

The Trinidad PRESBYTERIAN

The Official Publication of The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad & Tobago
November 2023



SEA AWARDS

Humming Bird Gold for Badree

*Moderator Speaks
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THE MODERATOR SPEAKS

PCTT MODERATOR, THE RIGHT REVEREND DANIEL CHANCE



AS WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

There are many outstanding scripture references that continue to caution us against growing complacent and careless in our faith journey as we are led to take God and His provision for our daily lives for granted. Deuteronomy 8: 10-13 shares with us what can happen when we begin to replace God with ourselves and so are convinced that we are responsible for what we have and who we are. It tells us, *"When you have eaten your fill, be sure to praise the Lord your God for the good land He has given you. But that is the time to be careful! Beware that in your plenty, you do not forget the Lord your God and disobey His commands, regulations and decrees that I am giving you today. For when you have become full and prosperous, and have built fine homes to live in, and when your flocks and herds have become very large, and your silver and gold have multiplied along with everything else, be careful!"* (NIV)

Whenever we celebrate special occasions such as a birthday, an anniversary or retirement, we are being presented with the opportunity to critically examine where we have been, where we are at present, and the best way in which we can position ourselves in the future to fulfill the mandate which has been given to us by our God. We reflect upon the years which have passed, and the many ways we have been able to overcome the challenges which have come our way, we reflect upon the measures that have been implemented and how we have been able to grow.

The Presbyterian Church in Trinidad and Tobago is in the process of preparing to celebrate its 156th Anniversary. No doubt, we are indeed thankful for the many lives which have been touched and influenced by the power of the Holy Spirit. We can attest that we have all been recipients and benefactors of God's manifold blessings through His Church. However, an Anniversary demands that we go a little further into our minds and hearts. Are we satisfied with where we are as a Church? Is there much more that we can do as we give of ourselves in continuing to build God's church in the world?

As we make projections for the future, may I take this opportunity to humbly suggest that as God spoke through the prophets of old, to "return to Him," that we, in this time of celebration with thanksgiving, return to our God. Having received out of His goodness and bounty, let us give or share with all of God's people. We have been blessed, therefore, we are called to be a blessing to others. As we have been loved and feel that sense of belonging within the church community, let us reciprocate the same. The church that exhibits the qualities of Christ is a church that truly represents Christ in the world. Friends, as we prepare to celebrate the Church's Anniversary, with the help that only God can give, may we all challenge ourselves to rediscover our zeal and passion for Christ and His Church.

PCTT ONLINE GIVING PORTAL

<https://www.pctt.org.tt/give/>

WHY SHOULD YOU GIVE?

As Christ's ambassadors in this world, we all have a responsibility to support God's work and witness in this part of the vineyard. Let us, therefore, aim to give with a cheerful heart towards the mission of the Church so that changes will truly be possible."

HOW DOES ONLINE GIVING WORK?

Giving via our website is as simple as any online purchase using your Credit or Visa Debit Card.

Steps:

1. Visit our [Giving Portal](#).
2. Click **Give** under your selected ministry.
3. Enter donation amount and click **Give**.
4. From the Cart, you can either edit your donation, add multiple donations to a single order, or Proceed to Checkout.
5. When you are ready click **Checkout** which will take you to the secure WiPay Payment Portal to finish your transaction.

WHAT DOES YOUR GIVING SUPPORT?

It takes financial resources to accomplish the work God has called us to do. Your generous offerings enable the PCTT to fulfill its mission to Worship, Care and Serve. Our monetary gifts support the daily operations of the church, fuels all ministries and projects, and supports the many core and outreach ministries.

EDITORIAL

POVERTY: A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

"Wherever men and women are condemned to live in extreme poverty, human rights are violated. To come together to ensure that these rights be respected is our solemn duty." Father Joseph Wresinski, activist.

Today, there are 1.3 billion people living in persistent poverty worldwide. Poverty is when one has insufficient access to basic resources such as food, shelter or water. Outright poverty is when someone cannot access enough basic resources by any standard. Relative poverty is when someone cannot access enough resources relative to a particular standard of living, for example, compared to other people in one's country. This means that poverty can take many forms from absolute destitution to hidden forms of poverty where working people still struggle to afford things. It also means that poverty occurs worldwide, from our own communities to the other end of the world.

Here, in our twin islands, there is the need to identify and measure poverty so that attention can be paid to address the needs of every citizen. The poor and vulnerable are often not only 'unseen' citizens but are also 'unheard of' unless tragedy occurs and the case is highlighted by the media. As concerned citizens, we cannot wait for misfortune or tragedy to occur before we acknowledge that these are citizens who are barely scraping by and who need our care and attention. These are our sisters and brothers who lack basic sanitation and who are deprived of basic needs: food, water, health care and education. Poverty steals dignity and hope. It deprives parents and guardians affected of a most basic need – to see their children have a better life.

As concerned citizens, we cannot ignore the suffering of those in our midst. At times, 'make work' programmes in which one or two persons in a household may get a 'two weeks' might mislead the public into believing that these people are working or can work if they want to, and that they simply cannot manage their finances. This is far from the truth as the earnings can barely cover basic food items and as is the more often than not, they are squatting with no running water or electricity. Poverty leads to depression which leaves those affected blind to the sub-human conditions in which they live.

Most affected by poverty are the children as they are pulled from school or never attended school because their births have not been registered. There is no money for books, uniforms, or traveling expenses.

In our world of plenty, poverty should have no home. Ending poverty is the challenge of our time, it is not a one and done deal. The powers that be can employ Social Workers, Community Police Officers, and together with Councillors go into the nooks and crannies to locate these families so assistance can be given not only in terms of food hampers, but to letting them know the social services and counselling which are available to them. If we do nothing to alleviate poverty, it is a losing battle.

Each of us can look around our community or go into communities where we can reach out in some small way. We do not have to wait for tragedy to occur before hampers begin to pour in, often more than hampers are needed. Remember the words of Jesus, "... truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me" (Matthew 25: 40, NRSVUE). Ask yourself, "How can I better the life of someone who goes unnoticed?"



SEA 2023 AWARDS FUNCTION

Submitted by Geeta K Maharaj



The Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education (PPSBE) hosted its second SEA Awards Function on Saturday 30th September, 2023, at Susamachar Presbyterian Church. Chairman Vickram Ramlal, PPSBE, called the proceedings to order and Reverend Brenda Bullock, Vice Chairman, PPSBE, opened the function in prayer following which Ms. Sherry Ann Baksh, teacher, Guaico Presbyterian School, led in the National Anthem. Our Masters of Ceremony, Mr. Randy Mangaroo, Acting Principal, Bien Venue Presbyterian School and Mr. Brendon Ramlal, Acting Head of Department, Siparia Road Presbyterian School took us through the entire programme, without a hitch.

The Rt. Reverend Daniel Chance, Moderator of the Synod of PCTT, Mr. Aaron Ramrattan, Director of School Supervision and Management, Ministry of Education (MOE) and Ms. Geeta K. Maharaj, General Secretary, PPSBE, all brought greetings. Each speaker lauded the zeal, dedication, passion, indomitable spirit, perseverance and character of the awardees, principals, teachers, parents, guardians and caregivers.

There were two (2) uplifting cultural items; a song by Ms.

Amanda Narine, teacher, Brothers Presbyterian School and a violin solo by Zuriel Gajadhar, student, Rochard Douglas Presbyterian Primary School.

