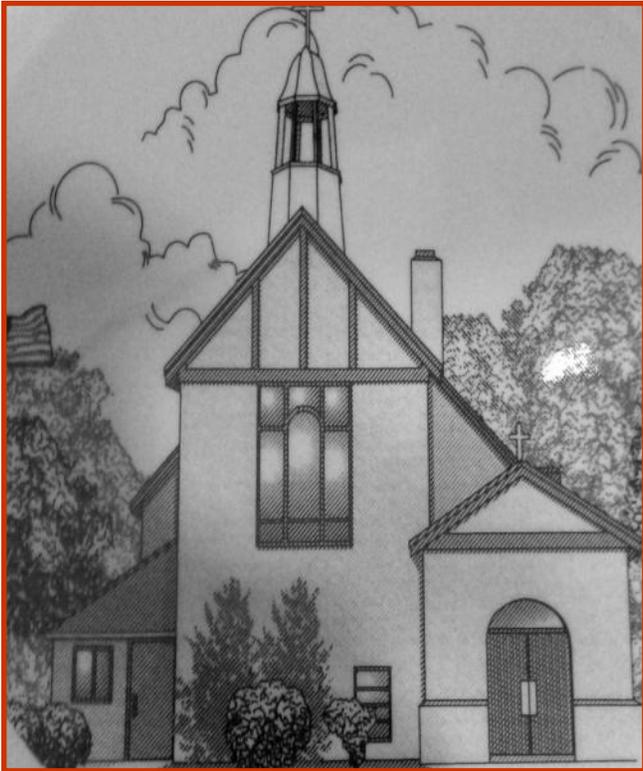




# Vessel of Grace

The Official Newsletter of Grace Moravian Church  
SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2012 ISSUE



**Founded: November 9, 1980**

## Statement of Purpose

*By the grace of God to make disciples of all people both local and global. To enhance the deeper experiences with our Lord Jesus Christ through prayer, Bible Study, witnessing and the worship hour.*



*Theme for 2012 - 2015*

***“New Ground... New Beginning***

*Behold, I will do something new, now it will spring forth: will you not be aware of it?”*

*Isaiah 43:19a (NASB)*

*In Essentials, Unity; In Non-Essentials, Liberty; In all things, Love.*

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## Grace Moravian Church

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**Pastor: Rev. Earl St. C. Goulbourne**



# From the Pastor's Desk

Labor Day traditionally marks the end of Summer. Children return to school, the air gets crispier, and most put away the travel bags as we say farewell to summer vacations, or for some, the economical yet well-needed "stay-cations".

Summer is usually regarded as a period of slow months for the church; Sunday School and Youth Fellowship take a break, the Chancel Choir has its summer break (although this year the Choir led worship service in singing on first Sundays), and many other committees take breaks as well.

However, many activities took place over the summer months for our Church. The Eastern District Synod ushered the start of the Summer. Grace organized a community walk that led up to our three-day crusade. After our crusade, followed our Annual VBS Program, Moravian Music Sunday and Education Sunday. In between was the Grace 7-Day Tour in the Caribbean. All the summer programs came to a climax with a wonderful and quite memorable experience as we worshipped and fellowshiped at our Annual Outdoor Service in the park.

As the summer drew to an end, it marked the beginning of many regular activities. Did I say "the beginning" or do I mean "the resumption" of church activities, like those mentioned above: Sunday School, Youth Fellowship, and our Chancel Choir. Yet, like nature, though these are the regular activities we anticipate, God will do new things as He promised in Isaiah: "New beginnings!"

There are new grounds that will have new beginnings. The Youth Choir has commenced training under our industrious musical director. We do look forward to their debut. Already the Praise Team is growing exponentially. Both the Senior and Young Adult Ministries should breathe fresh air into Grace as we extend the ministry. Additionally, we hope to add another aspect of our outreach ministry as we partner with the AARP for a Driver Safety Program.

So farewell to the hazy slow days of the summer as we embrace the hustle of the fall schedule! With the Joint Board, I exhort us to continue on the path of renewing, rebuilding, and reaching inwardly and outwardly in the Name of Christ.

