

The Trinidad PRESBYTERIAN



The Official Publication of The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad & Tobago. Est 1904
OCTOBER 2025



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
2025 NATIONAL

Convention

SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2025 | 8:00A.M.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE, MACOYA

"PERSEVERE IN YOUR WITNESS: OVERCOMING THE CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED"

ISAIAH 41:10 | 1 CORINTHIANS 15:58 | GALATIANS 6:9

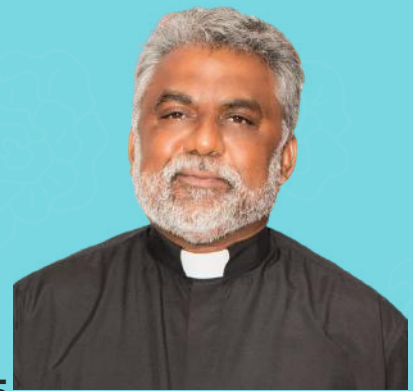


Archives Golden Jubilee

*Caribbean Youth Initiative 2025
National Youth Sunday*

THE MODERATOR SPEAKS

PCTT MODERATOR, THE RIGHT REVEREND DANIEL CHANCE



PCTT NATIONAL CONVENTION - 25TH OCTOBER 2025

Beloved in Christ,

For those of us who were present at our last National Convention, the memories are still vivid. Some set out for the Center of Excellence with great anticipation, yet due to unforeseen circumstances—including the weather—had to turn back, while others found themselves unexpectedly marooned at the venue overnight. For some, it was one of the most memorable conventions ever held. For others, it brought challenges and concern as families were separated, medical needs arose, and leaders were anxious about commitments for the following day.

Yet, even in those moments of uncertainty, what shone brightly was the light of Christ reflected in our Presbyterian family and friends. Members of nearby churches and pastoral regions stepped forward to provide shelter, comfort, food, and reassurance. Those trained in crisis management responded quickly and compassionately, embodying the words of Galatians 6:2: “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Truly, we witnessed the Church not as a building, but as a living body of Christ, united in love and service.

As October approaches, and plans for Presbyterian Convention 2025 unfold, some may hesitate, recalling the events of that day. Yet, dear friends, let us not allow fear to overshadow faith. The Planning Committee has been prayerful and diligent, ensuring that every possible safeguard is in place. With confidence, we can say with the psalmist, “The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge” (Psalm 18:2).

This year’s Convention is not just another event—it is a Spirit-directed, Spirit-filled gathering where God’s people will unite in worship, thanksgiving, and renewal. It is a time to give thanks for God’s blessings, to honour those who have laboured in faith, and to seek the fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit as we look toward the future.

We are reminded in Hebrews 10:25 to “not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” This Convention is an opportunity for us, as a nationwide family of faith—across all twenty-four pastoral regions, Tobago, and beyond—to come together in joyful worship, powerful prayer, and deep reflection.

We believe it will be a life-transforming encounter with God. Together, we will rediscover the combined strength and power of the Presbyterian Church, even in these uncertain and challenging times. For truly, “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1).

Therefore, with a heart full of gratitude and hope, I extend this warm invitation to all.



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FROM THE DESK OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

PCTT GENERAL SECRETARY,
PRESIDING ELDER MR. ASHFORD D TAMBY



Encouragement for the Weary Worker: A Call to Persevere in Doing Good

Galatians 6:9 "So let us not become tired of doing good; for if we do not give up, the time will come when we will reap the harvest."

In the quiet moments of exhaustion, when the weight of service feels heavy and the fruit of labour seems distant, Galatians 6:9 offers a timely and powerful reminder: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." These words speak directly to the heart of those who serve faithfully—often behind the scenes, often without recognition, and often while carrying personal burdens of their own. Whether in ministry, caregiving, community outreach, or simply living out the gospel in daily life, the call to "do something beneficial" can feel overwhelming when energy wanes and results seem slow to appear.

For many of us—elders, group leaders, volunteers, everyday believers, and even our church workers—the call to "do good" often comes with unseen sacrifices. Long hours, emotional strain, and spiritual fatigue can lead to burnout, especially when results are slow or opposition is strong. There are times when the work feels fruitful and fulfilling, but there are also times marked by fatigue, discouragement, and doubt. In those moments, it's easy to question whether the effort is worth it—whether the seeds being sown will ever bear fruit. Yet, Paul's encouragement in Galatians is not just a call to keep going; it's a promise that God sees, God knows, and God will bring forth a harvest in His perfect timing. The Lord never wastes the good we do, even when it feels unnoticed or unappreciated.

Paul's words in Galatians are not merely inspirational—they are profoundly spiritual. They point us to a divine truth: God sees every act of kindness, every prayer whispered in faith, and every burden carried for another. The harvest may not come immediately, but it is promised. And it is worth the wait. This verse also reminds us that perseverance is a form of worship. Continuing to serve, love, and lead even when weary is a testament to our trust in God's timing and provision. It's not about striving for our strength but leaning into the grace that sustains us.

To overcome burnout, we must first acknowledge it. Even Jesus withdrew to quiet places to pray and rest (Luke 5:16). Rest is not weakness—it is wisdom. Taking time to recharge spiritually, emotionally, and physically is essential for long-term faithfulness. Second, lean into the community. God designed the body of Christ to support one another. Sharing burdens, seeking counsel, and allowing others to minister to us can bring healing and renewed strength. Third, reconnect with your purpose. Remind yourself why you began serving in the first place. Reflect on God's calling and the joy of being part of His mission. Occasionally, a fresh perspective can reignite passion. Finally, stay rooted in Scripture and prayer. God's Word revitalises the soul, while prayer provides access to divine peace and guidance. In seasons of weariness, let God be your refuge and strength.

To those who may feel weary or burnt out: take heart. Rest when needed, pray often, and surround yourself with community. But above all, do not give up. Your labour is sowing seeds that will bloom in due season—perhaps in ways you cannot yet see.

Let Galatians 6:9 be your anchor in the storm, your light in the long night of service. **The harvest is coming. And it will be beautiful.**

PCTT CHANNELS



PCTT ARCHIVES GOLDEN JUBILEE THANKSGIVING SERVICE

By Terrence Warde, Chairman, PCTT Archives Committee.

“Remember the days of old. Consider the generations long past, ask your father and he will tell you, your elders, and they will explain to you”(Deuteronomy 32: 7).

The PCTT Archives Committee, a standing committee of the Synod of the PCTT, held a 50th Anniversary (Golden Jubilee) Thanksgiving service on Sunday 28th September, 2025, at the SATC Chapel. Members of the Archives Committee participated in the theme of **“Remembering Our Role”**.

Reverend Bjorn Warde filled the sanctuary with words of reverence and joy as the Leader of Worship; and Reverend Stephen Harripersad delivered a message offering words of encouragement and hope, stressing the need to know about the past and to embrace the future. The Principal of the SATC Reverend Dr. Keron Khellawan expressed the synergy of the Archives with the SATC library and offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

The Chairman of the Archives Committee, Mr. Terrence Warde, gave a synopsis of the genesis and evolution of the Archives over 50 years and proposed the way forward for this valuable entity for the work of the church. He proposed that there is need for **“A HOME FOR THE ARCHIVES”** since the present space is no longer adequate and pointed to the refurbishment of the space already agreed to by the Synod to be started as a matter of priority. This point was also emphasized by almost every speaker.

