



CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

WEEKLY UPDATE

November 17, 2022

REIGN OF CHRIST

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 46

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

The Official Renaming of the Prospect Youth Centre to Olive Miller Memorial Building

Close to eighty people gathered on Monday, November 14, 2022, at the Prospect Youth Centre to celebrate its renaming to ‘Olive Miller Memorial Building’. The initiative came from the Cayman Islands Girls Brigade to honor its founder, former President, and Patron. Those present included Girls’ Brigade Companies from every corner of the Island, family members of the late Ms. Olive, members of the clergy and the Cayman United Church Corporation, and others.



In her tribute to Mrs. Miller, GB Patron, Mrs. Iva Good pointed out the enormous influence and role of Mrs. Miller on the national and international development and history of the GB (see included). Upstairs, in the Hall, several displays depicted the 76 years history of the Cayman Islands Girls’ Brigade.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. OLIVE MILLER

In her introductory remarks, Girls’ Brigade (GB) President Mrs. Marisa Crawford highlighted the steps - spanning three years due to the pandemic - leading to the momentous occasion. GB National Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield, and George Town Chaplain, Rev L. Christopher Mason offered the Prayers. The Girls and Officers sang 'This is GB'. The song was written by Mrs. Miller for the occasion of the 65th Anniversary of the Cayman Islands Girls’ Brigade which was celebrated in November 2011.



Mrs. Olive Miller, OBE, MBE, JP, founded The Girls’ Brigade in the Cayman Islands in November 1946. Mrs. Miller at that

time was the Organizer of the Girls' Guildry in Jamaica and during a visit to the Cayman Islands, she began the process that started Girls Guildry companies (now The Girls' Brigade) in each of the five districts in Grand Cayman. She selected and trained local Captains and leaders for each company so that when she returned to Jamaica they could carry on the work. However, it was not long before Mrs. Miller came to make Cayman her home.

In 1968, when the Girls' Guildry from Scotland amalgamated with The Girls Life Brigade from England, and the Girls' Brigade of Ireland to form the Girls' Brigade, Mrs. Miller took a contingent from Cayman to the meetings in London, England. She was involved in drafting the Constitution and was elected as an International Vice President for five years. Mrs. Miller was re-elected for two more terms giving her capacity for fifteen (15) years. This ensured that the Cayman Islands Girls' Brigade had a voice at the International Girls' Brigade table.

In 1968, Mrs. Miller led the charge in ensuring that the Cayman Islands Girls' Brigade formed a National Council, with a Constitution to provide support and leadership for the local Girls' Brigade companies. The second International Conference took place in New Zealand in 1973 and Mrs. Miller took Officers and girls to the Conference. She always insisted that girls and young officers participated in all international Conferences and camps, to train them for leadership in the Girls' Brigade.

In 1978 Cayman hosted the third International Conference and Mrs. Miller led the preparations. 67 delegates representing 30 countries attended and it was a great success. In 1996 during the celebrations of 50 years of the Girls' Brigade in the Cayman Islands, she opened the Savannah Girls' Brigade company.



(Rev. Rohan Forrester – Chair of Council, family members of Mrs. Olive Miller, Mrs. Iva Good - GB Patron and Mr. Bryan Bothwell – Cayman United Church Corporation, following the ribbon cutting)

Mrs. Miller was a devout Christian, and this was reflected in everything that she did. Mrs. Miller remained very active in the Girls' Brigade her entire life. Hundreds if not thousands of women and girls and their families were positively impacted by

the steadfast leadership, work, and support of Mrs. Miller to the Cayman Islands Girls' Brigade. She was well-known and respected locally and internationally. Mrs. Miller was the President of the Cayman Islands Girls' Brigade for many years, and when she relinquished this role, she became its Patron until her death in May 2020. She never wavered in her commitment to The Girls' Brigade.

