



# CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

## WEEKLY UPDATE

May 12, 2021

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

### Youth Role Models

Regardless of our age, role models play an essential part in our lives, in our personal development. They inspire and motivate us to reach beyond ourselves and emulate those positive qualities we see them exemplifying in their lives.

It gives us great pleasure to introduce two of our very own, Chloe McClymont and Jelani Hanson, both still in their youth, who fall into the category of positive role models, especially for their generation.

**Chloe McClymont** attends the Webster Memorial United Church (Bodden Town) and she is the **Head Girl** of the **Clifton Hunter High School**. A member of the Savannah United Church, **Jelani Hanson** is the **Head Boy** of the **John Gray High School**. As a church community, we are very proud of them both and wish God's continuing blessing on their life and example.

We asked them to tell us about their faith, about themselves, about their opinion on what makes an effective Head Girl/Boy, and about the career/academic path they would like to pursue.

#### Chloe McClymont

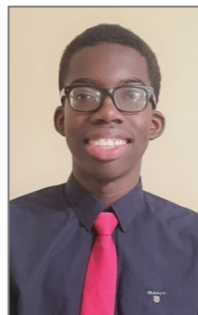


After my mom and grandmother introduced me to church I began attending Sunday School and Youth Group regularly. Because of this, I started participating in church on youth Sundays and on other regular Sunday services. As a result, I developed faith and strengthened it through personal encounters with the Lord.

I believe there are many qualities that make an effective Head Girl. Firstly, the student should be a role model for their peers. This includes being respectful to staff and students alike and being hardworking. She should also be confident and a good communicator.

In the future, I would like to pursue a career in Accounting and Finance. I have chosen these fields because I have always had a passion for math and helping people. I believe accounting is the best combination of my passions.

#### Jelani Hanson



I was raised in a Christian household, so I grew up learning about the Lord and praising Him. However, as I grew older, I got more curious and started asking questions nobody could answer. I became skeptical and eventually drifted from the faith. I returned with a new passion when I had my prayers answered, and in a manner that simply could not be attributed to coincidence. Experiencing God for myself made all the difference.

I love the Lord. I'm happy that I've been exposed to faith at this age. The journey most definitely hasn't been smooth. I've had my doubts and questions, but I've also learnt that God is not a God that you need to hide your doubts and fears from. I have experienced Him not just as the God that people talk about but as MY God. I think it is important for young people to be grounded in God.

I try to live my life in recognition of the fact that we are all God's children, and therefore, I have a responsibility to each of my brothers and sisters. Where necessary, I try to give a helping hand or a shoulder to lean on.

I think being approachable and having a good rapport with everyone is always a very important quality to have. It pays off to have a team of people you know because it helps with teamwork, delegation, and cooperation. You must be willing to listen to others but be able to critically evaluate views and opinions. In addition, having integrity is essential because you're a leader after all. You need to set a good example for your prefects and the student body and you need to ensure that both our words and actions positively align.

I aspire to be a software developer and designer and want to go to either MIT, Georgia Tech, or the University of Ontario to further my knowledge in IT. Prior to that, I intend to pursue advanced level studies at one of our local sixth form schools.

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# The Significance of Ascension

by Rev. Otto Menko

*"...he [Jesus] was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight." – Acts 1:9*

The 7th Sunday of Easter – also the last in the Season of Easter – is observed in Western Christianity as Ascension Sunday, by virtue of being closest to Ascension Day, the 40th day after Easter (Thursday, May 13 this week).

While the major landmarks of Jesus' life (His birth, death, and resurrection) are very much present in the public consciousness, His ascension to heaven seems to hold less significance even among Christians, and maybe more so in our modern days. Nevertheless, there are plenty of references in the Scriptures emphasizing the importance of this event and its relevance for our faith. Jesus himself made several references to this during His ministry. Without attempting to provide an exhaustive discussion on this topic, let us consider a few key points that can guide our thoughts and maybe help us better appreciate why Jesus' ascension matters.

## He is not here and yet He is here.

Following His resurrection, Jesus spent 40 days with His disciples while inhabiting a special 'resurrection body'. Although His body was not subject to the laws of nature, He 'confined' himself to a specific place and time. His Ascension and the subsequent outpouring of the Holy Spirit made Him accessible to one and all. Jesus is not here in His physical body anymore, yet he is here through the Holy Spirit. He said, *"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."* – John 15:8

## His reign is real and yet it is to be actualized.

Jesus' ascension also signaled His enthronement at the right hand of the Father for His obedience, suffering, and death on the cross. *"Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* – Philippians 2:9-11 Nevertheless, His reign must be made real in our own lives day after day, and ultimately it will come to full circle upon His second coming at the end of times.

## His ministry continues, both in Heaven and on Earth.

Jesus' ministry has not finished with His death and resurrection but continues. On one hand, as our faithful High Priest, He represents us in God's presence, - *"Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess."* – Hebrews 4:14 On the other hand by the presence of the Holy Spirit He remains actively involved in and through the life and ministry of the Church Universal and the believers. - *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* – Acts 1:8

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# Youth Social Night

by Itza West - EE/GB Youth Worker

The East End United Church hosted a Social Night on Saturday, May 8, 2021, in order to build a fellowship group.



The event was much welcomed and well attended by a good number of children and young people, who were joined by the Gun Bay Youth group and some elders who came in support of this initiative. Interim Minister Rev. Forrester welcomed those gathered and Lay Pastor Mr. Ormond Williams led the devotion which was followed by fellowship building activities, crafts, games and plenty of refreshments.





## Celebrating Teachers



The monthly meeting of the Women's Fellowship of the John Gray Memorial Church held on Monday, May 10, 2021, was dedicated to the celebration of teachers representing members of the church and their community.



Among the twenty-eight persons attending was Mrs. Thelma Range, a centenarian, former Principal of the West Bay Primary School, now Sir John A. Cumber Primary School.

Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield led the devotion entitled "Women committed to the teaching of young minds", based on selected passages from Acts 18, focusing on the example of Priscilla and also a more recent one, Rev. Dr. Adlyn White, who was the first female Moderator of the UCJCI, also

Director of Women's Work, and the former President of the Institute for Theological and Leadership Development (ITLD).



## IN OTHER NEWS



*The men of the John Gray Memorial Church singing 'Love Lifted Me' on Mothers' Day.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 16. (Sunday) 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter / Ascension**

**May 17. (Monday) DISCOVERY DAY – Public Holiday**

**May 22. (Saturday)**

**Lay Leaders Training Course – via Zoom**

**May 23. (Sunday) Pentecost Sunday**



**CHILDREN'S CAMP JULY 18-23 8AM - 6PM**  
**TEENS' CAMP JULY 25-30 8AM - 6PM**  
**CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL**

# SUMMER DAY CAMP

**THEME: ROOT, SHOOT, FRUIT**

**FUN FIELD TRIPS FELLOWSHIP FOOD**

**CI\$100**

**VENUE: PROSPECT YOUTH CENTER**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 4, 2021**

**REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE FROM YOUTH LEADERS, CHURCH OFFICE AND ONLINE**



on Radio Cayman 89.9  
every Sunday at 7:45 am

**May 16, 2021**  
Rev. Louis Sully

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