## Blessings!

*Pastor Earl*

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*"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

Isaiah 43:18-19



## WHAT IS PERCENTAGE LIVING?

Main source: *Percentage Living* by Rev. Gary Marsh



The psalmist declares: *Commit your way the Lord; Trust in God and God will act (37:5)*

Based on the text, God should get it all, all of our living! However, we live in a real world with all its demands of our time, energy, and attention. **So how can we as Christians, grow in our faith and walk with the Lord?**

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind. Luke 10:27*

Begin by learning to give to God a specific and intentional portion of our day, week, and life. One way of achieving this goal is through the practice of **Percentage Living**.

**Percentage Living?** It focuses on helping believers in every day walk, to give God a portion of our living to Him – a percentage of my day; of my rest; of my time, of my savings/spending and of my giving.

**Objective:** *“It is an effort to FOSTER and DEVELOP in each person of faith within our Church [that] will bring us to the pinnacle of INDIVIDUAL and CONGREGATIONAL spiritual health and vitality.” (Rev. Gary Marsh p.3)*

### Percentage Living is:

- Giving God a percentage of my day: Devotional Prayer
- Giving God a percentage of my rest: Worship and Learning
- Giving God a percentage of my time: Serving, Witnessing, Inviting
- Glorifying God in what I earn: Percentage Saving and Spending
- Giving God a percentage of my income: Generosity

It is hoped that each member will be encouraged to make their **PERSONAL COMMITMENT to PERCENTAGE LIVING!**

*Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.*

**Proverbs 16:3**



# College Corner



## Highlighted Student:

### Shantel R. Isaac



Shantel R. Isaac is a Senior in the Health Science program at Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, NY. She is currently in the process of applying to grad school to pursue a M.S. in Occupational Therapy. This member of the **Grace Praise Dancers** wants to become an Occupational Therapist because “it’s a career where I can use my skills of motivation, patience and creativity to help

disabled and at-risk patients see that it is not what you CAN’T do but what you CAN do!”

**Favorite Color:** Orange

**Favorite TV Show:** Scandal (Channel 7—ABC)



**If you were an animal, what would you be and why?** A butterfly because these creatures go through different stages in life that help them to become so beautiful in the end.

**Favorite Bible Scripture: Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.



## HEALTH REVIEW: THE HEART

Submitted by: **Sis. Zelma Sandy**

(PART 2 OF 2: CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE)

### How is heart failure treated?

Heart failure is treated by making less work for your heart. Your doctor may suggest some of the following:

- Eat less salt
- Weight management
- Drink less liquid
- Stop smoking
- Exercise

### What else will my doctor tell me?

Your doctor will talk to you about what will work best for you. This may include medications and possibly surgery. Medications can strengthen the heart muscle (digitalis), remove extra fluid from the body (diuretics), decrease the workload of the heart (beta blockers), (Continued on page 5)

# CHURCH HAPPENINGS



## Eastern District Synod

A synod is an assembly of church delegates, including clergy and lay people, who are called together every four years for discussion, decision, and policy-making regarding church matters. The Eastern

District Synod was held at Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA from June 20-23. Looking to Psalm 84:4 for inspiration, the Eastern District Synod was themed, "Blessed Are Those Who Dwell in Your House, Ever Singing Your Praise." Topic areas discussed included "In-reach/Out-reach" (dealing with communication, mission development, Worship ministry and more), Spiritual Formation, Christian Leadership Development, Complimentary Youth Ministry, and Stewardship. Thanks to our delegates Sisters E. Teague, E. Morrison-Taylor and Brothers M. Morrison and E. Goulbourne for attending.

## Vacation Bible School— "No Friend Like Jesus!"

An average attendance of 35 students with four classes in operation. This year's 2-week program was fully sponsored by the congregation. It climaxed with VBS Sunday service as we shared with the wider congregation a glimpse of our discovery of having Jesus as our BFF (Best Friend Forever). VBS certificates, bags, and special prizes were given to VBS Staff and students.



**"Come See a Man" - Three-Day Crusade** June 28th - June 30th @ 7:30 PM. The guest speaker was Rev. Powell. The event was held outside on

Church grounds underneath a tent, and all who attended were deeply blessed by the ministry.