There were candid reflections from people involved in the evolution of the Archives -

- Reverend Joy Abdul-Mohan, immediate Past Moderator of the PCTT, sent greetings from abroad stating that **“A church without an Archives has no memory, no church history, no genealogy or personal history, no evidence of accountability and no cultural heritage.”** Reverend Abdul-Mohan praised the work of Reverend Ken Kalloo and Bill Siboo and pointed out that the work of Reverend Geraldine Reid and Ms. Kathleen Kassieram must be recognized.

- Mr. Bill Siboo, present Assistant Archivist, reflected on the work and direction of a former Archivist of the Trinidad and Tobago National Archives, Mr. Enoch Sewlal, who would've recommended a specific structure for the Archives of the PCTT to the Synod of 1962.

Mr. Siboo also stated the service of Canadian Missionary, Elma Inman, who, since in 1957, implored that an Archives be set up for the church, was exemplary.

- Reverend Dr. Randall Sammah, Retired Minister of the PCTT, spoke about the influence of Rev. Kalloo in his life, academically and personally. His interaction with **Canadian Missionary and first female Moderator of the PCTT Reverend Geraldine Reid** and the work ethic of the Canadians regarding digitizing the Archives. Reverend Dr. Sammah considered the acquisition of the library collection of Reverend Dayfoot as a blessing to the Archives; as well as the students of UWI accessing historical information from the Archives for their thesis; and the work of Ms. Kathleen Kassieram from Guaico who worked diligently to serve the Archives, as high points in the recent history of the Archives. He stated that the **PCTT is the only church in Trinidad and Tobago that presently has a formal Archives.**

- Dr. Jerome Teelucksingh, UWI Professor of History, reflected on the need to document lives and record oral stories using technology, and more so involving the Gen-Z and Gen-X population in so doing. He stated that **persons who do not know the church's history are more likely to leave the church** thereby affecting the membership.

Professor Teelucksingh likened the Archives to the “brain” of the church and challenged the Archives Committee to recognize the past persons who would've worked at the Archives voluntarily; to encourage our schools to visit the Archives ; to make sure that the Archives does not close down like the recent closing of the Sugar Archives; and the need for the Archives to include other aspects of the church's history such as lives of Presbyterians who served in other institutions of the country which should be recorded.

The Professor stated that **“The Archives should not only be about preserving and recording documents of the church but also to broaden the horizons made available by Presbyterians who have contributed and made their mark in other areas of life, locally and abroad.**

Greetings from the Synod were brought by the Assistant General Secretary. Ms. Judy-Ann Alfred, who encouraged the Archives Committee to continue its work as there will be challenges as in everything else.

The service had an array of appropriate hymns to reflect the occasion and also a guest choir the “Jubelievers” from Jubilee Memorial (Caroni) Presbyterian, of the Curepe/St. Joseph Pastoral Region and Ms. Shivonne Kalloo-Rickhi with an inspiration in song.

The Archives Committee thanked all stakeholders who showed interest in the success of the work of the Archives. During the next few months, the Archives Committee will engage in the publishing of the writings of Rev. Ken Kalloo and also publish a commemorative calendar for 2026. The work of the Archives moving forward will include the publication of documents to add to the treasures of the present collection.

A Golden Jubilee is an auspicious occasion - 50 years of service. God has blessed the Archives with personnel and decision-makers who value its work. Sustainability and innovation will be a cornerstone of the work of the Archives moving forward. **WITH EVERY YEAR THAT PASSES, THE ARCHIVES BECOMES MORE AND MORE IMPORTANT TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.**



THE SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE, ECONOMY & MANAGEMENT (GEM) 2025

Rev. Namelia Lutchman-Pulwarty, (Minister of the Point Fortin/Cedros Pastoral Region)

“Awareness, Advocacy and Accountability” were just some of the words that 20 faith leaders spanning the globe were asked to sit, internalize and wrestle with over the course of two weeks as discussions were held on Neoliberalism, Global Inequalities, Gender Justice, Environmental Degradation and the 4th Industrial Revolution.

From the 18th August to the 29th August, 2025, the Ecumenical School of Governance, Economics and Management for an Economy of Life (GEM School) was held in Pocheon-si, South Korea for the 8th time since its inception. This competency building workshop geared towards faith leaders emerged as part of the NIFEA (New International Financial and Economic Architecture) process. This school is jointly endorsed by the World Council of Churches (WCC), World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC), Council for World Mission (CWM), World Methodist Council (WMC), the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and the United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG).

During the two-week period, participants were given the opportunity not only to engage with subject matter specialists from around the world but also to internalize the topics in their own regional context. Some of the topics presented were as follows:

- Inequality – Bridging Economics and Theology
- Ecological and feminist economics
- Understanding international finance, tax and debt
- Global economic governance for justice, democracy and sustainability
- Debt and tax justice
- Advocacy tools for economic justice
- 4th Industrial revolution: global inequality, faith, global finance, gender and racial equality
- Equity, democracy and sustainability in the 4th Industrial Revolution and the role of churches in this process.



The GEM School 2025 was indeed a transformative learning opportunity as it linked theologically grounded principles with pressing global issues that the world is facing at this time.

As a Presbyterian Church located in this corner of the world, now more than ever we need to continue to work alongside our ecumenical partners as we advocate for those on the margins of life.



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL ST ANDREW'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE REV. DR. KERON KHELLAWAN

BIBLICAL HONESTY: WALKING IN TRUTH

Honesty is one of the core moral principles in Scripture. The Bible consistently calls God's people to reflect His character by walking in truth, avoiding falsehood, and speaking with integrity. In a society often shaped by false news, deception, and half-truths, the biblical call to honesty is both countercultural and deeply self-evaluative.

God as the Source of Truth The foundation of biblical honesty begins with God Himself. Scripture describes Him as the God of truth (**Isaiah 65:16**) and declares that "it is impossible that God would prove false" (**Hebrews 6:18, NRSV**). Because God is true, His people are called to reflect His nature. Jesus identified Himself as "the way, and the truth, and the life" (**John 14:6**), emphasizing that truth is not merely a principle, but a person revealed in Him.

A Look at the Old Testament

The Old Testament frequently emphasizes the importance of truthfulness in both personal and communal life. The ninth commandment forbids bearing false witness (**Exodus 20:16**), a law that protects justice and trust within society. Proverbs consistently praises honesty and condemns deceit:

- "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight" (**Proverbs 12:22**).
 - "The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them" (**Proverbs 11:3**).
- For Israel, honesty meant avoiding lies, maintaining justice, ensuring fairness in trade (**Leviticus 19:35–36**), and remaining faithful in relationships.

Honesty in the Teachings of Jesus and the New Testament

Jesus deepened the Old Testament call to honesty by teaching that integrity must go beyond mere external compliance. In the Sermon on the Mount, He instructed: "Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil" (**Matthew 5:37**). This highlights that honesty is not limited to formal oaths but should characterize all speech.