Dr. Michael Dowlath, Head of Centre, Oxbridge International School, feature speaker, challenged the awardees to ponder on three questions: Is life mission impossible? Who am I? What is my purpose? After some discussions, Dr. Dowlath provided condensed answers: that one's mission is to live one's best life; one must see oneself through God's eyes not through other people's eyes; and, that the journey to realizing one's purpose must begin with the end in mind and making God central to one's life.

The highpoint experience was the presentation of Awards which came in five categories. These were District Awards in which the top five (5) students in each education district were rewarded; Special Awards which featured six (6)



Back; Moderator Rt. Rev. Daniel Chance, General Secretary Mr. Terrence Warde. Front-Top Performers: Top 3 students 1st Ruthvika Kumar Curepe Pres Trophy and \$4000. 2nd Sophia Harnarayan Canaan Trophy and \$2500. 3rd Aiden Roberts Warrenville Pres Trophy and \$1500.

students who overcame the hurdles of overwhelming odds to excel; Top 20 Awards which cited the overall achievement of students who rose to the top tier and of course, Top Performing School in SEA 2023 among all seventy-two (72) Presbyterian Primary Schools which went to Curepe Presbyterian School. The cream of the crop, the three (3) top performing students were first, Ruthvika S. Kumar, Curepe Presbyterian School; second, Sophia Harrynanan, Curepe Presbyterian School and third, Aiden Roberts, Warrenville Presbyterian School. They each received a special trophy and a cash award. Following the Vote of Thanks, the function was closed in prayer by Rev. Brenda Bullock

The PPSBE expresses its profound gratitude to its sponsors, well-wishers, meticulous SEA 2023 Awards Committee and all who worked towards the successful fruition of this function. To God be the Glory!



**Back.: Rev. Brenda Bullock, Moderator Rt Rev Daniel Chance
Left to Right: Andrew Jaggar Reform Pres, Angalee Mahabir Felicity Pres, Alexs Mohammed Penal Rock Pres, Abigail Ramdeo Kanhai Pres, Chloe Boodram Harmony Hall Pres and Mikhail Mitchell Felicity Pres**



Top Performing School Curepe Pres, Ms Brenda Pattron-Motilal, Mr Liaquat Ali, Old Mac Agri, Trophy Sponsor

HUMMINGBIRD GOLD FOR BADREE

Submitted by Brendon Ramlal

This year's National Awards held on Republic Day saw Samuel Badree, a member of the Barrackpore Pastoral Region who worships at the Clarke Rochard Presbyterian Church, being awarded the Hummingbird Medal Gold. This medal is awarded for loyal and devoted service beneficial to the state.

Samuel is a perfect example of the excellence our Presbyterian Education system can produce. As a young boy cared for by his single mother, Janey, in a humble environment, Samuel started his primary education at the Rochard Douglas Presbyterian School. He then moved on to Naparima College for his secondary education where he also started his cricket career. Samuel then taught as an Assistant Teacher Primary at the Canaan, Rousillac and Kanhai Presbyterian Schools.

Samuel, in pursuit of his teaching career, then entered the Corinth Teachers' College where he obtained his Teachers' Diploma and on graduation was appointed to the Rochard Douglas Presbyterian School as a Teacher I Primary. As he progressed through the Education System, he was then appointed a Physical Education Teacher at the Barrackpore East Secondary School. He also completed a BSc in Educational Services specializing in Physical Education and an Executive Masters in Sports Management. He was then promoted to Curriculum Officer in Physical Education and Sports in the Ministry of Education.

Samuel's cricketing career at the National Level started in 2001. He has represented Trinidad and Tobago in twelve first class (4 days) matches and numerous 50 overs and T 20 games.



It is in the latter that he became a world renowned bowler and first played for the West Indies in 2011.

In 2012 and 2016, he was an integral part of the West Indies team that won two World Cup Championships and played a major role in the team's success. For almost two years, he was ranked as the number one T20 bowler in the world. Samuel has played franchise cricket for many teams in many countries including Trinidad and Tobago Red Steel and Red Force, Brisbane Heat in Australia, Rajasthan Royals, Delhi Capitals and Royal Challengers Bangalore in the Indian Premier League and St. Kitts Patriots in the Caribbean Premier League.

He has also carried out coaching duties being a Level III Cricket Coach with the West Indies 50 overs and T20 teams, Delhi Capitals in the Indian Premier League and Abu Dhabi Capitals in the UAE.

Samuel has been a loyal and dedicated member of his local club team, Powergen, which has supported him fully in his cricket career and has allowed him to become a name recognized worldwide as a T20 bowler. Now, he is making a name for himself as a Cricket Commentator having covered test matches, 50 overs and T20 games. He has covered ICC tournaments such as the 2022 T20 World Cup and the 2023 50 Overs World Cup.

Samuel continues to give back to his country and community through the Badree's Academy of Sports Education (BASE) which he founded. A cricket coaching school BASE caters for the all round development of its participants both boys and girls and each year has over 100 children. He offers scholarships to many underprivileged children desirous of joining BASE.

Samuel, a family man with a wife, Stacy, and two young daughters, Samara and Sariah, has shown what dedication and commitment can lead to in the fields of Education and Sports.

The Barrackpore Pastoral Region and the PCTT salute him on his many achievements culminating in his National Award of a Hummingbird Medal Gold.

To God Be The Glory.



KNOW YOUR FAITH

THE THEOLOGY OF MONEY

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

Award-winning scholar Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg declares that "Budgets are, in effect, moral documents. They tell us what kind of society we are, who we intend to be." Whether it is a personal, institutional or national budget, it is a financial proclamation of our identity -who we are, and our aspirations- who we want to be. We attempt to chart our financial destiny by managing our beliefs and actualizing them for the future.

Money functions in society as a method of payment, a unit of account, a measure of value, and a medium of exchange.

The theology of money challenges us to examine if money is serving our needs, or if we are serving the manufactured desires of competing interest groups whose marketing tells us what we should buy.

The enduring words of Jesus in Matthew 6:24 cautioning us that we cannot serve both God and money come to us in a self-promoting world obsessed with mindless accumulation which often impoverishes communities and nations. We need to rethink the nature and level of participation in the economy, and we should reconsider how to challenge our communities to redesign their budgets to reflect the will of God.

Ever since the monetization of commerce in ancient times, subsistence has given way to interdependence, specialization and the division of labour in systems that reward risk, enterprise, innovation, determination, and expansion. John Calvin saw that this can make people "mad with an insatiable desire of gain," today crushing those who are not serving the military-industrial complex.

Let us prayerfully plan our eternal future and allow our heavenly priorities to guide us.

Our recognition of who we are will always influence what we value, and we can move beyond how money changes us to how we change money.



