



CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

WEEKLY UPDATE

June 28, 2023

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 25

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

CAYMAN PREP AND HIGH SCHOOL-CLASS OF 2023



The Annual Year 11 Graduation Ceremony for the Cayman Prep and High School was held on Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at the school's auditorium. Over four hundred family members, friends and well-wishers, along with CPHS Governors, Members of the CIRMC, the Department of Education Services and Premier Hon Wayne Panton and Mrs Panton, attended the ceremony. Guest Speaker, **Mr Dean-Paul Wallace** encouraged and challenged the graduates to live in such ways that enable them to make a difference in the lives of people and in the world.



Mr Dean-Paul Wallace- Guest Speaker

Ms Annabella Voaden was the recipient of the 2022-2023 United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands Ethics Award. She was also the top performing student in Physics and Drama. Rev Rohan Forrester, Chair of Council, presented the award to Ms Voaden.



Ms Annabella Voaden and Rev Forrester

Ms Emily Ch'Ng received the subject prizes for Biology, Chemistry, French and Economics. She was also the recipient of the Dart Award for Excellence in STEM and Emily also received the Ernest and Young Award for the Top Academic Achiever.



Ms Emily Ch'Ng receiving the EY Top Achiever Award from Ms Eleanor Fisher, Partner, EY, Cayman

CTLT 6TH GRADUATION CEREMONY

By Bishop Rev J.P. Lawrence



The Centre for Theological Leadership Training (CTLT) held its sixth graduation ceremony at the Church of God of Prophecy Victory Tabernacle on Sunday 25 June 2023. The institution provides tuition in all aspects of theology and pastoral care, at Certificate and Diploma, Bachelors and Masters and Doctorate levels. It was begun by the Director of CTLT, the Rt. Rev. Dr P. J. Lawrence. He has much experience in beginning new theological learning institutions since he graduated and was ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in Bengaluru (Bangalore), India, 52 years ago.

The CTLD is intended for people who would like to know more about the Bible and would like to be better equipped for ministry in their church. Since it began in 2016 it has grown, year by year, and offers a very wide range of courses ranging from Christian counselling to Old and New Testament history, the Gospels, the Epistles, and special areas of study designed to be relevant in a modern changing world. Classes are conducted in the evenings and weekends via Zoom, which has enabled students to join the course from literally all over the world, including India, Africa, the Philippines, Canada, the USA, Jamaica and the Netherlands.

CTLT Certificate, Bachelors and Masters students marched into the church, to the tune of "I am marching upwards to Zion, the beautiful City of God," while their families, came to cheer them on their path.

Masters Graduate Janet Durran read from 2 Timothy 2.11 - 16. "It is a faithful saying: For if we are dead with Him, we shall also live with Him: If we suffer, we shall also reign with Him: if we deny Him, He also will deny us: If we believe not, yet He abides faithfully: He cannot deny Himself. Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive

not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers. Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness."

Bishop Dr Clayton Martin, Chairman, CTLT welcomed everyone, recognizing the graduates, distinguished members of the Faculty, and the Guest Speaker, Pastor Torrance Bobb, Minister of the First Assembly of God Pentecostal Church on Crewe Road. who spoke about how our eternal home is in heaven, and how, through every generation, God has raised up men and women to preach his Holy Word to change the eternal destiny of others, too.

CTLT senior faculty members conferred an honorary doctorate degree upon Pastor Alson Ebanks of the Church of God Chapel, Walkers Road, who lectures in New Testament Greek at the CTLT, and who has served the Lord faithfully for many years throughout the Cayman Islands in many different capacities.

During the ceremony, too, Rev. Christopher Mason of the Elmslie Memorial Church was present to confer on one of the Bachelors graduates from last year, Yolanda Whittaker the newly established Ministry of Cayman Islands Sports Chaplain.

One by one each of the graduates was called onto the stage to receive their certificates, beginning with the Certificate programme. Next came the Bachelors, and finally, the Masters students, many of whom have been with CTLT for four years.

Valedictorians from each group came onstage to give their addresses. Sis. Laticia Vassell from the certificate group spoke about how she had originally wanted to do the Masters course, but a clash with other commitments had given her the choice of pursuing the certificate course instead. It had turned out to be a blessing in disguise for her, she said, because she got to learn about the Old Testament which was very enriching and had established a strong spiritual foundation in her life. She expressed her hope to continue with her studies

Sis. Simone Yallop, a lay reader in an Anglican diocese of the Netherlands and who has been pursuing a Bachelor's degree via Zoom! had travelled all the way to the Cayman Islands to finally meet her classmates in person and speak, as valedictorian, and the ceremony. She said that she decided to pursue the degree after Meeting Rt. Rev. Dr. Lawrence at an Anglican visit to Rome, had given her a brochure of the institute, and she had taken up her studies upon getting back home. She praised the high standard of lecturing at the institution and expressed her desire to take her studies further.

