equity as we sometimes need to do more for certain persons because of their circumstances. Women should be servant leaders who understand that faith without works is dead.

Mrs. Sabrina Mowlah Baksh, an activist in women’s work, followed with an exciting interactive session advising the attendees that we must do everything in our power to level the playing field. Domestic violence still poses a serious problem. She encouraged each participant to write down something they love to do. All these talents have been received from God and we need to use them especially in the church. Mrs. Sandra Singh moved the Vote of Thanks and Presiding Elder, Mrs. Indra Debysingh, closed the event at 5:35 p.m. with prayer.



BARRACKPORE UNION HONORS PAST MINISTERS

Submitted by: Karamchand B Mitchell

"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1: 6).

The good work which began in 1911 at Barrackpore continues today. On Sunday, 26th February 2023, the Barrackpore Union Presbyterian Church celebrated its 112th Anniversary with a service of Thanksgiving and Appreciation. Guest preacher, Reverend Daniel Chance, Chairman of South Eastern Presbytery, based his sermon on the scriptures read from Revelation 2 :1-7 and 1st Peter 2: 1-10.

Leading in the act of worship was newly elevated Presiding Elder Martin Sahadath. Also assisting were: Reverend Manan Deo, Intern Minister Peter Arjoon and Presiding Elder William Gokool.

Following the Order of Worship, the Chairman of the Local Board, Mr. Russell Ramlagan, invited the two specially invited former ministers who worked in the Region during their early years in ministry: Reverend Arthur Henry Yorke from 1962 to 1967 and Rev Bruce Kramer from 1968 to 1970.

Mr. Ralph Mitchell read a glowing tribute to Reverend Yorke. He highlighted some of his outstanding achievements as the Lay Preacher assigned to the Region. He was instrumental in securing the service of a Woman Missionary, Miss Leota B. Warner, to teach music to members of the Barrackpore churches. An organ was purchased and Barrackpore was the main venue where interested members from the neighboring churches met to learn music and play the organ. Today, many of the churches are grateful for the opportunity that was extended.

Mrs. Pandora Mitchell paid tribute to Reverend Bruce Kramer. She recalled some of his memorable moments during the period while as a student minister assigned to the Region and lived in the manse on the church's compound. One of his outstanding legacy was the formation of a church choir. He was the leader, conductor, and teacher of new songs for worship services. Today, 55 years later, three members are still in the choir, singing to the glory of God.

Tokens of appreciation were presented to Reverends Arthur Yorke and Bruce Kramer for their contributions to the growth and development of the Christian community.

In presenting a brief history of the church, a challenge for the continuation of our legacy was extended to the young people. COVID 19 in 2020 presented many challenges, but our young worshippers embraced the opportunity by employing technology to overcome the hurdles. Zoom, WhatsApp, Internet, and You Tube were made accessible, so members remained connected despite their health concerns. Sunday Morning Services, Youth Group Meetings, Sunday School, Prayer Sessions and Session Meetings were all presented via Online Platforms.

Today, we look to the future with great expectation as we entrust the destiny of this church community into the loving care of the young, multitalented members of our congregation. You are the torch bearers of Presbyterianism in this part of God's vineyard. To God Be the Glory!



Original Members of the Barrackpore Union Choir.
From the left: Elder. Karamchand Mitchell, Rev. Bruce Kramer, Ms. Phenola Bachand and Mrs. Pandora Mitchell.



Back: Rev. Daniel Chance and Rev. Manan Deo. Front: Rev. Bruce Kramer and Rev. Arther Yorke.

MY TWIN SISTER, VALESHKA RAMOUTAR

Submitted by Kha-Vi Ramoutar

My name is Kha-Vi Ramoutar, and I have a twin sister, Valeshka Ramoutar, who is autistic. I am currently a student at Hillview College, I am in Lower 6. Both my sister and I are members of the San Juan Presbyterian Church. Growing up with Vallie, I have learned the importance of patience, understanding, and unconditional love. Although communication and socialization can be a challenge, Vallie has taught me to embrace differences and see the world from a unique perspective. My experience with my sister has taught me valuable life lessons, such as being patient and compassionate towards others, and seeing the beauty in everyone's unique differences.

Being a sibling of someone on the autism spectrum has also presented me with unique challenges, such as learning how to communicate with Vallie in a

way that she understands and being patient when she becomes overwhelmed or upset. Despite these challenges, my experience has brought me immense joy and happiness. Vallie has a unique perspective on the world. Her creativity and intelligence constantly amaze me.