ST. ANDREW'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

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JOB VACANCY

PRINCIPAL

St. Andrew's Theological College (SATC)
invites applications from suitably qualified
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Apply by: 31st December 2023

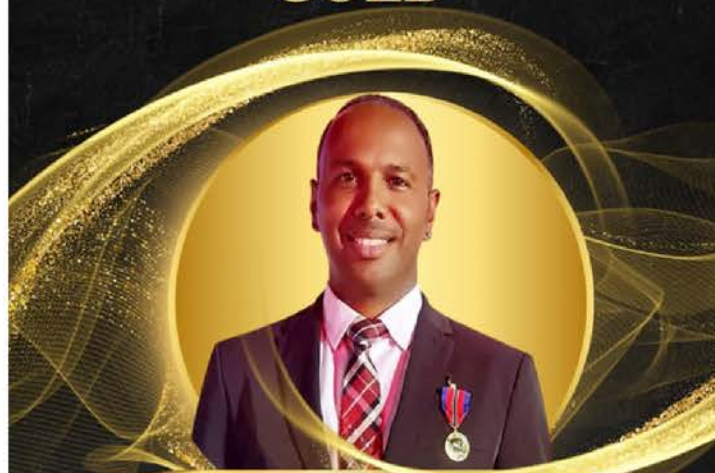
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- ✓ Leadership Standards
- ✓ Duties / Responsibilities



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HUMMING BIRD GOLD



Samuel Badree

Congratulations from the Congregations of
Clarke Rochard
and
Rochard Douglas
Presbyterian Churches
GLORY TO GOD!

THE FAMILY CAN

CRISIS IN THE FAMILY: THE BREAKDOWN IN FAMILY LIFE - PART 9 - COMPARE COMPETE WIN!

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

In this attempt to offer and provide explanations to the continuing question, 'Has the crisis in the family led or resulted to the breakdown in family life or has the breakdown in family life resulted or led to the crises of the family?' We here consider the human's philosophy of compare compete win!

So much pre-occupation with 'who better than who' we validate our thoughts and behaviours to compare, to compete, to win! So to pump and declare, 'I WIN!'

Often as individuals and family, we change, modify, renovate, refurbish or remodel ourselves and our relationships vis-a-vis others, to meet and to compare better or favourably should the competition be siblings, neighbours, the 'Jones's of society, co-worker or just about anybody. When we have difficulties recognising, acknowledging or even valuing each other-member of the family, just think if you relate like this to a member of your family, to what ends would you go to win and destroy the competition outside the family.

We measure ourselves to others in the society, usually by national and global criteria as social status, ethnicity, monetary and wealth [e.g. rich/poor], residential location or property, education, careers, foreign travel and vacation and info or knowledge accumulated by any means necessary through envy, jealousy, greed, undermining, gossip, misinformation all to denigrate, belittle or 'cut our competition down to size'. Is our worth ever measured by human values, morals and integrity?

Competition is good for the 'right', appropriate, real and positive reasons, if not, it can be disastrous within the family and society, resulting in crises, conflicts and issues that are socio-economic, psycho-social, religious or political affecting human personal health and psycho-social wellness.

As we sacrifice, easily give up our family's identity, character, values, worth and integrity, our wealth becomes our poverty. We choose to live a life of comparing and competing not personal development with achievable goals even despite limited resources. We fail to understand and accept limitations and mimic other's success and glory as the medias advertise and promote.

An obsessive desire to compare, to compete and to win at any cost results in crises, chaos and challenges but should such selfish desires permeate and pervade each moment of our life? Can the family resolve and adjust to these challenges if they cannot consider this thought as a cause that contributes to the breakdown of family? As we attempt to comprehend the drivers and triggers of human dispositions that results in stability and instability of the family, I suggest we assess and analyse ourselves. Consider change of attitudes, behaviours, thoughts and feelings that strengthen rather than weaken the foundations of the family? A family works, play and prays together, corporates more than competes in its own interest, success and survival. Within the family to be non-competitive can be a most difficult choice to make,

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 loose faith. Hold strong. Believe, The Family Can

Encounteringthe Archives of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago

Over time, recent and past, many persons who have encountered the Archives, PCTT have been left with feelings of surprise, shock, disappointment and even disgust as their request for information could not be met in a timely manner or their rushed urgent timeframes. To find explanations, answers, reasons and even excuses, what certainly has to be considered is whether the roles and functions of the Archives have been given the lowest of priorities, taken for granted or neglected.

In its more than 50 years of existence, the Archives, PCTT though located and administrated or managed in the past by Archives Committees did not consider or establish a deliberate plan for Archives Development. Attempts in the past can be likened to the seeds of the sower, with the only seed falling on good ground being the on-going, persistent collecting of junk, stuff and materials mainly by the present Archivist, Rev Ken K Kalloo. Come see, encounter.

Not only should the Synod and all its Boards and Committees, but every single person administrating and managing the affairs of the PCTT at all levels must come aboard to the basic understanding that the Archives exist as a repository to serve and assist you, but all need to assist and serve the Archives, PCTT. As reference, the recent promotion on the Trinidad Presbyterian since May for Tours and Visits during July to August 2023 met with not a single enquiry from within the PCTT.

Generally, requests for information are made for the establishment [date] and history of churches, schools, boards and committees and aspects of PCTT history. Within recent times, there has been an increase in request for personal and family information, tracings and histories. Two situations exist in providing such requested information – (i) it does not exist in the Archives or (ii) it may exist but the lack of all resources to systemize, results in the delays which frustrate. This reality and situation certainly need to be addressed urgently and strategically for the Archives, PCTT to serve the roles and purposes intended. We are all in this together. Help and assist the CAPCTT so it can respond to assist and serve you. More... when you need the CAPCTT it would be there for you.

An encounter with the Archives is an encounter with ... yourself. Hoping to be there for your Encounter with the Archives of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago..

Archivist: Reverend Ken K Kalloo, Asst Archivist: Hilton R Bill Siboo 788-2685

Contact: 652-4829 [Synod Office] and 653-4166 [SATC Library], or Visit in person on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2023

Submitted by Reverend Dr Annabell Lalla-Ramkelawan

In this issue we will reflect on the celebration of Ordinary Time, Lent, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, and Trinity Sunday.

ORDINARY TIME: The liturgical colour for Ordinary time is green. The term "ordinary" does not mean that these Sundays are less important in the life of the church. It only means that their focus is not as finely tuned as the other celebrations of the Ecclesiastical Calendar/Liturgical Calendar. Ordinary Time refers to all the Sundays outside of the Christmas and Easter season in the Ecclesiastical Calendar/ Liturgical Calendar. Ordinary Time is not a season; it is just a way to describe the weeks between the seasons. There are thirty-three or thirty-four weeks depending on the year and they are divided into two cycles in the Ecclesiastical Calendar/Liturgical Calendar. The first cycle of Ordinary Time begins on the Sunday after Epiphany and continues until Ash Wednesday. Since the date of Easter varies every year, this first part of Ordinary Time may include as few as four weeks and as many as nine weeks. The second cycle of Ordinary Time begins the day after Pentecost and continues to the Saturday before the 1st Sunday of Advent. During Ordinary Time, our attention is turned to the whole witness of the gospel.



SOURCES

[1] F. E. Wilson, *An Outline of the Christian year* (New York: Morehouse-Gorham Co, 1960) p.55.

Laurence Hull Stookey. *Calendar Christ's Time For The Church*. Nashville, Abingdon Press. 1996.

J. Dudley Weaver Jr. *Presbyterian Worship*. Louisville, Kentucky, Geneva Press. 2022.

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LENT: Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season, a forty-day observance preceding Easter. Lent is a time of discipline, reflection, and abstinence in imitation of Christ's self-denial and preparation for the Holy celebration of Easter.

Lent is also a time of penance and repentance of one's sins. In the season of Lent, we celebrate: Passion Sunday/ Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. The colour for Lent is Purple in some churches blue. It is worth noting that there are two times in the Liturgical Calendar where the colour is purple: Advent and Lent.

