

THE MORAVIAN CHURCH IN JAMAICA & CAYMAN ISLANDS

P.O. Box 8369, 3 Hector Street, Kingston CSO, Jamaica W.I.
Tel. 876-928-1861; 938-1588

Fax: 876-928-8336

E-mail: moravianchurch@cwjamaica.com
moravianchurchja@yahoo.com
Website: www.jamaicamoravian.org



PROVINCIAL ELDERS'
CONFERENCE
(EXECUTIVE BOARD)

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VICE PRESIDENT
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MEMBER
Rev. Kevin Marshall

January 9, 2024

**Members of Central Moravian Church
73 W. Church St.
Bethlehem, PA 1808-5821**

Subject: Heartfelt Condolences on the Passing of Bishop C. Hopeton Clennon

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Family,

I trust this letter finds you in a moment of peace and reflection. On behalf of the Jamaica and Cayman Islands Province of the Moravian Church, I extend our deepest condolences to you and the entire Northern Province on the passing of Bishop C. Hopeton Clennon. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Northern Province, the Central Moravian congregation, and Bishop Clennon's family during this difficult time.

Bishop Clennon's contributions to the Worldwide Moravian Community, have left an indelible mark on the hearts of many. His dedication and spiritual guidance have enriched the lives of those he touched, and his absence will be deeply felt.

In this time of grief and loss, we wish to offer our support as plans are made for Bishop Clennon's final rites. Please let us know how we may participate in the Worship Service which the Northern Province and the family of Bishop Clennon are initiating to ensure that his farewell is a fitting tribute to his life and legacy.

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"In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; and in all things, love."

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Once again, our heartfelt condolences go out to you, the Northern Province, and in particular Central Moravian church and the family of Bishop C. Hopeton Clennon. May you find comfort in the shared memories of his impactful life and ministry.

In solidarity and sympathy,
MORAVIAN CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND CAYMAN ISLANDS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Daley", written in a cursive style.

Reverend Barrington E. Daley
PEC President

"In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; and in all things, love."



Subject: In Loving Memory of Bishop Hopeton Clennon

Dear Family, Members of Central Moravian Church, and Friends,

It is with heavy hearts and mixed emotions that we share the news of the passing of our dear Bishop C. Hopeton Clennon. He has entered the nearer presence of God, leaving behind a legacy of faith, compassion, and unwavering dedication to the service of others.

In this time of profound grief, let us come together as a community to offer comfort, hope, and solidarity to one another. Bishop Clennon's life was a testament to the transformative power of love, and his memory will forever echo in our hearts.

Comfort in Shared Memories: As we mourn the loss of a remarkable individual, let us find solace in the cherished memories we have of Bishop Clennon. His warmth, wisdom, and tireless commitment to spreading God's love have left an indelible mark on our lives. May we find comfort in reminiscing about the moments that made us laugh, think, and feel truly seen.

Hope in the Promise of Eternal Life: While our hearts ache, let us draw strength from the hope that comes from our faith. Bishop Clennon's journey has led him into the nearer presence of God, where there is no pain, no sorrow, only everlasting peace. As we grieve, may the assurance of eternal life bring us comfort and reassurance.

Solidarity in Shared Grief: In times like these, our strength lies in our unity. Let us stand shoulder to shoulder, offering each other the support and understanding needed to navigate this challenging period. Our collective grief is a testament to the profound impact Bishop Clennon had on our lives, and together, we can find strength in our shared love and memories.

Empathy and Encouragement: To Bishop Clennon's family, we extend our deepest condolences. Your loss is immeasurable, and our hearts ache with yours. May you find solace in the love and prayers surrounding you. To the members and friends, let us be sensitive to one another's grief, offering a listening ear, a comforting presence, and the understanding that grieving is a unique and personal journey.

As we mourn the passing of a beloved leader, friend, and family member, let us also celebrate the impactful and inspiring life Bishop C. Hopeton Clennon lived. May his legacy of love and service continue to inspire us to live our lives with purpose and compassion.

In sympathy, love, and solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rev Barrington Daley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent flourish at the end.

Rev Barrington Daley

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH

January 12, 2024

The Family of The Rt. Rev. C. Hopeton Clennon
% The Rev. David E. Bennett
President
Moravian Church, Northern Province
1021 Center St.
Bethlehem, PA 18018
daveb@mcnp.org

For the Repose of the Soul of The Rt. Rev. C. Hopeton Clennon

Dear Shelia,

My prayers, and the prayers of many within The Episcopal Church, are with you today as you mourn the passing and celebrate the life of your husband. Pastor Hopeton was a blessing and a gift, and a grateful and heartbroken church mourns with you.

