



# UCJCI UPDATE

**FEBRUARY 7, 2024** VOL. 11 NO. 5

THE OFFICIAL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



**NEW PRESIDENT AND TREASURER AT SAVANNAH UNITED WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP (READ ABOUT IT ON PAGE 5)**

## ON THE INSIDE

- CWM COMMUNICATORS ADVOCATE LIFE, DIGNITY AND JUSTICE
- IMPORTANT DATES FOR MISSION RESTORATION IN CEDAR VALLEY
- NEWS FROM CAYMAN
- WORSHIP AND PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES
- BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS
- UPCOMING EVENTS

## UCJCI UPDATE

UPDATE IS PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS. THE PUBLICATION PROVIDES INFORMATION ABOUT THE DENOMINATION, NEWS OF HAPPENINGS IN REGIONS, MATERIAL TO FACILITATE WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY, ACTIVITIES FOR PARTICIPATION AND PRAYER, AND SPIRITUAL PERSPECTIVES ON ISSUES OF PUBLIC CONCERN.

## FEATURE - KEY ROLE OF COMMUNICATORS

RECOGNISING THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT COMMUNICATORS PLAY IN ADVANCING THE MISSION OF CHRIST THROUGH VARIOUS MEDIA OF COMMUNICATION, COUNCIL FOR WORLD MISSION GATHERED COMMUNICATORS FROM MEMBER CHURCHES IN JANUARY. THEIR CALL TO ACTION ADVOCATES AN ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO DO MORE THAN SIMPLY PROVIDE INFORMATION TO SUIT THE APPETITE OF AUDIENCES BUT TO USE THE VARIOUS PLATFORMS TO PLACE BEFORE THE AUDIENCES MATTERS WHICH ARE BECKONING FOR ATTENTION. SUCH AN APPROACH TO COMMUNICATION DEEPENS THE WORK OF ADVANCING THE MISSION OF CHRIST AND OPENS UP OPPORTUNITIES FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND DELIBERATE ACTION. (READ ABOUT IT ON PAGES 2,3)



**COMMUNICATORS FROM COUNCIL FOR WORLD MISSION (CWM) MEMBER CHURCHES**

# CWM COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP ISSUES A CALL TO ACTION

During a Council for World Mission (CWM) communications workshop held 16–20 January 2024 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 30 communicators from member churches in Africa, East Asia, Europe, the Pacific, and South Asia, as well as ecumenical partners United Evangelical Mission and the World Association for Christian Communication, gathered to reflect on the CWM Assembly theme “Rise to Life: Together in Transformation”.

UCJCI is a member of CWM and part of CWM Caribbean.



Below is an excerpt of the content of the Statement issued at the end of the Communicators Workshop

## RISING TOGETHER

***“We need communication that harnesses digital technologies and artificial intelligence for positive change while, at the same time, enhances person-to-person relationships”.***

A world facing conflict, climate change, and increasing social and economic inequalities, as well as uneven access to digital technologies, calls us to rise together to foster communication that is both life-affirming and transformative. Implementing new and traditional communication, CWM communicators are honing their messages and telling the stories that illustrate the assembly theme in everyday life amid the many spaces in which we live and move. More than ever, we need communication that supports human dignity, advances human rights, and speaks truth to power. We need communication that harnesses digital technologies and artificial intelligence for positive change while, at the same time, enhances person-to-person relationships. Only by fostering communication that strengthens inclusion, awareness, and genuine encounter can we hope to rise together.

# ADVOCATING LIFE, DIGNITY AND JUSTICE

In today's world, fair and balanced communication for all requires accessible and affordable technologies and the skills to use them. It also demands gender justice, digital justice, and a diversity of voices – especially those from the margins of society. A holistic, inclusive approach to communication is needed—one that advocates fullness of life, dignity, and respect for all. In this way, people everywhere can be empowered to engage in transparent, informed, and open debate, with unfettered access to the information and knowledge essential to peaceful coexistence, responsible civic engagement, and mutual accountability. This is especially urgent in a world where digital technologies and artificial intelligence are being dominated by some governments and organisations for political and social control or profit. It is a world in which people are increasingly vulnerable to the manipulative effects of fake news and disinformation.



