

# The Trinidad PRESBYTERIAN



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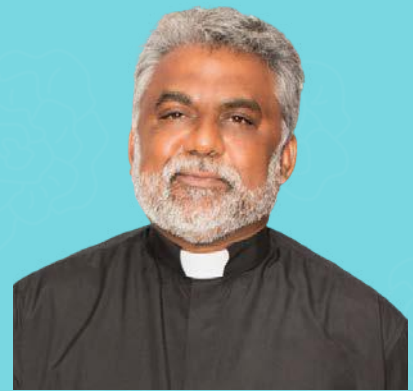


*S.E Presbytery Inductions  
Service of Prayer & Restoration  
C.W.M Visit*



# THE MODERATOR SPEAKS

PCTT MODERATOR, THE RIGHT REVEREND DANIEL CHANCE



## Our Lenten Journey

The Lenten period continues to be one of the most important seasons within the Christian calendar. It leads us to reflect upon the profound meaning and significance of the sacrifice offered to the world through the death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. By virtue of Jesus' sacrifice, the 'door' to God has been flung wide open, allowing all of humanity the opportunity to be reconciled with God.

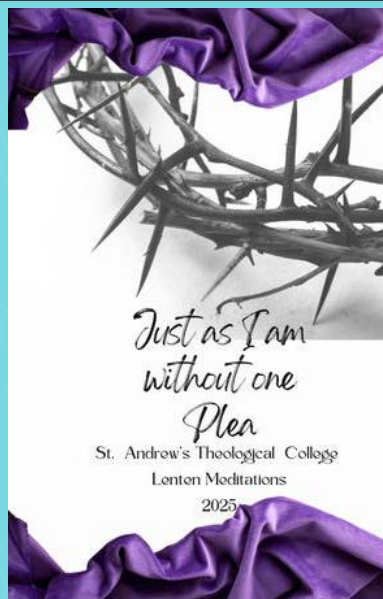
However, in order for us to continue to benefit from the mercy-seat of God, we are encouraged to use this season to critically examine the life we presently live. As the Psalmist says, "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23-24, NIV). The God who searches our hearts through His indwelling presence will lead us to identify the things that draw us away from Him. Thus, the Lenten season must never become just another religious ritual for us but rather a time in which we, like the Psalmist, should say, "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10, NIV).

During our Lenten journey, we are all given the opportunity to respond to what God has already done for us through the ultimate price, He paid for our sins. As we remain in relationship with God, His indwelling power becomes the guide that allows us to truly experience the 'New Life' made available to all believers through Christ. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV).

Again, I use this column to challenge the faith community to seek God's guidance and inspiration during this sacred season of Lent. As the Apostle Paul exhorts us, "Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings" (Hebrews 10:22, NIV). May we be led to a place where we make the lifelong decision to commit or re-dedicate our entire lives to the God who loves us and desires the very best for all His children.

May this Lenten season be a transformative journey that draws us closer to God, renews our spirits, and strengthens our faith. Amen.

Stay Strong! Stay Focused! Stay Blessed.



# FROM THE DESK OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

PCTT GENERAL SECRETARY,  
PRESIDING ELDER MR. ASHFORD D TAMBY



Colossians 3:12 (NIV): "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience."

In 2023 the Synod implemented the Values for life programme within all Presbyterian Schools. The programme continues with emphasis on teacher development, toward social transformation. The general social breakdown, including in the home, places much more responsibility on teachers to ensure that morals and values are taught in the most impactful way. Thus, Rev. Elahie has been facilitating a five-module workshop that explores themes and ideas toward personal and professional growth. He explores, *"arriving at a moral compass; thinking as an imperative; self-understanding; meaning and purpose and behaviour that would define the authentic life"*. Rev. Elahie stands firm on the position that healthy morals and values cannot be sufficiently taught by instruction but necessitates the teacher becoming a role model.

The programme has been widely supported and accepted throughout the schools that have completed the workshop thus far, with a resounding ask for further workshops on this subject. One principal wrote, *"Thank you for the workshop yesterday, Rev. You have ignited a spark of curiosity in the staff, encouraging them to think and learn. Encouraging self-reflection, self-understanding and self-love. Thank you."*

A comment from another principal stated, *"Good evening GS Ashford. I would like to personally thank you and by extension the Synod for having the insight to conduct the Values for Life program for teachers. Rev. Elahie did a marvelous job at my school today and the staff was truly receptive of what was shared. Blessings always. We do look forward to more programs like these to enrich the lives of teachers."*

At Synod's office we are eternally grateful for the hard work and dedication that Rev. Elahie has put into shaping and re-shaping this programme, to ensure that it is delivered to all teachers within our Presbyterian school system. Teachers will be able to create a solid foundation for personal growth, strong relationships, and a positive impact on their schools and communities. The society that we live in today, we see there is the need for persons to navigate the complexities of life with integrity, compassion, and resilience, ultimately leading to a more fulfilling and meaningful existence. Whether in our interactions with others or in our personal pursuits, our values serve as guiding principles that shape the kind of people we aspire to be and the world we wish to create.

As I close this article a final comment from a teacher regarding the programme stated, *"This workshop has truly opened my mind to be a better teacher. I can see that by embodying these virtues, I can create a more harmonious and fulfilling existence for our children, for ourselves and those around us."*

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# EDITORIAL

## THE STRUGGLE WITH FORGIVENESS AND BITTERNESS

### A. Why should we?

Forgiveness stands as a fundamental principle in Christian belief, intricately connected to the lessons of Jesus Christ and the larger narratives found in the Bible. Yet, even with this clear call to forgive, many Christians find it challenging to move past feelings of bitterness and pain, despite receiving apologies and efforts for reconciliation. Let's delve into the reasons that might contribute to this difficulty, look closely at what the Bible teaches about forgiveness, and consider the issue of hypocrisy when our actions fall short of our expressed faith.

### B. Biblical Foundations of Forgiveness

#### 1. The Call to Forgive

The Bible consistently highlights how vital forgiveness is. Jesus instructed His followers to pray, "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" (Matthew 6:12). In this Lord's Prayer, He clarified further, "If you forgive others when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins" (Matthew 6:14-15). This highlights the interconnectedness of forgiveness within a Christian's journey.

#### 2. The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

In Matthew 18:21-35, Jesus shares the story of a servant who, after being freed from an enormous debt by his master, declines to forgive a minor debt owed to him by another servant. The master admonishes the servant, asking, "Shouldn't you have shown mercy to your fellow servant just as I had to you?" (Matthew 18:33). This story serves as a reminder that those who have experienced God's grace are expected to share that grace with others.

#### 3. Jesus Forgiveness on the Cross

In His last moments, Jesus embodied the essence of forgiveness, praying, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). This powerful act of forgiveness amid immense suffering sets a profound example for all Christians.

### C. Why Some Christians Struggle to Forgive?

#### 1. The Struggle of Human Nature

The Apostle Paul recognizes the internal battle between spirit and flesh: "For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—I keep on doing" (Romans 7:19). This conflict can hinder the capacity to forgive, as anger, pride, and a thirst for revenge take root.

#### 2. Lingering Pain and Trauma

Bitterness can often arise from unresolved emotional wounds. Hebrews 12:15 cautions, "See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many." Unhealed pain may turn into bitterness, complicating the act of forgiveness.

