



The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

THE FAMILY NEWS

George Town Charge

Volume 173, November 2019

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Antonio Sanchez

Youth Minister:

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Service Times:

Sundays
Elmslie Memorial United
48 Harbour Drive, George Town
10:30am and 6:30pm

South Sound United
44 South Sound Road
9:00am

Serving and Soup

By John Epp

The Wednesday morning congregation continues to meet for fellowship and worship in the Elmslie Church Hall. Usually 30 people attend each week out of a rota of 60 people. After the worship service, hot soup is served, and later the congregants depart with a modest bag of groceries. Those congregants who do not 'need' the groceries are invited to take a bag to pass to a person in need.

This "pantry ministry" is a ministry of the whole George Town Charge. There are several volunteers who participate in supporting and leading this ministry. They are **Zoe Bodden, Francilla Myles, Sherry Lee**



Ministry workers with some of the Wednesday morning congregation

Hodgson-McLaughlin, Janet Downs, Lyn Bodden, Sheila Purdom and myself. I sense that these workers very much appreciate their time in service. By that I mean that we as workers experience a range of situations and emotions, and we are stretched and forced to reexamine some of our own reactions and attitudes. Certainly, there is a sense of satisfaction in serving. In consequence, being part of the Wednesday morning congregation is more than just time well spent. *Continued on Page 4*

Regional Council News

A number of matters of special interest to the George Town Charge were discussed at the Council meeting of October 5th.

- Prospect Youth Centre: Council voted for the funding to do repairs to the Prospect Youth Centre. Quality assurance is being done by **Heber Arch** and Tyson's Construction will carry out the work. The work commenced on October 14th.
- Council approved the naming of the CIRMC Mission House as the Beth Shalom Mission.
- A new youth minister, **Mrs. Camile Watt**, has been appointed to the Robert Young/Savannah Charge.
- The Data Protection Law 2017 was discussed, and Council members were asked to ensure that the law is adhered to at the Congregational level.

CPHS 70th Anniversary



A "symbolic prayer" was offered on the site of the original Cayman Prep and High School prior to the 70th Anniversary service. Some of those who attended during those years included (pictured left to right) **Mary Bowerman, Louise Dibben, Olive Miller** (as a teacher), **Iva Good, Effie Johnson** and **Angela Martins**.



Elmslie's **Olive Miller** being escorted by SSU's **Bradley Johnson** following CPHS 70th Anniversary service at Elmslie

UCJCI Lay Leadership Training Programme

The UCJCI has created a new Lay Leadership Training Programme and the **Rev. Norman Francis** from Jamaica will be visiting Council from November 1st - 5th to launch the programme in Cayman. The programme will be delivered in three modules and be certified by the International University of the Caribbean. All persons wishing to be trained in the Lay Leadership Programme are invited to attend the meeting to be held on November 2nd, along with the members of Council. Details of the course are available from the Council office.

Baby News

Congratulations to **Leon & Christy Whittaker** on the birth of their daughter, **Isla Amy Whittaker**, on 18th October 2019, weighing 5 lbs. 2 oz. Grandparents of the baby are Elmslie's **Carol & Rolphie Braggs** and her great-grandmother is **Janilee Clifford**.



Elmslie Offering

September	Month Giving	Month Budget	Jan-Sep Giving	Jan-Sep Budget
General	\$36,849.65	\$29,166.66	\$29,254.19	\$262,499.94
Missions	\$ 3,842.30	\$ 3,750.00	\$29,254.09	\$ 33,750.00

New Appointment to Prospect Office

The **Rev. Otto Menko** has been appointed as the Programme Secretary/ Communications Officer for the Council, effective 14th October. Rev. Otto previously served the Webster/William Pouchie Charge for fifteen years as its minister.



He will primarily oversee the programmes for children, youth, young adults and men, and will also ensure the smooth functioning of the Prospect Youth Centre and develop programmes which will generate from the centre.

Rev. Otto is married to **Bertranne (Birch)** who is a teacher at CPHS and they have two children, **Julian** and **Stephanie**. The family worships at the South Sound United Church.

Special November Birthdays

Happy Birthday to

Chrysannae Mason - 21 on the 4th

Olive Miller - 98 on the 9th

Olga General - 85 on the 10th

Dania Cayasso - 91 on the 14th

Lyn Bodden - 75 on the 15th

Shelley Do Vale - 50 on the 17th

Oswald Thomas - 80 on the 29th

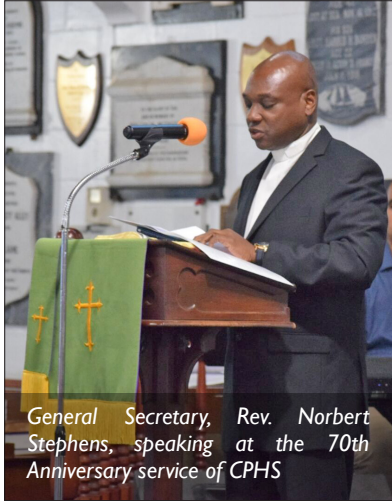
Moderator Visits Cayman Council

The Moderator, **Rt. Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans**, visited the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council from 9th - 16th October, accompanied by the General Secretary, the **Rev. Norbert Stephens**, and the President Generals of the Women's Fellowship and Men's Fellowship as well as the National Treasurer of the Women's Fellowship.

His visit was a full one and included visiting and renaming the mission house, now known as the *Beth Shalom Mission*. He was also the guest

speaker at the 70th Anniversary service of the Cayman Prep and High School held at Elmslie on the Sunday afternoon.