# A CALL TO ACTION

**On behalf of communicators from CWM member churches and ecumenical partners, we call for:**

1. **Greater understanding** of ethical questions surrounding digital technologies; rights-based approaches to digital technologies; and media and digital literacy.
2. **Awareness-building** regarding: —online and offline harm related to disinformation, cyberbullying, lack of data protection, digital security; —digital surveillance and surveillance capitalism; —the digital divide both between and within countries, especially the gender and age divides; —the role of the churches in promoting digital equality/justice.
3. **Encouraging and embracing cultural and language diversity** within the CWM. As far as possible, use new technologies to include other language in relevant aspects of CWM's work.
4. **Ensuring women's voices are heard and the perspectives of youth are valued** in all aspects of communication in the CWM and its member churches.
5. **Strengthen collaboration** among regional communicators to address concerns.

**The communicators crafted this statement in the hope that CWM member churches will contextualize and implement these recommendations locally, regionally, and globally.**

# NEWS FROM CAYMAN



A special presentation was made to Ms Jacynthia Anderson, President of the Cayman Council Women's Fellowship, in recognition of her outstanding leadership and service to the organization.



Mr. Christopher Murray of the Boyz to Men organization received a \$500 cheque in support of the continuing work among the young men at the John Gray High School.

## CIRMC WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL BREAKFAST

The Annual Breakfast of the Cayman Council Women's Fellowship (CCWF) took place at Morritt's Resort, East End, on January 27, 2024, between 8 and 10 am. Approximately 100 women and men attended the event. Rev. Donovan Myers spoke on the theme of 'Patience in the midst of challenges', based on the Book of Ruth.

# NEWS FROM CAYMAN CONT'D

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY ACROSS CAYMAN

### SAVANNAH UNITED CHURCH

Rev. Euthman Wray and  
Pastor Tonya Knight with  
Savannah Women's  
Fellowship Members.



Treasurer, Mrs Ernestine Powell,  
and President, Ms Winsome  
Radcliffe.

### WEBSTER MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH



New President of the Bodden Town  
Women's Fellowship, Ms Marsha  
Dixon (left) and Treasurer, Mrs  
Isabella Bodden (right) , with Rev.  
Wray.



New Women's Fellowship member, Ms Ellen Rose  
Sherman, (far left) in the company of other Fellowship  
members and Rev. Euthman Wray, Minister of the  
Savannah-Bodden Town Charge.

# MISSION RESTORATION CEDAR VALLEY

The North Eastern Regional Mission Council (NERMC) has embarked upon a journey to revive ministry with the community of Cedar Valley in St. Catherine.

**GET ON BOARD. WE NEED YOU!!**

**FEBRUARY**

**8, 15, 22**

8:00 - 9:00 pm.

## VIRTUAL PRAYER MEETINGS

Let us offer intercessory prayers via Zoom for a God-honouring-people-  
uplifting Mission Restoration!  
Meeting ID: 840 9196 3595  
Passcode: 228090



**FEBRUARY**

**24**

10:00am

## COMMUNITY WALK

Let us walk the community and have life-transforming conversations with members of the community.

*Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. (Joshua 1:3)*



**FEBRUARY**

**28 to**

**MARCH**

**9**

## CRUSADES

Let us go into the community to preach the Gospel of Christ to those who have not yet surrendered themselves to Him.

Nightly crusades. (Details to follow)



**MARCH**

**10**

## OFFICIAL RE-OPENING OF CEDAR VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

*'We will heed your great commission sending us to every place-  
'Go, baptize, fulfil my mission;  
serve with love and share my grace!'*



# Remembering

## REV. HERBERT REDWAY SNR.

PLEASE BE ADVISED OF  
THE FOLLOWING  
ARRANGEMENTS FOR  
THE CELEBRATION OF  
THE LIFE AND WITNESS  
OF REV. HERBERT  
REDWAY SNR.



### VIRTUAL MEMORIAL (ZOOM)

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Monday February 12, 2024

6 to 8 p.m.

