



# CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

## WEEKLY UPDATE

January 19, 2022

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 03

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



## Women's Fellowship Week

January 23 – 29, 2022



### Rooted and Anointed

By Mrs. Katherine Jackson

I invite you to reflect with me on the theme, “Rooted and Anointed”, with our scriptural focus coming from Luke 4: 14-21.

‘Rooted’ is a great word to associate with the Christian faith, and I believe that each one of us at some point in time must take some time to reflect on our standing in the faith. Where are we? Are we still on the edge of the pool or are we enjoying the deep fellowship and relationship with our Jesus in the middle of the pool? Are we still on the surface or are we digging deeper into this relationship? We must know where we are!

I grew up on Elizabeth Street in West Bay in the days when every home had a white sand yard and every Saturday you could see the ladies of the homes brushing their yards with a new rosemary broom. What a beautiful sight – and no one dared to walk through that yard after she was finished – not even dog tracks were allowed! That yard was ready for Sunday! However, every other week or so, Mama would tell me early on Saturday morning, or maybe even on Friday evening, that I had to come out with her and help to pull up the weeds that had sprung up – that was called “pulling bush” and I loved it because you got to be outside in the sunshine and cool breeze and work along with your mother. I truly didn’t like to be in the house that much!

Of course, pulling bush wasn’t necessarily easy as some of the weeds could be difficult to pull up. I remember asking my mother why some of them were so hard, and she explained that those little plants had roots that went deep into the ground and were “hardy” while the roots of the others went all over the place. Often, I would think about that and, as I grew and matured in the faith, I realized that we all must sink our faith

root deep into Christ so that when the storms of life come and the trials and challenges hit us, even though we might sway, we would still be able to stand strong - we would not fall over or collapse – just as Colossians 2: 7 says: *Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness ...*

... and speaking of growing down into Jesus, I saw part of a Disney animated movie called, “Big Hero 6” which was about a special bond between a huge plus-sized inflatable robot named Baymax and his little genius friend, Hiro Hamada. One time Hiro wanted to give Baymax a hug of friendship, so he put his little arm around this huge snowman-looking robot and leaned on him, and in doing so, he leaned right into him! As I watched, I smiled and thought to myself – that’s exactly what Jesus wants us to do!

Lean on Him in such a way that we lean right into Him so that we will know that He is right there beside us! Ephesians 3:16 and 17 says: *“I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith ... and I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”*

This is such an exciting scripture to read and look at, how it merges so beautifully with the second half of this topic: “Anointed”!

Anointed: this was something that I never considered for myself.

Oh, our ordained Ministers and lay pastors are anointed, and certain people in our Churches are anointed, like Ms. Julene of blessed memory – they just have it – but you know what? When I read that scripture from St. Luke, I realized that we too can be anointed!

Luke 4: 16-21 reads: *Jesus went to Nazareth where He had been brought up and, on the Sabbath day Jesus went into the synagogue, as was His custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. Unrolling it, He found the place where it is written:*

*18 “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because He has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.*

*He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."*

*20 Then He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant,  
and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were  
fastened on Him. He said to them, "Today this scripture is  
fulfilled in your hearing."*

As I read that passage, I realized that only Jesus could do ALL those things, but it also came to me that He has anointed us to do at least one thing or maybe even two, even three, to help His kingdom come here on earth as it is in heaven: don't we give encouragement or a smile to those who might be having a bad day?

Don't we call or message someone who's not well, or might be home alone?

Don't we offer food or a dollar to the poor?

Don't we give a ride in our car to someone in need?

Don't we provide soup, pampers, and wipes to those who might not be working just now?

Don't we provide care for the children of our community so that their parents can work a full day?

Don't we pray for those who are ill or have just lost a loved one?

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*"Let us be rooted in Christ and anointed  
by the Holy Spirit to serve ... with love"*

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Therefore, I believe that Jesus is saying to each of us, "The Spirit of the Lord is on YOU because He has anointed YOU to proclaim the Good News!" ... and ... "TODAY this scripture is fulfilled in YOUR hearing!"

In this awful time of the COVID/OMICRON pandemic, when we hardly know what we *can* do or who we *can* hang out with, let us hear Christ saying to us ... TODAY My Spirit is upon You because I have anointed You to bring the good news to the people..."

