



CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

WEEKLY UPDATE

April 14, 2021

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 15

UCJCI 42nd SYNOD THEME 2021 – Rooted, Resilient: Responding in HOPE (Health, Opportunity, Peace, Evangelism)



Today, April 14, 2021, is General Election Day on the Cayman Islands. As our nation engages in the democratic process of electing representatives to form a government that will lead the nation for the next four years may we turn our hearts and minds to God.

LITANY

Leader: With our trust in the Lord our God, we raise our voices together – asking to be guided in this season by the wisdom, mercy, and compassion of the Lord.

Lord God, ruler of all,

We give thanks for the right to vote, and for those who fought have placed their lives on the line to secure this right. Help us to approach this responsibility as an act of faith, with prayer and discernment.

God of all nations,

Response: In the Cayman Islands, guide us toward wisdom and love.

Leader: Lord God, ruler of all,

Watch over all Candidates and their families in this election. Protect them from hatred and the unkindness of the election season. Stir them to speak and act with integrity.

God of all nations,

Response: In the Cayman Islands, guide us toward wisdom and love.

Leader: Lord God, ruler of all,

Be present at all polling locations, that they would be places of peace and democracy.

God of all nations,

Response: In the Cayman Islands, guide us toward wisdom and love.

Leader: Lord God, ruler of all,

Open our hearts and eyes to the least of your children, that our votes would represent an in-breaking of your kingdom here in this place.

God of all nations,

Response: In the Cayman Islands, guide us toward wisdom and love.

Leader: Lord God, ruler of all,

In a season of division, remind us as a community of faith that what unites us is more powerful than what divides us.

God of all nations,

Response: In the Cayman Islands, guide us toward wisdom and love.

Leader: Lord God, ruler of all,

Help us all to truly love our neighbour, and to act with love, justice and humility in all things.

God of all nations,

Response: In the Cayman Islands, guide us toward wisdom and love.

(Adapted from 'A litany for Election Season' by David Hansen)

Circle of Unity

In response to a call for unity by last Sunday's lectionary Psalm 133, members of the John Gray Memorial Church formed a Circle of Unity and were called to live out this call not only within but without the bounds of their congregation, in the wider community.



Psalm 133

A song of ascents. Of David.

- 1 How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in unity!
- 2 It is like precious oil poured on the head,
running down on the beard,
running down on Aaron's beard,
down on the collar of his robe.
- 3 It is as if the dew of Hermon
were falling on Mount Zion.
For there the Lord bestows his blessing,
even life forevermore.



Ordination Recognitions (50 Years of Ordained Ministry)

Rev. Harry Copeland Bodden



Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield (CIRMC-RDGS), Rev. Harry Bodden and Rev. Rohan Forrester (Chair of CIRMC)

The Rev. Harry Bodden was ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands on January 18, 1970.

Over the years has served with distinction in the Porus Charge, First Hill, and then the Falmouth Charge. He also served briefly at the Hampden, Barrett Town, and Mt. Zion Congregations in Jamaica.

In the Cayman Islands, Rev. Harry served in the Bodden Town /North Side Charge and the East End/Gun Bay Charge.

Rev. Bodden is an avid reader and is a deep thinker. A quiet soul, he serves God with faithfulness and has a passion for Christ and the Church. He articulates his faith and theology with enthusiasm and has been consistently committed to the importance and urgency of evangelism, especially of young people.

For many years Rev Harry offered ministry through the 'Worship the Lord', the United Church's radio program in Cayman and he also funded his own radio broadcast, 'Trust in Lord' aired every other Tuesday morning also on Radio Cayman.

Rev. Harry possesses the heart of a true pastor and has been constant in his inquiry of the well-being of his ministerial colleagues and regularly keeps in touch with his former members, adherents, and friends in the congregations in which he served.

May God continue to keep Rev. Harry in good health and bless him in all his endeavours.

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands and indeed the wider Jamaica and Cayman societies have been the beneficiaries of the wonderful ways in which God has enabled the Rev. Harry Bodden to exercise ministry throughout the fifty years of ordination.

The 42nd Synod of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands salutes Rev Harry as he continues in the service of our Lord. He is truly one of God's special gifts to the Church.

Rev. Joseph Benjamin Crawford



The Rev. Joseph Benjamin Crawford was ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the New Broughton Church on August 18, 1971.

He is a graduate of the United Theological College, Princeton Theological Seminary, and the University of Maryland.

Rev. Crawford served in the West Bay Charge which included then, the now John Gray Memorial and the Savannah United Churches from 1970 to 1976 prior to migrating to the United States of America.

Prior to his return to the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands in 2001, he served for thirteen years as the Minister for the Lochearn Presbyterian Church(PCUSA) located in Maryland. Rev. Crawford during that time was also a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and served in the Baltimore City Public School system.

From 2001 January to December 31, 2006, Rev. Crawford served as the Minister of the George Town Charge of United Churches which includes the Elmslie Memorial and South Sound United Congregations.

He is known as a gentle spirit with a caring heart. His sermons were always eloquently delivered and they provided deep thought and stimulation for the hearers.

He is regarded as a true friend, a trusted confidant, and a wise counsellor. So it was not surprising that Rev. Crawford was

appointed as the first Counsellor of the Bethesda Counselling Center in 2007. His qualifications and experience in counselling as well as his pastoral background and caring disposition enabled him to demonstrate complete integrity in regard to maintaining the Christ-centeredness of the services offered at the Bethesda Counselling Center. He served there with distinction from 2007 to 2011.