Meeting ID: 813 8206 0566

Passcode: 411300

### THANKSGIVING SERVICE

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Monday February 19, 2024

11 a.m.

St. Paul's United Church,

5 King Street, Montego Bay.

## Virtual Memorial Page

PLEASE SHARE YOUR  
MEMORIES OF REV.  
REDWAY:

UCJCI's Memorial Page:

<https://letusremember.ucjci/memorial.php.com>



# JOIN ONLINE BIBLE STUDIES

IN UNITED CHURCH CONGREGATIONS

## St. Paul's Lockett Avenue and North Street United

**WEDNESDAYS** - 6:00 P.M.

Meeting ID: 850 369 0667

Passcode: 3eEM4L

## TOPIC

**DEFENDING  
THE FAITH**

## Meadowbrook United

**WEDNESDAYS** VIA ZOOM - 6:00 P.M.

Meeting ID: 862 8088 4128

Passcode: 026309

**THE  
BEATITUDES**

## Ridgemount United

**WEDNESDAYS** VIA ZOOM - 5:30 P.M.

Meeting ID: 894 9305 3068

Passcode: RIDGEMOUNT

**THE BOOK OF  
GALATIANS**

**Can we work together to bring the Word to  
those who are thirsting for it?**

**Let's reach beyond our communities by sharing access  
information to our online bible studies.**

**Ministers and Lay Pastors, if you want to participate,  
please send Topic, Date of Studies and access  
information to [ucjci.karen.francis@gmail.com](mailto:ucjci.karen.francis@gmail.com)**





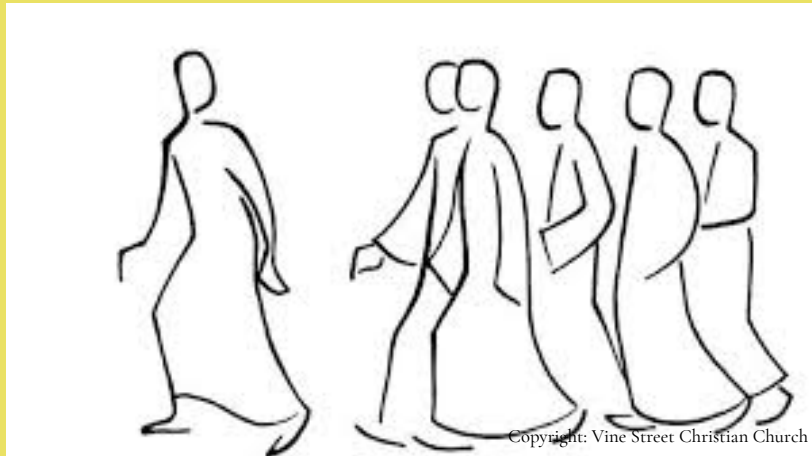
# LET US WORSHIP TOGETHER IN FEBRUARY

**PRAYER THEMES FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH TO USE IN  
OUR HOMES AND FOR GATHERING IN OUR  
CONGREGATIONS**

**FOCUS FOR THE MONTH:  
NURTURE: CARE FOR AND  
PROTECT SOMEONE OR  
SOMETHING WHILE THEY  
ARE GROWING**

The story of Elijah and Elisha teaches us that we need to mentor (nurture) others in the Faith. This is a time for 'rolling away' (Gilgal) the idolatrous behaviors in our nations, to call forth a new generation of worshippers and God Chasers.

In a time when the nation (kingdom) of Israel had almost totally succumbed to idolatry, Elisha sought God with his whole heart. Elisha was an unashamed God-Chaser. When God sent Elijah to call Elisha, Elisha allowed nothing to hinder him from seeking after God. His relentless pursuit made it easier for him to be discipled by Elijah. Who are the God seekers in your context that need to be nurtured/discipled? Where is God's salvation needed in this time? There is always a need for people who will claim Jehovah as God.