Jesus also condemned hypocrisy—living a lie by appearing righteous outwardly while being corrupt inwardly (**Matthew 23:27–28**). True honesty flows from a heart aligned with God's truth.

The New Testament letters repeatedly stress honesty as a mark of the new life in Christ. Paul exhorts believers:

- "Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbour, for we are members one of another" (**Ephesians 4:25**).
- "Provide things honest in the sight of all men" (**Romans 12:17, KJV**).

For the apostles, honesty was not optional but essential to Christian witness. Deceit undermines community, while truth builds trust and reflects the character of God.

The Consequences of Dishonesty

The Bible also warns of the serious consequences of dishonesty. The story of Ananias and Sapphira (**Acts 5:1–11**) reveals how lying to God and His people brings judgment. **Revelation 21:8** includes "all liars" among those excluded from eternal life, underscoring the seriousness of falsehood before God.

Living Out Honesty in Practical Ways

Applying these lessons in our lives means:

- 1. Integrity in Speech** – Speaking truthfully without deception, exaggeration, or manipulation (**Colossians 3:9**). This means accepting our errors and faults, allowing self-growth, and letting our "Yes" be yes and our "No" be no.
- 2. Integrity in Action** – Conducting business, relationships, and responsibilities with fairness and transparency (**Proverbs 11:1**). True integrity means that even when no one is watching, our actions are rooted in what is right and true.
- 3. Integrity of Heart** – Allowing God's truth to shape inner motives and desires, not just outward behaviour (**Psalms 51:6**).

Conclusion: Biblical honesty is more than simply avoiding lies; it is a call to reflect the God of truth in every aspect of life. By speaking truth, living with integrity, and allowing Christ's truth to transform our hearts, the church and the believing community bear witness to the gospel in a world longing for authenticity. As Paul reminds us, "We aim at what is honourable not only in the Lord's sight but also in the sight of man" (**2 Corinthians 8:21**).

CARIBBEAN YOUTH INITIATIVE 2025: FAITH, DIGITAL JUSTICE, AND CARIBBEAN CONNECTION

By Synod's Office

From August 19th to 24th, 2025, youth delegates from across the Caribbean gathered at the Shirley Retreat Hotel in Kingston, Jamaica, for the Council for World Mission's (CWM) Caribbean Youth Initiative (CYI) 2025. This year's theme — "Digital Wokeness, Ctrl + Justice" — challenged participants to explore how faith and justice intersect with the digital world, while equipping them to become ethical and responsible digital citizens.

Representing the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago (PCTT) were Adam Ali, Arianne Bailey, Christopher Boodram, and Sion Singh. Together, they joined peers from Jamaica and Guyana for five days of worship, learning, and fellowship.

Faith Meets the Digital Age

Each day began with morning worship, setting the tone for deep reflection and learning. Sessions such as "Uploading Christ to the Cloud" by Reverend Tara Tyme and "Digital Justice Unplugged" by Prof. Roderick Hewitt challenged youth to think critically about their online presence and the ethics of technology.

They explored how artificial intelligence affects human dignity, how misinformation can harm communities, and how Christians can be witnesses for Christ in digital spaces. Other sessions such as "Digital Identity & Mental Health" and "Walk the Talk" provided practical tools to help youth design projects that put faith into action.

Beyond the Conference Room

The CYI experience was not limited to sessions and discussions. The group also had the opportunity to explore Jamaica's history with a visit to Port Royal, once called the "richest and wickedest city in the world."

Standing in a place that had faced both colonial opulence and catastrophic destruction reminded participants of the fragility of human ambition and the importance of building lives on strong moral and spiritual foundations.

A Journey of Growth — and Support

Being away from home for several days brought moments of homesickness, especially during the quiet evenings after long sessions. Yet, these moments became opportunities to grow closer as a team.

The delegates encouraged one another through prayer, conversation, and shared laughter. This sense of solidarity turned challenges into blessings and reminded them that Christian community is a source of strength, even far from home.

Lessons Learned

The initiative left a lasting impact on the delegates.

They returned with a renewed commitment to:

- Model digital ethics and ensure that every online interaction reflects Christ.
- Advocate for justice by speaking out against bias, disinformation, and digital exclusion.
- Strengthen youth networks across the Caribbean to share resources and ideas.
- Integrate faith and technology to make discipleship relevant in the modern age.

Looking Forward

CYI 2025 was more than a conference — it was a space for spiritual renewal, cultural exchange, and regional collaboration. The delegates are eager to share what they have learned with their home congregations, empowering other young people to use their voices and platforms for justice and the gospel.

The Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago extends gratitude to God for this opportunity and thanks CWM for hosting a life-changing event that will continue to bear fruit in the lives of youth and communities across the region.



THE FAMILY CAN

A MONTHLY THOUGHT TO HELP IMPROVE THE FAMILY - HILTON R SIBOO: CONTACT: 788-2685)
THE PILGRIMAGE OF PARENTING: [part 15] - ANGER and AGGRESSION PART 15 B

In this series, our approach established that parenting is a relationship between the 'parenter' and the 'parentee'. This month we continue to consider - Can Anger and Aggression be parented even when the 'parentee' may not always be a young child? In last month's September [part 15A], it was noted that Anger and Aggression are not the same though both are associated with rage, fear, defiance, disobedience, retreat or withdrawal. Anger can result in aggression. We at first considered, what is Anger and Aggression? To explain anger we reviewed six perspectives of this psychological state - who gets angry, why and where. We also defined aggression and noted anger and aggression were a person's response to another person, driven by psychological and biological factors, socialization, accidents, substance abuse, the environment, etc and that anger fuels aggression.

This month (in part 15B) let us consider how anger and aggression are managed, more specifically, why and how can the 'parenter' parent the - Anger Management Skills of the 'parentee'?

How managed - Humans are not born with control over anger, [rage and aggression], they have to learn; who teaches or parents? Anger is caused by fear, hurt and frustration. "Being angry or mad is not bad, it is the extent of aggression or violations that comes with uncontrolled reactions, hothead!" Sit with your child, your parentee, discuss how to handle the emotions emanating from anger in healthy and positive non-aggressive ways. Self-talk - help them to speak and disclose positively to figure it out. As parents, accept responsibility for your anger, learn and manage your anger by assertion instead of aggression which your child/parentee can model or imitate. Parent them to learn behaviours and skills to manage their anger whatever may be the cause or prompting of others to 'fight'. Short-term calming is useful but being left with feelings of guilt or anxiety or unfair treatment can breed more anger and increase hostility.

To handle or manage anger, experts suggest that children and adults should - wait, count, bring down the arousal; don't rehearse your reason for anger; vent by talk things out; avoid blaming and be non-accusing; release pent-up motions (catharsis) by action or fantasy; do not retaliate or counter-attack; assertively communicate; exercise; play [... an instrument e.g. beat a pan] confide or journal; take time for silence. Anger management skills can resolve conflicts and promote reconciliation in relationships and certainly within the family.