Reign of Christ Sunday

By Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield

This Sunday, November 20, 2022, is celebrated as Reign of Christ Sunday. It is the final Sunday in the Liturgical Year, and it recognizes the reign of Christ as King. It is the Sunday before Advent when we remind ourselves of Jesus' authority and power. The Season of Pentecost which ended last Sunday the Liturgical Calendar started with the coming of God's Spirit upon all flesh. Today, we celebrate Christ's sovereignty and His presence and power to save and transform lives. It is a time of hopefulness and a revelation of God's grace and favor on us through Jesus Christ.

The reading from the Prophet Jeremiah presents the picture of God sending the Good Shepherd, a Righteous Branch from David's lineage.

Please read Jeremiah 23:1-6 (The Righteous Branch)

As we contemplate the text from Jeremiah 23:1-6, we hear the concern and care God had for God's people. God refers to the people as the sheep of God's pasture. In the text, one hears the echoes from Psalms 23 and 100. God is the Good Shepherd who nourishes, protects and cradles God's people. In the same way, the sheep in the pasture of a good shepherd lack nothing, God will take care of and provide for God's people. Because of God the Good Shepherd's care, the people in response can worship the Lord with gladness; and come before Him with joyful songs. The care and nurture of God for the people will lead to trust in God and growth in all aspects of life.

There is in the text a contrast to the Good Shepherd. It is the very poor image of shepherds of God's people who are accused of destroying and scattering the flock. The promise of punishment for those who cause the flock of God to suffer harm and danger is harsh. The actions of the faithless shepherds are identified as evil, and they displease God tremendously. The lamentation is grave, and God's wrath is kindled. The disloyalty and dishonesty of the shepherds in whose hands the sheep are entrusted are evidenced by the disturbed behavior of the sheep. In the same manner that the sheep are scattered physically, the people are scattered not only physically, but spiritually and culturally. The people can no longer identify their spiritual heritage and they are led astray to embrace false gods. These unworthy shepherds inflict pain and hurt whilst pretending to care for the flock.

The Prophet Jeremiah understands God's displeasure and is not afraid to condemn the actions of the leaders who caused Judah

to suffer peril. God will intervene with the Righteous One. God will raise up the descendant of David, the Righteous Branch, the Messiah who will forever change the direction and course in which the people were led by the unfaithful shepherd-leaders. The image of the Branch is in contrast with the 'dried' twig which could no longer produce prosperity for the people. This Righteous Branch will sprout and grow, producing deep confidence in God. The Righteous Branch will enable the people in such ways that their inertia and aridness will cease.

Indeed, on the Reign of Christ Sunday, we recognize the fulfilment of the prophecy in Jesus Christ, who in Mark 6:34, described the crowd following Him as being like *"sheep not having a shepherd."* He is aware that the people have suffered greatly, and that God has sent Him to rescue those who are perishing because of the neglect of the rogue shepherds. Further, in John 10:11, Jesus announced Himself as the good shepherd. *"The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it"*.

Jesus is not only the Good Shepherd and the Righteous Branch, but He is indeed the Righteous King and the Righteous Savior. His reign is forever. These images of Christ are powerful, and they undergird the hope and trust we have in Him.

When this text is read in the context of the now, it is an awakening call to the Church. The Righteous Branch has come and is calling the Church to righteousness. The call to righteousness comes amid a world that is unrighteous in many ways. Inequity, injustice, lack of discipline, blatant corruption and war tend to rule the way of the world. These are actions which are condemned and repudiated by God. God, therefore, calls the Church to be the dutiful and dependable shepherds who will nurture and care for the people, creating for them a just and equitable space within a troubled world.

The Church must ensure that the actions undertaken do not turn justice into poison and the sweet fruit of righteousness into wormwood (Amos 6:12). Instead, the Church must lead people along the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. The Church must lead the flock in love, with mercy and ensure that the flock remains gathered rather than trampled and scattered.