Our mother, Khadine Ramoutar, and stepdad, Sheldon Dhanoolal, whom we both refer to as Uncle Sheldon, have been our pillars of support, especially after our father, Vishnu Ramoutar, passed away when we were both 12 years old. Their love, dedication, and sacrifices have not gone unnoticed, and I am forever grateful for everything they do for us.



Looking towards the future, I am excited to pursue my dream of becoming a doctor so that I can support Vallie and my future family. I believe that my experiences as a sibling of a person on the spectrum will make me a more compassionate and understanding doctor.

To my peers who have autistic siblings, I would like to offer some advice. It is important to remember that every individual with autism is unique, and there is no one-size-fits-all approach to supporting them. Take the time to learn about your sibling's specific needs and preferences, and engage in activities that both you and your sibling enjoy. Don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it.

Being the twin brother of someone who has autism has been a journey filled with challenges, but it has also been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. I hope that my story can inspire others to embrace differences, promote inclusion, and celebrate diversity.



FAMILY AND FUN DAY AT RIVERSDALE PASTORAL REGION

SUBMITTED BY TRISHA ROOPLAL - BEHARRY, BROTHERS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



“God organizes us into families so we can experience happiness and learn patience and selflessness.

Happiness was definitely felt on Carnival Monday, 20th February, when The Riversdale Pastoral Region had its first Family and Fun Day after COVID19. It was held at the Brothers Presbyterian School’s premises and was a day well spent. It started at approximately 9:30 a.m. with our Minister, Reverend Radica Samuel-Moonoo, leading in a short praise and worship.

Many of our members came out with their families and enjoyed the day. It was filled with lots of activities such as card games, draughts, dominoes and Jenga for the adults while the kids were entertained with balloon relay, fill the brown bag, face painting, head shoulders knees, grab the cone and many more including cricket. Our most popular activity was the Chinese Auction where we bid for free on house hold items and garden products. There were not enough prizes for everyone to get a turn but next time we will be better prepared.

Pelau, tamarind ball and cole slaw were made on the spot. Hot piping corn soup with bandania chutney and bread and channa were enjoyed while we waited for lunch. The children and adults also enjoyed popcorn and Miss Joan Mahaboob’s famous snow cone.

It truly was ‘an unwind-your-mind-and-body’ day of relaxation and having fun, putting all the stress and routine work in the backseat for the entire day. New friendships were made. Everyone cooperated to run things efficiently. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 teaches us the importance of teamwork and togetherness ... and that’s exactly what we felt on that day - togetherness. Thank you to all the Elders of this region who made this day possible. We are looking forward to having more days like this!



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

“I HAVE HEARD ABOUT YOUR FAITH”

Submitted by: Lisa Baksh-Horrel of Emmanuel Presbyterian Church-La Romaine/Debe Pastoral Region.

On Friday, 3rd February, 2023, the Regional Women’s Group of the La Romaine /Debe Pastoral Region observed World Day of Prayer which was hosted by the Emmanuel Presbyterian Church’s PCW. The theme: “I have heard about your Faith” was prepared by World Day of Prayer Committee of Taiwan.

The colors blue, green, yellow and white represented the natural resources together with lilies and orchids, the flora were used to decorate the front of the church.

The order of service was conducted by members of the Regional Women’s group together with Reverend Indra Kokaram assisted by Deaconess Marlene Seenathsingh.

Mrs. Sabrina Mowlah –Baksh was the guest speaker. She is a member of several International Women’s Peace and Security organization. She is Chair for the recently formed NGO called Women for Peace and Justice, and at present, holds the position of General Manager of the Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Mrs. Mowlah –Baksh gave an insightful and inspiring message on the theme. In her message she mentioned many women of the Faith who can be describe as anointed and some even nameless such as the woman with the issue of blood. She looked at how Jesus increased the faith of women in his time and even challenged the patriarchal system.

She addressed may issues faced by women of biblical times and compared them with present day women. She noted that there aren’t many differences. The point was made on what does all of this have to do with Faith? Our faith is put into action when God works through each of us. Jesus needs us to be his hands and feet. This is Faith in Action when we continue the work of Jesus. Mrs. Mowlah- Baksh challenged the congregation as women of the Presbyterian Church to truly put their faith into action and to empower and affirm one another. She also implored the women to help other women who may be experiencing abuse and violence. She left the congregation with the question, “What can you do to help women who are experiencing domestic violence, have they heard about your Faith?”