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

Remember, the family is not just a group or gathering without a common purpose. Never let it ever be that the family can NOT adjust and adapt as changes occur. **Don't lose faith. Hold strong. Believe, The Family Can.**

Encounteringthe Archives of PCTT

'KNOW THE CAPCTT' SERIES FOR 2025 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Over the last months, 'Encountering ... the Archives' has shared information with you to 'KNOW THE CAPCTT'. The Archives of the PCTT (CAPCTT) observed and celebrated the milestone that marks the 50th Anniversary since the establishment of the present physical location on September 15, 1975.

During the month of September 2025 the Archives of the PCTT observed and celebrated this anniversary with various activities which continues. Our September article asked the question again, does the PCTT need the Archives? Four reasons were identified to which this month is added information sharing.

To this context of observations, the PCTT celebrates and commemorates with the global Presbyterian Churches and other denominations worldwide two significant annual events World Communion Sunday and Reformation Sunday on the first and last Sundays of October.

World Communion Sunday (WCS): 'started at the Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania', USA in 1933 where Rev Hugh Thompson Kerr with his congregation 'sought to demonstrate interconnectedness of Christian churches regardless of denomination ... He chose the sacrament of Holy Communion to symbolize this unity.' In 1980, Worldwide Communion was adopted by the Federal Council of Churches of Christian America WCS has become a universal and ecumenical celebration and tradition.

Reformation Sunday is observed on the Sunday closest to October 31st - Wittenberg Day. The catalyst for Protestants was initiated by Luther with the Wittenberg 95 thesis in 1517. This evolved along two paths - The Lutheran Reformation in Germany 'Lutherism' and the Calvinist 'Swiss' Reformation in Switzerland which became known as 'Reformed Christianity' guided by The Institutes of Religion [1536 – 1559].

Luther and Calvin as protestant Reformers had similar concerns about bible teaching, the sacraments, and church government. Whilst for Luther the protest was for reform within the RC to worship and 'personal holiness,' for Calvin the protest was for 'Reformed Christianity' based on church administration by elders or presbyters and on order and systems which would result in changes, a break against the papal RC and monarchical rule and domination and towards reforming European Catholicism.

The question for us as Presbyterians today and in the PCTT is, do we transform reform or conform?

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

ON THE ROAD TO 150 YEAR

THE ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In July, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Princes Town, joyfully celebrated 149 years of Christian service and witness. With gratitude to God, we reflected on our journey from 1876 to today through a moving three-part video series, highlighting His grace across generations.

Leading up to the anniversary, we held three evening services under the theme "Faith in Action – Impacting Generations" (Matthew 5:16). Moderator Rt. Rev. Daniel Chance encouraged us to live boldly in faith as our ancestors did. A musical evening, directed by Mr. Victor Churaman, showcased community voices in heartfelt worship. The third, a prayer service led by Presiding Elder Mr. Krishna Persad, Rev. Manan Deo, and the prayer group, lifted families, the sick, the bereaved, the church, our nation, and the world.

The highlight was our 149th Anniversary Service on Sunday, July 13, 2025. Guest speaker Dr. Joel Teelucksingh reminded us that true faith is not only belief but action—a force that transforms our lives. Special greetings were shared by Mr. David Sammy and Mr. Hansley Ajodha. Even those who came with doubts left renewed in hope and strength. A memorable moment was the planting of an evergreen tree by Chairman and Elder Alexander Ramnath, symbolizing the deep roots of our faith and the growth we anticipate. We especially praise our minister, Rev. Manan Deo, for faithfully shepherding every service.

This milestone launches a year-long celebration, with a different event each month. August

featured a Bhajan service, September "Prayer, Praise, and Paint," and in October we create

memories for our time capsule. More services, outreach, and fellowship will follow as we journey

toward our 150th Anniversary in 2026.

We warmly invite you to join us in celebrating God's faithfulness. Worship at 7a.m. in Princes Town, or view recordings online at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Princes Town on YouTube.



ELEVATION SERVICE FOR MRS JEAN RAMSAMOOJ AT DIAMOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

By David Battoo

On Sunday 20th July, although it was forecast to be a rainy day, sunshine was evident probably because it was a function for a lady who always brings sunshine and joy to everyone.

On this special day Mrs. Jean Ramsamooj, better known as Miss Jean, was elevated to Honorary Elder. The church was filled to capacity and it was good foresight of the Local Board to arrange for additional seating. Approximately one hundred and seventy-five persons turned up for this event, this tells the story of the kind of lady Miss Jean is. Members of her family, as well as the congregation and Session were in attendance.

Miss Jean has been an elder of the Diamond Presbyterian Church for the past thirty- seven years. She was baptized by Reverend Albert Baldeo in 1963 and confirmed by Presiding Elder Edmund Kowlessar in the late 1960s. Encouraged by Reverend Daniel Teelucksingh, she became secretary of the Local Board and would serve as secretary for the next three and a half decades. Miss Jean would have served on the Official Board of the then Diamond/Barrackpore Pastoral Region. She presently serves on the Session of the Diamond Pastoral Region. She served as Clerk of Session from 2005 to 2011 serving with many Ministers. To date she continues to serve as Central Treasurer of the Session, under the astute leadership of Rev, Stephen Harripersad.

Miss Jean would have served and done many visitations with various Ministers, Deaconesses, Lay Pastors and Presiding Elders. Miss Jean would always visit or call persons from her congregation. She is always accessible and has a good relationship with all members who always confide in her. She is one of the most regular members despite her age. As such it was befitting of Miss Jean to be elevated to Honorary Elder.

A wonderful service was held with host Minister Reverend Stephen Harripersad as leader of worship and Reverend Sookhansingh delivering a powerful message. The Diamond Regional Choir performed lustily. Music on the keyboard was supplied by Mrs. Indra Rampersad.

The act of Elevation was performed by Chairman of the Southern Eastern Presbytery, Rev. Stephen Harripersad. A lovely plaque and a gift were presented by the Local Board and the ladies group also presented a gift to her.

Miss Jean thanked everyone for the wonderful service held and indicated that she will continue to serve her God and church as long as God grants her life.



NARIVA/MAYARO MEN'S FELLOWSHIP: DAY OF PURPOSE AND PRAISE

By David Seecharan

On Saturday 30th August 2025, several members of the Nariva/Mayaro Pastoral Region (N/MPR) Men's Fellowship gathered at the Rio Claro Presbyterian Church Hall for a day dedicated to spiritual growth, guidance and bonding. Also in attendance were minister for the region, Reverend Radica Samuel-Moonoo, Student Minister, Mr. Brandon Paul, Mr. Radcliff Dookie of The PCTT's Board of Men and other invited members of the region.

The assembly began with a heartfelt worship session, led by Interim Chairman of the N/MPR Men's Fellowship, Presiding Elder Mr. William Gokool. His message centered on the powerful theme of "Bringing People to Jesus". Mr. Gokool reminded the men of our inherent responsibility and privilege to introduce others to the transformative love of Christ, much like Philip did with Nathanael in John 1: 43 to 50. With reference to Matthew 28: 16 to 20, he also urged the men to be living testaments to our faith by spreading the gospel, reaching out with compassion and encouraging others to be disciples of Jesus. His words were a call to action and resonated deeply with those present.