Rev. Joe, as he is affectionately called by many persons in the Cayman Islands, is well-loved and respected. He has an infectious but quiet laughter and always cherishes the visit of friends and colleagues.

The 42nd Synod of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands salutes Rev. Crawford as he continues in the faith and love of our Lord. He is truly one of God's good gifts to us.

Honoring of Regional Lay Persons

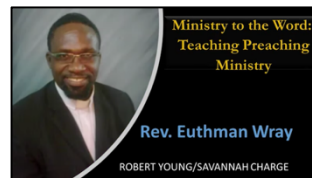
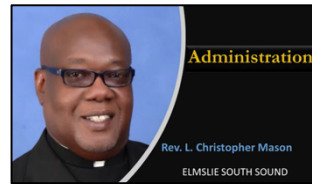
Two laypersons from our Regional Mission Council - Ms. Angela Martins (Savannah) and Mr. Clive Hinds (South Sound United) - were honoured for having gone beyond the call of duty and have sacrificed much in contributing to the advancement of the work and witness of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.



Renewal & Transformation Merit Awards (Certificates) for Ordained Ministers and Lay Pastors

The following persons from our Regional Mission Council were recognized by the 42nd Synod for their outstanding achievements in contributing and leading to the advancement of the Renewal and Transformation Agenda of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands:

Administration: Rev. L. Christopher Mason (Elmslie)
 Outreach: Rev. Donovan Myers (John Gray)
 Evangelism through the Word (Teaching & Preaching ministry): Rev. Euthman Wray (Savannah)
 Stewardship with emphasis on tithing: Pastor Ormond Williams (East End-Gun Bay)
 Ministry to Children: Rev. Rohan Forrester (Bodden Town-Northside)



Renewal & Transformation Award

The Rev. L. Christopher Mason (Elmslie) from our Regional Mission Council has received the Renewal & Transformation Award for his outstanding achievements in contributing and leading to the advancement of the Renewal and Transformation Agenda of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands as he has demonstrated at the congregational level, significant/outstanding achievement in two or more areas of the Synodical Implementation Plan for the current Synodical period.



By Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield

As we continue to keep the Government and people of St Vincent and the Grenadines in our prayers, the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council will respond to the challenges caused by the La Soufriere volcano in the following manner:

1. Special Offerings will be collected on Sunday, April 18 and Sunday, April 25, 2021.
2. Once the offerings are received, please remit the same to the Council Office- specifically identified for St Vincent and the Grenadines.
3. Council will hand the funds over to Pastor Ormond Williams who will collaborate with the team to purchase and package goods to be shipped to SVG.

Thanks for your kind response to this effort.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 14 (Wednesday)

42nd Synod Public Lecture – via Zoom – 5:00pm

April 18. (Sunday) 3rd Sunday of Easter

42nd Synod of the UCJCI concludes – via Zoom – 4:00pm

April 22. (Thursday)

Earth Day

April 24. (Saturday)

Girls' Brigade Council Meeting– 9:00am-Council office
Lay Leaders Training Course 5/13 – via Zoom



on Radio Cayman 89.9
every Sunday at 7:45 am

April 18, 2021
Lay Pastor Mr. Ormond Williams

THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND
THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
42ND SYNOD APRIL 11- 18, 2021

Synod Morning Bible Studies

6:00 A.M. EACH DAY
MONDAY APRIL 12 TO THURSDAY APRIL 15
JOIN IN VIA UCJCI YOUTUBE CHANNEL
Opportunity to interact with presenters 6:45-7:30 a.m. each day via Zoom. Email: synod@ucjci.com for Zoom link.

42ND SYNOD THEME
**ROOTED,
RESILIENT:
RESPONDING IN
HOPE**

Bible Study Themes
Monday - HEALTH
Tuesday - OPPORTUNITY
Wednesday - PEACE
Thursday - EVANGELISM

WEBSTER MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Tea Party

APRIL 24, 2021 | 3PM TO 7PM
266 BODDEN TOWN RD.
Tickets: \$10.00

UCJCI
responds to the COVID-19
pandemic as a community of faith

*A Call to Prayer
Every Wednesday
12 noon—1:00 pm*

Published by the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands
292 Prospect Point Road
P.O. Box 1700 Grand Cayman KY1-1109 CAYMAN ISLANDS
Tel: 1 345 947 1963 Email: rdgs@cicucjci.com or cirmcinfo@gmail.com
Website: unitedchurch.org.ky

WILL YOU STAND IN THE GAP

EZEKIEL 22:30
"I LOOKED FOR SOMEONE AMONG THEM WHO WOULD BUILD UP THE WALL AND STAND BEFORE ME IN THE GAP ON BEHALF OF THE LAND SO I WOULD NOT HAVE TO DESTROY IT. BUT I FOUND NO ONE."

A call to Corporate Repentance

R Y/Savannah United Church Youth Ministry

GT/SS presents EE/GB

Youth LMK-UP

Open Air Fellowship
On the Savannah United Church Grounds

April 30, 2021
Starting at 7:30pm-9:30pm
Guest Speaker: Pastor Cassius Feare
Special Guest Performer: MICHELLE T

BT/NS W.B.