EASTER: The Greek name for Easter is Pascha; the Italian, Pasqua; and the English comes from Eostre, the name for the Teutonic goddess of spring. Easter is the most ancient of Christian festivals, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ, a time of joyful triumph. Easter reminds us of our deliverance from sin and bondage through the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Frank Wilson comments, "Easter is the axis on which the Christian Year revolves." [1] The colour for all of Easter is white.

ASCENSION: The fortieth day after Easter day for centuries has been observed as Ascension Day. Since it always falls on a Thursday Ascension is celebrated on the Sunday after. Ascension is seen as God's final act in the drama of redemption, and it marks the completion of the earthly ministry of Jesus and prepares the Church for Pentecost Day. You may ask what the colour is for Ascension Day, it is white.



PENTECOST: Concludes the celebration of the season of Easter. The Day of Pentecost celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the early Christian community (Acts.2). The word Pentecost comes from the Greek word meaning fiftieth. In Judaism, it marks the fiftieth day after Passover and is also called the Feast of Weeks. In Christianity, it marks the fiftieth day after Easter and is also called 'White Sunday' (Whit Sunday) reminding us of the day's association with baptism when candidates wore white robes for the occasion, this season lasts seven days. The colour for Pentecost is red for flames of fire, for the enlivening power of the Holy Spirit.

TRINITY SUNDAY: Is celebrated the Sunday after Pentecost. The colour is white. Trinity marks the transition from Lent, Easter, and Pentecost to Ordinary Time, which will continue until Advent, four Sundays before Christmas. It is the only feast day in the liturgical year that is based on a theological doctrine and is the most recent of all feast days. At Trinity, we celebrate the Triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Spiritual nourishment gained from the observance of the Christian Year must produce fruits of righteous living.



AGRI FACTS COLUMN

GROWING HYDROPONIC LEAFY VEGETABLES SUBMITTED BY RAYANNA BOODRAM

rayannaboodram@hotmail.com

After the September's article on Hydroponics, many readers would have sent in requests enquiring about the method and enthused to learn more about this topic. To recap, Hydroponics is the growing of crops without the use of soil. There are six main types of Hydroponics, however, the best type for the growth of Leafy vegetables such as Lettuce, Kale and Patchoi is the Nutrient Flow technique Method. Leafy vegetables are probably the most efficient crops to grow hydroponically, especially if you are a beginner. Hydroponic Lettuce, Kale and Patchoi are quite popular as they grow quickly and do not require full sunlight and nutrient solutions as these crops do not need to be changed during the growing phase. Nutrient film technique (NFT) is the first method of Hydroponics that we will explore, especially as it relates to the growth of leafy vegetables, herbs and even vining crops. NFT is an active hydroponic technique where plants grow in a very shallow channel with a thin stream of water that is recirculated by a pump. The exposed roots absorb the nutrients from the film of nutrient solution.

The channels tend to be slightly sloped so that the water is drained at the end and returns to the main reservoir where the nutrient content, temperature and other factors are controlled.

The first step is to obtain healthy seedlings, a reservoir to contain the nutrient solution, an air pump with air stones, water pump, growing channels (usually PVC pipes are used), tubes to deliver water from the pump to the growing trays, net pots, and tubing to return water to the reservoir are required. A PH meter and electrical conductivity meter should also be obtained. Follow the steps below for successful NFT Leafy Vegetables:

1. Fill the reservoir with low chlorinated water and add the hydroponic nutrients to the ratio for which the packaging calls. For further assistance, based on the type of leafy vegetable you want to grow, read the instructions on the fertilizer's pack or you can ask the technicians at the Agri-shop.
2. Attach the air pump to a tube leading into the reservoir to oxygenate the water. Place the water pump in the reservoir and attach it to a tube that will deliver water to the channel. When setting up the channel, allow it to be slightly sloped downward toward the reservoir, using a rack for support. Be sure to cut out holes at the top of the growing tray to fit the net pots that will contain the seedlings.
3. Connect the tube from the pump to the higher end of the channel and attach a tube leading back to tank to the lower end of the channel. This can be done by cutting a small hole at the base on the end of the channel.
4. The next step is to place the net pots in the spaces provided at the top of the channel and sit your lettuce seedlings in them. Ensure that the roots are hanging out of the net pot enough to touch the flowing nutrient solution. Turn on the pumps and in three weeks, the first edible leaves would have grown out, remove only large leaves, leaving smaller ones to continue the growth process.

After about six weeks, you will have either fully grown lettuce, patchoi or a bountiful harvest of herbs. In our future articles, we will continue to discuss the next five methods of Hydroponics!



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Applications are kindly solicited from members of The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT) for the position:

General Secretary

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES:

Responsible for co-ordinating all activities of the Synod and Synodical Council of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago and The PCTT Organizational Structure.

REPORTS TO:

The Moderator of Synod; the Synod/Synodical Council.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

- 1) Manage the day-to-day administration of Synod's office.
- 2) Function as the Secretary for all meetings of Synod/Synodical Council/Executive of Synodical Council
- 3) Manage all official correspondence in connection with the work of the Synod/Synodical Council/Executive of Synodical Council
- 4) Administer the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago Insurance Plans
- 5) Ensure the preservation of the records which are Synod's property.
- 6) Ensure that the audited Annual Financial Statement of Synod is presented at the Annual General Meeting of Synod
- 7) Ensure that the legal interests of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago are pursued upon the advice of Synod/Synodical Council/Executive of Synodical Council.
- 8) Represent Synod at special observances in the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago as requested by the Moderator of Synod.
- 9) Undertake such assignments as requested by the Synod/Synodical Council/Executive of Synodical Council.
- 10) Function as an ex-officio Member of all Presbyteries, Standing Boards and Committees of Synod, except the Synod/Synodical Council/Executive of Synodical Council where he/she shall have full membership.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:

- The applicant must be a current member of the Session in a Pastoral Region of the PCTT who has served in the Session for at least five (5) years.
- The applicant must possess at least a first degree from a recognized University, preferably in the Social Sciences (with studies in Management, Finance, Economics, Government or a combination) or have a suitable combination of experience and training in management for at least ten (10) years.

OTHER SKILLS:

- The applicant must have a proficient knowledge of Organizational, Administrative and Management Skills. The operations and dynamics of working in an ecclesiastical environment.
- The applicant must be able to carry out procedures for interfacing with the respective government agencies, insurance agencies, social organizations etc. with respect to the execution of services and other issues which relate to the PCTT.
- The applicant must be able to relate well with other persons and communicate effectively to all levels who share in the work of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago.
- The applicant must demonstrate an awareness of the proper functioning of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago.

For more information visit: <https://sites.google.com/view/pctt-constitution-chapter-3-6>

Applications with resumes should be sent to:

The Synod Office of the PCTT, P.O. Box 187, Paradise Hill, San Fernando. Telephone: 652-4829
or Email: vacancies@pctt.org.tt

APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 30TH 2023.

MARABELLA CELEBRATES 118 YEARS

Submitted by Florabelle Lutchman

Sunday 15th October, 2023, at Marabella Presbyterian Church, members experienced a significant and powerful service conducted by Presiding Elder, Mrs. Indra Debysingh, on the occasion of its 118th Anniversary.

The Service began with an emotional Singspiration touching the hearts of members present. More emotion followed as the Choir led by Mr. Winston Seupaul sang 'Come, now is the time to worship' setting the mood for the rest of the service. After the Responsive Call to Worship the beautiful words of Hymn 799 'God is here as we your people meet to offer praise and prayer' rang throughout the church.