Following the spiritual nourishment, the gathering transitioned to a vital session focused on the roles and duties of the Men's Fellowship. This was conducted by Mr. Radcliffe Dookie, who graciously accepted the invitation to the gathering to enlighten the group. He also provided clear and concise information regarding the requirements for induction into the PCTT Board of Men, and reminded us that through collaboration individual talents can lead to collective strength.

The N/MPR Men's Fellowship also used this meeting to present a token of appreciation to Student Minister Mr. Brandon Paul in recognition of his dedicated service and invaluable contributions during his tenure in the Nariva/Mayaro Pastoral Region. His efforts demonstrate a beautiful testament to answering Jesus' call to become his disciple, sharing the gospel and bringing people closer to him.

As the formal proceedings concluded, the group joined for another cherished aspect of the fellowship: a communal meal. Before indulging in the pelau that was prepared on location, a gracious blessing of the meal was offered by Elder Mr. Ashmid Khan. Laughter and lively conversation filled the hall as brothers and sisters in Christ shared stories and strengthened existing bonds over plates of delicious food.

After the pelau lunch, some members participated in an exciting game of bingo, while others engaged in lighthearted conversations. During these socializing activities, the cooking of a pot of fish broth was also started. The chefs for the day, Mr. Junior Sooknanan, Mr. Emmerson Pragsingh and Mr. Richie Soogrim provided expertly prepared and tasty dishes which offered a perfect capstone to the day: rich in spiritual upliftment, practical instruction, and genuine fellowship.

As attendees departed, they carried not just full stomachs, but also invigorated spirits, clearer purpose, and a renewed sense of belonging.



DIAMOND REGIONAL CHOIR, RETREATS TO TOBAGO

By Lisa Morgan & Ann Ramjeawan



Ecclesiastes 3: 1 says, "To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven." The Diamond Regional Choir, under the leadership of Reverend Kelvin Sookhansingh, took time out of their busy schedule to retreat to our beautiful sister island of Tobago.

This retreat took place from Monday 11th August to Thursday 14th August, 2025. The choir, which has been in existence for more than thirty years, has visited the island on previous occasions to sing at some churches. Reverend Stephen Harripersad, Minister of the Diamond Pastoral Region, blessed us with a special prayer and then it was smooth sailing early in the morning, as we embarked on this journey.

We retreated for some rest and relaxation but not from the Word of God. Each day began with praise and worship, reading bible passages and praying before we engaged in planned activities. We took a tour of the island, solved the mystery of the tomb, visited the beaches, the Forts and sampled the local cuisine.

One of the highlights of our visit to Tobago, was being able to celebrate the 65th birthday of one of our members, Mrs. Deahotee (Devi) Heeralal Ramdahan, in the form of a Thanksgiving Service. Presiding Elder Mrs Agnes Sultanti and Elder Mr. Nicholson Ramsaran prayed for this milestone birthday while Reverend Kelvin Sookhansingh delivered an appropriate message for the occasion. The ladies of the choir displayed their culinary skills in the dishes they presented. Curried duck, baked chicken dhalpourie, and chow mien were some of dishes.

It was an emotional time for all as we reflected on our journey over the years and remembered the contribution made by some of our members who have gone to the great beyond. This experience has renewed and energized us to continue doing God's work. We would like to express our sincerest thanks to all who have supported us in our ministry and look forward to many more exciting times ahead.

ARUNODAI PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S TEA AND FASHION SHOW AN EVENING OF FAITH, FASHION AND FELLOWSHIP IN BLOOM

By Mrs. Wendy Gajadhar

On Saturday July 5th, 2025, Arunodai Presbyterian Church came alive with colour, elegance and splendour as it hosted its much-anticipated Tea and Fashion Show under the theme "Faith in Full Bloom." Inspired by Isaiah 35:1 "The desert will rejoice, and flowers will bloom" The evening was a radiant celebration of spiritual and aesthetic beauty. The evening unfolded with a warm welcome and words of heartfelt appreciation. Guests were thanked for their presence. Gratitude was extended to the generous sponsors of the event, dedicated planning team and our ever-supportive congregation. Reverend Damien Sieunarine then offered an opening prayer, blessing all in attendance and the delightful treats, setting the tone for a memorable evening of fellowship.



From the moment guests arrived, they were immersed in a serene atmosphere of beauty. The decor reflected the scriptural theme, with the cascading white florals, soft nude tones and regal burgundy swags. A glittering gold-sequined backdrop framed a floral photo booth, the perfect setting to capture cherished memories. The spectacular lighting created an enchanting glow, enhancing every detail of the decor. Complementing the ambience was a delightful spread of teas, pastries, savouries, fruit cups and other treats.

The magic of the evening was heightened by live entertainment, 'Back-in-Time' music by Mr. Victor Churaman and Ms. Nerissa Bacchus, while the saxophonist, Mr. Lutchman Bissoon, filled the air with soulful tunes. Ms. Miriam Tang Hap and Ms. Keira Balwah added grace with their heartwarming renditions on the steelpan. Adding to the excitement were door prizes generously sponsored by well-wishers.

The highlight of the evening was the elegant fashion show sponsored by She Rocks, Sequins, Cross Stitch and Jeans World. Our Church members confidently graced the runway, showcasing a collection of stylish and contemporary outfits.

It was, without doubt, a resounding success - a magical evening that celebrated faith, fellowship and fashion. The Arunodai Presbyterian Church continues to blossom as a beacon of community spirit, offering not just spiritual nourishment but uplifting experiences that weave hearts together in joyous unity.

All Glory and Praise to God!

"WHY GRATITUDE?" (2)

DR LESTER GOETZ, ELDER AT SUSAMACHAR CHURCH

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COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS:

Sometimes We Only Appreciate Our Blessings When We Count Them And Write Them Down In A Diary. We Can Start Today And Buy A Small Notebook. This Will Be Your First Diary Of Blessings.

We Got More, Much More Than We Deserved! So We Must Show Our Gratitude For The Goodness Of God.

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HE IS YOUR SUPPORT:

When Things Go Wrong He'll Make Them Right. When You Are Down, He Will Lift You Up. In All Situations, Not Only The Good Times. You Know God Is There, So Give Thanks, Even For The Little Things. Even In The Bad Times. The Bad Times Can Make Us Strong. There Is No Problem So Great That God Cannot Solve It. When You Are Sick He Will Heal You. We Have An Awesome God, We Have A Very Big God. He Has Never Lost A Battle. He Is Always By Your Side. Always!

IN ALL THINGS GIVE THANKS:

Give Thanks? When? In All Things! Not Some Things, The Good And The Bad. Not Only When Things Are Going Well. In Difficult Times We Can Shift Our Focus From What Is Going Wrong, To Who God Is! And This Reminds Us That God Is In Control. Paul And Silas Were In Prison. Smelly, Dirty, Bad Food. Yet, They Gave Thanks, And The Prison Doors Opened! (Acts 16: 25-34) In 'All' Things Give Thanks For This Is The Will Of God In Christ Jesus. (1 Thess 5:18). Gratitude Is A Command That Can Open Any Door With Ease. It Is God's Will! Thy Will Be Done. God's Will, So Give Thanks And Obey God No Matter What. He Is Always By Your Side. He Is Not Only The God Of The Mountain, But Also The God Of The Valley When Things Go Wrong He'll Make Them Right.

