



# CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

## WEEKLY UPDATE

August 04, 2021

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 31

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

## CIRMC 2021 SUMMER CAMPS

JULY 18-23 (CHILDREN)

JULY 25-30 (TEENS)



Since 1982 the Prospect Youth Centre of the UCJCI in the CIRMC has been hosting children and youth camps during the summer months.

Over the years, for countless campers, it has become synonymous with a lifetime of memories, lasting friendships, life-changing decisions, not forgetting the plenty of fun, great comradery, and important lessons learned.

The various activities at camp offer a plethora of opportunities to our children and youth to learn about what it means to share space with others, to consider each other's needs, to communicate effectively, to organize themselves, and most importantly, of course, to learn about God, about what it means to put our trust in God, who has a purpose and plan for each of us. It is indeed very challenging, if not outright impossible to capture in words what a camp experience means for one's spiritual formation and overall wellbeing and development.

Following the pandemic-induced lockdown, the restrictions, and the cancelled usual summer activities of 2020, the need to reconnect became ever more urgent. Planning for VBS and Summer Camps 2021 began earnestly with great excitement and anticipation in our Congregations and Council at the beginning of the year. Over the following months, the overarching themes and minute details were attended to with great care. Thanks to God's loving guidance and help, as July arrived everything and everyone was in place.

The theme for Summer Camp 2021 was '**Root, Shoot, Fruit**', corresponding to the theme of the current Synodical period in the UCJCI, '**Rooted, Resilient: Responding in H.O.P.E**'.

In their daily Bible Study time from Monday through Friday campers considered the spiritual implications of the life cycle of plants:

### The seed

Just like the seed of a plant needs certain conditions to germinate e.g. good soil, water, light, the Word of God planted in our life needs care and attention to take hold.

### The root

Plants develop their root system for two reasons. One, to provide stability as they grow and develop, and two, to access the necessary nutrients present in the soil. We too, need to grow deep in our faith, in the Word of God, and prayer if we want to mature in our spiritual life.

### The shoot

As they grow and develop, most plants are prone to become 'bushy' or get infested with parasites and insects, but with proper pruning and treatment they take on the best 'shape' and grow healthy and strong. In the same way, God provides personalized care to us by timely 'trimming, pruning and cleansing', by addressing what is undesirable or outright dangerous for our spiritual development, and trains us to grow the right way.

### The fruit

Some plants are appreciated primarily for their aesthetic beauty while others for their fruits. The spiritual seeding, rooting, and shooting process in the life of the believer naturally leads to bearing spiritual fruits for the benefit of others and for the glory of God. Ultimately, this is the meaning and purpose of our life, to become what God has designed for us to be in our unique, personal way.

### The cycle

But the life-cycle of a plant doesn't end with itself. One of the essential inherent characteristics of living organisms is to multiply, to bring forth new life. While a new life, in a spiritual sense, is the result of the mysterious work of the Holy Spirit, every one of us is called to participate in our own way, to contribute to this process more so by practice and example than by words, and also by using our God-given gifts, skills and resources where we have been planted.

Other camp activities included morning physical exercise, breakfast and lunch duties, praise time, creative activities, visits to the Elmslie Soup Kitchen Mission, the Turtle Centre, the beach, participation in the Sunday morning worship services at the Savannah UC, and special concerts at the Elmslie Memorial UC, showcasing the talents of the campers. In all, forty-nine children and twenty-nine teens attended under the leadership of 35 volunteers.

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## Thank You!

Dear Camp Personnel, Leaders, and Volunteers, all of you on the front line and behind the scenes,

We thank you for all you have done to make the CIRMC 2021 Summer Camp happen. We are truly blessed to have so many gifted and dedicated members in our congregations.

Thank you for being so generous with your time and talents, for your example in leadership and service. It is our hope and prayer that what God has planted in the hearts and minds of the campers through your ministry may grow and come to fruition.

May God bless you richly as you yourselves continue to 'Root, Shoot, Fruit' in your personal life and among those God has placed you.

*From the CIRMC*

**Bloom  
Where  
You are  
planted**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 08. (Sunday) 11th Sunday of Pentecost**

**August 09 - 11. (Monday - Wednesday)  
YLNE Retreat**

**August 15. (Sunday) 12th Sunday of Pentecost**



on Radio Cayman 89.9  
every Sunday at 7:45 am

**August 8, 2021  
Mr. Michael Bowerman**

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## SUMMER CAMP PHOTOS







**CIRMC 2021 SUMMER CAMPS**