Psalm 78:1-8, was read by Mrs. Jennifer Sastoo while Mrs. Annette Paul read 1 Peter 2:1-10.

The Steel Orchestra followed playing "I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus, the Nazarene. How marvellous, how wonderful is my Saviour's love for me." The Choir led in song, 'Faithful and true.'

In her sermon, Mrs. Debysingh pointed out that this 118-year milestone was not acquired without perseverance and dedication. Psalm 78 gives us a glimpse of community and people. It tells a story of faithfulness and sacrifice. As we celebrate 118 years, we look at the rich legacy imparted by our forefathers who have laid the foundation. The road has not been easy but the good times far outweigh the difficult times. It is now a time of reflection and we must look towards the future with goals and aspirations. In order to share the good news and continue building we must become living stones. As we celebrate 118 years, we are not proclaiming our excellence but God's who has done great and marvellous things.

We give all glory and praise to God who has seen us through the years.



PE Mrs. Indra Debysingh

HARVEST THANKSGIVING AT MARABELLA

Submitted by Florabelle Lutchman

Harvest Thanksgiving, a wonderful occasion in our church year, reminds us of the importance of giving thanks for all the blessings we've received from God.

At the Marabella Presbyterian Church this occasion was celebrated on Sunday 24th September, 2023, with the resident Minister, Reverend Clifton Mathura officiating.

The service opened with the beautiful singing of the Choir with, "We have come to Worship you" led by Mr. Winston Seupaul. Scripture Passages were read by Mr. Ruskin Pariag and Mrs. Annette Paul. The Choir again led with "It only takes a spark" and the Steel Orchestra played, "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart."

In his Sermon, Rev. Mathura reminded all about the importance of giving thanks. The Lord always meets the needs of His people, referencing the feeding of the five thousands and turning water into wine. God also provided bread and water for the people when they complained to Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.

As we celebrate Harvest, we need to remember that it is God who blesses the seed we plant and sends the rain. All God wants in return as he provides for our every need, is a relationship with us. He gave his only Son to die for our sins. In turn we must repent and accept Jesus Christ as Lord. God requires us to be good stewards and to set the standards for others to follow.

The service ended with the Pastoral Prayer and the Closing Hymn, "Brother, Sister, let me serve you" followed by the Benediction.

Thanksgiving is an opportunity to be grateful for all that we have. We celebrate the harvest as an expression of grateful worship.

GRANT MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ESPERANCE

Submitted by Wendy Kawal

The Presbyterian Church Women of the Grant Memorial Presbyterian Church hosted a Health Fair on September 23, 2023, to bring an awareness of preventative measures to be taken to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Health Advisors were: -

Mrs Alicia Ramlal – Beautylogist
Dr Trudy Kawal – Specialist Urologist
Ms. Saismatee Maharaj- Yoga Instructor
Dr Dana Dookhoo – General Practitioner
Mrs Sarah Ramgoolam – Registered Nurse

The Fair commenced with a brief devotion led by Miss Alice Mathura and Deaconess Ms. Marlene Seenathsingh. Chairperson, Mrs Angie Beharry, officially opened the Fair and referenced Psalm 27, emphasizing God's role in leading us through life's challenges and uncertainties.



Front row left to right
Shirmattie Babalool, Shevel Thomas, Sharmeen Mohammed, Wendy Kawal, Zobida Mathura.
Back row left to right.
Shelly- Ann Mohammed, Esther Kalpoo, Gale Persadie, Angie Beharry, Kavita Persadie.

The speakers were welcomed, and Mrs Alicia Ramlal began with a live demonstration on facial skin care, after which cosmetic samples were distributed.

There were ongoing visits by all to the nurse to check blood pressure and glucose levels. Dr Dookhoo was available for advice based on results. Dr Kawal held our attention with an informative and comprehensive talk on prostate cancer and bladder infections. We especially thanked Dr Kawal for the individual sessions held with attendees.

In keeping with our theme, fruit cups were distributed. There were door prizes on the hour sponsored by Dulan's Family Dental & Implant Centre.

The Fair culminated with live demonstrations from our yoga instructors and Transcendental Meditation, for maximum benefit to the mind and body. This ended our wellness programme.

Local Board Secretary, Mrs Mathura, moved the vote of thanks and tokens of appreciation were presented.

Mrs Mathura referenced, "a chain is as strong as its weakest link" and this is testimony to camaraderie and kind gesture of the PCW's group for the success of this venture.

Special thanks to Mr Persadie and Miss Alice Mathura for their unwavering support.

Presiding Elder, Mr Timothy Beepath, then delivered an inspiring and eloquent closing prayer.

NEW CENTURY CELEBRATES SEA SUCCESS

Submitted by Reneta Ramlakhan



The New Century Presbyterian Church would like to recognize the achievement of one of its members, Master Liam Tamby, at the SEA 2023 examinations.

Liam is a past student of the Caanan Presbyterian Primary School and achieved his first choice school Naparima College at the SEA examination. Liam also placed 9th among all Presbyterian schools in the recently held SEA awards ceremony.

Liam is the son of Mr. Ashford Tamby and Mrs. Ria Jaggan-Tamby. The Local Board also presented Liam with a bursary for his success at the SEA examination. The New Century Presbyterian Church congratulates Liam and prays for God's continued blessings as he continues his academic journey.

CALIFORNIA CELEBRATES ITS 113TH YEAR OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

Submitted by Rose Ragoo-Maraj

The California Green Memorial Presbyterian Church commemorated its 113th year with thanksgiving on the 1st of October, 2023. The theme, "Persevering in Witness through Faith" ably describes the daily walk of the Local Board and congregation. Despite numerous challenges, the members, a close-knitted community, held steadfast in their commitment and service.

The programme was officiated by The Moderator of Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago, the Right Reverend Daniel Chance, who once served this congregation and recalled his fond memories at California. Our well-loved Deaconess, Amber Seesahai-Payne, so eloquently led the worship while our dear friend, Mr. Glen Rajaram, and the choir from Waterloo graced us with their music and songs.

Friends from within the Region and visitors alike, joined together on this auspicious occasion.

The elements of Holy Communion were also shared as World Communion Sunday was observed on that day.

It really was a memorable service. The history of the church was presented in a trip down memory lane. This celebrated one of the older members and men responsible for the third construction in 1963 of what was the main building of the church. Mr. Siewnarine Ramcharitar was actually present in the congregation and so was able to be recognized for his contribution. What a blessing to behold!

The Local Board also gave thanks for and recognized the young people of the church for the success in their various examinations this year: Yadah Harrison in SEA 2023 and Jenna Allahar and Josiah Ragoo in CSEC.

The evening ended in the usual fellowship as old friends took the opportunity to catch up and greet one another. The California Presbyterian Church continues to forge ahead to another year in service to God and its community. Blessed 113th Anniversary to California!



Young Yadah Harrison receiving his award on his success at SEA

THE IERE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH YOUTH GROUP IN ACTION

Submitted by Mrs. Candace Mahabir

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity" (Timothy 4:12).

The Covid-19 pandemic brought with it the need to embrace the youths of our church. Through the encouragement of the Minister of the Princes Town Pastoral Region, Reverend Keron Khellawan, the Iere Memorial Presbyterian Church Youth Group was recommissioned in 2021, under the leadership of Mrs. Candace Mahabir, Mr. Joel Rampersad and Mrs. Natasha Mangray. The aim was to guide the young people within the church to grow their relationship with God and allow them to be faithful and serve Christ at all times.