#### 3. Misconceptions about Forgiveness

Some Christians might confuse forgiveness with excusing wrongdoings or forcing reconciliation without fully addressing harm caused. Biblical forgiveness does not imply ignoring injustice; it means letting go of the desire for revenge and trusting God's ultimate judgment (Romans 12:19).

#### 4. Pride and Self-Righteousness

Pride can obstruct forgiveness, nurturing a sense of moral superiority. The Pharisee in Luke 18:11-12 embodies this attitude, declaring, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector." Such self-righteousness can harden one's heart and make forgiveness more challenging.

### D. The Hypocrisy of professed faith without action

#### 1. Faith Without Works is Dead

James 2:17 emphasizes, "In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." A Christian who claims to follow Christ yet nurtures bitterness and refuses to forgive lives in contradiction to their stated beliefs. Jesus criticized the Pharisees for their hypocrisy, declaring, "You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me'" (Matthew 15:7-8).

#### 2. The Risk of Self-Deception

1 John 1:8 warns, "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." Refusing to forgive while claiming to follow Christ leads to self-deception, creating a rift between one's spiritual identity and actual behavior.

#### 3. The Call to Genuine Discipleship

Jesus invites His followers to embrace authenticity: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). This journey necessitates setting aside the urge for revenge and engaging in the challenging act of forgiveness.

### E. Biblical Solutions for Overcoming Bitterness and Hypocrisy

#### 1. Lean on God's Grace

Forgiveness isn't a typical human response but a divine act made possible through God's grace. Philippians 4:13 reassures us, "I can do all this through him who gives me strength." Through prayer and reliance on the Holy Spirit, Christians can discover the fortitude to forgive.

#### 2. Contemplate God's Forgiveness

Ephesians 4:32 encourages, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Meditating on the enormity of God's forgiveness can motivate Christians to extend similar grace to others.

#### 3. Pursue Healing and Reconciliation

Matthew 5:23-24 advises, "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there at the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift." Reconciliation is an active process requiring humility and effort.

#### 4. Protect Against Hypocrisy

Jesus cautioned, "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?" (Matthew 7:3). Christians must consistently evaluate their hearts and actions to make sure they align with their faith.

### F. Summary:

Forgiveness is a challenging yet vital part of the Christian experience. While human frailties, unresolved pain, and pride can obstruct the act of forgiveness, the Bible offers clear wisdom and reassurance to navigate these hurdles. Christians are called to live authentically, ensuring their actions reflect their professed beliefs and relying on God's grace to practice forgiveness. By doing this, they mirror the love and mercy of Christ, who forgave even those who nailed Him to the cross. As Paul advises, "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you" (Colossians 3:13).



# COUNCIL FOR WORLD MISSION GENERAL SECRETARY VISITS PCTT

Communications Unit



The three-day visit of Rev. Dr. Jooseop Keum, General Secretary of the Council for World Mission (CWM), to the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT) was a significant milestone in strengthening the relationship between the two organizations. It marked PCTT's journey towards becoming a full CWM member which involved deep and meaningful interactions.

On Day 1, the visit began with a breakfast meeting with key PCTT leaders, setting the tone for collaborative discussions. Rev. Dr. Keum then engaged with the South Eastern Presbytery, learning about the diverse pastoral regions and churches of the PCTT. His visit to the historic Iere Memorial Presbyterian Church, established in 1868, provided him with insights into the Church's rich legacy. Later, he had lunch at St. Andrew's Theological College, where he shared his personal journey and insights with various PCTT Orders, inspiring attendees. The day concluded with a dinner at Naparima College, where Rev. Dr. Keum was briefed on the PCTT's organizational structure and mission initiatives.

Day 2 began with a service at St. John Presbyterian Church, where Rev. Dr. Keum delivered a sermon, highlighting challenges such as poverty, inequality, and climate change that Trinidad and Tobago faces. He commended the PCTT's mission work despite historical struggles and emphasized the importance of the Church's partnership with CWM in advocating for justice and equity. Afterward, Rev. Dr. Keum visited Susamchar Presbyterian Church and had lunch at Paradise Hill, where presentations on the work of St. Andrew's Theological College and other PCTT boards were made. The day concluded with Rev. Dr. Keum attending the induction service of Rev. Shirvan Siloch in Barrackpore, where he spoke about the power of faith and mission despite historical challenges.

On Day 3, Rev. Dr. Keum visited Naparima College, where he delivered a message to the students, encouraging them to aspire to be exemplary leaders who prioritize the common good. Afterward, he had breakfast at Synod's office before departing for Guyana.

Overall, the visit reinforced the PCTT's commitment to mission work and highlighted the importance of global partnerships. Rev. Dr. Keum's visit was a powerful step toward deepening the ties between the PCTT and CWM, with a shared focus on building life-flourishing communities based on justice, equality, and hope.





# INDUCTION SERVICE OF REV. SHIRVAN SILOCH BARRACKPORE PASTORAL REGION

Submitted by Mrs. Rumonia Drepaulsingh Secretary of South Eastern Presbytery

On Sunday, January 12, 2025, the South-Eastern Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago, along with the Barrackpore Pastoral Region, held the Induction Service for Rev. Shirvan Siloch, the newly appointed minister to the Barrackpore Pastoral Region. The service, which marked the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and the start of Jesus' public ministry, took place at the Barrackpore Union Presbyterian Church. The sanctuary was filled with church members from regions where Rev. Siloch had previously served, along with family, friends, and special guests, including Senator Jayanti Lutchmedial-Ramdial. The event featured beautiful music by the Barrackpore Union Choir and organ preludes by Mrs. Pandora Mitchell.

Worship was led by Rev. Radica Samuel-Moonoo, Minister of the Nariva/Mayaro Pastoral Region. The secretary of the South Eastern Presbytery Mrs Rumonia Drepaulsingh welcomed all for attending. Prayers were offered by Presiding Elder Agnes Sultani, Presiding Elder Grace Sookoo and Rev. Robert Dinnoo. The scripture readings were read by Ms. Sarah Sahadeo (Psalm 100) and Mrs. Teshiera Mathura (2 Timothy 4:1-5)

Rev. Peter Arjoon, minister of the Tableland Pastoral Region, delivered a message focused on the theme "Preserving in our Ministry, Overcoming the Challenges Encountered," drawing from 2 Timothy 3:16-17. The scripture emphasized that the Word of God is inspired and beneficial for teaching, correcting, and training in righteousness, equipping believers for good work. Rev. Arjoon urged the congregation to stand firm in Christ and continue God's work. He also referred to 2 Timothy 4:4-5, which encourages the preaching of God's truth with patience and care, and using the Word of God to bring love, forgiveness, and eternal life to all. The message was especially relevant as it marked the induction of Rev. Shirvan Siloch to the Barrackpore Pastoral Region, highlighting the perseverance and divine purpose required for his new role.

Rev. Peter Arjoon concluded with a powerful message for Rev. Shirvan Siloch, emphasizing that one cannot effectively proclaim God's Word without being guided by it, nor help others become more like Christ without personally striving to do so. He highlighted that to avoid deception, one must first ensure they are not deceived themselves, and faithfulness requires knowing God's will. Rev. Arjoon also urged the congregation in the Barrackpore Pastoral Region to support and pray for their newly inducted minister, Rev. Siloch, as he continues his work for Christ and the glory of God.

