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◆ On Sunday, January 13th, a group of 45 people, representing 6 congregations, gathered at the landsite of the future campus of the EMA. The text for the day, Ezra 3:11 was read in its fuller context; there were words from representatives of other denominations; the following statement from Nola Knouse was read:

Brothers and Sisters, I send greetings in the blessed name of Jesus Christ, and I rejoice with you all today at the beginning of this wonderful venture in the service of Christ. Many will come to this place to learn how better to serve our Savior, through music and worship, through study and fellowship. May all who teach, and all who learn, be blessed in their work by the Spirit of God, and may God's eyes be open night and day toward this house, this place of which He said, "My name shall be there."

Then, after several hymns and other special music, 7 people took the "symbolic shovel" and dug up some ground as Rev. Herta Downs prayed a glorious prayer of dedication.

Classes began the following day! The

Intensive Course for Guitar and Keyboard was held Monday – Friday each afternoon from 2:00 – 5:00. Students were at different levels of competency on these instruments, but instructors Thomas Baucom (Southern Province) and Joe Mixon (Eastern District, NP) did a wonderful job of tailoring the material to meet individual needs and expectations. The classes covered skills in sight-singing and sight-playing, rhythm, chord structure and other music fundamentals.

Lots of music was learned in one week! But the greater joy was the experience of praising God together with sisters and brothers of all ages and from different denominations and theological perspectives. As Sister Eten Davis put it, "why can't the whole Body of Christ be like *this*?"

Submitted by the Rt. Rev. Samuel Gray, Director of Intercultural Ministries, Moravian Board of World Mission

