



CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

WEEKLY UPDATE

Season of Epiphany

January 26, 2023

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 04

UCJCI 43rd SYNOD THEME – **Rooted, Resilient: Re-ignited by the Spirit** (Return, Reconnect, Realign, Re-ignite)



UCJCI

Women's Fellowship Week

January 22-28, 2023

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

Sisters of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, I greet you warmly on behalf of the Synod. Even though we are drawing close to the end of the first month in the year, I wish for you a Happy New Year and pray God's blessings upon your Ministry throughout the rest of 2023.

As a church, we thank God for you; for your service and the various ways through which you contribute to Christ's Ministry and Mission in your local congregations, and at the Regional and Synodical level of the church. We cannot begin to imagine what the state of the church would be in Cayman and Jamaica, were it not for our women. This is true for many other denominations as well. May God continue to bless you, even as we pray and work towards having more of our men coming on board, because the partnership is critical.

Careful note has been taken of your Theme: "Women Rooted in Christ: Bearing Fruit." It's a given that any physical tree that is so purposed to bear fruit, must be rooted; properly anchored in soil and receiving the required nutrients. Except for when it is manipulated by human beings, in its natural state, the fruit that is borne on a tree, is consistent with the type of tree. As Christians; as Christian women, Christ Jesus has purposed you to bear fruit. You then must remain anchored in Christ; rooted in Him and drawing from His Spirit in order to bear fruit. It is a given, if you are rooted in Christ; drawing sustenance from Christ, then your fruit must reflect your connectedness; your rootedness; your Christlike nature. You can therefore appreciate why Jesus in Matthew 7: 16-20 would say,

"By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them."

We are also reminded by the Apostle Paul in Galatians 5 that *"the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."* My sisters, many more people would enter God's Kingdom and become a part of the church if more of us believers would show the fruit of the Spirit in our lives.

On this Fellowship Sunday, I call upon you as individual Christians; as a Fellowship; as a branch of the Fellowship, to always ensure that others will know that you belong to Christ by your fruit. Be a good witness for Christ; be a good example of a woman of faith; be a good ambassador for the United Church. May many more from our broken homes, communities and nations become attracted to your fruit and so become followers of Christ.

God bless you.

Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott
MODERATOR

UCJCI Women's Fellowship PRESIDENT GENERAL'S MESSAGE

For Women's Fellowship Sunday,
January 22, 2023

My Dear Sisters,

Happy New Year! I greet you warmly in the name of Jesus Christ our source of life. Today, marks the beginning of Women's Fellowship week under the theme "Women Rooted in Christ – Bearing Fruits." This comes at a time when women, locally and globally are impacted negatively by the war between Russia and Ukraine, increased in the price of commodities, increased violence against women and children, breakdown in family life and morale, significant increases in health issues relating to the spread of the Corona Virus over the past three years, states failing and have failed to protect children and other vulnerable populations, women being denied their right to an education and the church being challenged in its ministry to children and youth. In this time too immorality is at its highest. More women are turning to a life of crime and other acts of immorality for survival. All these have had the greatest impact on women who are the bearer of children, nurturer and carer of the family. How then do we as women rooted in Christ and bearing fruit respond to these challenges?



Women's Fellowship Sunday in the CIRMC January 22, 2023

As we respond to the various needs involving our women, we will try to accomplish these goals through the following: Building capacity through leadership and spiritual programmes, training and other activities; incorporating evangelism in all our programmes and events; promoting an inclusive culture, where all women are welcomed; encouraging fellowship among sisters, auxiliaries and communities; social outreach programmes –parenting conference and advocating for the rights of women and children through various media. Sisters, we can accomplish these, more than we ever thought possible, through the reliance on the power of the Holy Spirit that lives in and works through us.

Our theme: “Women Rooted in Christ – Bearing Fruits,” is declaring that we are attached to Christ, being nourished by Him, and bearing fruits. If we are rooted in Christ, we have acknowledged and recognized Jesus as our source of life and Salvation. It means that we trust God to lead us, to provide for us, to protect us, and to equip us to face the challenges of this world. Sisters, we can only be rooted in Christ if we are reading, studying, meditating on God’s Word daily. We are rooted in Christ when we spend time praying, fasting, worshipping and doing His will. When we are rooted in Christ, we are able to stand against the plans and plots of the devil because we know who we are and whose we are.

John 15:5 reads, *“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”* If we are rooted, we have remained in Christ, are bearing fruit and are totally trusting and dependent on Him for everything in our lives. It means humbling ourselves before God and acknowledging that we need him and without him we can do nothing. When we are bearing fruit my sisters, we love God, are growing together in fellowship, serving others, sharing Christ with others and journeying to full commitment.