The Act of Induction was performed by the Chairperson of South Eastern Presbytery, Rev. Stephen Harripersad, Minister of Diamond Pastoral Region. Mrs. Rumonia Drepaulsingh, Secretary of the SEP. On behalf of Barrackpore Pastoral Region, tokens of appreciation were presented to all who participated in the accomplishment of the service, and special tokens were presented in welcoming Rev. Shirvan Siloch and his wife Mrs Christine Siloch.

Rev. Shirvan Siloch responded with a strong commitment to his new role, sharing that he has already developed an Action Strategic Plan to foster solidarity, which will be finalized after meetings with all local congregations. However, he emphasized that this plan would be ineffective without the support of the Team Minister. The service concluded with a prayer, the Benediction, and a blessing of the refreshments by the Moderator of Synod, Rt. Rev. Daniel Chance.



# INDUCTION OF REV. RADICA SAMUEL-MOONOO NARIVA/MAYARO PASTORAL REGION

Submitted by Mrs. Alisa S. Boochoon Treasurer of Session.

The induction Service of Rev. Radica Samuel Moonoo, was held on Sunday 19th January 2025, at the Rio Claro Presbyterian Church. The long-anticipated wait of members of the Nariva Mayaro Pastoral Region was finally over. The region has been functioning without a full time Minister for the past ten years.

The church was filled with members from the various congregations within the region, and also members from other Pastoral region such as Diamond, Tabaquite, Riversdale, Couva and Point Fortin. The Penal Rock Presbyterian Church choir sang melodiously, with their voices echoing within the church, as they did the Praise and Worship, the Introit and two anthems.

Leader of Worship was Rev. Robert Dinnoo, Minister of the Tabaquite Pastoral Region. Mr. Brandon Paul Student Minister did the Prayer of Adoration.

Secretary of South Eastern Presbytery Mrs. Rumonia Drepaulsingh welcomed everyone and made the necessary announcements.

Presiding Elder Mr. William Gokool said the prayer of Confession and Thanksgiving.

Mr. Sookdeo Basdeo read the first scripture reading, Psalm 36 vs. 5 to 10 and Rev. Peter Arjoon did the second reading John ch. 2 vs 1 to 11

Presiding Elder Mr. Martin D. Sahadath said the Pastoral Prayer.

Elder Mrs. Dian Nanansingh dedicated the offering.

Rev. Shirvan Siloch delivered an inspiring sermon. Two things to do (1) Keep the Lord your God in your heart in every thing that you do and (2) He will remain loving you in everything you do and every where you go. He also reminded us that Team Work is needed to accomplish spiritual growth.

Mrs. Romonia Drepaulsingh secretary of S.E. Presbytery presented Rev. Radica Samuel Moonoo for the act of Induction, which was performed by Rev. Stephen Harripersad, Chairman of South Eastern Presbytery and Minister of the Diamond Pastoral Region.

Student Minister Mr. Brandon Paul played two anthems on the Steel Pan.

Mrs. Alisa S. Boochoon (Treasurer of Session) brought greetings on behalf of the Session of NMPR and pledged to continue to work as a team with Rev. Moonoo for the upliftment of Spiritual Growth in the five -point Star region of NMPR.

Greetings were also received from the Northern Presbytery by Mr. Daniel Hardian, and from the South-Central Presbytery by Deaconess Ms. Jenifer Sinanan.

The Moderator of Synod, the Rt. Rev. Daniel Chance brought greetings and commended the members of NMPR for their support to the Church Workers over the years and trust that it will continue.

Rev. Radica Samuel Moonoo responded by thanking God for answering the " Call" to serve at NMPR. She thanked everyone for their support in making today's special Induction Service a memorable one because it is the last one before her retirement.

Tokens were presented to Rev. Radica Samuel Moonoo and everyone who participated in the Service.

The Moderator, the Rt. Rev. Daniel Chance blessed the refreshments and pronounced the benediction.

The NMPR congratulated Rev. Moonoo as Minister of the region and wished her and her family God's richest blessings.





# SERVICE OF PRAYER & RESTORATION

## ***“LIVING A LIFE MARKED BY GODLINESS AND PRAYER,”***

On January 18th, 2025, the Trinity Presbyterian Church in Gasparillo hosted a special prayer and restoration service titled *“Living a Life Marked by Godliness and Prayer,”*. With 92 attendees, the event aimed to strengthen faith, deepen spirituality, and lift up prayer petitions for the church community and broader society. The service began with opening remarks and a prayer of approach led by Michael Cooper-Ochiengh. The congregation was then led in worship by the Penal Rock Road Presbyterian Youth Choir, and the Scripture reading from 1st Timothy 2:1-3 was delivered by Elder Christopher John. This scripture highlights the importance of praying for all people, including leaders, for peaceful lives marked by godliness and dignity.

Rev. Damien Sieunarine delivered a meditation centered on this theme, encouraging attendees to make prayer a vital part of their daily lives. A hymn, “Prayer is the soul’s sincere desire,” sung to the tune of *Amazing Grace*, resonated deeply with the congregation, setting the tone for the service.

The prayer focus then shifted to specific petitions for various aspects of life and the church. Several prayers were offered by different members of the congregation, including prayers for the Presbyterian Church in Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT), clergy, boards, committees, regions, and congregations, led by Deaconess Jenifa Sinanan. Prayers for national issues such as crime, good governance, and peace were presented by Rev. Peter Arjoon and Senator Jayanti Lutchmedial-Ramdial.

Further prayers were offered for the home and family, marriages, youth, children, the sick, grieving, and those suffering from physical or mental struggles, with special petitions for those in countries experiencing war. These prayers were powerful expressions of faith, with each petition reflecting the church’s commitment to uplifting all members of society, both locally and globally. A significant moment of the service was the anointing and special prayer led by Rev. Indra Kokaram, which deeply moved attendees, particularly when one young lady broke into tears as prayers were offered for her. This moment underscored the emotional and spiritual depth of the service.

The offertory hymn *“God Bless Your Church with Strength”* supported the PCTT Medical Fund, reflecting the church’s commitment to outreach and care for those in need. The service also featured the Agape Feast, where members shared bread with one another, a tangible symbol of love and unity within the congregation. Service concluded with closing remarks, a prayer of blessing for the meal, and a benediction by Moderator Rt. Rev. Daniel Chance. Overall, the event was a heartfelt and spiritually uplifting experience for all attendees, fostering a sense of unity, community, and faith.





# THE FAMILY CAN

A MONTHLY THOUGHT TO HELP IMPROVE THE FAMILY - HILTON R SIBOO: CONTACT: 788-2685)  
THE PILGRIMAGE OF PARENTING: [PART 11] - WHY (SHOULD WE) PARENT - MEMORY

In this series, we have established that parenting is a relationship between the 'parenter' and the 'parentee'. The focus here is - how and why should we parent memory for a parentee?

For the last two months, our focus considered how do you parent learning and why parent learning? To recall, learning provides the tools to resolve, make appropriate decisions to overcome personal problems, family conflicts, and the development of individual personality with skills to get along with other persons/groups.

Further, learning makes a person more **aware of self** and whomever they relate to in whatever situation. Learning develops perception, skills for behaviours and emotional control, assist with adjustments to situations that daily challenge the individual extending into his/her relationships and societal interactions. Humans are complex individuals in a complex world and **learning with memory** is vital and necessary for *his/her psychological and psychosocial* functioning.