1. Enable people to choose the path away from godlessness.

Evil lurks and is persistent in many areas of life. It is false to make people feel safe when they are following harmful ways. Normally, I would not give credence by referencing the following comment which appeared in the local news published online, but I share it considering the work of love, evangelism and ministry that still needs to be done here in the Cayman Islands. This quote was written in response to someone's illness.

"Thank God"? So wouldn't this "God" you speak of have willed the medical condition, so then why "thank" this "God"? No idea how some rational people in the 21st century can believe and still believe in this nonsense. Personally, I am sticking with Hercules and Zeus as my invisible imaginary characters." Anonymous - (Cayman News Service- November 16, 2022)

When people have a particular mindset and seek to promote it within the broad context of the community, the Church must seek to increase praying, evangelism, discipleship and teaching. The Church must with love and grace show people the way to the new life in Christ, the Righteous King. Christians cannot and should not sit idly by and let people feel that everything is well and that there is no accountability to the Righteous King. The proclamation of the Gospel is still relevant and much needed in this society. How I wish we could meet the writer and others with similar thoughts and share the love which Christ has for them. We believe that Christ's love is deep and transformative and can change the hearts and minds of men and women.

2. Ensure that the Church acts in ways of righteousness.

The Church must act like the shepherds God describes, *"I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing,"* (Jeremiah 23:4).

If the Church acts according to God's requirement and righteousness, this will make certain that the people are gathered and transformed by God's grace. **What is this righteous way?**

Psalm 1, is a constant reminder: *"But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law, he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prosper."*

As the Church, we need to remain faithful to our high calling in Christ Jesus and maintain the covenant of faithful living. We cannot expect the world to be faithful or to even have regard for God if within us there are signs and examples of things that are unlovely. As we live, move and have our being in Christ, we need to affirm our belief and hope in Him and allow His Spirit to order our lives. Our actions must always be winsome, peaceful and dedicated to the glory of God alone. Let nothing we say or do hinder the path of someone who needs salvation.

We are reminded that we all are seeking the same Savior, the Righteous Branch, the Righteous King. This same Savior we are seeking will provide the cleansing and peace we long for and will ensure that our lives bless those we seek to minister to in the name of Christ.

Cayman Culture Night **Presented by Elmslie Memorial UC Youth Ministry**

The young and the not-so-young gathered on Friday, November 11, 2022, for an evening of fellowship and entertainment at the Church Hall of Elmslie Memorial United Church. Youth Minister of the Elmslie Charge, Mr. Roy McGregor, envisioned the event years ago as a way of helping the Congregation's children and youth to be immersed more in their Caymanian culture and heritage.

The programme included performances by the Elmslie Dance Ministry, the Cayman Islands Folk Singers, the Radiance Maypole Dancers, and the Cayman Islands National Dance

Company. During the intermission, Cayman's favorite dishes and desserts were on sale.





The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, in collaboration with the International University of the Caribbean, held its Lay Training Graduation Celebration on November 13, 2022, at Ridgemount United Church, Mandeville, Jamaica, and via livestream. *(the Graduation service can be viewed on the UCJCI YouTube Channel)*

From the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council (CIRMC), four (4) participants completed the 2022 Module 1 of the Lay Leaders Certificate Course (LLCC). They are Madhavi Mathura, Gail White-Evans, Jodi Ann Jackson, and Monique Anderson-Coke. Congratulations to our CIRMC 2022 Module 1 graduates!

The Lay Leaders Certificate Course is delivered through the UCJCI Lay Training Institute in collaboration with the International University of the Caribbean to equip individuals with the requisite tools for effective ministry as Elders (Module

1), Leaders in specialized areas of Ministry (Module 2) and as Lay Pastors (Module 3).

Reign of Christ Sunday

November 20, 2022

Come Righteous King

Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 46;
Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43

Christ the King Sunday is the Sunday before Advent, when we remind ourselves of Jesus' authority and power. Although the Gospel focuses on his death, it portrays Jesus' power to make right upon confession of faith. Jeremiah presents the picture of God sending the Good Shepherd, a righteous branch from David's lineage.