As women rooted in Christ, we continue the celebration of 30 years of union as UCJCI Women’s Fellowship with the hosting of some special activities: On Monday, a special presentation on Mental Health; Tuesday, a time of prayer and fasting and on Thursday we will be reminiscing, celebrating and giving thanks for Women’s Fellowship Legacy over 30 years. Hoping you will all join us online each evening at 6:30pm.

Have a blessed and joyful week and spread the love of Christ with our brothers and sisters, not just physically, but also spiritually as this is the food, they need the most and often times don’t realize it.

My dear sisters, when you are Rooted in Christ-Bearing Fruits, you are building on a foundation that cannot be uprooted, you are unshakeable.

By Love Serve!

Sis. Cheryl Shaw
President General

In 2023, the UCJCI Women’s Fellowship is celebrating its 30th Anniversary. The Women’s Fellowship’s antecedent was the Women’s Guild. The name was changed in 1992 when the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands was formed following the union with the Disciples of Christ.

On Sunday, January 22, 2023, throughout the Island, members of the Women’s Fellowship took charge of the Worship Services in their Congregations.

At the William Pouchie Memorial United Church, North Side, Mrs. Raquel Forrester delivered words of encouragement and inspiration to all.



Members of the Women’s Fellowship at the William Pouchie Memorial United Church Branch, North Side with Mrs. Forrester (center).

Members of the East End United Church Branch of the Women’s Fellowship took time out for a photograph with guest preacher, Mrs. Yolanda Whittaker and Minister, Rev. Rohan Forrester.



Mrs. Yolanda Whittaker (top row, first on the right)



At the East End United Church, Women's Fellowship President Mrs. Jacynthia Anderson presented Mrs. Carmen Connolly with an award in recognition of her contribution to the ministry of the East End Branch of Women's Fellowship.



Members of the Women's Fellowship Branch at Webster Memorial United Church, with special guest and speaker, Rev. Mary Graham.

At the John Gray Memorial United Church, West Bay, Mrs. Kathy Jackson, President of the JGMC Branch of the Women's Fellowship, presented a gift to former Women's Fellowship Council President Mrs. Carol Ann Ebanks. The guest speaker of the service was Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield.



Mrs. Kathy Jackson and Mrs. Carol Ann Ebanks.

The choir and members of the Women's Fellowship of the JGMC Branch presented a special item, "God on the Mountain" during the service.

"Women as Peacemakers" was the focus of Mrs. Denise Myers, guest speaker at the Savannah United Church.



Members of the Savannah Branch of the Women's Fellowship with Mrs. Myers.



On Monday, January 23, 2023, during the Cayman Islands National Heroes Day Award Ceremony, the Cayman Islands Girls' Brigade was honored as a Charitable Organization for several decades of tireless and selfless service to our communities island-wide.





Ms. Debra McLaughlin, Girls' Brigade National Chairman, and Mrs. Marisa Crawford, President of the Cayman Islands Girls' Brigade



Girls' Brigade Officers with the Awards.

NATIONAL HEROES DAY 2023



Heartfelt Congratulations to all the Honorees of the Cayman Islands National Heroes Day Celebration 2023, especially to those receiving awards from our Congregations! We thank them for their many years of exemplary service and ask God's continued blessings on their lives and ministry.

(*Posthumous)

John Gray Memorial United Church

Early Pioneers:

Austin Bothwell*, Rev John Gray*, Beulah Smith*, Cecil Carl Gordon, Ina Claire Orr

Pioneers:

Nana Bothwell, Reba Dilbert, Shareena Ebanks, Michelle Ebanks-Barnes, D. Melanie Ebanks-Jackson, Andre Jackson, Sarah Patricia Rivers, Elizabeth Scholefield, Wendy Stenning

Elmslie Memorial United Church

Early Pioneers

David Neales Godfrey, Iva Good, Olive Hilda Miller*, Theoline Wellington

Pioneers

Christopher Bowring, Carmin Bernetta Godfrey, Francilla Myles, Thomas Myles, Joan M. McField, Lloyd McField, Sherrylee McLaughlin, Lisa O'Neil, Lorna Reid, Maddalee Whittaker, Agnes "Nancy" Whitefield, Susan Whittaker

Robert Young Memorial United Church

Early Pioneer

Maisly Janilee Clifford*

Pioneer

Debra McLaughlin

South Sound United Church

Pioneer

Effie Johnson, Bradshaw E. Taylor

Savannah United Church

Early Pioneer

Herbert Crawford

Pioneers

Ulalee Marisa Crawford, Janet Gloria Dixon

Webster Memorial United Church

Early Pioneers:

Marjorie Beckles*, Roy Charlton*, Harwell M McCoy, Sr.*

Pioneers: Osbourne Boddin, Norma McField

William Pouchie Memorial United Church

Early Pioneer

Janet Erena McCoy*

Pioneers

Elsie Chisholm, Juliet Imogene McCoy, Virginia Lee McCoy*, Audrey R. Whittaker, Oswell Rankine

East End United Church

Early Pioneer

Isaac Jeralow Rankine

Pioneers

Eleanor H. Conolly, Carolann Rankine

Gun Bay United Church

Early Pioneer

Vernicia Watler*

Pioneer

Trevor Watler

SYNOD CORNER

Bulletin #2

Theme: Rooted and Resilient: Reignited by the Spirit.
Moderator-Elect: Rt Rev Gary Harriott
Date: April 23-30, 2023

As the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council prepares to host the 43rd Synod of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, there are many opportunities available for individuals and Congregations to participate in.