This month, we focus on **MEMORY**. Learning involves committing to memory processes which progress into skillsets for a person's performance and solutions. Learning begins with thinking, then committing to memory, to the reinforcing of an approach that can be recalled to solve life's challenges. Memory is 'proof of learning' and can be defined as 'the present knowledge of a past experience.' There are **four** kinds of memory: to **recognize** - e.g. faces; to **recall** - becoming aware of an experience; to **reproduce** - that previously learned; and to **perform** - as habits done automatically. Put together, this is memory linked to learning. However, learning a habit and committing to memorization can be determined by the challenge to the individual, resulting in his/her responses.

Q. Why parent memory? Learning is connected to memory, with the short and long-term human memory being our internal store house that can be accessed automatically or triggered by our senses and our environment. Are we becoming too heavily dependent on external memory devices? Learning is information that can be anchored to *our memory* for daily living. Parents as 'parenters' have a duty and responsibility to guide positive and realistic practical learning and memory development, not leaving the 'parentee' to his/her own devices. Can this approach improve our parenting relationships and skills and improve intra and inter-family relationships? I hope that this perspective can guide and effect changes and adjustments to the narrative and approach to parenting where the participants interact in a relational exchange that impacts their words and actions, attitudes, behaviours and roles, duties and responsibilities.

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.

Parenting relationships and skills and improve intra and inter-family relationships? I hope that this perspective can guide and effect changes and adjustments to the narrative and approach to parenting where the participants interact in a relational exchange that impacts their words and actions, attitudes, behaviours and roles, duties and responsibilities.

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**

## Encountering ....the Archives of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago

It is **2025**, a most significant milestone for the Archives of the PCTT (CAPCTT) as this marks the **50th Anniversary** since the establishment of the present physical location in September 1975. At that time, there existed archival materials mainly at the office of the SATC; at Kemp House - the office of the San Fernando Field Missionary; and the library and other facilities of the Naparima Teachers, Training College, closed by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in July 1975. Each of these have its own history in the development of the PCTT.

The suggestion for an Archives as documented, was made at the then Presbytery meeting during 1957 by a Canadian Lady Missionary, Ms Elma Inman. It was not until 1961 that the first Archives Committee with a Chairman was appointed by Synod, (itself established January 1960). It was called the Archives and Historical Committee. In 1966, a new committee called the Archives and Museum Committee was appointed in preparation for the year-long Centenary celebrations of 1968 of the then Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Grenada (PCTG). This committee mounted a display or exhibition of artefacts and documents at the Naparima Bowl and Morton House for all of Trinidad. Some of these items are today held at the Archives.

However, going into 1968 and looking towards the New Century, a major survey to assess the work of the Church and to propose a way forward into the future led to the completion of the Garth Legge Report in 1966 which listed seven underlying features of situation and itemised ten areas for 'stimulating thought, discussion and action throughout the PCTG. It would be interesting for leaders and members of the PCTT to lift these pages today nearly sixty years later and evaluate any achievements.

To go back to the history of the Presbyterian presence in Trinidad is to research documents: since 1833 – the Church of Scotland; 1843 - the American Mission; and 1868 - the Canadian Mission, beginning with Reverend John Morton, his wife Sarah, his daughter Agnes and sons.

Here, too, should be noted that at a Synod meeting on August 1962, Mr Enos Sewla, a Presbyterian and the then National Archivist of Trinidad and Tobago presented a proposal for the establishment of the Archives of the PCTG with details for three sections: the Repository, the Museum, and the Archival Library.

To members of the PCTT and all persons interested in satisfying a thirst and hunger for study and research of the PCTT, the CAPCTT is available to your 'Encountering the Archives' and hope, in some way, to lay a table to your satisfaction and satiation. These few references only touch the tip of the proverbial/symbolic iceberg that are contained in the Archives, PCTT.

*An encounter with the Archives is an encounter with ... yourself. The Archives are opened on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.*

*Call to arrange a visit. Contact: 652-4829 [Synod Office] and 653-4166 [SATC Library] Asst Archivist: Hilton R Bill Siboo 788-2685*

# ELEVATION SERVICE OF MS. CYNTHIA SIEWDASS TO THE ORDER OF PRESIDING ELDER OF PCTT

Submitted by the Session of the Couva/Balmain Pastoral Region

On January 30th 2024, the South-Central Presbytery (S.C.P.) of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (P.C.T.T.), together with the Couva/Balmain Pastoral Region held the Elevation Service for Ms. Cynthia Siewdass to Order of Presiding Elder of PCTT.

The vibrant Regional Choir, led by Ms. Jacqueline Ramdhanie, opened the service with an Introit, setting a reverent and uplifting tone for this special occasion. Reverend Damien Sieunarine, Minister of the Couva/Balmain Pastoral Region led the service and Reverend Brenda Bullock, Minister of the Siparia Pastoral Region, delivered the sermon.

Ms. Geeta K. Maharaj, Secretary of the South-Central Presbytery welcomed all to this momentous occasion. She described Ms. Siewdass as a servant of God whose dedication, wisdom and steadfast faith have guided her with unwavering love and commitment.

Deaconess Amber Seesahai- Payne and Ms. Joy Sammah shared scripture readings taken from Isaiah 6:5-8 and Matthew 4:18-21. Prayers were offered by Mr. Larry Bachansingh and P.E. Mikey Bedasie.

Reverend Bullock's message to Ms. Siewdass and the congregation emphasized that Jesus desires the best from us, which comes through preparation. She reflected on the words of the Prophet Isaiah 6:8 "Whom shall I send?" and encouraged Cynthia to listen to God's voice, embrace her ministry with joy and nourish the souls of His people.

Ms. Siewdass was presented by the Secretary of South-Central Presbytery, Ms. Geeta K. Maharaj and the Act of Elevation was conducted by Chairman of the S.C.P., Reverend Letra Jacob. After the Act of Elevation, Reverend Jacob presented newly, elevated Presiding Elder Cynthia Siewdass with a Bible.

Ms. Christine Bachan-Balkissoon, Clerk of Session, presented Presiding Elder Cynthia Siewdass with a stole, commending her as a dedicated prayer warrior. She highlighted the region's legacy of producing two presiding elders and celebrated Cynthia's place in this esteemed lineage. She encouraged her to embrace her new role and continue to shine brightly.

Ms. Siewdass expressed gratitude to the South-Central Presbytery and Couva/Balmain Pastoral Region. She reflected on her upbringing in Biblical principles and shared that a personal tragedy twenty years ago became her epiphany, leading her to question when to fully follow the Lord. While preaching on Nicodemus, she realized - the time was now. Trusting in God's guidance, quoting 2 Timothy 1:9, affirmed her calling. Her epiphany was her response to the call, "Here am I Lord, send me." With this, she embraced her new role as Presiding Elder of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago. She closed the service with a final prayer and Benediction.





# REMEMBRANCE SERVICE: KNOX PRES CHURCH MEMORIES ALWAYS LIVE WITH YOU

Submitted by Mr. Venoo Ramdhanie, Choir and Local Board Member, Knox Presbyterian Church

To the beautiful words of melodies such as “Wind beneath my wings” and “Goodness of God”, a solemn but heartfelt Remembrance Service was held at Knox Presbyterian Church on Sunday 26th March 2025.