We offer prayers for the repose of his soul, and we offer prayers of healing for you, your family, and for all the people he so faithfully and diligently served in the name of the Risen Christ — in whom Hopeton now has his rest. I give God thanks for his life and ministry among us!

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May he make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May he lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace, even in these tough times, from this day forward.

And may the soul of Hopeton and the souls of all the departed, through the mercies of God, rest in peace and rise in glory. I remain

Your brother in Christ,

+ Michael B. Curry

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate
The Episcopal Church

Cc: Martha Jones, martha@centralmoravianchurch.org

The Most Reverend Michael Curry
PRESIDING BISHOP AND PRIMATE





100 Maryland Avenue NE, Suite 300 | Washington, DC 20002 | 202-547-6270

January 12, 2024

Dear Family and Community of Rt. Rev. C. Hopeton Clennon:

On behalf of the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church, please accept our sincerest condolences on the passing Rt. Rev. C. Hopeton Clennon. We know he will be greatly missed, and we are praying that God's comforting arms will encompass both his biological and his church family and give them the strength needed during this time of bereavement.

The Bible tells us Jesus joined Lazarus' relatives and other friends as they grieved over this loss. Even though Jesus knew he was about to resurrect Lazarus, he still felt the pain and sorrow that death brings. That is why we join you in mourning over the loss of Bishop Clennon. Not that we have no hope of seeing him again, but because we feel his absence from this earthly existence. Just as Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, we are reminded of Jesus' promise: "I am the resurrection and I am life; those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die" (John 11:25).

May God shower you with love that will sustain and comfort you, as Bishop Clennon is now among the saints and colleagues who are present with Jesus.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we continue to lift-up your family in prayers.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sally Dyck".

Bishop Sally Dyck
Ecumenical Officer
Bishop.dyck@umc-cob.org

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jean Hawxhurst".

Rev. Dr. Jean Hawxhurst
Ecumenical Staff Officer
jhawxhurst@umc-cob.org

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dr. David Field".

Dr. David Field
Ecumenical Staff Officer
dfield@umc-cob.org

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Laura Charles".

Laura Charles
Ecumenical and Interreligious
Administrative Assistant
lmcharles@umc-cob.org

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH

January 12, 2024

The Family of The Rt. Rev. C. Hopeton Clennon
% The Rev. David E. Bennett
President
Moravian Church, Northern Province
1021 Center St.
Bethlehem, PA 18018
daveb@mcnp.org

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Your brother in Christ,



The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate
The Episcopal Church

Cc: Martha Jones, martha@centralmoravianchurch.org

The Most Reverend Michael Curry
PRESIDING BISHOP AND PRIMATE





Brüdergemeinde Herrnhut · Zinzendorfplatz 4 · 02747 Herrnhut · Deutschland

**To the family of br. Hopeton Clennon
and the staff and members of Central Moravian Church
in Bethlehem, PA, USA**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we have received the news that br. Hopeton Clennon has been called home to be with the Lord, we want to extend our heartfelt sympathy.

Hopeton has visited Herrnhut many times, most recently when he was here in June 2023 with a group exploring World Heritage connections. We have come to know him as a strong witness to the unity of our world-wide Moravian fellowship who exemplified in his life and ministry how we, as brothers and sisters, are connected in Christ beyond borders of nationality and culture.

The gate to our God's Acre bears the inscription "Christ has been raised from the dead". May this be an expression of comfort in this time of mourning and of the hope that we share.

Faternally yours,

*Peter Vogt, Jill Vogt, Yvonne - d. Michael Meyer
Audaa Jantschunas
Anja... in love
Helena Briedner
Michael Salewski
Claudia Krai
Helene & Bernhard Cain
Mark...
Rano... Konrad Fischer
Annegret Scholtz
Cilapitta Bendi like Peter
...
Christoph...*

*...
Stefan...
Daniel Neuert
Christine...
Johanna...
Klunt Clemens
Theodor Clemens Ep. jr.
Hanna + Ulf Baum
Christiane Vollprecht
Friedrich Waas, Ep. jr.
Edmund Waas
Friedrich...*

Pfarramt
Comeniusstraße 3
02747 Herrnhut
Deutschland

Vorsteheramt
Zinzendorfplatz 4
02747 Herrnhut
Deutschland

Telefon +49 (0) 35873 2405
Telefax +49 (0) 35873 30676
info@bruedergemeine-herrnhut.de
www.bruedergemeine-herrnhut.de

Bankverbindungen

SPK Oberlausitz-Niederschlesien
BIC: WELADED1GRL · IBAN: DE10 8505 0100 3000 2152 62
KD-Bank eG
BIC: GENODED1DKD · IBAN: DE49 3506 0190 1566 5010 11

January 17, 2024

Dear Friends at Central Moravian Church,



The members of the Bethlehem Interfaith Group wish to express our deepest sympathy on the death of your beloved pastor, Bishop Hopeton Clennon.