Masters graduate Bro. Glenford Wray spoke about his journey through CTLT, beginning with the Certificate programme four years ago, after realizing the calling of God on his life. He praised the lecturers, and joked about one of the class members who often spoke up for all of them by telling the lecturer that he either "didn't understand," or "did understand but didn't agree." CTLT at Bachelors and Masters levels encourage a good deal of in-class discussion, disagreement and debate to develop students' critical thinking skills. Its faculty represent a broad spectrum of different denominational outlooks, establishing the institution as a truly international, and truly interdenominational institution.

Everyone, from senior faculty members to valedictorians, had words of thanks and gratitude to the Course Administrator, Bro. Winston Vernon, who works patiently and tirelessly to make sure that everyone is looked after, everything is as it should be, and nobody gets left behind. He was presented with a beautiful award by two members of the Graduation Committee. At the end of the ceremony, everyone had their photos taken, congratulated one another, and enjoyed light refreshments before going home.



Mrs Yolanda Whittaker is ordained into the new Ministry of Sports Chaplain during the CTLT graduation.



Masters Graduate Janet Durran is sashed by Bishop Dr Clayton Martin, with Rt. Rev. Dr. P.J. Lawrence looking on.

THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS – PREACHING THEMES 2023

3rd Quarter – July to September 2023

ROOTED AND RESILIENT: RE-IGNITED BY THE SPIRIT TO REALIGN...

As a natural response to the Synod's mandate, Rooted and Resilient: Reignited by the Spirit, the call to realign rouses us to renew our spiritual commitment. This realignment invites us to foster deeper intimacy with God, to be intentional with our personal evangelism, and practical in our nurturing of disciples. It impacts our worship, witness, and work. As people of God, we are rooted and resilient; we are (and have been) reignited by the Holy Spirit to REALIGN for the glory of God.

CIRMC 2023 SUMMER CAMPS

We invite your prayerful support for our Summer Camps. If you can, please sponsor a child or a teen to attend camp. Please contact your Minister or Youth Director for more details.

CIRMC Peace Initiative Project



The CIRMC faithfully continues to engage the Cayman Islands Crisis Centre (CICC) as its Peace Initiative Project. The Cayman Island Crisis Centre can accommodate twenty-seven persons and there are on average four adults and six children per week.

The relationship that began in October 2022 has already yielded generous contributions toward the Peace Initiative Project. In response to the Christmas and Easter Drive, through our collective efforts, we offered significant financial donations and essential supplies to assist the CICC in its mission. With our contributions, besides providing practical assistance, we also convey a message of love, empathy, and solidarity to those experiencing crisis.

The Mission Action Team of the Council is now organizing a **Back-to-School Drive** and invites the Congregations and individual members to support this worthy cause.

Items needed:

- school bags – unisex designs
- lunch bags
- water bottles
- pencil cases
- uniform vouchers (can be acquired from the Uniform Centre, located at 62 Hospital Road. They cater only to the Government Schools)
- school shoes (gift vouchers from J Michael or No. 1 Shoe Shop)
- gift vouchers (supermarkets / Cost-U-Less)
- cash donations

Deadline for delivery of items to the Council Office:
July 31, 2023

Thank you for your participation and continued support!



on Radio Cayman 89.9
every Sunday at 7:45 am

July 1, 2023
Mr Bryan Bothwell

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

GUN BAY UNITED
CHURCH

Dinner Sale

11AM-UNTIL
MONDAY
3 JULY 2023

Gun Bay United Church
Ground

MENU

Lobster
Crab
Turtle
Fish
Rabbit
Conch
Bbq Chicken
Cassava Cake
Yam Cake
Homemade Ice cream

THE REALIGNED HEART IS OBEDIENT AND FAITHFUL

Genesis 22:1-14

THE READING FROM GENESIS OFFERS THE DIFFICULT STORY OF ABRAHAM'S UNDERSTANDING GOD AS BEING IN NEED OF THE SACRIFICE OF THE MOST LOVED THING IN HIS LIFE- HIS SON ISAAC. YET IN THIS TEXT WE CAN SEE ABRAHAM'S HEART. ABRAHAM HAS BEEN DISOBEDIENT AND WENT AHEAD OF GOD'S PLAN, BUT IN THIS TEXT, WE SEE ABRAHAM RETURNING TO GOD WITH HIS HEART REALIGNED BY GOD'S SPIRIT. SUCH A HEART, REALIGNED BY THE SPIRIT IS OBEDIENT, FAITHFUL AND FEARLESS.