A service of this nature allowed congregation members who had lost someone dear to them a chance to be given some sense of closure. As a nation grieves for lost loved ones due to crimes, illnesses and other tragedies, a remembrance service like this one aims at helping the country heal from all perils.

As families made their way up, they were given a Carnation flower to place in a vase, then to a table with their candle in memory of a loved one/ones. Reverend Damien Sieunarine offered prayers on behalf of all, then reminded us of the names of these special loved ones as a member of each family lit their respective candle.

The atmosphere was deeply spiritual and emotional as there pervaded a feeling of deep awareness of what each member was experiencing. It seemed as if “all was one and one was all”. It is sufficient to say “one tear was shed” as a congregation.

Members were given their flower and candle to be lit throughout the day at home to continue in meditation with the treasured Psalm 23 and the melodies of the Choir: “Into your Hands” and “I will lift up mine eyes”.

Reverend Sieunarine’s message of “Hope” and “a better place” resonated with the aura of the moment and surely enhanced the service that day as the 8am sunshine added to the peaceful and serene nature of God’s blessed morning.



## HALL OF FAME FOR SAMUEL BADREE

On January 11th 2025 the 2024 First Citizens Sports Awards and 2025 Sports Hall of Fame Induction – a night to honour the champions who embody excellence, resilience, and the Power of Perseverance! was held celebrating incredible athletes and their unforgettable achievements, and paying tribute to the relentless spirit that drives greatness.

Congratulations to Samuel Badree of Barrackpore Pastoral Region on being inducted into the First Citizens Sports Foundation Hall of Fame 2025. God's blessings as he continues to inspire others through his ministry in sport. Mr Badree a former student of Naparima College and Rochard Douglas Presbyterian School expressed his gratitude.

“(I am) Extremely humbled to be inducted into the First Citizens Sports Foundation Hall of Fame 2025. I've never played the sport for accolades nor do I expect any for the work I continue to do to develop the next generation. But it does feel gratifying to be recognized and it inspires me even more to impact others. Thanks for the recognition and let the work continue!”



# DIAMOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PROUD TO HAVE THREE DEDICATED MEMBERS SERVING AS PRINCIPALS OF OUR PRESBYTERIAN SCHOOLS.

Submitted by Kaydalle Kisson of Diamond Presbyterian Church.

Mr. David Battoo is the current appointed Principal of the Tabaquite Presbyterian Primary School. He was formerly the Vice Principal of Rochard Douglas Presbyterian Primary school. He is a dedicated member of our church and currently serves as the Chairman of the local Board. He has been serving this position for the past thirteen years. He's also a Sunday School Teacher and is a representative to Synod and Synodical Council.

Mr. Joel Beharry is the current appointed Principal of the Reform Presbyterian Primary School. He was the former Senior Teacher at the Picton Presbyterian Primary School. He is a dedicated member of our church and currently serves as a Sunday School Teacher. He served as the Sunday School Superintendent for many years.

Mr. Hendrickson Hublal is the current appointed Principal of the Rochard Douglas Presbyterian Primary School. He was formerly the Vice Principal of the Princess Town No. 1 Presbyterian Primary School. He is a dedicated member of our church and currently serves as the Treasurer of the Local Board. He has been serving this position for the past ten years.



These three dedicated members have been in the church from kids to adults and continue to be active in all aspects and activities of our church. They continue to be dedicated members of our church. They have transferred what they have been taught in the church and their dedication to God to the schools which they manage. They try their best to uphold good values, behaviors, attitudes, morals and dedication to God in their school. They work assiduously with their staff to uplift the performance of their schools. The Diamond Presbyterian Church wishes them all the best in their continued endeavours as Principals and as members of our church.

## AKASHBANI PRES LENT CALENDAR

<b>Akashbani Presbyterian Church</b> Lalla Street, Siparia	
LENTEN MID-WEEK CALENDAR	
<b>05</b> MAR	<b>REV. BRENDA BULLOCK</b> ASH WEDNESDAY   6:30 PM
<b>12</b> MAR	<b>IERE HIGH SCHOOL</b> LENTEN MID-WEEK   6:30 PM
<b>19</b> MAR	<b>P.E. DIANA SOOKDEO</b> LENTEN MID-WEEK   6:30 PM
<b>26</b> MAR	<b>EASTER CANTATA</b> LENTEN MID-WEEK   6:30 PM
<b>02</b> APR	<b>STUDENT MINISTER BRANDON PAUL</b> LENTEN MID-WEEK   6:30 PM
<b>09</b> APR	<b>MR. MICHAEL COOPER-OCHIENGH</b> LENTEN MID-WEEK   6:30 PM

<b>Akashbani Presbyterian Church</b> LALLA STREET, SIPARIA	
HOLY WEEK CALENDAR	
<b>13</b> APR	<b>P.E. DIANA SOOKDEO</b> PALM SUNDAY   8:00 AM
<b>14</b> APR	<b>P.E. ASHFORD TAMBY</b> HOLY WEEK   9:30 PM
<b>15</b> APR	<b>P.E. DIANA SOOKDEO</b> HOLY WEEK   9:30 PM
<b>16</b> APR	<b>MRS. LOUELLA RAMSINGH</b> HOLY WEEK   9:30 PM
<b>17</b> APR	<b>REV. BRENDA BULLOCK</b> HOLY THURSDAY   9:30 PM
<b>18</b> APR	<b>REV. BRENDA BULLOCK &amp; P.E. DIANA SOOKDEO</b> GOOD FRIDAY   8:00 AM
<b>20</b> APR	<b>REV. BRENDA BULLOCK &amp; P.E. DIANA SOOKDEO</b> EASTER SUNDAY   8:00 AM



Rev. Brenda Bullock and Mr. Leslie Naipaul present Mr. Patrick Jugmohansingh with a plaque in recognition for long, meritorious and distinguished service to Akashbani Presbyterian Church on the Occasion of 105th Anniversary Celebration 15th May 2024



# HONORARY ELDER, MRS. JOAN RAMJEAWAN CELEBRATES HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

Submitted by: Ann Ramjeawan

The Lord said, "It is good to give thanks unto the Lord." On 7th December 1944, a girl was born in the humble village of Barrackpore to her proud parents Sonny and Sonia Ramsoomair and they named her Joan. Later on, Joan got married to her late husband Simon Ramjeawan and moved to Monkey Town. From then on, she began to serve and worship at the Krist Mandli Presbyterian Church. She served on several boards of the church. She was eventually elevated to the title Honourary Elder.

On the 7th of December 2024 she celebrated her 80th birthday with a Thanksgiving service at the Krist Mandli Presbyterian Church. Her children, grandchildren, siblings, cousins, relatives, neighbours, friends, and the church family were all invited.

The Reverend Stephen Harripersad Minister of the region officiated over the service. His message was based on scripture readings taken from Psalm 121 and Isaiah chapter 40 verses 27-31. Enhancing the service with song and music was the Krist Mandli Presbyterian Church Choir.