Copyright: Vine Street Christian Church

**AT GILGAL,  
DISCIPLE AND  
EMULATE**

**6TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**SCRIPTURE  
PASSAGES**

Psalm 50:1-6

Mark 9:2-9

**SUGGESTED HYMNS**

Jehovah, You I Trust

Guide Me Now

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

The Kingdom of God is Justice  
and Joy

# Let us Pray Together

## WE PRAY FOR

- Mrs. Janet McConnell who lost her aunt, Ena-Mae Bascombe.
- Mrs. Debesha Grant Roberts, UCJCI ministerial student at UTCWI, who lost her grandfather - Headley Sutherland.
- Mrs. Carlene Andrade, Programme Assistant SRMC who lost her dad - Duncan Powell.
- Joel Kong, young son of Rev. Rohan and Stephanie Kong. The family remains in need of supportive prayer.
- Rev. Clement Reid who lost his uncle, Telford Norman, and his brother-in-law, Norbert McPherson.
- The family of late Rev. Herbert Redway Snr. who died recently.
- Rev. Obren Thomas and other members of the family of the late Rev. Ellen Thomas who died recently.
- Pastor Peter Neil who recently lost his grandmother.
- Ministers of the United Church who are experiencing illness
  - Rev. Dr. Richmond Nelson
  - Rev. Karleen Thomas Barnes

**Please pray for all those God has placed on your heart and those brought to your attention in some way.**

**These sisters and brothers are in need of continued prayer.**



**The Lord is near  
to the  
brokenhearted  
and saves the  
crushed in spirit.**

*Psalm 34: 18*

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# BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



**FEBRUARY  
REV. ANNA-KAY HENRY  
MCGREGOR**

11

*Best wishes  
on your  
birthday!*



**REV. GERALD EMANUEL**

**FEBRUARY  
REV. SANDRA COLLINS**

12





World Communion  
of Reformed Churches



## JOB OPPORTUNITY

The World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) is accepting applications for its internship programme, particularly from individuals interested in communications and administration.

**Applications are due by 15  
March 2024.**

# APPLICATIONS FOR EXTENDED INTERNSHIPS INVITED

- **COMMUNICATIONS**
- **ADMINISTRATION**


The two positions available in 2024—one beginning in July and the other in September—will be for 16 months, with both interns serving through the next General Council, to be held in Chiang-Mai, Thailand, in October 2025.

The programme is open to English-speaking individuals of WCRC members who are aged 30 or younger, including ministers, seminarians, or Christian professionals with an interest in working for their churches or the ecumenical movement at any level. Women and individuals from the Global South are particularly encouraged to apply.



THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA  
AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

# HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW ZOOM?



THE UCJCI LAY  
TRAINING INSTITUTE IS  
IN NEED OF TECHNICAL  
SUPPORT FOR LIVE  
CLASSES IN MODULE 2  
OF THE LAY LEADERS  
TRAINING

ARE YOU  
INTERESTED IN  
EARNING?

---

ARE YOU  
INTERESTED IN  
LEARNING ABOUT  
YOUR CHURCH AND  
MINISTRY?

---

ARE YOU  
AVAILABLE?

LIVE CLASSES WILL BE  
HELD 1ST AND 3RD  
SATURDAYS  
9 AM - 12 NOON

Please contact:

Mrs. Sheryl Knibb Chung  
Lay Training Administrator  
via email

[ucjci.sheryl.chung@gmail.com](mailto:ucjci.sheryl.chung@gmail.com)