In addition to regular participation in Church Services and Outreach Programs, the youths participate in numerous activities as they strive forward with devotion. One such activity was visits to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church,



St. Mary's Presbyterian Church, Jordan Hill Presbyterian Church, Susumachar Presbyterian Church and New Century Presbyterian Church for exposure to different worship experiences. Team building activities also take place regularly with a popular one being a

Sip N' Paint Evening themed 'God's Promise' which was hosted by elders Mrs. Beverly Mahabir-Charles and Miss Gillian Mahabir.

The most recent highlight was the group's First Annual Retreat which was held on Monday 10th July, 2023, at La Vega Estate. The theme 'Mental Health Matters' was exceptionally explored by presenters: Mr. Stephen Kaseram and Ms. Stephanie Amman. This retreat was a result of funding made through breakfast sales that the group conducted on Communion Sunday mornings which were tremendously supported by the local congregation. The success of this first retreat has everyone eagerly anticipating this annual event in the future.

EVENING OF DEVOTION AND FUN AT TABAQUITE

Written by the youths

"Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12)

"Let No One Despise You For Your Youth" was the theme of the youth gathering on Sunday 24th September, 2023 of the Tabaquite Pastoral Region hosted at the Torrib Trace Presbyterian Church grounds. The newly installed Minister, The Reverend Robert Dinnoo, the Presiding Elder Mr. Roy Ramlogan along with the Youths from each of the five sister churches: Star of Bethlehem (Tabaquite), St Paul's (Piparo), Jeffers, Flanagin Town and Torrib Trace all coordinated the success of the event with a variety of activities.

Jubilant voices of praise and worship filled the space, led by the youths of the Flanagin Town Presbyterian Church and was accompanied on the drums by Reverend Dinnoo. The Holy Spirit's presence charged among the hearts of the young and old who were present for this event as voiced by their testimonies. The youths of the Tabaquite Presbyterian Church engaged us in lively devotions. The evening's message was brought by Dr. Vaughn Beepat highlighting that age has no consequence to our God, that He can use you in any situation. He advocated that as young people we should follow in the footsteps of God and lead with love and purity in our words and actions. Presiding Elder Mr. Ramlogan assisted in closing the devotions with fervent prayer.

A youth event would not be successful without food. Right? Various food items were prepared for the evening, from scrumptious corn soup, a cornucopia of sandwiches, desserts, snacks, and refreshing drinks. After everyone was spiritually and physically fueled, the fun activities began. Ages four to seventy-five participated in a competitive game of musical chairs. The youth's teamwork skills were tested and strengthened through a match of cricket to commemorate the finals of the Caribbean Premier League (CPL) that night, the human knot and fill the bottle.

A candle-lit prayer session set the pace as we concluded the evening

of activities. Reverend Dinnoo lit the first candle and passed the light on to Mr. Ramlogan, then to the elders and then in turn to the youths and other members present to signify the passing of the torch from generation to generation. The glow of the candles reminded all to share our light with each other in this world of darkness, to give of ourselves, utilize our gifts and talents to glorify God during every season of our lives. Special thanks to the session of Tabaquite Pastoral Region for their assistance rendered and to all participants and visitors who made this youth gathering a success.



Advertisement from Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education

The Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education is requesting applications from persons interested in designing and maintaining a Website for the Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education.

Applications will close on
Thursday 30th November, 2023.
For further information please contact
the General Secretary of the Board at
652-3717 or 657-5323.

Congratulations!

To this happy couple, Joseph
and Glenna Lalchan!

Now celebrating **55 years**
of life together. May God
grant you both many more
years of happiness.

*From all the members of the
Susamachar Men's Fellowship*



SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION AWARENESS WORKSHOP

Submitted by Alex Tamby

The Board of Youth Affairs hosted the event: Special Needs Education Awareness.

I glanced over at the many empty chairs in the seating area. I thought maybe I missed something so I proceeded to make a mental check list.

1. Proper Advertising - check
2. Easy accessible venue (NGHS) – check
3. Professional sound system (MKs Entertainment) – check
4. Worship team trained and experienced (Victoria Rajkumar & Penal Rock Junior Choir) – check
5. Professionally trained and highly recommended Lecturers (Sandra Tamby Russell & Mrs Sarah Soo Han)– check
6. Affordable registration fee to cover refreshment and lunch (\$50) – check
7. Two knowledgeable coordinators to facilitate the proceedings (Stephanie Sam & Stephanie Baldeosingh) - check
8. Invited parents to give testimonies (Maria and her son Mikael Gopaul, Hema Mungal, Dana and Dian Nanansingh)- check

As planned, the Workshop began promptly at 9 a.m. The spirit-filled worship centered us on God, the Creator of all human beings. The areas of special needs education were effectively shared through the well-executed and informative lectures.

After feasting on pastries and lunch, the evening session began more interactively, and emotionally. Parents gave testimonies of their experiences and their many struggles ... Mikael Gopaul, one the Special Need participants, gave a wonderful life lesson as a child growing up with his many challenges. Many individuals took the opportunity to thank and congratulate the Board on a well planned and executed workshop. While the vice-chair, Christopher John, thanked everyone, I walked to the back of the auditorium to get a better view. From here, I could tell that we had approximately 100 persons present. I pondered on the thought about the event being successful and wondered what made individuals say that. Could it have been the lectures? The information? To speak on a much-needed topic? Was it the attendance and support? I was able to count all the church workers present on only one hand and all the Board members on the other. Clearly, if we are to make others **Aware of the Need** then we ourselves must be **Aware of the Need**. Let us build an inclusive community with those who are in need and are special to us.



NEW SIGNAGE FOR DEBE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

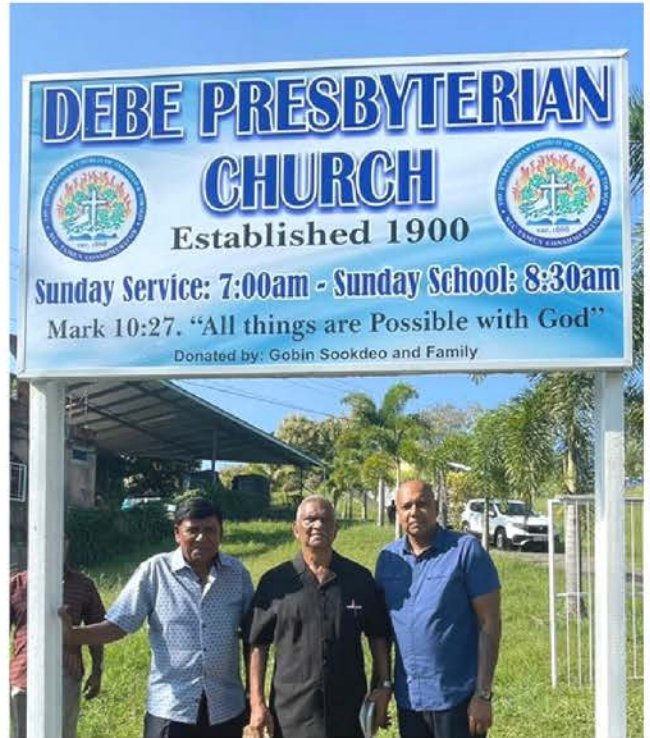
Submitted by Chairman DPC Vincent K. Ramoutar

In a heartwarming Service held on Sunday, September 17, 2023, the Debe Presbyterian Church witnessed the unveiling of newly donated signs, generously contributed by the Sookdeo family. The event was graced by the presence of Presiding Elder Timothy Beepath and Deaconess Marlene Seenathsingh who conducted the dedication of the signs. Also in attendance were Mr. Gobin Sookdeo and Mr. Ian Sookdeo, all of whom played significant roles in making this donation a reality.