Hopeton was a highly esteemed member of our fellowship; someone who could brighten the largest room with his warmth, wisdom and heart-felt faith. Pastor Janel had graciously shared with us the letter Hopeton wrote to the people of Central Moravian Church, and we were touched by the grace and serenity he expressed in that letter. We will miss his big smile and his steady presence as a colleague in ministry.

Please know that we are keeping Pastor Janel, the church staff and leadership, and the entire congregation in our prayers as you mourn the death of a very special man.

Sincerely,

Rev. Cynthia Simmons
President, Bethlehem Interfaith Group

Liz Fear
Am Haskalah (Reconstructionist Judaism)

Sakinah Alhabshi
Respect Graduate School

Rev. John Fritts
Advent Moravian Church

Rev. Dr. Deborah Appler
Moravian Theological Seminary

Bridget George
Lehigh Valley Bahá'i Community

Rev. J.C. Austin
First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

Rev. Barry Harte
St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Allison Berger
Moravian Theological Seminary

Rev. Jennifer Heavner
Star of Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Carol Burns
First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

Rev. Christine Johnson
College Hill Moravian Church

Rev. David Brown
Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Sister Bonnie Kleinschuster OSF
Monocacy Farm Project and
School Sisters of St. Francis

Rev. Dr. Madelyn Campbell
Unitarian Universalist Minister

Rev. Candy LaBar
Wesley Church (United Methodist)

Rev. Lindsey Altvater Clifton
First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

Laura Lawrence
Lehigh Valley Bahá'i Community

Rick Dow
Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting (Quakers)

Sister Virginia Makos OSF
School Sisters of St. Francis

Rev. Dan Miller
Edgeboro Moravian Church

Rev. Anthony Mongiello
St. Anne Roman Catholic Church

Rev. Jennifer Nichols
Moravian Academy

Rev. Dr. Pamela Payne
Trinity Episcopal Church

Rev. Bob Rapp
Christ U.C.C. (United Church of Christ)

Rev. Tammie Rinker
West Side Moravian Church

Muhammed Said Selmanlar
Peace Islands Institute and
Lehigh Dialogue Center

Rev. Nina Patton-Semerod
Epworth United Methodist Church

Heidi Shilanskas
Star of Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. Stephen Simmons
Moravian Theological Seminary (Retired)
First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

Rabbi Michael Singer
Congregation Brith Sholom (Conservative Judaism)

Rev. Dr. Lloyd Steffen
Chaplain, Lehigh University

Rev. Maryann Philbrook Sturges
Cathedral Church of the Nativity

Rev. Suzanne Trump
First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

Hafsa Turkeyolu
Lehigh Dialogue Center

Rev. Keitha Wiggins-Kennedy
St. John A.M.E. Zion Church



P.O. Box 25 Croton Falls, NY 10519 • 914-277-4006 • tmwag5@gmail.com

January 13, 2024

Members of Central Moravian Church
73 West Church Street
Bethlehem, PA 1808-5821

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with a heavy heart that we share the grief on the passing of Pastor Hopeton Clennon. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you deal with this great loss. We can take comfort in the words of our faith: "Well done good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:23. Clearly Pastor Hopeton was an example of the servant ministry, he embraced welcoming all into the community of faith. His welcoming spirit was a joy to experience.

The Croton Falls Community Church had the rare experience of getting to know Hopeton this year as we learned and experienced Moravian traditions. We saw him weekly at beeswax candle making in the Fall as he shared the Daily Texts. We were honored by his presence and his blessing of our Moravian Christmas Putz on December 17th. This was the culmination of our yearlong project which has invigorated and energized our Congregation. His direction and support was instrumental in our journey of discovery. Most importantly he led us to establish new connections and friendships between our two congregations. This will be a lasting legacy of Hopeton's. Many of us who were at Central Services on December 3rd will now be ever mindful of keeping our bathrooms clean for the unexpected guest as he so eloquently preached. This down to earth style of preaching was his hallmark.

"We walk by faith and not by sight." May these words help us all as we walk together forward in this time of challenge and loss. As the hymn proclaims: "We feebly struggle they in glory shine; yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine." Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

On behalf of the Members and Friends of the Croton Falls Community Church,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy Wagner", is written over a large, faint, circular watermark or ghost signature.

Timothy Wagner,
Pastor