

CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2017

## **Rebuilding, Re-dedication and Renewing the presence of the Lord Through the United Church**

After two years of closure for safety reasons, the Gun Bay United Church, a classic Caymanian old wattle and daub structure, received a complete renovation with the installation of new concrete walls and hurricane impact rated windows. The renovation project, started at the end of August 2017 was undertaken in an effort to move the Congregants back into the Sanctuary from the Elliott Conolly Civic Center which served as their place of worship when the Church was closed in January 2015. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017, the Congregants rejoiced and gave God thanks in a Service of Re-dedication for the completion of the renovation project.

The Re-dedication Service started with a gathering at 3:00 pm of the members of the United Church Council. The service was officiated by the Rt. Rev. L. Christopher Mason, Moderator of the Synod of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands and Preacher, Ms. Angela Martins MBE JP, Chair of Council, Rev. Alice Blair, Minister of the East End and Gun Bay charge, Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield – Regional Deputy General Secretary. The Service commenced with a Call to Worship by the Moderator, which included the presentation of the keys to the new sanctuary that were presented by the Chair of the Property Committee Mr. John McLean to Rev. Blair and then to the Moderator who opened the doors of the new church.

The Moderator delivered a powerful sermon to a packed congregation of young and old persons where he encouraged the Gun Bay members to continue the good works in the community and to serve as messengers of the Church to bring more people to the new Sanctuary to hear the good Word of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. The Service concluded with the cutting of ribbon on the eight new windows that various members sponsored in memory of their loved ones who had been long standing members and leaders within the Church and the Gun Bay community. The renovation and reopening of the Church is part of the overall Church Planting Strategy of the Council to grow its presence and encourage evangelism throughout the islands. Fellowship and refreshments were enjoyed at the close of the service.

The following week, on the 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2017, the William Pouchie Memorial United Church in the district of North Side held a Re-dedication Service for the recent upgrades of the Church Sanctuary and the special dedication of the new audio visual equipment in memory of the late Wendy D. Ganga Persad Quinland a dedicated member of the church and the wider community who had a strong passion for development in delivery of ministry of the church. Officiating the service Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield, Regional Deputy Secretary, who served in the capacity of

Immediate Past Moderator, Rev. Nobert D. Stephens, General Secretary of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, and Ms. Angela Martins MBE JP, Chair of Council and Rev. Rohan Forrester, Minister for the William Pouchie and Webster Memorial United Church. The Immediate Past Moderator led the re-dedication litany with words of commitment, dedication, thanksgiving and mission for the Congregation to actively work in community to spread the Word of the Lord. Mr. Peter Quinland, daughter Kiyanna and son Jaydon conducted the unveiling of the Memorial Placard in memory of his wife the late Wendy D. Ganga Persad Quinland. During the Service, the General Secretary presented the Synodical Lay Award plaque to awardee Mary-Lou Miller for her years of dedicated service at the William Pouchie Memorial Church. The Chair of Council, Ms. Angela Martins read the narrative. There was a morning coffee fellowship following the Service.



**The refurbished Gun Bay United Church**



Mr. Trevor Watler, Elder and Council Delegate of the Gun Bay United Church reading the Scripture at the Service of Rededication for the Gun bay United Church. Seated L-R, RDGS, Moderator and Chari of Council

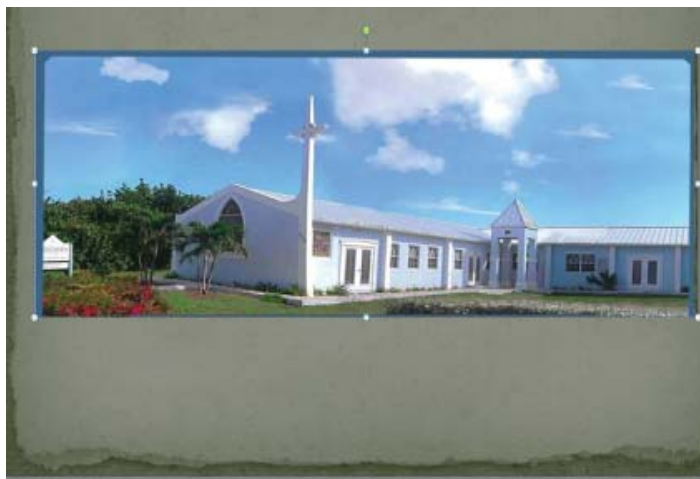




Celebrations and Fellowship following the service of Rededication for the Gun bay United Church



Moderator -3<sup>rd</sup> Left with members of the Clergy and the RDGS outside the **Gun Bay United Church**



**William Pouchie Memorial United Church**



General Secretary 4<sup>th</sup> right, with the Chair and RDGS of the CIRMC and the Minister and Elders of the William Pouchie Memorial Church



Mr. Peter Quinland, with children Kiyanna and Jadon unveiling the plaque for the AV System in memory of Mrs. Wendy Quinland at the William Pouchie Memorial Church





Synod Lay Award Plaque being presented to Mary Lou Miller during the Service of Rededication at the William Pouchie Memorial Church – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017. Partially hidden- Chair of Council Ms. Angela Martins