Of special interest to the George Town Charge was the Friday night service of the combined Council youth groups, again at Elmslie, at which presentations were made to those who had made a special contribution to children and youth ministry. Finally, on Monday evening, the Moderator and the General Secretary met with the charge for an informal 'conversation'.



General Secretary, Rev. Norbert Stephens, speaking at the 70th Anniversary service of CPHS

Cayman High School Class of 1969



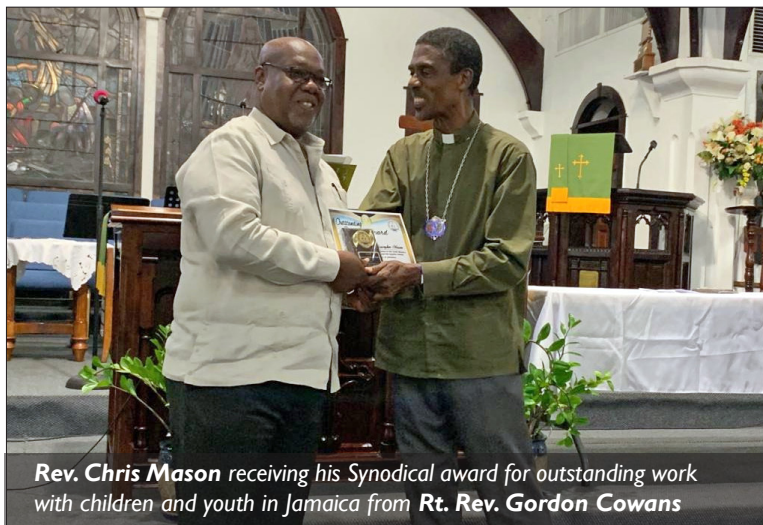
On Sunday morning, 6th October, Elmslie welcomed members of the Cayman High School Class of 1969 whose 50 year reunion was held that weekend.



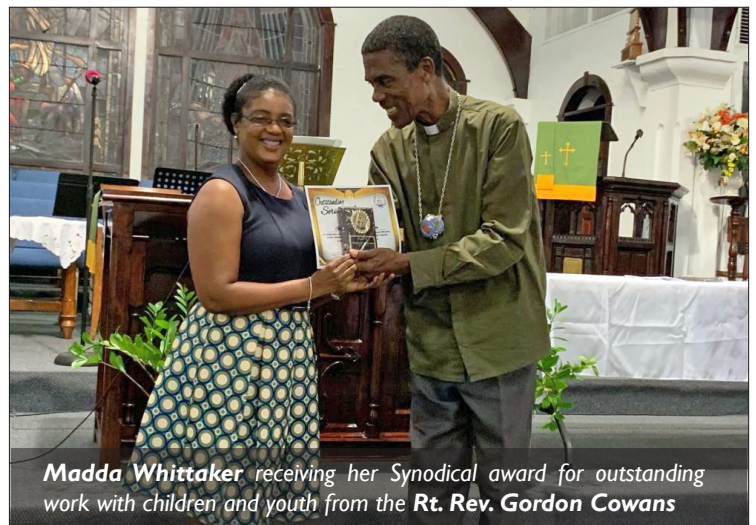
Thomas Myles receives the 41st Synod Merit Award in recognition of outstanding congregational leadership in ministry to children for 2017-2018



Roy McGregor receiving his Synodical award for outstanding work with children and youth in Jamaica from **Rt. Rev. Gordon Cowans**



Rev. Chris Mason receiving his Synodical award for outstanding work with children and youth in Jamaica from **Rt. Rev. Gordon Cowans**



Madda Whittaker receiving her Synodical award for outstanding work with children and youth from the **Rt. Rev. Gordon Cowans**

* In next month's issue of *The Family News*, South Sound United Church awardees will be featured.

Farewell to Gracie

Life-long member and regular congregant of Elmslie, **Grace McTaggart Hurst**, went to her heavenly home on her 85th birthday, Saturday, 19th October. Our sincere condolences to her family and loved ones - especially her children, **Tony** and **Pam**, sisters, **Beth** and **Josie**, and grandchildren, **Tyler**, **Jared** and **Emily**. A memorial service for Grace is to be held at Elmslie on Saturday, 2nd November, at 4:00 pm.



Baby Blessing at South Sound Church

Baby **Zion Estorlin Matute** was blessed by **Rev. Louis Sully** at South Sound Church on Sunday, 29th September. Parents of the baby are **Brittany** and **Edwin Matute**.



Pulpit Exchange



13th October was "pulpit exchange" in the charge. Guest preacher at South Sound United was **Rev. Alice Blair**, and **Rev. Donovan Myles** preached at Elmslie.



South Sound United Sunday school helpers, **Gabriella** (left) and **Sabine** pictured below with Sunday school children. Sabine recently left to attend school in the U.S.A.



Congrats, Chrysannae!



Congratulations to **Chrysannae Mason** (pictured with **Roy McGregor**) on graduating from the University of the West Indies.

Serving and Soup (Continued from page 1)

Those who lead and speak at the service include the minister, the youth minister, the lay minister and other members of the charge. The attendees tend to be a respectful congregation and add to the time of learning from their experiences. Often specific prayer requests are addressed in the time of corporate prayer. Never is *The Lord's Prayer* said in unison; there are a few real characters! And, from time to time, one of our congregants will sing a solo.

More people could serve in this ministry. Why not get involved? Why deny yourself the joy of service? Why not allow yourself to learn and to be gently stretched? But for the grace of God go you. Contact the Church Office to get details.