San Francique Presbyterian School

Grant Memorial Presbyterian School

Hillview College

Naparima College

Naparima Girls High School

Biche Presbyterian Sch

INDUCTION OF NEW ELDER MS JEN LATCHU AT ST. CHARLES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CHAGUANAS

SUBMITTED BY MR. MOHAN BHAGAN



On Sunday August 21, 2022, Ms. Jen Latchu was inducted as a new Elder in the Chaguanas Pastoral Region. Ms. Latchu holds the position of Treasurer, and actively participates in several committees at our St. Charles Presbyterian Church. She has also successfully completed the SATC Elders Training Course.

Ms. Latchu is the daughter of Honorary Elder Mr. Rawlins Latchu who held the position of General Treasurer of Synod, and Mrs. Joyce Latchu. She is also the great granddaughter of the late Reverend

Albert Sultanti.

The Induction Ceremony was conducted by Reverend Adrian Sieunarine, Principal of SATC. and, in his sermon to the congregation, especially to the new inductee, made the point that God does not call people who are qualified but rather He qualifies the people He calls and when God calls us to unleash and unlock our potential deep within us and high above us, He equips and energises us for His purpose.

Reverend Sieunarine validated this point by referring to the book of Jeremiah in the Old Testament 1: 4 to 10. When God called Jeremiah to be a prophet, Jeremiah pointed out his inexperience and inability but God reminded him that He designed him and formed him and knows his capability.

We wish Ms Latchu God's grace and blessings as she continues to serve St Charles and her region wholeheartedly and joyfully.



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MEDIA RELEASE

From: PCTT Communications

Date: 23rd March, 2023



Congratulations to Her Excellency Christine Carla Kangaloo

The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT) extends its sincerest congratulations and best wishes to Her Excellency Christine Carla Kangaloo on her appointment as the 7th President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Becoming the second female President certainly is a milestone for women and speaks to the fortitude and competence of the women of this twin-island state.

The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago also extends its sincerest gratitude and best wishes to the immediate past President Paula-Mae Weekes on her retirement. Her time in office will certainly be remembered as she was the first female to hold that office.

The PCTT wishes Her Excellency President Christine Carla Kangaloo God's blessings, guidance, and the spirit of discernment in her new role in the highest office in the land.

May God bless Her Excellency President Christine Carla Kangaloo, her husband and family and may God bless Trinidad and Tobago.

-END-

CONGRATULATIONS TO HER EXCELLENCY, MRS. CHRISTINE KANGALOO

Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education

The Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education wishes to congratulate Her Excellency, Mrs Christine Kangaloo, on her election to our country's highest office- Seventh President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and the second female to have achieved this distinguished position.

The Board is extremely proud and delighted especially since Her Excellency received her foundation at one of our primary schools, the Grant Memorial Presbyterian Primary School and is also a member of the Susamachar Presbyterian Church.

At the recent Founder's Day Service where the school celebrated 152 years the principal, Mrs. Donna Ramjohn-Khan, paid tribute to the missionaries who established the school, and highlighted the contributions of past administrators and educators who instilled a legacy of excellence, hard work and perseverance which have produced countless outstanding citizens in our country including Mrs. Carolyn Seepersad-Bachan, Justice Peter Jamadar, Mrs. Carolyn Bally-Gosine, Reverend Timothy Dayfoot Jr., Dr. Craig Ramlal and many others.

A quote from Sir Winston Churchill mentioned by the Principal summaries the ethos of the school "Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts." Indeed Her excellency would have ascribed to this in her conversation with the students shortly after being inaugurated. One student asked her if her goal was always to be President, she replied "No" but that at school she was taught to work hard and strive for excellence in whatever one does. Her Excellency, Mrs. Christine Kangaloo, has indeed emulated the motto of her primary school "Upwards Ever Upwards". The Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education pays tribute to Her Excellency and wishes her great success in all her initiatives. May God bless her as she leads Trinidad and Tobago into the future.

MEDIA RELEASE
From: PCTT Communications
Date: 3rd March, 2023



Scholarship Success

The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT) wishes to extend heartiest congratulations to the Principals, staff, parents and students of our five (5) Secondary Schools on their academic success announced yesterday 2nd March 2023.

The PCTT through its educational institutions has always engaged in all-round holistic education and maintained academic, spiritual and moral education. Education, as transformation, should not only make our youths brighter but better human beings and worthy citizens of our nation – values education.

That's the strength of the denominational schools.