After the service, a short programme was held, chaired by her daughter Ann Ramjeawan. Firstly, a brief biodata on Mrs. Ramjeawan's life thus far was read. The congregation was entertained by performances from her immediate family and the church choir. Mrs. Ramjeawan also serenaded the congregation by a song entitled "How Can I Give Thanks." Ms. Lisa Morgan, Secretary of the church gave a brief history of Mrs. Ramjeawan's work and witness in the church.

Following the programme everyone was treated to a scrumptious dinner and dessert. The evening was truly an unforgettable one and will live on in our memories forever.

Special blessings to Mrs. Ramjeawan may she continue to grow in strength and in favour with God.





# THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION SUNDAY

SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025

## PREACHING SCHEDULE

THEME: "Just as I am"

<b>1</b>	<b>SAN JUAN/WOODBROOK</b>		
	San Juan	7.30 a.m.	Rt. Rev. Daniel Chance
	Santa Cruz	9.00 a.m.	Rt. Rev. Daniel Chance
	Woodbrook	10.30 a.m.	P.E. Charles Mahabir
<b>2</b>	<b>ARAMALAYA</b>		
	Tacarigua	7.00 a.m.	P.E. Ashford Tamby
	Aramalaya	7.45 a.m.	Rev. Emmanuel Ramdeen
	Warrenville	9.00 a.m.	P.E. Ashford Tamby
	Kelly Village	10.30 a.m.	Deaconess Amber Seesahai-Payne
<b>3</b>	<b>ARIMA</b>		
	Arima	7.00 a.m.	P.E. Jason Ogeer
	Valencia	8.30 a.m.	P.E. Jason Ogeer
	San Carlos	9.00 a.m.	Elder Jesslyn Ramlal
	St. Helena	10.30 a.m.	Elder Jesslyn Ramlal
<b>4</b>	<b>GUAICO</b>		
	Caratal	6.30 a.m.	Elder Anthony Sampath
	Cumuto	6.45 a.m.	Elder Clarence Barrath
	Cunaripo	8.00 a.m.	Rev. Cynara Dube-Khan
	Guaico	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Cynara Dube-Khan
	Jubille	8.30 a.m.	Elder Anthony Sampath
<b>5</b>	<b>SANGRE CHIQUITO</b>		
	Sangre Chiquito	7.00 a.m.	Miss Stephanie Sam
	Plum Road	8.30 a.m.	Elder Daniel Haradan
	Grosvenor	7.00 a.m.	Rev. Damien Sieunarine
	Fishing Pond	9.00 a.m.	Rev. Damen Sieunarine
	Plum Mitán	10.00 a.m.	Elder Daniel Haradan
<b>6</b>	<b>CUREPE/ST. JOSEPH</b>		
	Maracas	7.00 a.m.	P.E. Ralph Ramjattan
	St. Joseph	8.30 a.m.	Rev. Adrian Sieunarine
	Curepe	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Adrian Sieunarine
	Caroni	7.00 a.m.	S.M. Stephanie Baldeosingh
	Latchu Memorial (Bamboo)	8.30 a.m.	S.M. Stephanie Baldeosingh



<b>7</b>	<b>CHAGUANAS</b>		
	Robinson Memorial	7.00 a.m.	Rev. Sanya Beharry
	St. Charles	9.30 a.m.	Rev. Sanya Beharry
	Las Lomas	7:00 a.m.	Deaconess Anupa Nanan
	Cunupia	9.00 a.m.	Deaconess Anupa Nanan
	Felicity	8.00 a.m.	P.E. Gita Dattoo
<b>8</b>	<b>CHASE VILLAGE</b>		
	Waterloo	7.30 a.m.	Rev. Keron Khellawan
	St. John (Bank Village)	8:30 a.m.	Rev. Keron Khellawan
	Anugrah (Calcutta)	8.30 a.m.	SATC Student Louella Ramsingh
	Nistar	10.00a.m.	SATC Student Louella Ramsingh
<b>9</b>	<b>COUVA</b>		
	Mc Bean	7.00 a.m.	P.E Emmanuel Ramkaran
	Balmain	8.30 a.m.	Rev. Daniel Teelucksingh
	Knox	8.00 a.m.	Elder Alex Tamby
	Indian Trail	10.00 a.m.	Elder Alex Tamby
<b>10</b>	<b>CLAXTON BAY</b>		
	Ebenezer	7.30 a.m.	Rev. Letra Jacob
	Mizpah	9.00 a.m.	Rev. Letra Jacob
	Carolina	7.00 a.m.	P.E. Mikey Bedasie
	Green Memorial California	8.30 a.m.	P.E. Mikey Bedasie
	Esperanza	10.00 a.m.	P.E. Dr. Dianne Phillip-Ramjattan
<b>11</b>	<b>MARABELLA\BONNE AVENTURE</b>		
	Marabella	7.00 a.m.	Rev. Manan Deo
	Gasparillo	8.30 a.m.	Rev. Manan Deo
	Bonne Aventure	7.00 a.m.	Intern P.E. Andre Thompson
	Mayo	8.30 a.m.	Intern P.E. Andre Thompson
	Reform	7.30 a.m.	Elder Carlyle Mulchan
	Ben Lomond	9.00 a.m.	P.E. Cynthia Siewdass
<b>12</b>	<b>SUSAMACHAR</b>		
	Susamachar	7.00 a.m.	Rev. Errol Ragnauth
	Vistabella	8.30 a.m.	Rev. Errol Ragnauth
	Susamachar	5.00 p.m.	Elder Tracey Doman
	Corinth	8.30 a.m.	Elder Christopher John
	Golconda	10.00 a.m.	Deaconess Marlene Seenathsingh

<b>13</b>	<b>LA ROMAINE/DEBE</b>		
	La Romaine	7.00 a.m.	Rev. Radica Samuel-Moonoo
	Canaan	8.30 a.m.	Rev. Radica Samuel-Moonoo
	Debe	7.30 a.m.	SATC Student Nerissa Sahadeo
	Esperance	9.00 a.m.	P.E. Indra Debysingh
	Hermitage	10.30 a.m.	Deaconess Jenifa Sinanan
<b>14</b>	<b>PENAL</b>		
	Penal	7.00 a.m.	Rev. Namelia Lutchman-Pulwarty
	Penal Rock	8.30 a.m.	Elder Amitabh Boodram
	Divine Rock	9.30 a.m.	P. E. William Gokool
	Mendez	8.30 a.m.	P.E. William Gokool
	Quinam Mission Station	9.00 a.m.	Rev. Namelia Lutchman-Pulwarty
<b>15</b>	<b>SIPARIA</b>		
	Erin Road	7.00 a.m.	Elder Daniel Jacob
	Siparia	8.00 a.m.	Rev. Bjorn Warde
	San Francique	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Bjorn Warde
<b>16</b>	<b>OROPOUCHE</b>		
	Morning Star	6.30 a.m.	P.E. Krishna Persad
	Eternal Light	8.00 a.m.	P.E. Ivan Paul
	Rousillac	9.30 a.m.	P.E. Krishna Persad
<b>17</b>	<b>POINT FORTIN/CEDROS</b>		
	Guapo	7.00 a.m.	Mr. Lyndon Boodoo
	Salazar Trace	8.30 a.m.	Rev. Robert Dinnnoo
	Point Fortin	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Robert Dinnnoo
	Cedros	7.00 a.m.	Rev. Ria Thompson-Jimdar
	Coromandel	8.30 a.m.	Rev. Ria Thompson-Jimdar
	Point Coco	10.00 a.m.	Elder Roy Umraw
<b>18</b>	<b>DIAMOND</b>		
	Diamond	7.15 a.m.	Rev. Brenda Bullock
	Krist Mandli	9.00 a.m.	Rev. Brenda Bullock
	Lower Barrackpore	7.00 a.m.	Student Minister Dave Jitta
	Transfer	8.30 a.m.	Student Minister Dave Jitta
<b>19</b>	<b>BARRACKPORE</b>		
	Barrackpore Union	8.00 a.m.	Elder Teesha Dass
	Lengua	9.00 a.m.	Rev. Satnarine Ramnath
	Borde Narve	7.00 a.m.	Rev. Satnarine Ramnath
	Clarke Rochard	7.00 a.m.	P.E. Agnes Sultanti
	Rochard Douglas	9.00 a.m.	Ms. Giselle Hampton & Ms. Jade Fuentes



