



CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

WEEKLY UPDATE

May 19, 2021

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 20

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

What Are We Filled with?



What are we filled with? Being filled with something means that our hearts and minds are being dominated by certain emotions or thoughts. It can be good or bad. It can be a momentary, short-lived experience or something that stays with us day after day, leaving a deep mark or impression on our being, on our behavior, on our interactions with others, and our view and perspective on life. Let it be resentment, anger, envy, greed, worry, fear, uncertainty, or a dream, an enticing goal, a grand project - when they take hold of our life, it is usually not for the better. We suffer and as collateral damage, others suffer as well.

Pentecost reminds us that it is not only good to be filled with God's Holy Spirit but even more, it is necessary, in order to be a fully committed disciple of Jesus Christ and to live our life for God's glory.

Being filled with the Holy Spirit is not a single event, but rather a continual, life-long process of spiritual growth and maturity. It is the result of submitting ourselves to the authority of the Holy Spirit, being shaped by the Word of God, walking in faith and obedience as He leads us. As the result, something truly amazing happens! We are slowly being conformed to Jesus' image and likeness in our human nature.

BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

Ephesians 5:18

Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost Sunday marks the end of the liturgical season of Easter and commemorates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the disciples, following the ascension of Jesus Christ into heaven. It is also recognized as the birth of the Church and the beginning of the Church's mission to the world.

In Acts 2:1-4 we read the following,

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues [flames] of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues [languages] as the Spirit enabled them."

This account of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit is rich in scriptural symbolism through the metaphors of wind and fire, both pointing beyond themselves to the presence of God's Spirit.

Wind

The wind represents God's breath that brings life and vitality. At the creation of the world, God breathed into the first human being, Adam, who came to life. In the prophet Ezekiel's vision, God's breath/wind reanimates the dead bones. Here, in Acts 2:2 it is described as 'violent'. This translation is unfortunate because the word 'violent' has a negative connotation, suggesting something destructive and unwelcome. A better translation would be 'mighty' or 'forceful'. The Spirit of God came full of power and enabled the disciples to look beyond themselves and fulfill their mission, to present the good news of Jesus Christ to the world.

Fire

The tongues or flames of fire symbolize love/passion, purging, and light. We remember God speaking to Moses out of the burning bush. When the Israelites wandered through the desert, they were guided during the night by a pillar of fire. The angel touched the prophet Isaiah's lips with a lump of burning coal when he received his commission. The purpose of a burning oil lamp is to give light and not to be hidden. The presence of God's Holy Spirit indicates an irresistible and burning desire to be part

of God's plan, to be in God's hands and be shaped, molded, and used according to God's will and for God's glory.

The 'mighty' wind and the flames of fire as symbols help us better understand and appreciate the purpose of the Holy Spirit in our lives and the ways He works in and through us. Being filled with the Holy Spirit the potentials are unlimited!

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 22. (Saturday)

Lay Leaders Training Course – via Zoom

May 23. (Sunday) Pentecost Sunday

May 24. (Monday)

Council Executive Meeting – 6:30pm – via Zoom

May 29. (Saturday)

Council Meeting – 9:00am – John Gray Church Hall

May 30. (Sunday) 1st Sunday after Pentecost/Trinity

**BE STORM
READY!**

**MAKE A
PLAN!**

**MAKE A
KIT!**



JUNE 1 – NOV. 30

UCJCI'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Individual Prayer:
Every Wednesday
from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

(2 Timothy 1:7)

A circular logo for the Savannah Women's Fellowship. It features a cross in the center, with a fish and a dove on either side. The text "The United Church Women's Fellowship" is around the top, and "By Love Serve" is at the bottom.

SAVANNAH WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

*It's a Classic
Spring Hatter Tea Party*

SATURDAY MAY 29TH 2021
TIME: 3PM - 5PM
COST: \$10

SAVANNAH UNITED CHURCH HALL
17 ASTRAL WAY, GRAND CAYMAN

A circular logo for the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council. It features a cross in the center, with a fish and a dove on either side. The text "UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS" is around the top, and "CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL" is at the bottom.

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**

**WORSHIP
THE
LORD**

Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council
Sundays at 7:45am on Radio Cayman

on Radio Cayman 89.9
every Sunday at 7:45 am

May 23, 2021
Mr. Herbert Crawford

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