**Annual Health Fair** Under the auspices of the Grace Moravian Women, our annual Health Fair was held on Saturday, September 8th. Attendees were able to take advantage of the free services such as cholesterol and blood pressure testing, as well as hearing from various authorities in healthcare.

**Provincial Camp:** This year we had young Lamar Patterson participating for the first time at Camp Hope, NJ. Thanks to UBC for sponsoring a portion of camp fees. He is already looking forward to next year.

**Sunday School:** We had an exciting time as we resumed our Sunday School Ministry on the Second Sunday of Sept. Theme for this quarter is "A Living Faith" We welcome the new teachers: Sisters Felicia Forde, Tracy Bispham, Patria Palmer, & Jennifer Abrams. The other teachers are Sisters Lorina Henry, Carol Richardson, Patricia Forde (Superintendent), Desna Henry Goulbourne and Brothers Maurice Morrison and Earl Goulbourne. We continue to appeal to our members to bring their children with them and let it be a family affair for Sunday School 10 AM every Sunday morning .



## The Grace All-Starz presents - Crazy for Jesus: Reloaded!

As a follow up to their debut concert performance last year, the talented rap team presented another spirit-filled and entertaining evening with Crazy Kay (Sis. Karlene Woodbine) serving as MC. As the audience listened, the young men praised God through lyrical expressions, a skit, and other performances.

## Senior Adult Ministry

**Senior Adult Ministry:** Since June, our senior members have resumed their meetings with an average attendance of twenty participants. In September, they had their social evening as they played musical chairs and "Simeon says" as well as table games. A special feature was "Guess Whose Picture" of several of them in youthful days. An Executive Board is now in place: Sr. E. Teague as President, Sr. L. Kong as Vice President, Sr. M. Richardson as Secretary, Br. Keith Roach as Treasurer.

**Eastern District Moravian Women's Retreat:** Several of our Grace sisters participated in the annual retreat that was held at Castleton Hill Moravian Church, Staten Island on Saturday September 22, 2012.

## Psalm 23

King David, himself a former shepherd, begins this Psalm with: “The LORD is my shepherd,” immediately putting himself as a sheep in the care of Jesus Christ. This analogy of Christ as a shepherd and His chosen ones as sheep, is reinforced in several scriptures throughout the Bible, where the shepherd is the provider and protector of his flock. This passage brings comfort to many people. Imagery is used to convey comfort and calm to the soul of those who are a part of God’s flock by faith in Jesus Christ. **Here are some meaningful words of the beloved passage, Psalm 23. Find these 24 words in 12 minutes! The words can be arranged in any direction! Ready, Set, Go!**

H	F	D	S	L	L	Y	H	T	R	O	U	S	S
Y	D	F	O	R	E	V	E	R	O	T	S	E	R
S	E	R	U	T	S	A	P	N	E	E	R	G	W
E	H	L	L	E	W	D	D	V	N	E	E	R	W
T	O	E	L	G	F	C	O	S	E	D	T	T	L
E	F	M	P	A	O	F	U	D	M	E	A	T	D
W	W	R	Y	H	V	O	A	P	I	R	W	U	C
A	L	G	S	C	E	T	D	T	E	S	L	W	R
T	C	D	F	T	R	R	O	N	S	I	L	L	R
U	U	F	H	O	F	E	D	C	E	E	I	L	H
H	L	G	F	G	L	S	M	D	D	S	T	S	U
W	I	M	D	R	O	L	O	O	I	U	S	L	O
R	O	D	E	E	W	W	O	E	U	O	E	D	S
C	A	N	O	I	N	T	S	W	G	H	R	O	O

### ~~~~ WORD BOX ~~~~

ANOINTS	LIE DOWN
COMFORT	LORD
CUP	MERCY
DWELL	OVERFLOW
ENEMIES	RESTORE
FOLLOW	RIGHTEOUSNESS
FOREVER	ROD
GOODNESS	SHEPHERD
GREEN PASTURES	SOUL
GUIDES	STAFF
HOUSE	STILL WATERS
LEAD	VALLEY

#### Health Review: The Heart (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

increase the amount of blood the heart can pump (ACE inhibitors), relax the blood vessels to make it easier for blood to flow (vasodilators), and/or help the pumping action of the heart (inotropes).