We are extremely grateful for the hard work and sacrifice of all our Principals, teachers, students and parents of our five (5) Secondary schools who have contributed to this success. Our schools received 39 scholarships out of the 100 awarded with Naparima Girls' High School receiving nineteen (19), St. Augustine Girls' High School nine (9), Hillview College eight (8) and Naparima College three (3).

A heartfelt congratulations to Saria Mohammed of St. Augustine Girls' High School for achieving the President's Gold Medal Award !

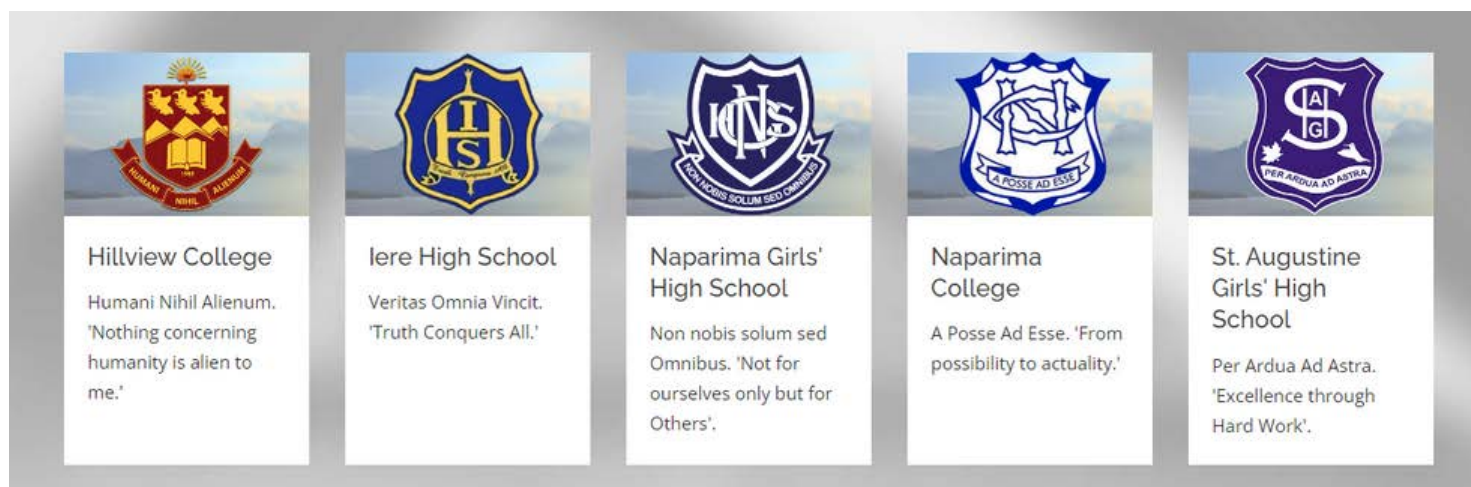
On behalf of the Officers of Synod and the PCTT, we sincerely congratulate all the schools for not only attaining scholarships, but for working assiduously under great pressure and challenge in a virtual classroom.

Thanks be to God that they have achieved success through God's grace.

The Church encourages all our students to continue working hard and be worthy exemplars to a nation and world that need positive and credible leadership.

To God be the glory !

-END-





Naparima Girls' High School Scholarship Winners 2022



Renessa
Ramsingh

Isabella
Mungal

Christin
Seecharan

Farah
Ali

Angelina
Siew

Kayla
Dookie

Soryah
Rooplal

Taahirah
Khan

Sonja
Maraj



Robyn
Chambers

Ornilamurti
Mahabir

Savitri
Rattan

Sakshi
Kushwaha

Emily
Ramgoolam

Esha
Mahadeo

Jilisse
Roberts

Mia
Welch

Sonali
Maharaj

Clareece
Ramlal

Naparima Girls' High School extends congratulations to all of our nineteen (19) scholarship awardees and their parents. This accomplishment was possible because of the resilience, adaptability, commitment, responsibility, and teamwork demonstrated by our students and teachers, all of whom remained undaunted despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are grateful to our School Chaplain, Reverend Stephen Harripersad, and other members of the clergy, who so willingly provided the spiritual guidance that was necessary. We thank the Presbyterian Secondary Schools' Board of Education, the Naparima Girls' High School's Administrative Committee and by extension, the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad & Tobago, for their support to our school during these times.

As our students move on to the next phase in their life's journey, we wish them all the best and remind them of our school's motto: "Non-Nobis Solum Sed Omnibus" - Not for ourselves only, but for all.



