



**SEASON OF ADVENT**  
December 1, 2019 – December 24, 2019

**IN THIS ISSUE:**  
Reflection on the Season of Advent  
New Youth Minister for the RY/SAV. Charge  
Child Care and Protection Policy Provisions 15-17

**Reflection on the Season of Advent**

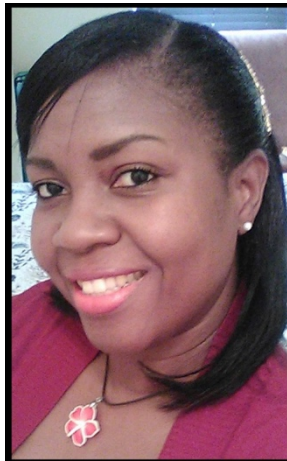
With the season of Advent, the Church begins another Liturgical year. The Liturgical or Church year is an annual cycle of seasons focusing on the fundamental tenets of our Christian faith through the usage of scriptural readings, colors and vestments.

The seasons of the Church year – in order – are:

- Advent - the time of preparation for the birth of Jesus
- Christmas - the celebration of the birth of Jesus
- Epiphany - the baptism of Jesus and also his manifestation to the world
- Lent – the time of preparation and fasting leading to Easter
- Easter – the commemoration of Jesus’ sacrifice and the celebration of his resurrection
- Pentecost – the celebration of the presence and work of Jesus through the Holy Spirit

December signals the coming of Christmas and so our preparations begin. There are gifts to buy, cards to send, menus to plan for, people to see. Advent reminds us of the importance of the spiritual aspect of this preparation, the readying of our hearts and minds.

*Continue...*



**New youth minister for the Robert Young/Savannah Charge**

Since her arrival just a few short months ago Ms. Camile Watts is already making a great impact in her new position as Youth Minister of the Savannah / Robert Young Charge.

She is a Bachelor of Arts Degree Graduate from the Jamaica Theological Seminary with over fifteen years’ experience in youth and evangelistic ministry through the performing arts.

As a purpose driven, goal oriented spiritual leader she comes with a background in Administration, Childcare Development, Counseling Psychology, Youth and Adult Ministry.



**Vlog Outing:** Handing out Christmas bookmarkers for Pirates Week.

Camile says, “With a God focused vision, it is my desire to empower our nation’s youths to become fearless disciples for Christ and bold leaders. Since my appointment as Youth Minister, we have created a Vlog Club consisting of teens that have made commitments to Christ. The Vlog has evangelism at its core and is designed to teach teens how to be strong leaders for their youth Group.”

Ms. Camile, the CIRMC wishes you God’s richest blessings as you continue to serve Him among us.



**Vlog Recording** at Youth Group Meeting

**Advent 1 – The Sunday of HOPE**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent we light the candle of Hope in our churches as a reminder that as followers of Jesus Christ we are the people of hope who can boldly approach God's throne of grace with our needs (Heb. 4:16), who can overcome great obstacles (1 John 5:4) and who – because of God's promises – can look into the future with complete confidence.

*“May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace, as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).*



*Celebrating Thanksgiving at Robert Young United Church on November 24, 2019.*

**UPCOMING EVENTS****Dec. 1. (Sunday)****1st Sunday of Advent (HOPE)**

also **UCJCI Union Sunday** and **World AIDS Day**  
**Cayman Thanksgiving Service** – 10 am Sav. United  
**Girls' Brigade Carol Service** – 4:30 pm Sav. United

**December 3 (Tuesday)**

**International Day of Persons with Disabilities**

**December 6 (Friday)**

**YLNE Christmas Dinner**

**December 7 (Saturday)**

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast** - Elmslie - 7:30 am



**December 01:** Mr. Ormond Williams

**December 08:** Rev. Louis Sully

**December 15:** Ms. Angela Martins

**CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION POLICY PROVISIONS 15-17**

**15.** In general, activities involving children are to be organized and implemented to minimize the risk of harm. The appropriate mechanisms for monitoring, sanitation and maintenance of Church premises will be observed to ensure child safety for all ages. This includes securing adequate liability insurance and other legal requirements as well as removing objects in the environment that may be harmful to children at various ages. This might include the risk of slip and trip hazards, heavy objects at heights, sharp objects and cleaning or other harsh chemicals and the supervision of motor vehicle use on Church premises to prevent hazards and accidents involving children.

**16.** Encouragement will be given to parents through parenting programmes (including After School programmes for working parents where possible), partnering with them in disciplining their children including through reading materials to help them develop an understanding of Christ's love and compassion for all. Parents will also be informed about the Child Protection Policy and will be invited to participate in an annual training workshop on Safeguarding principles as well as other areas in which they can partner with leaders of the United Church in championing the safety and protection of children.

**17.** A training programme for persons working with children will be designed and delivered twice per annum to serve all United Church Congregations. These training workshops will explore best practice in observing child rights, safety and protection and the role of the church in contemporary Jamaican society. The vulnerabilities of children and potential challenging situations that may emerge in church life will also be used to raise awareness and to discuss possible solutions. This programme will be delivered in both face-to-face and online modalities to facilitate access to invited Members across the entire Church.

*(Over the last four weeks we have looked at all the 17 provisions of the Child Protection Policy of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. This policy aims to ensure the engendering of a safe, secure and law-abiding community that effectively manages the safety and protection of its children to enhance social harmony and wellbeing.)*