or WhatsApp

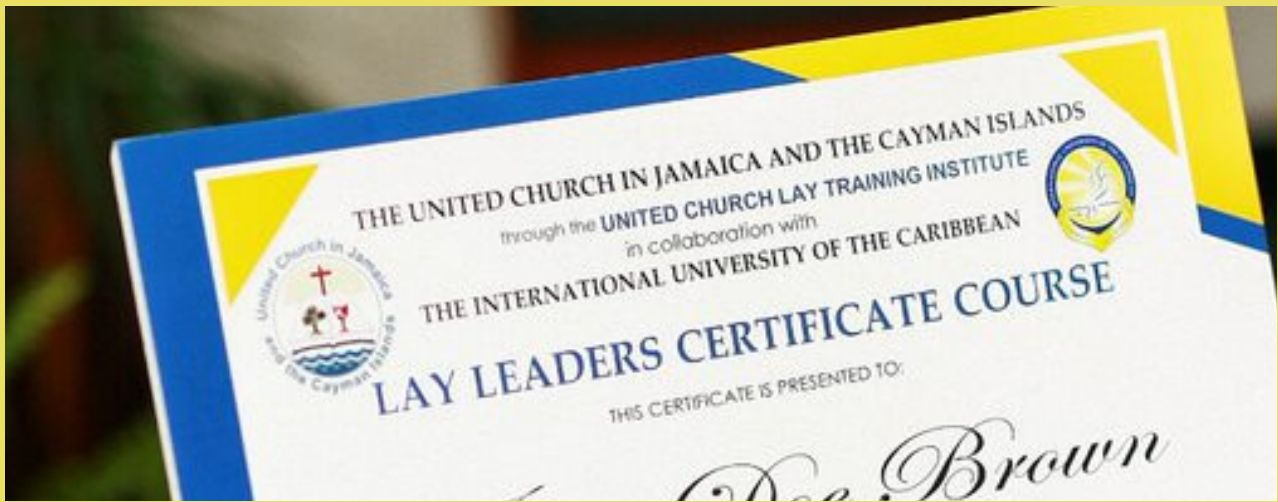
876 8818783

# EVENTS PAGES



## SUPPORT WITH PRAYER AND PRESENCE

The following pages carry notification of events. Please send your posters and flyers in pdf, j-peg or png format to [citc@gmail.com](mailto:citc@gmail.com) for promotion in UCJCI Update.



## MODULE 2 - FEBRUARY 17

# TOPIC: SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT



ANY  
MEMBER OF  
UCJCI MAY  
JOIN IN THE  
TRAINING  
FOR EACH  
SESSION OF  
MODULE 2  
AT A COST  
OF \$1000  
PER TOPIC

**RESOURCE PERSON:**  
**REV. BRYAN STONE**

Training via Zoom  
9 am - 12:00noon

Register and make your  
payment through your  
regional office. You will  
then be provided with  
the Zoom link.