- What is righteousness and how is Jesus our Righteous King?
- What hope exists for us who trust in Jesus's Righteousness?

Remember in your prayers

All those God has placed on your heart and those brought to your attention in some way.



on Radio Cayman 89.9
every Sunday at 7:45 am

November 20, 2022
Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield

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@cicujci.com or cirmcinfo@gmail.com
Website: unitedchurch.org.ky



Peace Initiative Project

At the 42nd Synod of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, held in April 2021, the Peace Initiative was introduced. Each Regional Mission Council was asked to identify a project. The Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council (CIRMC), at its October 8, 2022, Meeting agreed that the Cayman Island Crisis Centre will be our project. The Mission MAT is coordinating the effort and the list of items needed by the Crisis Centre is now available (the list is included at the end of this article). The items for the Crisis Centre should be taken to the Council Office. Thank you for your participation and continuing support.

CHILDREN PRODUCTS:

- ◆ Boys & Girls clothing for age 0 to 18 (all sizes)
- ◆ Undergarments (all size)
- ◆ Boys and Girls shoes up to age 18
- ◆ Disposable Diapers (all sizes)
- ◆ Diaper Wipes and Diaper Rash Cream (i.e. Desitin)
- ◆ Baby Toiletries: Shampoo, Bath Wash, Lotion/Oil, etc.
- ◆ Baby Crib + sheets, bumpers, etc.
- ◆ Baby Blankets
- ◆ Children's Educational Books, Games, Toys

WOMEN PRODUCTS :

- ◆ Women's Clothing and shoes (all sizes)
- ◆ Women's NEW Night Clothes (small, medium & large)
- ◆ Women's NEW Undergarments (all sizes)
- ◆ Toiletries: Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Deodorant, etc.
- ◆ Comb, Brush, Hair Dryer
- ◆ Feminine Products

HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS:

- ◆ New pillows, pillow covers, pillowcases
- ◆ Twin mattress
- ◆ Twin mattress covers
- ◆ Twin sheets sets
- ◆ Towels
- ◆ Curtains (size: 51 x 74 inches + curtain rods)
- ◆ Pots & Pans
- ◆ Drinking Glasses
- ◆ Dishes, Cutlery, Plates
- ◆ Household items including appliances
- ◆ Furniture
- ◆ TV/computers

OTHER PRODUCTS :

- ◆ Financial support for the daily operations of the CICC
- ◆ Birthdays/Graduation/Christmas etc. Gifts for Women and Children (both genders from newborn to 18 years old)
- ◆ School Supplies for the in-house and former clients' children
- ◆ Imperishable Canned Foods
- ◆ Cleaning Products (e.g., Clorox Bleach, Fabuloso, Detergent, Dishwashing Liquid, Lysol)



IN-KIND DONATIONS :

PLEASE BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO OUR WAREHOUSE,
OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY 12:PM-1:PM.
MINI WAREHOUSE 2 #226
DORCY DRIVE INDUSTRIAL PARK
(ACROSS FROM BRAND SOURCE STORE)

MONETARY DONATIONS:

CHEQUES ARE TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO:
'CAYMAN ISLANDS CRISIS CENTRE'

ONLINE BANKING DETAILS:

Bank of Butterfield Cayman

Account Name: Cayman Islands Crisis Centre

CI account: 1361629840014

US account: 8401629840037



24 Hour Crisis Line
943-2422

Office: 949-0366

Email: info@cicc.ky Website: www.cicc.ky



Cayman Council Women's Fellowship

Thanksgiving Lunch

Thursday, 24th November 2022

11am to 2pm

Elmslie United Church Hall

Menu

Turkey

Ham

Macaroni & Cheese

Potato Salad

Rice & Beans

Sweet Yam Casserole

Apple / Cranberry Sauce

Dinner Rolls

Apple Pie / Cassava Cake

Soft Drinks /Water

Ticket: \$16.00

Tickets available from Women's Fellowship Members