A STORY:

A Colleague Of Mine Was Talking To Me On The Phone When She Happily Exclaimed That She Was In Love With Her New Hairstyle. She Had Beautiful Hair But Was Now Completely Bald. She Had Chemotherapy For Breast Cancer. Both Breasts Were Removed, So I Asked Her "How Can You Be So Happy?" She Replied "You Clearly Do Not Understand The Power Of Gratitude. Guess What? I Am Still Alive!" She Then Sent Me An Amazing Article On The Science Of Gratitude.

Science And The Bible:

The Scientists Have Found That Giving Thanks Is A Self-Healing Process. It Cures Jealousy And Envy. It Fills Your Mind With Positive Thoughts So It Is Very Difficult For The Negativity To Enter. There Is Less Complaining And You Convert Worry Into Worship. You Will Focus On What You Have Right Now And Not On What You Lack. There Is No Jealousy At All.

When You Give Thanks, There Is An Outpouring Of Chemicals In Your Brain. They Are Neurotransmitters. One Is Called Dopamine For A Positive, Sharper Mind And Motivation. Another Is Serotonin, A Natural Anti-Depressant And Another Is Oxytocin - The Happy Hormone.

These Chemicals Reduce Your Stress Hormone, Cortisol. So Less Stress, Less Anxiety, Less Depression, Just By Simply Saying Thanks. Gratitude Stabilizes Your Mood Swings. You Will Heal And You Will Get A More Restful And Peaceful Sleep.

Thanks Also Boosts Your Immune System, So Less Infections. It Also Increases Blood Flow And Oxygen To Your Heart Improving The Health Of Your Heart. You Become Healthier And Happier! So, Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart. Not Because I Say So But Because You Truly Appreciate God's Goodness To You.

This Is Why You Feel So Good When Someone Tells You Thanks And Show That They Appreciate You. You Also Get The Same Feeling When You Give Thanks. It Works Both Ways. The Bible Says To 'Prove All Things' (1 Thess 5:21) It Took 2000 Years For Scientists To Finally Prove That The Bible Was Right All Along, So Give Thanks.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO (PCTT)



BETH-RAPHA MISSION

SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION IN ACTION:

By: Angelica Khan

(PART 3) SUPPORTING EMOTIONAL & BEHAVIORAL NEEDS

Introduction

As we deepen our exploration of Special Needs Education, we must now turn our attention to one of the most vital yet often misunderstood aspects: emotional and behavioral needs. These needs, when not addressed, can significantly hinder a child's ability to learn, interact socially, and build self-confidence. This article explores practical ways to support students emotionally and behaviorally within the classroom environment.

Understanding Emotional and Behavioral Challenges

Children with special needs may experience anxiety, impulsivity, aggression, withdrawal, or mood swings. These are not acts of defiance but signals that the child is struggling. Conditions such as ADHD, autism, and trauma can often manifest in challenging behaviors.

The Role of the Educator

Teachers play a critical role in emotional regulation. Through calm tone, predictable routines, and positive behavior reinforcement, teachers can help children feel safe and supported. Consistency and structure are key.

Behavior Support Strategies

- Use behavior charts or token systems
- Create calm-down corners
- Incorporate sensory breaks and brain breaks
- Teach emotion recognition and coping strategies through visuals and stories

Involving Parents and Therapists

Behavior management is most effective when consistent across environments. Teachers must work alongside parents, counselors, and behavioral therapists to implement shared strategies. Daily reports and behavior logs can facilitate this communication.

Conclusion

Supporting emotional and behavioral development is foundational in Special Needs Education. When we respond with empathy and structure, we not only reduce disruptions but also empower children to navigate their emotions and build stronger relationships.

(PART 4) EARLY INTERVENTION: THE KEY TO LONG-TERM

Introduction

Following our exploration of emotional and behavioral supports, we now turn to the topic of early intervention. When learning difficulties or developmental delays are addressed in the earliest years of a child's life, their long-term academic and social outcomes dramatically improve.

What is Early Intervention?

Early intervention involves identifying and addressing developmental delays and disabilities in children from birth to age five. These services often include speech therapy, occupational therapy, play therapy, and parental coaching.

Why Early Intervention Matters

- The brain is most adaptable in the early years
- Delays can be minimized or prevented from compounding
- Families receive support and guidance early on
- Early learners build foundational skills necessary for future academic success

Tools and Strategies

- Developmental screenings at health clinics
- Individualized play-based learning plans
- Speech and language programs
- Parent-child activity routines
- Use of picture schedules and daily routines

Supporting Families Through the Process

Families need support navigating assessments, accessing services, and implementing strategies at home. Schools, clinics, and community centers must collaborate to make this process smooth and accessible.

Conclusion

The earlier we intervene, the greater the chance for success. Early intervention is not just a service—it is an investment in the child's potential, well-being, and future. Educators, parents, and health professionals must work as one to ensure no child slips through the cracks.

*Author: Angelica Khan Educator/ Educational Specialist / Special Needs Educational Consultant
Special Needs Advocate | Workshop Facilitator
Trinidad and Tobago*

NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY AT NAVET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

By Elder Mrs. Alisa S. Boochoon.

On Sunday 31st August 2025, the Youths of Navet Presbyterian Church arrived very early at church, eager and excited to conduct Worship.

The Sanctuary came alive with the youthful energy and leadership, as the congregation celebrated National Youth Sunday and the 63rd Independence of Trinidad and Tobago.

Mr. David Seecharan, the Nariva Mayaro Regional Youth Director, and Ms. Emily Pragsingh, the President of Navet Youth Assembly, planned and orchestrated the entire service with the Youths and members of the Sunday School.

Ms. Naleyah Sudeen greeted us with her melodious voice in song "Come Jesus Come" which made us feel the Spirit of Jesus in our midst.

Mr. David Seecharan was the Leader of Worship. Ms. Marrisa Gadar said the prayer of Adoration.

Elder Mrs. Alisa S. Boochoon welcomed everyone, and special welcome was extended to the Youths.



Mrs. Boochoon made the necessary announcements by informing members of the various activities of our Church, the N.M.P.R and the National PCTT.

The Youthful Master Kevin Sahadeo read the first scripture passage, Matthew 25 vs 31-40 and Ms. Tricia Lewis read the second scripture, Luke 14 vs 1,7-14, her powerful voice echoed in the church leaving the Bible passage in our minds.

The Sunday School Students, Master Matthieu Seecharan, Ms. Sahalie and Ms. Samaya Heeralal collected the Offering and it was dedicated by Mr. David Seecharan.

Ms. Shenelle Sudeen rendered a soul-searching anthem: "I'd rather have Jesus" which had all members singing along. Ms. Emily Pragsingh delivered the message with powerful insight about Christ's Humility, Calmness, Friendliness and showing Genuine Love to all. We should put God first in everything we do and thank him for all the blessings we receive.