*Come and learn about your  
church and the Christian faith*

United Church Young People's Fellowship

CIRMIC

SRMIC



NERMIC

WRMIC

# SYNODICAL SPORTS DAY



*"Resilient Youths Reignite with Purpose"*

Noranda Sports Complex

Saturday February 10, 2024 at 8:00am

General: \$300 // Children under 12: \$150

RMIC

RMIC

RMIC

RMIC





**NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL  
MISSION COUNCIL**

# DAY OF FELLOWSHIP

**"REIGNITED BY THE SPIRIT:  
RETURN FOR REVIVAL"**

**14** | February 2024  
**ASH WEDNESDAY**

 **MEADOWBROOK UNITED CHURCH,  
2 FLEMINGTON DRIVE, KINGSTON**

**PREACHER:  
REV. KHEREEN WILSON BAILEY**



**MORNING WORSHIP:  
9:00 AM**



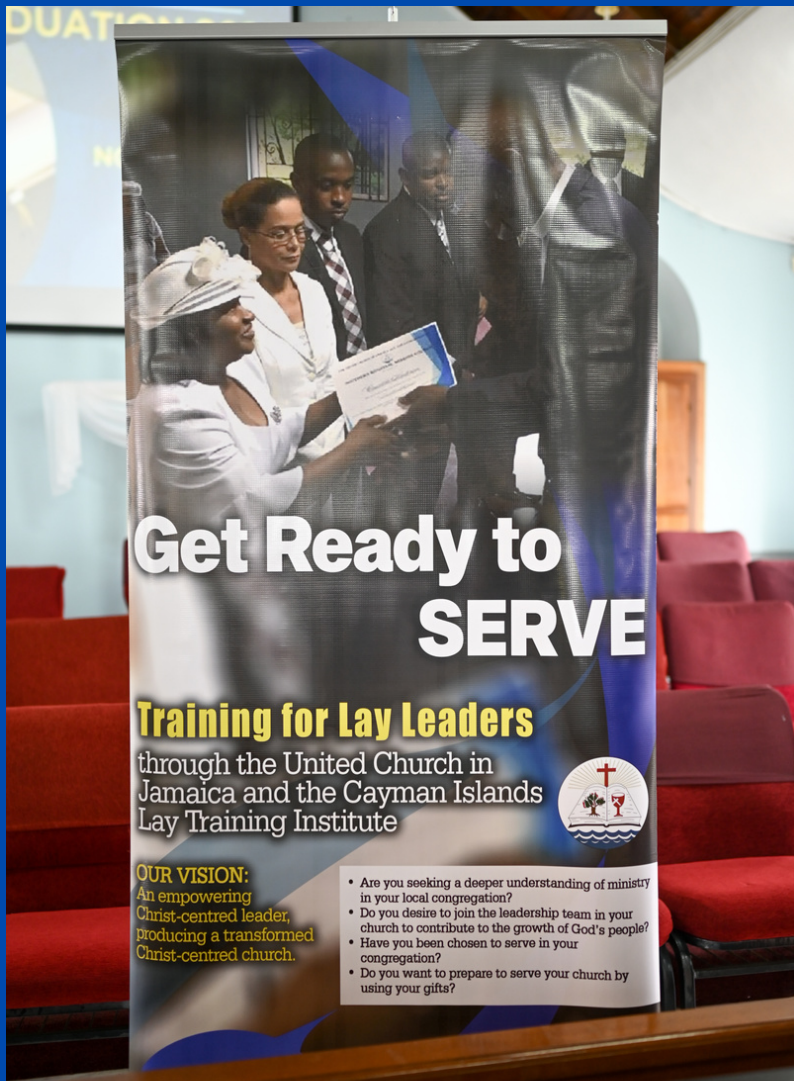
LIVE STREAM AVAILABLE ON  
MEADOWBROOK UNITED  
CHURCH'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL

**AFTERNOON SESSION-  
INGATHERING & YOUTH  
EXPLOSION CONCERT:  
1:00 PM**

COMING SOON!

# MODULE 1

# MARCH TO SEPTEMBER



**Get Ready to  
SERVE**

**Training for Lay Leaders**  
through the United Church in  
Jamaica and the Cayman Islands  
Lay Training Institute

**OUR VISION:**  
An empowering  
Christ-centred leader,  
producing a transformed  
Christ-centred church.

- Are you seeking a deeper understanding of ministry in your local congregation?
- Do you desire to join the leadership team in your church to contribute to the growth of God's people?
- Have you been chosen to serve in your congregation?
- Do you want to prepare to serve your church by using your gifts?

The UCJCI Lay Training Institute will offer another round of Module 1 training in March 2024. This first level of training in the UCJCI Lay Leaders Certificate Course provides base training for persons willing to serve in the United Church and is a requirement for those who will serve as elders.

*More information available  
soon!*

CONTACT:  
MRS. KAREN FRANCIS  
COORDINATOR  
TRAINING OF LAY LEADERS  
EMAIL: UCJCI.KAREN.FRANCIS@GMAIL.COM  
MOBILE 876 4327057



**SYNODICAL THEME:**  
**Rooted, Resilient: Re-ignited by the Spirit**  
(Return, Reconnect, Realign, Re-ignite)

**OUR VISION**

*Touching Lives, Nurturing Disciples, Seeking Transformation  
through Christ*

**The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands**  
(Congregational, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian)

12 Carlton Crescent, Kingston 10 Jamaica, W. I.  
Tel: 876 9268734; ♦ E-mail: [synod@ucjci.com](mailto:synod@ucjci.com) ♦ Website: [www.ucjci.com](http://www.ucjci.com)

**MODERATOR**

**Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott**

**GENERAL SECRETARY**

**Rev. Norbert Stephens**

**REGIONAL DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARIES**

Cayman Regional Mission Council  
**Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble Bloomfield**

North Eastern Regional Mission Council  
**Mrs. Rose Wedderburn**

Southern Regional Mission Council  
**Mrs. Janet McConnell**

Western Regional Mission Council  
**Mrs. Mauleen Henry**