

Newsletter #11

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from the
Provincial
World Mission
Committee

This edition of the newsletter includes reports on ecumenical and interfaith meetings as well the normal snippets about new work around the Unity.

As ever, we thank all the mission bodies who have graciously allowed us to use material they have published in our quest to broaden the British Province's understanding of what it is to be part of the Moravian Unity. Much of the material gathered these days is found on social media - a sign of the times.

We welcome feedback from our readers and, if you have anything you would like to say, would ask you to contact us on wmc@moravian.org.uk - all comments will be read.

the World Mission Committee of the British Province

MORAVIANS ENGAGING ECUMENICALLY AND IN INTER-FAITH SITUATIONS

October was a month for Moravians to engage in ecumenical and inter-faith matters. See below.



Readers may remember that we reported on the opening of the House of Religions in Bern, Switzerland in an earlier newsletter (for a copy, please click [here](#)). In October, the House was delighted to receive a visit from the Dalai Lama who spent time with all the different religions who use the premises.



Br Jorgen Boytler, Unity Administrator attended the Conference of General Secretaries of World Communion that was held recently in Rome. Br Boytler is pictured meeting His Holiness, Pope Francis.



Br. Titus Gangmei, who is currently working as a teacher and accountant at the school in Binnakandi, Assam, has sent this account of a project the women of the congregation have started:

The women of Binnakandi Moravian want to support young people and needy families with funds in their ministry so they planned to start a retail shop. They built a small shop and sell different kinds of eatable items. They even cook meat and momo [1]. Tea, biscuits, groceries, vegetables, etc are available. The whole church members were busy helping the women build the shop and other activities. The shop is going very well. Almost all the Church buys from the shop only, instead of buying from another.

[1] small steamed dumplings shaped like mini pasties, filled with chicken, buffalo or vegetables – delicious! *Maureen Colbert*



The following is an extract from a recent article written by Donna Hurt of the American Board of World Mission about her fourth visit to the Moravian work in Sierra Leone, West Africa:

Spending time with the 200 students at our Moravian Secondary School is also a great way to experience life in Ngiehun. On this trip, Matthew, the principal, invited me to participate in daily opening assemblies and attend classes. Mostly I listened, occasionally adding a few comments. Except for one class, where the teacher allowed the whole period for students to ask me questions, starting with, "How do you get from where you live to where we live?" and ending with, "what's it like to be a Christian?" Since most of the students are Muslim, and since the school is a huge part of the mission in Ngiehun, I was pleased to have the privilege of answering.

Lunch is offered twice a week, a process that begins with cooking at the mission house (outside over a fire of course, no electricity), followed by transporting the food to the school, then serving the rice/sauce into large bowls to be shared by 4-5 students. Those teenagers are quite fortunate to have an occasional mid-day meal, a rarity in most other schools of Sierra Leone.



The Moravian Church in Honduras

The Unity Province of the Moravian Church in Honduras has been celebrating its 86th anniversary. Pictured above left is Br Isai Granwell, minister of the Moravian Church there. According to the most recent Unity statistics, there are 85 congregations, 34,450 members and 43 ministers. Following a historic split, there is also a Mission Province in Honduras consisting of 82 congregations, 16,870 members and 27 ministers.

As we remember all Moravians in Honduras and give thanks for their witness, we pray for healing, unity and love.

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