<b>20</b>	<b>RIVERSDALE</b>		
	Morichal	7:00 a.m.	P.E. Martin Sahadath
	Brothers	8.30 a.m.	P.E. Martin Sahadath
	Riversdale	9.45 a.m.	Rev. Shirvan Siloch
	Poonah	8.00 a.m.	Rev. Shirvan Siloch
<b>21</b>	<b>TABAQUITE</b>		
	Piparo	6.30 a.m.	Rev. Dr. Randall Sammah
	Jeffers {24 mile}	8.00 a.m.	Student Minister Brandon Paul
	Torrib Trace	9.30 a.m.	Student Minister Brandon Paul
	Tabaquite	9.30 a.m.	Rev. Kelvin Sookhansingh
	Flanagin Town	8.00 a.m.	Rev. Kelvin Sookhansingh
<b>22</b>	<b>PRINCES TOWN</b>		
	St. Andrew's	7.00 a.m.	Rev. Stephen Harripersad
	Iere Village	8.30 a.m.	Rev. Joy Abdul-Mohan
	Jordan Hill	7.30 a.m.	Elder Rawle Adimoolah
	St. Mary's	9.30 a.m.	Deaconess Calpurnia Ghouralal-Chance
<b>23</b>	<b>TABLELAND</b>		
	St. James	7.30 a.m.	Intern Minister Jessica Mahadeo
	St. Julien	9.00 a.m.	Intern Minister Jessica Mahadeo
	Poole	7.00 a.m.	Elder Michael Cooper Ochiengh
	New Century	8.30 a.m.	Elder Michael Cooper Ochiengh
<b>24</b>	<b>NARIVA/ MAYARO</b>		
	Rio Claro	7.00 a.m.	Rev. Peter Arjoon
	Mafeking	9.00 a.m.	Rev. Peter Arjoon
	Ecclesville	7.00 a.m.	Elders Raquel Sooklalsingh-Paul & Kurt Paul
	Biche	7.00 a.m.	Elder Radcliffe Dookie & Larry Sooklalsingh
	Navet	8.45 a.m.	Elder Radcliffe Dookie & Larry Sooklalsingh



# ST. ANDREW'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

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# SUSAMACHAR MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

It is with immense joy and gratitude that we extend heartfelt congratulations to each and every one of you for your unwavering support and dedication in making the 2024 Annual Christmas Dinner an extraordinary success. Your collective efforts and commitment have once again demonstrated the true spirit of fellowship and community that defines Susamachar Men's Fellowship.

A special note of appreciation goes out to all those who contributed to the sumptuous Christmas meal. From the deliciously prepared ham to the variety of additional dishes, every bite spoke volumes of the love and care that went into its preparation. Your generosity in providing these wonderful treats ensured that everyone had a feast to remember.

To our talented decorators, thank you for transforming the venue into a festive wonderland. The enchanting décor set the perfect tone for an evening filled with joy and celebration. Your creativity and hard work did not go unnoticed and added a magical touch to the occasion.

We also extend our gratitude to the DJ for the exceptional music that kept the atmosphere lively and the dance floor busy. The carefully curated playlist brought smiles, laughter, and plenty of dancing, creating memories that will be cherished for years to come. The wide array of Christmas drinks provided was another highlight, adding a refreshing element to the evening's festivities.

This year's celebration was undoubtedly a great success, and it would not have been possible without the collaborative efforts of our remarkable fellowship and their wonderful wives. Our contributions exemplify the strength and unity of our group, and we are excited to see this tradition continue to grow and flourish in 2025.

Thank you once again for our remarkable support and dedication. Let us continue to build on this spirit of camaraderie as we look forward to another wonderful Christmas celebration next year.

With heartfelt gratitude and warm wishes.



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO (PCTT)

## BETH-RAPHA MISSION

To access our services do not hesitate  
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*If you have any questions feel free to  
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## A HISTORIC MILESTONE: MS. EMILY JADE RAMPERSAD CALLED TO THE BAR, CONTINUING FAMILY LEGACY

In a moment of great pride and celebration, Ms. Emily Jade Rampersad was officially called to the Trinidad and Tobago Bar at the Hall of Justice Port of Spain on Friday 22nd November 2024 becoming the first female attorney in her family and the fourth member of her lineage to achieve this significant legal milestone. The prestigious ceremony took place amidst a close-knit family gathering, marking not only a personal triumph for Emily but also a momentous occasion for the Rampersad and Ramanan families of Princes Town.

Emily, the eldest daughter of Sherry Ann Rampersad, Senior teacher at St Julien Presbyterian School and Vishnu Rampersad Corrosion Specialist Baker Hughes, has long been a trailblazer in her family, and this achievement adds to her growing legacy of perseverance and determination. Emily is the granddaughter of Hafiza Ramanan a long standing member of the St Andrew's Presbyterian Church and mother of Sheldon and Reagan Ramanan. With a keen interest in Cyber Security Law and Information Rights, Emily hopes to make a significant impact in these rapidly evolving fields, advocating for robust legal frameworks in an increasingly digital world.

The special occasion was made even more memorable by the presence of Emily's uncle, Lieutenant Colonel Sheldon Ramanan, who had the honor of calling her to the Bar. As an Attorney at Law and the Inspector General of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force, Lieutenant Colonel Ramanan's participation in the ceremony symbolized both professional achievement and familial pride.

Also present to celebrate Emily's accomplishment was her cousin, Mr. Chris Ramlal, a prominent Criminal Defence Attorney at Law, whose career continues to inspire young legal minds, and her uncle, Police Sergeant Mr. Reagan Ramanan, Attorney at Law and Legal Officer attached to the Southern Division. Together, they represent a powerful and dedicated legal family whose contributions continue to shape the legal and national security landscape of Trinidad and Tobago. Reflecting on her journey, Emily expressed her deep gratitude for the unwavering support of her family. "Being called to the Bar today is not just a personal achievement, but the fulfillment of a dream that my family has nurtured for me. I hope to continue to build on this legacy and contribute to the legal field in meaningful ways," she said.

As she steps into her legal career, Emily Jade Rampersad's story serves as an inspiration to young women aspiring to break barriers and achieve greatness in their chosen fields. With the strength of her family behind her, she is poised to make significant contributions to the legal community and beyond.