SAGHS CELEBRATORY SCHOLARSHIP FUNCTION, 2023

FROM THE SAGHS NEWSROOM

The St. Augustine Girls' High School's celebratory scholarship function held on Tuesday 7 March, 2023, at the Anna Mahase Auditorium highlighted the academic excellence of students in the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examinations 2022. Celebrated was the President's Medal recipient, Saira Mohammed, alongside the school's five open and four additional scholarship winners.

The event was well attended by the students, staff and members of the Presbyterian Secondary Schools' Board of Education. Scholarships winners were addressed and congratulated by the Principal (Ag.) - Ms. Bonnie Bissoon-Gosine, the School Manager - Mr. Andre Thompson, the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago - the Right Reverend Joy Abdul Mohan, among other distinguished guests.



The five celebrated awardees in attendance took to the podium, while other scholarship winners and the recipient of the President's Medal who were overseas sent video presentations. The scholarship winners shared details of their journey and gave tips to their 'little sisters' for achieving their goals. Emphasis was placed on the idea that as the school motto 'Per Ardua Ad Astra' implies: through hard work you can reach the stars!

These achievements testify to the diligence and perseverance of both students and staff as well as the unwavering support of parents and guardians who worked tirelessly to ensure success. We thank Almighty God for his blessings upon our students as they continue to excel in all of their endeavors.

Front Row:

left to right (Awardees) Neelam Kumarsingh, Maali Rose, Robyn Bhola, Solange Joseph, Leia Ramrattan and (Principal, Ag.) Ms. Bonnie Bissoon-Gosine

Second Row:

left to right (Board Reps) Mr. A. Tamby, Rev. Dr. A. Lalla Ramkelawan, Mrs. Dianne Phillip-Ramjattan, Rev. Joy Abdul-Mohan and Mr. A. Thompson

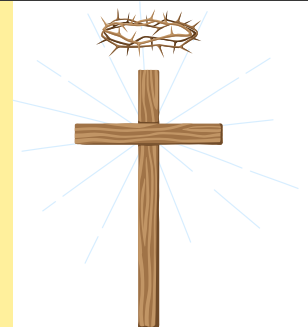
ST AUGUSTINE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

				9
JIANNA	THOMAS	Business Studies		Open
POOJA	MANGRA	Information & Communication Technology Studies		Open
SOLANGE	JOSEPH	Language Studies		Open
ROBYN	BHOLA	Mathematics		Open
SAIRA	MOHAMMED	Natural Science		Open
SUREKHA	RAMDHAN	Business Studies		Additional
LEIA	RAMRATTAN	Business Studies		Additional
MAALI	ROSE	Language Studies		Additional
NEELAM	KUMARSINGH	Natural Science		Additional

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HILLVIEW COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

On Friday, we honoured our 8 National Scholarship Winners. Caitlin Joseph, Saif Mohammed, Andre Benjamin, Alejandro Marin, Amir Persad and Tyrell Lewis motivated the current students by sharing their experiences at school, their challenges through the pandemic, and how they motivated one another to succeed. Absent from the day were Kavi Ramoutar and Joshua Spencer, who were not in the country.



NAPARIMA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



<https://www.facebook.com/naparimacollege>

Congratulations again to our boys who were awarded national scholarships:

Master David Bickram (Mathematics - Open)

Master Aidan Ramberan (Technical Studies- Additional)

Master Zayden Ramkissoon (Technical Studies - Additional)

It must be noted that Zayden wrote both CAPE units in Lower Six and won his scholarship based on this, as he is now in Upper Six. A marvellous accomplishment for this young man!

Our boys have made us so proud! A Posse ad Esse!

CLAREECE RAMLAL SHINES 'TO GOD BE THE GLORY'

Submitted by Brendon Ramlal

In December of 2022, the Morning Star congregation, Fyzabad, at its Anniversary Service recognised and honoured Clareece Ramlal for placing 8th in the Caribbean in Cape Unit II Physics and for outstanding grades in all her subjects at CAPE Units I and II. Little did they know that in March 2023, they, along with her family and friends, would have a greater achievement to celebrate.

Clareece was one of the nineteen students of Naparima Girls' High School (NGHS) to win National Scholarships from among the one hundred awarded nationally. She obtained an Additional Scholarship in the field of Natural Sciences. Clareece is a quiet and unassuming young lady. She grew up in the Morning Star congregation, attending Sunday School diligently. As she grew older, she participated in reading Scripture passages and collecting offering during worship services. She found time during her studies to participate in family gatherings and relax with her friends, despite her study schedule and the challenges of the pandemic.