Let us pause now for a moment and reflect on being rooted and anointed ... is it just about saying that we believe in God, or ... when we stop and consider ... can we feel Him beside us every step of the way? Where are you? Where am I? Let us settle this within our minds today so that we can go forth and continue the work He has called us to do, remembering the precautions we need to take concerning the pandemic.

Here is part of a poem written by Annie Johnston Flint:  
Christ has no hands but our hands to do His work today  
He has no feet but our feet to lead people in the way  
He has no tongue but our tongue to tell people how He died  
He has no help but our help to bring them to His side.  
What if our hands are busy with other work than His?  
What if our feet are walking where sin's allurements is?  
What if our tongue is speaking of things His lips would spurn?  
How can we hope to help Him then, or welcome His return?

... so let us be rooted in Christ and anointed by the Holy Spirit to serve ... with love.

## Women's Fellowship Week



The Women's Fellowship week will be celebrated between January 23 and 29, 2022. On Sunday, the Women's Fellowships will lead worship in most United Church congregations, and a special 'Worship the Lord' segment will air on Radio Cayman @ 7:45 am.

During the week, members of the Fellowship will visit older members who have contributed so much to this outstanding organization.

The Women's Fellowship Annual Breakfast, which typically concludes the week's activities on the last Saturday of January, is planned to be held at the end of February 2022.

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WEEK OF PRAYER FOR  
CHRISTIAN  
UNITY

Since 1948 the ecumenical Christian community, coordinated by the World Council of Churches, has been observing worldwide the annual **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, encouraging Christians of all denominations to join in prayer.

The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 is taken from Matthew 2:2 "**We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship Him**". The visit of the Magi to Bethlehem highlights God's invitation to all of humanity to a new covenant in the Incarnation of Christ.

For daily focus, meditation, and prayer, visit

[www.oikumene.org/events/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity](http://www.oikumene.org/events/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

January 22. (Saturday)

**Council Meeting** – 9:00 am via Zoom

January 23. (Sunday) 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

**Women's Fellowship Sunday**

January 24. (Monday) **PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**National Heroes Day**

January 29. (Saturday)

**Training for Lay Leaders Certificate Course Module 1 Orientation** -via Zoom

January 30. (Sunday) 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany



# UCJCI Lay Training Institute



## TRAINING FOR LAY LEADERS 2022

Offered in collaboration with The International University of the Caribbean

*Get Ready to Serve!*



**MODULE 1  
BEGINS  
FEBRUARY  
12, 2022**

### TRAINING FEATURES

- Weekend and Weekday classes  
Saturdays 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Thursdays 6 - 8 p.m.  
(2nd and 4th Saturdays and Thursday in the immediate week following)
- Combination of Learning in Virtual Classrooms via Zoom and in Learners' own time

**ORIENTATION  
JANUARY 29,  
2022**

**REGISTER NOW**  
through your Regional  
Mission Council office

For more information:

nermc@ucjci.com; cirmc.info@gmail.com; wrmc01@yahoo.com; srmc@ucjci.com

Anyone interested in the **UCJCI Training for Lay Leaders Certificate Course 2022** please speak with your Minister and/or call the Council Office for Registration Form and further information.

Telephone: 947-1963 or Email:  
cirmc.info@gmail.com or rdgs@cicucjci.com

CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL



## Ash Wednesday Virtual Gathering

March 2, 2022  
9:00 am

Guest speaker: *Rev. Norbert Stephens*

Tune in to Elmslie Church YouTube channel

**Rooted, Resilient: Responding in HOPE**  
*In the Spirit of Transition*



THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE  
CAYMAN ISLANDS LAY TRAINING INSTITUTE  
IN COLLABORATION WITH  
THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
OF THE CARIBBEAN



## Lay Training Graduation Celebration

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2022 - 2:00 P.M.

GUEST SPEAKER: DR. YVONNE LEYS DAWKINS  
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT  
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS  
UNIVERSITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
CARIBBEAN

The Celebration will be streamed live from Hope United Church via the UCJCI YouTube channel.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO TUNE IN

Due to COVID 19 restrictions there will be limited in-person gathering of specially invited guests

Feb 6, Mar 6, Apr 3,  
May 1, Jun 5

**Cayman  
Keswick**  
2022  
*'All One In Christ'*

More information in next  
week's edition



on Radio Cayman 89.9  
every Sunday at 7:45 am

**January 23, 2022**  
Mrs. Katherine Jackson and  
Mrs. Jacynthia Anderson

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