From left to right- Sgt Reagan Ramanan Attorney at law,, Emily Jade Rampersad Attorney at Law, Chris Ramlal Attorney at Law and Lt Colonel Sheldon Ramanan Attorney at Law





# JUBILEE PRESBYTERIAN SCHOOL HOSTS HISTORIC PEACE WALK



Submitted by: Ms. Janelle Ragbir. (Teacher Primary)

In a historic first for the Jubilee Presbyterian School, students, teachers and parents filled the streets of Guaico Tamana on Friday 14th February 2025 for a memorable "Peace Walk." The initiative was part of the Ministry of Education "No Violence Day," and emphasized the importance of peace, love and unity in schools and communities. The event was also aligned with the Presbyterian Primary School Board of Education's Bible lesson for the day "Jesus Heals a Leper (Mark 1: 40-45) reinforcing the message of compassion, healing and kindness.

The "Peace Walk" was led by the B.O.A. 1, Mr. Paul Mongolas, on the microphone guiding participants as they walked peacefully through the streets with fliers being distributed with words of encouragement.

The streets of Guaico Tamana came alive with a sea of bright smiles and banners as students proudly displayed their message of peace and non-violence. The specially designed banner donated by FD Graphics, served as a centerpiece for the walk.

The school extends heartfelt thanks to several key individuals who played an essential role in making the event a success: Ms. Roann Mahabalsingh, Mrs. Sasha Baran, Mrs. Nalini Motilal, Mr. Steffan Singh, Mr. Larry Chariandy and Mr. Suraj Singh.

The "Peace Walk" not only marked a significant milestone in the history of the Jubilee Presbyterian School but also served as a meaningful reminder of the importance of promoting peace, understanding and unity in our society. The school community looks forward to making this an annual event, continuing to spread the message of peace and hope for generations to come.

## VACANCY

- **GENERAL SECRETARY**
- **PRESBYTERIAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION**
- **(FULL – TIME CONTRACT FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS)**

The General Secretary of the Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education (PPSBE) will be responsible for the General Administration of the Office of the Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education.

### **Candidate Description:**

- Dedicated, responsible individual who can function as the Full-Time General Secretary to the PPSBE.
- Strong leadership and teamwork experience.
- Knowledgeable with Education policies.
- Energetic and self-motivated.
- Strong inter-personal skills.

### **Qualifications:**

- A bachelor's degree in education/educational administration or equivalent qualification in Human Resource and Administration.
- Minimum 5 years as an Administrator in an Educational organisation or institution.
- Knowledge of legal documents concerning Education.
- Working Knowledge of Ministry of Education/Teaching Service Regulations.
- Must be an active communicant member of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago

Please send applications and resumes to [gs@pctt.org.tt](mailto:gs@pctt.org.tt) and [synod@pctt.org.tt](mailto:synod@pctt.org.tt) by 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

For further information contact the Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education at **(868) 652-3717** or **(868) 657-5323**





## **NAPARIMA COLLEGE** **VACANCY**

### **PERSONAL ASSISTANT REQUIRED**

Duties and Responsibilities include but not limited to the following:

- A minimum of five (5) CXC passes including Mathematics and English Language
- 1 year experience in administration and proficient in Microsoft Office Suite and Google Workspace.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Must be able to work flexible hours and independently.

SEND RESUME TO  
[naparimacollege.sec@fac.edu.tt](mailto:naparimacollege.sec@fac.edu.tt)

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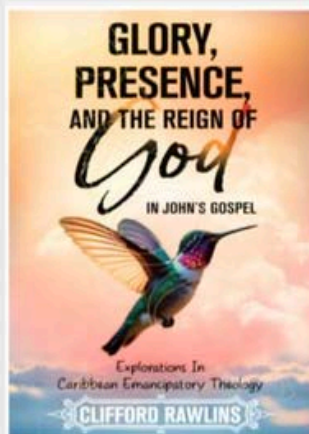
DEADLINE for Applications - 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025

For further information please call 609-3087.



## **A LENTEN BOOK LAUNCH AND BRUNCH**

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Saturday 8th March 2025 @ The St. John Presbyterian Church Hall,  
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Rev'd. Clifford Rawlins  
Author of  
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REFERENCE: CLIFFORD RAWLINS

Online link to the event to be sent for those  
physically unable to attend and overseas



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## The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad & Tobago **JOB VACANCY**

### PROPERTY MANAGER OF SYNOD

This is a FULL-TIME CONTRACTUAL POSITION responsible for operational and financial aspects of properties, facilities, and other assets relating to lands and land matters on behalf of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Trinidad and Tobago.

#### REQUIREMENTS

- Relevant Qualifications in Business, Law, Land Administration, Procurement, Project/Facilities Management or equivalent experience in field
- Having a Christ-like disposition and being a communicant Presbyterian in good standing would be an asset.
- Experience in real estate and management are

For more information visit  
<https://www.pctt.org.tt/category/vacancies/>  
Send applications with resume by email to :  
[vacancies@pctt.org.tt](mailto:vacancies@pctt.org.tt)  
by 31st March 2025

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted



## VACANCY

### Communications Manager (Full-Time) Contract Position

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

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



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## VACANCY

### ARCHIVIST

#### PART-TIME POSITION

The Archives serves several purposes and functions:

- Preserving Legal Documents and providing needed information
- Preserving Vital Statistical Records (Membership, Baptismal and Marriage)
- Data on past promotional activities and events.

#### EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

Qualification and Experience in any of the following areas:

- History, Library Science, Archival Science or Another Related Field
- Experience working with database management and basic computer skills

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by 31st March 2025  
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## VACANCY

### GENERAL TREASURER

#### PART-TIME CONTRACTUAL POSITION

Accountable for all of the day-to-day planning and directing the functions of financial accounting, treasury, internal controls and payroll functions of PCTT and management accounting.

#### QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS :-

- Qualified accountant with a minimum of three (3) years accounting and/or auditing experience at a Middle Management or senior accounting level, with at least 1-year supervisory experience, as evident by ACCA, or a degree in Accounting from an accredited institution, or an equivalent combination of training and experience.
- Communicant member of the PCTT

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Send applications with resume by email to :  
[vacancies@pctt.org.tt](mailto:vacancies@pctt.org.tt)  
by 31st March 2025  
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# THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**ST. ANDREW'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE**

*in collaboration with*

**THE BOARD OF THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION**

## Elders' Retreat 2025

**SATURDAY 15TH MARCH 2025**

**ST. JOHN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
BANK VILLAGE,  
ST MARY'S FREEPORT**

**REGISTRATION STARTS @ 8.30AM  
RETREAT 9AM-12.30PM**

**COST \$75**





THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

*Board of Youth Affairs*

# PRE-LENTEN CAMP

FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY FROM 12PM -  
MONDAY 3RD MARCH, 2025 TILL 12PM AT MORTON HOUSE, TUNAPUNA.

- Ages: 18 - 35 years only
- Cost: \$400 per camper

# R.A.V.A.H

**Hope (Hebrew)**

**"KEEP ADVANCING, VISUALIZING AND ACHIEVING HIS PROMISES."**

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." - Isaiah 40:31

**For further information please contact the Chair Mr. Alex Tamby : 323-3538**

The Board of Youth Affairs of the PCTT invites all youths (18-35 years) to our Pre-Lenten Camp 2025.

TO REGISTER PLEASE VISIT:

<https://forms.gle/VdsrBjYepf4hQFgh6>