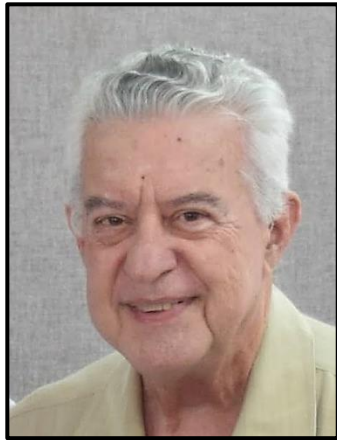




UCJCI 43rd SYNOD THEME – Rooted, Resilient: Re-ignited by the Spirit (Return, Reconnect, Realign, Re-ignite)

John Macmillan 1945 - 2023



With deep sadness, we announce the passing of Pastor John Macmillan. He transitioned from this life on Monday, April 17, 2023, in Florida, USA, after a period of illness.

Pastor Macmillan was the longest-serving Lay Pastor in the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, serving mainly the Robert Young Memorial Mission Station in the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council.

His service in the church was expansive and included, but was not limited to, being an Elder, a Delegate to Council and Synod, a member and Chairman of the Cayman United Church Corporation, a staff member in the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council Office and the Administrator for the Elmslie Memorial Church.

John was a faithful servant of God, whose dedication, diligence and commitment were gifts to the church.

We pray that God’s comforting grace and peace will attend his wife, Janet, daughter Sheena, son Bruce, grandchildren and the extended family.

We pray for the Members of the Robert Young Memorial Mission Station where Pastor John served for over forty years.

May his soul rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon him.

And I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Blessed indeed,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!” (Revelations 14:13)

**43RD SYNOD
OF THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA
AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS**

**Theme: Rooted, Resilient:
Re-ignited by the Spirit**

April 23-30, 2023

Opening Service
Bible Studies
**Service of Celebration of Life
and Witness**
Closing Service
Business Sessions
Public Lecture

'Let's pray for our Synod!'

SAVANNAH UNITED CHURCH CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

(Blended/Physical in Cayman, Virtual in Jamaica)

Theme:
“Rooted, Resilient: Re-ignited by the Spirit”
(Return, Reconnect, Realign and Re-ignite)

WHAT IS SYNOD?

Synod is the biennial gathering of the leadership of the church to discern and strategize for the church’s mission. The Synod is the decision-making body of the church and is comprised of:

The Moderator, General Secretary, Deputy General Secretaries, Ministers (Ordained and Commissioned), Ministerial Students, Lay Pastors, Elders (selected to represent their congregations), Staff, and Chairpersons of Standing Committees (Strategic Planning, Church and Ministry, Constitution and Doctrine, Property, Finance).

When Synod meets, we will be exploring our understanding of God’s vision and purpose for the UCJCI over the next two years. We will be doing this, drawing on the delegates’

experience of our Church in the past against the background of the theme and the contexts in which we live.

The visioning process itself will concentrate on the future, taking into consideration the challenges being faced due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic which has swept the globe and is significantly impacting life in general. In preparation to the 43rd Synod, the delegates were invited to consider the following:

1. How do we Worship, Nurture and Train? (models of the worshipping church, reaching all our members, nurture, technology, and Lay Training)
2. How do we Witness - How does and how should the Church respond? Consider areas such as Education, Economic Needs, Housing, Food Security and Family Life.
3. How do we Work efficiently? (finances, meetings, etc.)
4. How do we weave Evangelism in the ways in which we Worship, Nurture and Witness?

THEME FOCUS

During the Synod the delegates will explore the theme in Bible Studies. This will be done in a participatory way using the Zoom platform and delegates will have the opportunity to engage the theme and related texts in discussion. As we vision for the future, our theme must play a critical role in impacting how we function.

Delegates will share their local experiences (characteristics, challenges, celebrations, opportunities – taking in the social, economic, political, theological, cultural). It is expected that the Bible studies will bring the voice of the Bible to our individual contexts so that we can plan and take concrete action that will be relevant.

THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DELEGATES

The delegates

- represent their congregation and its views
- should participate in the decision making
- should attend all events at which you need to make representation
- should pay attention to information presented to you
- should participate in the discussions so that your opinions are heard
- should inform their congregation of the outcomes of Synod
- should remind their congregation to follow up decisions

THEMATIC FOCUS OF DAILY BIBLE STUDIES, BASED ON THE THEME

- Mon. – Realign Our Worship
- Tue. – Reconnect our Relationship with Children and Youth
- Wed. – Re-ignite our Stewardship and Leadership
- Thu. – Return to Discipleship

The daily Bible Study sessions will be available on the UCJCI YouTube channel at 6 a.m. - 6.45 a.m. or can be viewed later.

(Excerpts from the 43rd Synod of the UCJCI ‘Delegates’ Handbook’)

THE PROGRAM OF THE 43RD SYNOD OF THE UCJCI

The gathering of Synod is a weeklong, demanding and intense period of time which, apart from the daily, long hours of meetings also provides opportunity for celebration and fellowship, reserved not only for the delegates but also for the wider church.

While participation in the daily business meetings is reserved for the delegates and officials, it is very much hoped that the public (church membership) will attend the evening services. Every evening service has a unique focus and is followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments.

The business sessions will be conducted at the Savannah United Church from Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am till 4:00 pm and include among other things, Bible Study Reflections and visioning, Business Sessions, Breakout Group discussions, presentations and examination of Records.

All evening services (public events) will take place at the Elmslie Memorial Church in George Town.

Public Events Held at Elmslie Memorial United Church

Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 4:00 PM
Opening Service

Monday, April 24, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Moderator’s Reception

Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Celebration of Life and Witness

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Public Lecture

Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 4:00 PM
Closing Service

Final Preparations



Members of the CIRMC Synod Planning Team prepare the Delegates’ gift bags.

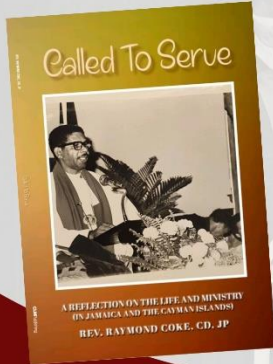
APRIL 25, 2023

At 12:30pm

Savannah United Church

BOOK LAUNCH & PRESENTATION

"CALLED TO SERVE"



"An exciting read on the life of a modern day Moses - called to lead the Church body through change over many decades..."

Prices:

\$20 | **\$25** | **\$3,000**
KYD | **USD** | **JMD**

BOOKS WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT SYNOD (APRIL 25-30)

Synod delegates can pay in advance, pick up in Cayman!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT RENEE BARNES | 929-0980 or rbarnes720@gmail.com

Written by
REV. RAYMOND COKE, CD, JP

Former Moderator and retired Minister of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands



Bodden Town / Savannah Charge of United Churches



Dave Ransey's Theory on How to Win with Money

7:00 PM

A Special Presentation by

Thursday May 4, 2023

Carol Bennett

Zoom on to our usual Bible Study Link Passcode:

on
Money Management

Meeting ID: 889 2252 1043

Passcode: 230341



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 the bereaved families of Lay Pastor John Macmillan (RYMC), and Mr. Frank Connolly (GB), also Mrs. Itza Bodden, Youth Worker (EE-GB), Mr. Trevor Watler (GB) and Ms. Camile Watt, Youth Minister (SUC).



on Radio Cayman 89.9 every Sunday at 7:45 am

April 23, 2023
Rev. Norbert Stephens

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ELMSLIE MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH'S YOUTH MINISTRY PRESENTS A

FISH FRY



Saturday,

May 6, 2023

7am - until ...

ELMSLIE CHURCH HALL
108 Seafarers Way
George Town



Tickets available for purchase after Sunday services in the belfry or contact Jennelle McLaughlin or Roy McGregor.