1. Hosting Delegates

What is required of you if you are willing to host a Delegate?

- **Duration:** April 22, 2023 – May 1, 2023
- **Meals:** The main meals will be at the Synod, but a light breakfast (hot beverage/ fruit/juice) and evening snacks will be appreciated.
- **Transportation:**
Arrival
Delegates will be transported from the airport to the Council Office on Saturday, April 22, 2023. Hosts are therefore asked to receive their guests at the Council Office.
The time for collecting the guests will be available at a later date.
Daily
Guests will be transported from the Church Halls each morning and returned in the evening. Please make arrangements for their drop off and pick up from your Church Hall.
Departure
Hosts are kindly asked to arrange to have guests taken to the airport on Monday, May 1, 2023. Flight times will be available at a later date.

2. Charge Synod Day

Each Charge in Council will provide breakfast and mid-afternoon food/snack items and drinks one day during the Synod.

- Monday: Elmslie Memorial
- Tuesday: North-East Charge
- Wednesday: Bodden Town-Savannah
- Thursday – John Gray- South Sound

Please contact your Minister or the Synod Planning Team representative in your Congregation.

Elmslie Memorial – Mrs Ann Marie Mason
North-East Charge – Ms Melody McLean
Bodden Town- Savannah – Mrs Jacynthia Anderson
John Gray Memorial – Mrs Cora Grant- James

The Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council welcomes the opportunity to host the Synod and anticipates your participation!

Council Office contact: Telephone: 947-1963
Email: rdgs@cicucjci.com

4th Sunday in Epiphany

January 29, 2023

RETURN with Power and Wisdom

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12



United Church Women's Fellowship Council

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Saturday, January 28, 2023
Time: 8am - 10am
Venue: Morritt's, East End

Theme: Being a Peace-Maker

Guest Speaker: Rev. L. Christopher Mason

All Are Invited

Ticket: \$30



UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA
AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL
MISSION COUNCIL

INVITES ALL

**MEMBERS, CONGREGATION
EVANGELISM LEADERS,
ELDERS, MINISTERS AND
PASTORS**

MAIN PRESENTER
REV. DR. STEVENSON SAMUELS



AN Evangelism CONVERSATION

THEME:
"WE ARE IN IT TOGETHER"

SATURDAY FEB 4, 2023
10AM

MEETING ID: 886 6574 4944
PASSCODE: EVANGELIZE



(CCPP)

Child Care & Protection Policy

WORKSHOP

For all those assisting in Children & Youth Ministry, who have not been trained yet.

Saturday, February 4, 2023
9:00 – 11:00 am via Zoom

To register please contact your Minister or the Council office at 947-1963 or Cirmc.info@gmail.com by Friday, January 27, 2023

Child Care & Protection Policy Workshop

Every year our Regional Mission Council conducts the Child Care and Protection Policy Workshop to ensure that both the Children and Youth Ministry in our region satisfies our denominational, national as well as international policy standards. These policies aim to protect not only the children/youth but also the leaders and volunteers who work with them, as well as to bring awareness to the importance of providing a safe overall environment in which these ministries are carried out. Naturally, we expect that all our staff and volunteers who are engaged in these ministries complete the training provided via the Workshop, at the end of which they receive a certification from our Regional Mission Council. This certification is valid across all the regions of the UCJCI and participation in the workshop doesn't need to be repeated.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 28. (Saturday)

Women's Fellowship Breakfast – 8:00 am – Morritt's (East End)

January 29. (Sunday) 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

February 4. (Saturday)

CCPP Workshop – 9:00-11:00 am via Zoom



All Are Invited

Come and Be Blessed

THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

Ash Wednesday Gathering

THEME: HEALED & RESTORED BODY, MIND & SPIRIT

FEBRUARY 22, 2023

6:30AM – 9:00AM

PROSPECT YOUTH CENTRE BEACH – COUNCIL OFFICE

*PRESENTATION ON HEALING
*HOLY COMMUNION
*FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Remember in your prayers!

All those God has placed on your heart and those brought to your attention in some way. Please also include in your prayers at this time

Lay Pastor John Macmillan (RYMC), Mrs. Itza Bodden, Youth Worker (EE-GB), Mr. Trevor Watler (GB)



on Radio Cayman 89.9
every Sunday at 7:45 am

January 29, 2023
Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble Bloomfield
& Rev. L. Christopher Mason

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