The Debe Presbyterian Church has been a pillar of the community for 123 years, serving as a place of worship, community engagement, and support for countless individuals and families. The addition of these signs serves to enhance the church's visibility and accessibility to all those seeking spiritual guidance and fellowship.

The Sookdeo family's generous donation of these signs is a testament to their deep-rooted commitment to the Debe Presbyterian Church and the broader community. Their contribution not only beautifies the church premises but also aids in better guiding both regular attendees and newcomers to the church.

Presiding Elder Timothy Beepath, who led the dedication service, spoke passionately about the importance of such gestures within the church community. He praised the Sookdeo family for their unwavering dedication and their willingness to give back to the church and the congregation. Deaconess Marlene Seenathsingh, representing the Debe Presbyterian Church's community, extended her thanks to the Sookdeo family. She highlighted the positive impact the signs would have on the church's ability to welcome and serve those seeking spiritual guidance and support in the future. The unveiling of the signs marked not only a significant moment in the history of the Debe Presbyterian Church but also a reaffirmation of the strong bonds between the congregation and its dedicated members. The Sookdeo family's selfless act will undoubtedly leave a lasting legacy of faith and generosity for generations to come.



CANCER YOU WILL NEVER WIN!

Tribute to all who won the battle. Elijah Motieram

In shadows deep, where darkness dwells,
There lies a foe, where hope compels.
Cancer, you feast on fragile souls,
Yet we stand strong, with hearts made whole.

With every breath, we fight the fight,
Defying odds, embracing light.
We battle on, with strength untamed,
For in our hearts, hope is reclaimed.

Through tears and pain, we find our way,
United, we face the darkest day.
With God's grace and faith held tight,
We rise above, with all our might.

Some may fall, their journey done,
Their spirits soar, towards the sun.
They leave this world, to be with the Lord,
Their legacy, forever adored.



But for those left, we carry on,
With memories etched, our love lives on.
We stand as one, against the tide,
With courage as our faithful guide.

So cancer, know this, hear our plea,
You may consume, but cannot defeat.
For in our hearts, a fire burns,
A flame of hope, forever years.

We'll fight with love, we'll fight with grace,
Together, we'll conquer, we'll find our place.
For in this battle, we are persistent,
And in our unity, we are resistant.

So cancer, know this, you'll never win,
Our spirits soar, above the din.
With every step, we'll forge ahead,
With love and hope, our souls are fed.

LBPC ANNUAL BONFIRE

Submitted by Nadia Gunness

The Lower Barrackpore Presbyterian Church Youth Group hosted its Annual Bonfire on the 24th September, 2023, in the church yard. The evening events started off with an opening prayer by our Minister Reverend Stephen Harripersad, followed by a traditional torch run where all the youths ran with their torches and lit the fire collectively. A short prayer and welcome were done by the President of the group, Ms. Liane Nayan, after which the Praise and Worship team accompanied by bongo drums and electric guitar lead in some lively choruses to prepare us for the activities of the evening. A brief message was then brought by the Youth Coordinator, Elder Tricia Gunness, based on scripture 1st Timothy 4:12, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity."

This was followed by games and light refreshment which contributed to the fun and excitement of the night. Amongst our guests were Presiding Elders: Ms. Beryl Jacob, Mrs. Agnes Sultanti and Mr. Martin Sahadath.

The evening's events closed off with a slowed down session of praise and worship with the elders of the church praying at intervals and Reverend Harripersad finishing off with the closing prayer and Benediction.

We continue to give God glory, honour and praise for all he has done for our church at Lower Barrackpore. "To God be the glory, great things He hath done!"



FELLOWSHIP AND FUN AT KRIST MANDALI PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Submitted by Mrs Sharon Horrell

The members of the PCW group of the Krist Mandali Presbyterian Church held an evening of Fellowship and Fun for the women of the church on Saturday 7th October, 2023. Presiding Elder Mrs. Grace Sookhoo delivered an inspiring message on the Theme: "Empowering Women In Faith". The text was taken from Genesis 2: 21-23 and Galatians 3: 25-29.

She spoke about some of the women of faith in the Bible: Eve, Ruth, Esther, Mary, Magdalene. She also mentioned Mother Theresa and Malala Yousafzai.



How can women empower themselves?

1. Through Education - by listening and observing.
 2. By taking up leadership roles; when women lead, positive results are seen.
- Women have a divine mission from God and the church has the key to empower women. They need affection, appreciation and self-esteem.

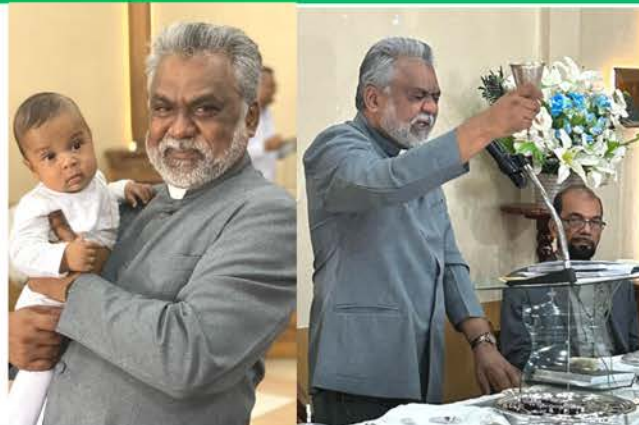
Following this, the ladies and girls had fun participating in some games such as pin the tail on the cat, pass the box left/ right and pass the message along. Tokens were distributed after these games. They were also treated to refreshment.

Everyone left feeling empowered and overjoyed. It was truly a blessed evening spent together as a family of women in Christ.

ARIMA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Submitted by Neerala Cumberbatch, Member of the PCW, Arima

World Communion Sunday was celebrated on October 01, 2023 at 7:00 a.m. at the Arima Presbyterian Church. We were honoured to have in our midst the newly elected Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago, The Right Reverend Daniel Chance who brought the message. The Sacrament of Holy Communion was observed as well as the Baptism of infant baby Jon -Maverick Ade Boodhoo. At this Special Service lead by Resident Minister Reverend Emmanuel Ramdeen, there was also the dedication of Chancel Chairs, which were kindly donated by Members of the Congregation. Breakfast and lovely fellowship in the Church Hall followed. The Congregation looks forward to its Thanksgiving and Harvest Service on October 15th at 10:00 a.m.



HARVEST AND THANKSGIVING AT ARIMA

Submitted by Neerala Cumberbatch, Member of the PCW, Arima

Harvest and Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 15th October, 2023, was shifted from the regular worship time at 7.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. to facilitate members who may have challenges with the early morning service. Our Resident Minister, Reverend Emmanuel Ramdeen, officiated at this service. The scripture readings were taken from Psalm 37 and the Mathew 13: 31-32 and 36-43.

Also, participating in the mornings proceeding were the groups of the church. The Sunday School led by Sunday School Superintendent, Mrs. Tricia Hanooman; Youth Group led by Coordinator, Mrs. Carla Lakhai; and the Choir led by the Musical Director; Dr. Jarryd Rampersad.