For some patients, the cause of heart failure can be fixed with surgery. Causes include: congenital (from birth) heart defects, damaged heart valves, and blocked arteries in the heart. Other people are helped with a special type of “ICD” (implantable cardioverter defibrillator). This can help the heart pump more regularly. It is placed under the skin, like a pacemaker. For very ill patients who are not helped by any treatment, a heart transplant may be considered.

#### Call your doctor right away if:

- You have more trouble breathing than usual.
- You wake up from sleep, feeling short of breath.
- Your legs and ankles become more swollen.
- You feel more tired and weak than usual.
- You gain more weight than advised by your doctor.

#### Call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room if:

- You have pain or tightness in your chest, jaw, or arm.
- You are extremely short of breath.
- You have a cough with mucous that looks pink or foamy.

#### What do I need to do to stay healthy?

- Take your medication.
- Go to your doctor visits.
- Talk to your healthcare team about how you are feeling.
- Count your salt and fluid intake. Stay within the guidelines given to you.
- No smoking!
- Be active—exercise as instructed by your doctor.
- Write down your weight every morning. Call your doctor if you gain over 5lbs in one week or 2lbs in a day.
- Find your best weight and keep it there! Ask for weight loss tips.

The more you & your family learn about **heart failure**, its symptoms, and treatments, the more you can succeed at feeling better!

#### BE SMART & TAKE CARE OF YOUR HEART!

## Grace Moravian Church's Annual:

August 26th, 2012  
Fellowship & Fun!

### HOW IT BEGAN.... AND THE REST IS HISTORY!

Towards the end of 2002, Rev. Leon Matthias, who had been installed as Pastor at Grace for only a few short months before, broached the idea of having an **Outdoor Worship Service** in the Roy Wilkins Park during the summer of 2003. The Board was in agreement and it was put on the calendar.

As the date approached, the service was discussed and plans finalized. The consensus was that instead of simply worshipping in the open and then returning to our respective homes, we should bring lunch and enjoy an afternoon relaxing and enjoying the summer weather together.

The weather was absolutely beautiful. After a wonderful worship service, we all enjoyed a sumptuous meal together. The younger ones then took to the athletic track for some impromptu races. Since there were several cricket enthusiasts in the congregation, those persons tried to demonstrate that the years had not diminished too much of their ability. Some played a variety of table games and others took time to read or just enjoy a quiet nap.

It was such a resounding success that it has become a fixture on our calendar. While 2011 was the first year we did not sing everything a capella, (the Grace Steel Ensemble provided the accompaniment), we went a step further in 2012 by renting a generator so that our keyboard could be used. Every year, on the appointed day, God has blessed us with beautiful weather. It is indeed a special treat to worship in the warm sunshine, savor the gentle summer breeze, and bask in the shade of the surrounding magnificent trees. Oh ... the food, the fun and the fellowship! How could we forget? Second to none!

Prepared by Bro. Maurice Morrison (Elder) 2012



We brought the keyboard.....



.....and the drums!!!!



And of course, we brought our best singing voices and our love for Jesus!



Pastor Earl delivers the message.



We listened.....



and hugged.....



and ate food!!!

We even played a mean game (or two) of Kickball and ran relay races!! F-U-N beyond words! :o)



**Moravian History**  
*Did you know that.....???*  
Submitted By: Bro. Earl Goulbourne



**Moravian Lovefeast**

Normally observed on festive occasions. These services were instituted in imitation of the "Agape" of apostolic times (Jude 12). The Lovefeast Services are intended to be a simple meal which ended with the Lord's Supper. Eventually, it disappeared from Moravian customs and rituals.

The spontaneous revival of this custom in the Renewed Moravian Church at Herrnhut followed the rich experience of unity and fellowship in the historic Communion service of 13 August 1727. Count Zinzendorf sent food to the group to sustain them as they continued in praying, holy conversation and the singing of hymns.