As we observed the 63rd Independence Anniversary of our Country, Trinidad and Tobago.

Elder Mr. Edmund Pragsingh enlightened the congregation on the journey towards Independence. We achieved full Independence., from the British Empire, on 31st August 1962, via the T&T Independence Act 1962.

Mr. Pragsingh said a special Pastoral Prayer for our Nation's 63rd Independence Anniversary, and he did the spoken Benediction.

Our Youths demonstrated creativity, humility and commitment to Christ.

National Youth Sunday led us to witness the spiritual gifts, talents and leadership capacity of the youths at the Navet Presbyterian Church. We, the members of the congregation, are proud of them and gave our support to empower the youths, as they are the future of the church.

WELL DONE! ARIMA PRESBYTERIAN YOUTHS

By Elijah Motieram, Elder, Arima Presbyterian Church

Congratulations on a truly blessed and inspiring National Youth Sunday at Arima Presbyterian Church.

We are filled with joy and gratitude as we reflect on the powerful service you orchestrated for National Youth Sunday on August 24, 2025.

Right from the start, the energy in the room was palpable. The service kicked off with a vibrant spirit, as uplifting songs echoed through the Sanctuary. Those heartfelt harmonies, the stirring strings, and the vibrant drumming, what a beautiful blend of sound! Watching you all get lost in the worship, swaying along, was nothing short of amazing.

The whole worship flow was executed flawlessly, a true reflection of your hard work, teamwork, training, and meticulous preparation. Each part unfolded smoothly, creating a sacred and engaging atmosphere for everyone present.

The highlight? Reanna Gooding's sermon. She reminded us all about humility and carrying a Christlike heart. With remarkable wisdom for her age, she held the attention of every person in the Sanctuary.

It was so quiet, you could've heard a pin drop; we were all deeply engrossed in her powerful delivery. That moment was a genuine connection with the divine, one we won't soon forget. The atmosphere created you felt the Holy Spirit present.

On this National Youth Sunday, you all did more than lead a service, you shared a compelling truth. Through your gifts, faith, and togetherness, you've shown that the church's future is not just bright; it's full of promise.

Kudos, devoted youths! The message of God is in good hands here in Arima. May the Lord keep blessing you, may His face shine upon you, and may you experience His grace. May He look favourably upon each of you, filling your hearts with peace as you continue to walk in His light. With heartfelt congratulations and Christ's love,



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IERE MEMORIAL YOUTH GROUP'S ANNUAL RETREAT

By Mrs. Candace Mahabir

On Tuesday 15th July 2025, the Iere Memorial Presbyterian Church Youth Group set out on its Annual Retreat, themed: **"Bound by Faith, Strengthened in Love, United in Christ"** at the peaceful nature reserve, The Arboretum in Chaguaramas. The retreat provided the perfect setting to disconnect from daily distractions and focus on deepening our bonds. It was a memorable day filled with spiritual growth, heartfelt fellowship, and joyful connection with God and one another.

The day began with a prayer session centered on **Hebrews 10:24-25**, which encouraged us to **"... consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another."** This Scripture laid the foundation for the day, calling us to build one another up in faith and unity. Through team-building activities, reflective quiet time in nature, and shared meals, bonds were strengthened not just through words, but through love in action. We explored how faith can grow in community and how Christ unites us beyond our differences.

At the close of an unforgettable day, we joined in a moment of song and praise and by the end of the retreat, hearts were full, spirits were renewed, and a deeper sense of connection - to God and to one another - had taken root.

Truly, it was a day marked by faith, love, and unity in Christ.



'HIS LOVE WILL NEVER LET ME GO'

(A Communion Song by Caroline Sampath).
(Aramalaya Presbyterian Church)

Verse 1:

Come to the table of the Lord,
Come celebrate this Feast of Love.
All who are broken are restored.
Our Father hears from Heaven above.
As this Feast of Love is offered up,
The Holy Banquet of the Lord.
In love we'll dine, in love we'll sup,
As bread is broken, wine is poured.

Verse 2:

Believing hearts find rest in Him,
Come lay your burdens at His feet.
His strength and might shall ne'er grow dim,
We gather 'round the Mercy Seat.
Rememb'ring how He gave His life for us,
So freely, so abundantly.
This is the power of the cross,
Eternal life which sets us free.

First Chorus:

Hallelujah to the One whose blood was shed,
Hallelujah to the Eternal Light!
Here's bread, here's wine, eat, drink be fed,
You are welcomed in His sight.
You are welcomed in His sight.

Verse 3:

Sovereign Lord whose love knows no end,
Set a seal on this heart of mine.
Throughout the ages Your love transcends,
Over the realms of space and time.
O Son of Man, O Son of God,
Your saving grace is all I know.
I stand amazed, washed in the blood,
His love will never let me go!

Second Chorus:

Hallelujah to the Lamb who once was slain,
Hallelujah to the Risen King!
Hallelujah to the God, the One who reigns,
Let Heaven's anthem ring!
Let Heaven's anthem ring!


ROOTED IN SERVICE, UNITED IN JOY: CUNUPIA PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY AND GAMES DAY

By Sherman Gokool

On Sunday 31st August 2025, the Cunupia Presbyterian Church joyfully celebrated its Family and Games Day. The occasion was especially meaningful as it coincided with three important national and church observances: the 63rd anniversary of Trinidad and Tobago's Independence, the National Day of Prayer, and National Youth Sunday within the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago. Adding to this spirit of thanksgiving, Cunupia Presbyterian Church is also observing its 135th anniversary—a milestone that speaks to God's faithfulness through generations of worship, service, and community. In keeping with the theme of the day, the Cunupia Presbyterian Youth Group took leadership of the morning worship service, bringing the congregation a timely and inspiring message: "Remaining humble in service to others." Their reminder echoed the words of *Philippians 2:3* "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."

Following worship, the Youth Group put its message into practice by serving breakfast to the members of the congregation. This act of service and fellowship embodied Christ's teaching in *Mark 10:45* "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." The congregation shared not only a meal but also moments of laughter, encouragement, and togetherness. The day continued with an array of fun-filled and entertaining games that welcomed participation from all ages. Children, youth, and adults joined in the spirit of play, building bonds of friendship and strengthening the sense of family within the church. The event was a beautiful expression of *Psalms 133:1* "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

Through worship, service, fellowship, and recreation, the Cunupia Presbyterian Church reaffirmed its commitment to being a family of faith rooted in humility, love, and joy. It was a day that reminded all present of the blessings of community, the strength of prayer, and the importance of nurturing the next generation in the spirit of Christ.