Clareece is the daughter of Ian Rishi and Michelle Ramlal, both of whom are educators and grand daughter of Vickram Ramlal, Chairman of the Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education and Edmond and Girlie Chatoor of Golconda Village. A former student of the Fyzabad Presbyterian School and NGHS, Clareece is thankful to her God, parents, family members, teachers, relatives and friends for her success. We wish her even greater success in her future endeavours.



SUNDAY SCHOOL AT THE JUBILEE

submitted by Mr. Terrence Kalloo, Jubilee Memorial Presbyterian Church



After almost two decades without a Sunday School, the Local Board of the Jubilee Memorial Presbyterian Church (Caroni) decided to reignite this most important facet of Church work. Our future lies in the hands of not only our children, but children in the community as well. All are welcomed from every walk of life and that is certainly the mix we have been able to inculcate in our mission. The Board "targeted" the Caroni Presbyterian School, annexed to the Church, as our primary outreach. As well, each member was challenged with the task of bringing a child to Sunday School. Many rose to the occasion.

And so it began with eleven children on the first Sunday of November with our Superintendent, Mrs Anycia Ramoutar-Bhawan, ably assisted by Mrs. Jenny Kowlessar - both Principals. The Sunday School has grown to a record high of twenty-seven children. Members of the congregation are heavily involved as they lend assistance. We now have different teachers for each Sunday! The Local Board reached out to the parents and children of the school offering transport for the children and ensuring that the children have breakfast, specially prepared by our members, before Sunday School starts.

The most important event was when the Church invited the entire school on Christmas morning to receive gifts from the 'original' Santa from the North Pole. Students were given an opportunity to write to Santa asking what they wanted for Christmas and the sixty-odd children who attended were not disappointed since most of them got their "first choice". Now, our Church is abuzz with the little ones and the adults mixing together as one.



In LOVING memory of

WILMA KATWAROO

Sunrise : 20. 12. 1938 - Sunset : 14. 04. 2013 - Nistar Presbyterian Church
Heaven needed an ANGEL and GOD sent for you.

You are gone from us forever.
We miss you now, like never before
but we have to let you go.
We will never forget you, and this,
we need you to know.
Goodbye until we meet again.
In our hearts, you will always be.
For always you, will remain our
sweetest memory.
We love you!
You are dearly missed by:-
Your loving husband: Emmanuel
Your daughters: Lorna, Juliet and Sharon
Your sons-in-law: Jim, Kenny and Shameer
Your grandchildren: Victoria, Shaun, Veronica,
Christine, Bryan and Kavish
Your granddaughter-in-law : Lauren
Your great grandson: Christopher



Harold Mangaroo

1934 - 2017

Gone but not forgotten

Dad although we can
no longer see you
with our eyes or touch
you with our hands.
We feel you in our
hearts forever.
Love your wife and
family



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"Contemplating The Cross"

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
John 10:1-10						Psalm 31:9-16
Matthew 21:1-11	John 12:1-11	John 12:20-36	John 13:21-32	John 13:1-7, 31b-35	John 18:1-19	John 19:38-42
John 20:1-8	Psalm 118:1-2	Exodus 15:1-18	Matthew 28:1-10	Colossians 4:2-5	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	John 20:11-20
John 20:19-31	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	1 Corinthians 15:19-28	Matthew 12:38-42	1 Peter 1:8b-12	1 Peter 1:13-16	Luke 14:12-14
Luke 24:13-35	1 Peter 1:23-25	1 Peter 2:1-3	John 21:1-14	1 Peter 2:9-12	1 Peter 2:13-17	Luke 15:1-7

May

Theme: "Happy Are Those Who Hold Fast To The Lord"

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Ezekiel 34:17-23	Ezekiel 34:23-31	Jeremiah 23:1-8	Genesis 12:1-3	Exodus 3:1-12	Jeremiah 26:20-24
John 14:1-14	Exodus 3:5-12	Proverbs 3:5-12	Proverbs 3:13-18	Genesis 6:5-22	Genesis 7:1-24	Genesis 8:13-19
John 14:15-21	Acts 27:39-44	1 Peter 3:8-12	John 16:16-24	Ephesians 1:15-23	Ephesians 2:1-7	John 8:21-30
John 17:1-11	1 Peter 4:1-6	1 Peter 4:7-11	John 3:31-36	Acts 2:1-11	Romans 8:14-17	Matthew 5:1-12
John 20:19-23	Romans 8:18-24	Romans 8:26-27	John 7:37-39			