Later it became a recognized service in the Church demonstrating "that there is no difference in persons before the Lord, and that all are one in Christ, united among themselves by the closest bonds of Christian love." [Section 1085 (b) Book of Order, MCNP (2006)]

The whole Church or local congregation or groups within are always encouraged to share in the Lovefeast in order to promote and deepen our sense of the fellowship of Christian believers with each other through our covenant to follow Christ our Lord. There is no set form for the service. The main features are the singing of hymns, a charge or meditation appropriate for the occasion, reading of the Moravian Daily Text, prayers and the serving of a simple meal.

Our next Lovefeast service will be observed on the **Sunday, November 11, 2012** as we celebrate the thirty-second anniversary of Grace's ministry. Join us as we seek to renew our fellowship with each other and commitment to ministry through the Chief Elder, Jesus Christ.



# Vessel of Grace

The Official Newsletter of Grace Moravian Church

## FYI CORNER— — Upcoming Events

Event	Date/Time
<b>Annual Revival Services</b> Theme :“Life in the Seed”	October 28th—November 2nd. Begins Sunday 10/28 @ 6:00 PM and continues Monday to Friday @ 7:30 PM
<b>Fasting &amp; Prayer Service</b>	Saturday, November 3rd 6:00 - 9:00 AM
<b>Coat Drive</b>	Saturday, November 10th 3 - 6 PM @ Fellowship Hall
<b>Anniversary Service &amp; Love Feast</b>	Sunday, November 11th @ 11:00 AM
<b>Leaders’ Planning Retreat for 2013</b>	Saturday, November 17th @ 9:30 AM
<b>Outreach—Food Pantry Ministry</b>	Saturday, November 17th @ 11:00 AM—1 PM
<b>AARP Driver Safety Program (First Class)</b>	Tuesday, November 20th: 9 AM—4 PM *For drivers 21 and up
<b>Women’s Day Service</b>	Sunday, November 25th @ 11:00 AM
<b>Sunday School &amp; Youth Christmas Program</b>	Saturday, December 15, 2012

### PROVINCIAL & DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

“Mobile Ministry - Living our Faith - Reflect, renew, respond!” on Saturday November 3, 2012. Location: New Dorp Moravian Church Parish House. Registration fee is \$15.00 per person (lunch and material). For details, call the Church Office.

**UNITY PRAYER WATCH** - December for Northern Province  
Grace—December 21, 2012

**STEWARDSHIP SUMMIT** - January 5, 2012 @ John Hus

**CURSILLO** is a spiritual renewal tool of the Eastern District in the Moravian Northern Province. It is a short course in living the life of Grace and is designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christians and to revitalize congregations. The next Moravian weekends are April 25-28, 2013, for men, and May 2-5, 2013, for women. Registrations are accepted on first-come, first-served, basis and should be sent by December 1, 2012, to the address below. For more information and a registration form, please contact: Mr. Tom Mosser, 1208 W. North St., Bethlehem, PA 18018. 610-691-6259 [tfmosser@aol.com](mailto:tfmosser@aol.com).

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

NEW CHURCH MINISTRY, LED BY THE YOUNG ADULTS OF GRACE, WILL KICK OFF THEIR MINISTRY WITH A “FAMILY-FEUD” INSPIRED GAME NIGHT! DONATION: A CAN OF FOOD.



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH @ 6PM**

### DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO GRACE:

#### From Brooklyn:

(via) Belt Parkway: Take the Belt Parkway East to Exit 22 Springfield Blvd. Make a left on Springfield and go to the SEVENTH traffic light. Make a LEFT onto Eastgate Plaza, a short RIGHT, and another LEFT onto 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Grace Moravian Church is 2 blocks ahead on the left between Bennett and Southgate Streets.

#### From Long Island: (south)

Take the Southern State Parkway West into the Belt Parkway West (toward Brooklyn). Take Exit 22 Springfield Blvd. Make a right on Springfield and go to the SIXTH traffic light. Make a LEFT onto Eastgate Plaza, a short RIGHT, and another LEFT onto 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Grace Moravian Church is 2 blocks ahead on the left between Bennett and Southgate Streets.