**MARABELLA
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
Steel Orchestra
Presents
THROUGH THE YEARS
Celebrating the Church's
120th Anniversary
Featuring Guest Artists

MARABELLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	SATURDAY 11TH OCTOBER, 2025 TIME: 6:00 PM	ADULT - \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> CHILD UNDER 12 - \$50 <input type="checkbox"/>
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PROCEEDS SUPPORT CHURCH'S ROOF REPAIRS
Refreshments On Sale

NARIVA/MAYARO BIBLE QUIZ

By Mrs. Jamilla Shaddy-Rahim

The Pastoral Region of Nariva/Mayaro had an enlightening experience of its 1st ever bible quiz in the Region. This event was organized by our Student Minister, Mr. Brandon Paul, together with our resident Minister, Reverend Radica Samuel-Moonoo and P.E. William Gokool. The quiz had a preliminary round held on the 26th of July 2025, with finals being held on the 15th of August 2025.

This event, being the 1st of its kind, was well attended by members as four of our five churches participated. Our participants varied from the very young to the young at heart. Both participants and supporters were refreshed in learning more about the Bible in a fun and exciting way. Teams had four participants, two leaders and two substitutes. Questions were sent prior for studying. On quiz day, all present were faced with nail biting moments with even scores across the board

- with tie breakers being needed.

While all were winners with their new knowledge, Rio Claro Presbyterian Church emerged as the overall winner with Ecclesville Presbyterian Church 2nd, Navet Presbyterian Church placing 3rd, with 4th place going to Mafeking Presbyterian Church. All four churches were awarded trophies. The Region congratulates all the participants for their hard work and is thankful for this new experience.



ONCE UPON A BONFIRE KNOX PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH GROUP ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP AND BONFIRE

Submitted by: Leanna V. Chadee, President of the Knox Presbyterian Youth Group



The Knox Presbyterian Church Youth Group held its annual bonfire on August 29th, 2025, an evening filled with friends, worship, music, prayers, biblical teachings, and great food.

As the flames illuminated the evening atmosphere, the youths gathered around the fire to lift their voices in worship. Reverend Damien Sieunarine delivered a powerful message, reminding us of the enormous burden our Lord and Saviour bore on the cross for our sins. To illustrate this, he asked us to physically bear the weight of our sins through push-ups and squats. Many quickly realized their limits and had to rely on others to carry their burdens just as our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ carried ours. Some were reluctant to do extra sets for their friends which was a reminder that Christ did not complain, instead he bore the weight of our sins with grace and poise.

Specially invited guest, Reverend Robert Dinnoo, then built on this lesson, sharing how our words and actions can sometimes be untrue or unkind, causing others to stumble into sin or feel hostile toward us. His reminder challenged us to live carefully, with love and honesty, so we do not lead others astray. He illustrated this with an activity: the youths formed a line, and a message was whispered from the first person all the way to the last. By the end, the message had changed—serving as a strong reminder that we should not always believe what we hear from others but instead seek truth.

The night continued with laughter, food, and fellowship. Ms. Jackie Ramdhanie led the worship session, accompanied by Mr. Christopher Budhoo on the guitar, while Reverend Dinnoo kept the rhythm on the drum. The air was filled with music that lifted our hearts closer to God. The evening ended with fun and a chorus session, leaving the youth inspired, strengthened, and united in faith. A special thanks to Ms. Tara Khan, an Elder of the Church for her warm hospitality by allowing the group to use her premises.

Colossians 3:14 states: "Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony." The Knox Youth Group continues to strive to keep our young people engaged in togetherness and in closeness with God. We recognize that our youth are often easy targets for the enemy, and so we remain committed to doing God's work, guiding, supporting, and uplifting our young people, so they do not fall prey to the distractions and temptations of this world.

“WALKING IN FAITH BEYOND SEA: GROWING IN CHRIST THROUGH NEW OPPORTUNITIES”

By. Mrs V. Sewlal-Hamid

The Standard 5 students of Curepe Presbyterian Primary School have set a shining example of excellence, creativity, and teamwork in 2025, leaving an indelible mark on both their school and community. Guided by the dedicated leadership of Mrs. Valinie Sewlal-Hamid, Head of Department for Standard 5, along with teachers Mrs. Krystal Ragoonath and Mr. Davenand Kaladeen, and backed by the unwavering support of Principal Mrs. Patricia Thompson-Jaggernauth, these young scholars have proven that hard work, talent, and perseverance lead to outstanding success. This year, Curepe Presbyterian Primary School earned first place in the national Data Storytelling Competition, showcasing their analytical skills, creativity, and ability to use information in powerful and meaningful ways. Their collective effort and passion also secured the Overall Prize for Most Entries, reflecting the strong culture of participation and engagement at the school.

In addition to academic excellence, the students, guided by Mrs. Hamid and Mrs. Ragoonath demonstrated artistic brilliance by completing seven vibrant murals across the school compound. Each piece told a unique story, celebrating heritage, environmental awareness, patriotism and the values of the Presbyterian tradition. Creativity also flourished in print as the class proudly launched the school's first-ever student-run magazine, a publication entirely planned, written, and designed by pupils, under the guidance of Mrs. Sewlal-Hamid.

Sportsmanship was equally on display, as the cricket team, managed by Mr. Kaladeen made it to the semi-finals in the Trinidad and Tobago Windball Cricket Association Blockup cricket tournament, proving that teamwork extends far beyond the classroom. Their determination and skill brought pride to the entire school community.

Principal Thompson-Jaggernauth commended the students for their remarkable achievements, noting that these milestones reflect the school's mission to nurture well-rounded individuals who are ready to lead and inspire. The Standard 5 teachers also praised the students for their discipline, resilience, and commitment to excellence. They went on to form debate clubs and even went viral on the Ministry of Education's official page with their "chow challenge".

The SEA Class of 2025 has shown that with faith, guidance, and dedication, young minds can achieve extraordinary things. They have not only shown this in their academic success in the SEA Examination, but have also created a legacy that will inspire future classes at Curepe Presbyterian Primary School for years to come.



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PRINTED BY CARVEY'S PRINTERY LTD

The Trinidad Presbyterian was established in 1904

It is the official publication of the Presbyterian Church of Trinidad and Tobago.

In Loving Memory of

**DANAE
 RAMSARAN-
 PERSAD**



Sunrise: 13th January, 1950

Sunset: 24th October, 2016

Never far from our hearts.. Till we meet again.

Lovingly remembered by Krishna Persad
 (husband), Wendell & Suzette (children), Tricia &
 Paul (in-laws), Alex & Liam (grandkids)

In Loving Memory of

**FAY
 RAMSARAN
 RAMBHAROSE**

Sunrise: 1965

Sunset: 2018

**Member of Knox
 Presbyterian Church**



Lovingly remembered by
 her parents - Raymond & Annabella Ramsaran;
 sisters - Jackie & Natasha;
 nephews - Christopher & Nicholas;
 brother in law - Venoo and her many relatives and friends.
 "Will always remembered and loved everyday in our hearts".

In Loving Memory of

**SYLVIA
 RAMLOCHAN**

**13th Death
 Anniversary
 Riversdale
 Presbyterian
 Church**



Sunrise: 9th March, 1929

Sunset: 7th October, 2012

Missed by her daughter -Joyce
 Grandchildren- Wendy and Jason
 Grand daughter-in- law- Shobha
 Great grandson- Timothy



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N A T I O N A L
convention

Saturday 25th October 2025

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE, MACOYA
REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00 A.M.