Our specially invited guest, pannist Mr. Ken Samaroo, played a beautiful rendition of "Love changes everything" much to the delight of the congregation. After the service, he serenaded the congregation during lunch with an array of pan music.

At the close of the service, the Chairman of the Local Board, Mr. Kenrick B. Cumberbatch, thanked all for sharing in the harvest of fruits, vegetables, and plants. He also reminded members that it is always good to adopt an attitude of gratitude. He acknowledged the dedicated members of the Arima Presbyterian Church and urged more members to give of their time, talent and resources to the honour and glory of the Lord. He encouraged all to strive to be an invigorated and diverse congregation that will nurture spiritual growth of members to individually and collectively serve the need of others.

The Chairman also expressed his gratitude to the PCW for their warm hospitality and for creating the ambience by decorating the church and hall, and with the meal planning.

He read a pulpit message from the Moderator, The Rt. Reverend Daniel Chance, who had visited on October 1, 2023, to officiate on World Communion Sunday. The Moderator, in his message, expressed his sincerest gratitude for the tremendous effort, detailed planning and successful execution of our Sunday morning service and said it was indeed a blessing to have worshipped at Arima. Following the Vote of Thanks, Reverend Ramdeen blessed the meal and invited the Presiding Elder Mr. Charles Mahabir to pronounce the Benediction.

It was certainly a good day of praise and fellowship, "We were glad to be in the House of the Lord."



A RETURN TO TRADITION

Submitted by Samuel Blache and Jedideah Soverall (Students of the Hillview College Journalism Society)

Jubilation and anticipation filled the auditorium on Thursday 12th October, as Hillview College's graduation ceremony marked a return to the cherished tradition and rituals for the Class of 2023. Since 2019 and the COVID-19 pandemic, students were afforded the opportunity to join in-person, in the hallowed halls of Hillview College for this ceremonious milestone with the members of the Presbyterian Secondary Schools' Board of Education, the College's Chaplain, the administration and staff of Hillview College along with their parents and guardians.

The service commenced with the National Anthem followed by the prayer of invocation by Reverend Bjorn Warde, the College Chaplain, after which the Chairman; Deaconess Anupa Nanan, gave opening remarks. The Principal's report delivered by Ms. Sharon Ramdeen (Ag.) asked the students to, "...feel the blood of Hillview coursing through their veins..." before distributing gold and silver medals to students for outstanding performance at CSEC and CAPE. Greetings were then brought by the Chairman of the Presbyterian Secondary School's Board of Education, Mr. Ashford Tamby; School Supervisor II, St. George East Educational District, Mr. Chris Metivier; and the General Secretary of Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr Terrence Warde.

The resilience displayed during the years, and the challenges faced by Covid-19 was a common theme in speeches. Feature Speaker, Justice Frank Seepersad, reminded graduates they will be entering the world riddled with challenges but highlighted an acute awareness of the students' ability to overcome adversity and become agents of change.



Acting Principal, Ms Sharon Ramdeen presents the Principal's Gold Medal to the student best exemplifying the college motto: *Humani Nihil Alienum.*

The Valedictorian Ryker Harricharan's speech expressed the resilience of the human spirit, exemplified by his fellow Hillview graduates who showed that even in the face of adversity, it was possible to work together and achieve at the highest level.

At the CSEC level, top performer, Kai Hei Pun, was not only acknowledged for his 10-grade ones but also achieved prizes in six (6) categories winning, "The Arthur Siblal Memorial Award for Excellent All Round Performance in Form 5 Bursary". At CAPE, Sachin Maraj, Samir Mahabir and the aforementioned Ryker Harricharan left legacies of excellence. Holistically, students like Nathan Nanchoo received a plethora of co-curricular awards while Nishka Maharaj, granddaughter of the late Principal, Mr. Richard Kokaram, in a touching moment, received the novel Leslie Mahase trophy for the student embodying the country's national watchwords, "Discipline, Production, Tolerance."

Graduation has always been a time to look ahead and embrace the future. The students graduated with a renewed sense of purpose and will undoubtedly make a positive impact on their country and the world personifying what the College song says, "Nothing that is human is alien to us."

Photos By Arshad Ramnarine



PSSBOE chairman, Mr Ashford Tambie presenting the PSSBOE award for outstanding performance at CAPE to Ryker Harricharan.



Mr. Ashford Tambie presenting the PSSBOE award for outstanding performance at CSEC to Ka Hei Pun.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Ramlagan Seedial

Sunrise: 4 August 1930

Sunset: 11 November 2008

A special person, a special face.

From - Your wife Ivy
Children - Angela, Kenny,
Michael, Ann and Denzil.

Grandfather of 11
Great Grandfather of 11
Relative and Friend of many



Danae Ramsaran-Persad

13th January 1950 -

24th October 2016

Lovingly remembered
by

Krishna Persad
(Husband),

Wendell & Suzette
(Children)

Tricia & Paul (In-laws)
Alex & Liam (Grandkids)



Somariah Mootoo

Birth 27.7.1942.

Died 19.11.2020.

You were always there

A tower of strength,
a beacon of hope.

You taught, you counselled,
you loved, you gave

You always did.

Now your smile is still
endearing

And your love is everywhere
because you gave.



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PLEASE SEND IMAGES SEPARATELY (NOT IMBEDDED IN DOCUMENT)

PLEASE SEND ALL ARTICLES BY THE 10TH FOR PUBLICATION THE FOLLOWING MONTH

KINDLY NOTE THAT ARTICLES SENT AFTER THE 10TH WILL NOT BE ACKNOWLEDGED FOR THE
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Free Admission

JOIN US IN CONCERT AS WE CELEBRATE
Christmas in Couva

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER
 5:30 PM

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS ON SALE

ARUNODAI (BALMAIN) PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NEW CENTURY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
REVIVAL SERVICES
'Under God's Blessing — Shaping the Future'

21 November 2023	Rev. Cynara Dube-Khan
22 November 2023	Rev. Ria Thompson-Jimdar
23 November 2023	Rev. Sayna Beharry

TIME: 6:30 P.M.

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Celebrate Christmas on Paradise Hill

TICKETS COST \$200

Merry Christmas

ARTISTS INCLUDE

Christopher Sookhee | Kadir Mohammed | Justine Sookhee | Petal Dowdell
 Camille Montano | Anah Horel | Marilyn Lalla & Choir
 Kevin Bagby & Junior Choir | Roshana Dance School | Alicia Singh

JOEL JOHN | ANCIL VALLEY | SHA'WN WALTERS

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 6:30 PM | PARADISE HILL, SAN FERNANDO
 FOR MORE INFO CONTACT: 1 868 555 2214 | 1 868 511 3950



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Please be inform that the Susamachar Presbyterian Credit Union (SPCU) will be relocating its Office from 5 – 7 Carib Street, San Fernando to the new address of:

**Corner Hart and Hobson Streets
 San Fernando**

The telephone numbers and email addresses remain the same.
 Please be guided accordingly.

Respectfully,
 CLARENCE SAMMAH
 Secretary of SPCU

Aramalaya Presbyterian Church
 presents
An Evening of Carols
 with the *Trinidad & Tobago Police Band*
SUNDAY 19TH NOVEMBER, 2023 @ 5PM

Artists Include: ★ Andre Mangatal ★ Los Buenos Paranderos
 ★ Knolly Charles (KV) ★ Los Paranderos de UNW
 ★ Rawle Burke and more...

SNACKS & DRINKS WILL BE ON SALE!

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 Bring the entire family as we heard in the Advent Season!!!

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