




CAYMAN ISLANDS
REGIONAL MISSION
COUNCIL

**WEEKLY
UPDATE!**

February 15, 2018

ASH WEDNESDAY THEME: SACRIFICES OF LOVE...MAKING DISCIPLES OF PEACE

IN THIS ISSUE

Ash Wednesday Gathering 2018

‘Sacrifices of Love...making Disciples of Peace’, was the theme that lived at the Ash Wednesday Gathering of the Cayman Islands Regional Mission, held at the Savannah United Church. From as early as 7:20 a.m., persons started assembling for the time of **personal reflection and prayer**. By 8:00 a.m. when the Worship Service started there were over seventy (70) persons present. The number of persons in attendance rose to ninety-five (95) by the end of the morning. The Liturgist, Rev. Euthman Wray, called the Congregation to Worship, Repentance, Confession and to Peace Making. ‘Life, Death and Frailty’ - a special reading was done by Rev. Alice Blair and Lay Pastor John Macmillan read from Philippians 3:7-14. The Rev. Rohan Forrester in a very challenging sermon reminded the Congregation that the ‘**Character of the Christian is Peace-making**’ and that one must be reconciled to others as one is reconciled to God. He further encouraged the Congregation by stating that although Peace-making comes at a personal cost, that it is a **sign of Spiritual Maturity**. The Moderator presided at the Sacrament of Holy Communion which was served to the Congregation by the Ministers in Council. Musicians for the Worship Service were Mr. Noel Wallace and Mrs. Katherine Jackson.

The RDGS, Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble Bloomfield launched the theme for Convocation 2018 by inviting the Congregation to view the video prepared by the Communications Unit of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands (UCJCI). She also introduced the **Peace Promotion Initiative** document “**A Declaration and Promotion of a State of Peace for Jamaica and the Cayman Islands**”. This document outlines the three phases of the Peace Initiative of the UCJCI that will be engaged by Congregations from February 17, 2018 to June 24, 2018. Each Congregation not only received a copy of the document but also received Invitation Cards which are unique for each Congregation. These are to be used in the Congregations’ interaction with the communities in which they are located as they invite persons to become peacemakers and to seek and ensure peace is established in the homes, communities, nations and the world.

The morning closed with a Panel Discussion which was ably moderated by Rev. Donovan Myers. Panelists- Ms. Angela Martins (Chair of Council), Dr. Elizabeth McLaughlin- Council Executive Member- at - Large and the Rt. Rev. L. Christopher Mason shared their perspectives on the ‘**Sacrifices of Love...making us Disciples of Peace**’. Through the lens of the socio-cultural reading of the **Cayman Islands**, the Health Care Profession and the theological, Biblical and Pastoral Care perspectives the Panelists profoundly enlightened the Congregation. Several members participated in the lively discussions which ensued.

The Youth Gathering, led by Ms. Renita Barnes, Rev. Euthman Wray and Rev. Alice Blair invited the children to examine the story of Jonah and the sacrifices made.



CIRMC ASH WEDNESDAY GATHERING

The number of persons in attendance rose to ninety-five (95) by the end of the morning. The Liturgist, Rev. Euthman Wray, called the Congregation to Worship, Repentance, Confession and to Peace Making.



GOT PEACE? - ASH WEDNESDAY YOUTH GATHERING

“Jonah’s story teaches us about consequences for situations we put ourselves in.”- Tatianna (East End/Gun Bay Charge)



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT #1 - THE CALL TO SERVE

The group was challenged with the question: **Does your spirituality inform your ethical values?**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 16 - 17**
Girls' Brigade Overnight Camp - Prospect Youth Centre
- February 17**
Webster Memorial Women's Fellowship Tea Time
- February 19 - 21**
Synodical Standing Committee Meetings - Synod Administrative Centre, Jamaica
- February 22 - 23**
Moderator's Ministers Retreat
- February 24**
Leaders' Retreat - East End/Gun Bay Charge
- February 25**
Family Fellowship Sunday - Robert Young/Savannah Charge
- February 27**
Lay Pastors' Capacity Building - Council Office 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Click [here](#) to view the full CIRMC Calendar

Look Ya Nah!



Have you checked out Bethesda's Facebook page?

Click here to see more.

<https://www.facebook.com/BethesdaCounsellingky/>

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THEME: Knowing The Word

- February 18** - Lay Pastor, Herbert Crawford (Theme: The Importance of Lent - Power of the Word)
- February 25** - Lay Pastor, Ormond Williams (Theme: Differing Ways of Hearing God's Voice)

Ash Wednesday YOUTH Gathering

The Ash Wednesday Youth Gathering focused on the story of Jonah and how the story highlights the themes of sacrifice, love, and peace. A devotion on trust and peace was led by Mr. Dean-Paul Wallace and was followed by an interactive and dramatic re-telling of the Jonah story with Rev. Alice Blair. The youth were engaged with different objects to help them visualize the story as they discussed it. Youth were encouraged to reflect on Jonah's choices and if they would have made similar decisions, would they be reluctant to help their enemies or people they did not like. Are they peace-makers or peace-disturbers like Jonah, who made life difficult for the sailors and even the huge fish! Towards the end of the session 'peace bracelets' were shared, on each bracelet was the question "Got Peace?" Youth were encouraged to 'pass the peace' daily as Jonah did when he shared God's message with Nineveh. They learned that through sharing peace with others, people are able to accept and experience God's love.



“Jonah’s story teaches us about consequences for situations we put ourselves in.”

Tatianna Quinland
(East End/Gun Bay Charge)

Leadership Development #1 – THE CALL TO SERVE



Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble Bloomfield

Article by: Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble Bloomfield | February 13, 2018

On Saturday February 10, 2018 sixteen (16) persons from five (5) Congregations started the Leadership Development Training programme for 2018. Unit 1 dealt with the 'Call to Serve' and the presenters were Ms. Angela Martins, Chair of Council, Rev. Alice Blair, Vice Chair - Mission, Evangelism and Public Witness and Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble Bloomfield, Regional Deputy General Secretary (RDGS). The participants were led in an interactive devotion by the Chair on the Call to Serve during which much insight was garnered on the process of discerning the call to serve. They were given time for personal reflection and prayer. 'I don't normally have twenty minutes undisturbed for reflection

and I really appreciated this time', was how one participant responded after the personal time for reflection. Participants shared their personal spiritual journey which has brought them to this level of commitment. Rev. Blair led a very dynamic session on 'Disciples in Prayer' She reiterated that prayer is an important inner discipline for those seeking to serve Christ and the Church. She shared on the Four Foundations of Prayer i.e. Faith in the Word, Believe the Word, Expect Reward and the Prophesying of the Word. Participants were also exposed to the Scriptural Approach to the Different Types of Prayers and given several passages of Scripture that can be used as prayers. Rev. Blair also shared many of the Hymns, such as 'Take My Life and Let it be Consecrated Lord to Thee' that can be used as prayers. Most Participants found this session to be very helpful in their daily lives.

The RDGS' presentation was on 'The Spirituality of the Leader/Elder'. The following questions were posed in the presentation: What are the marks of a truly spiritual person? How does one grow in their devotion to Christ? What are the marks of a godly leader? The RDGS shared the Classic Disciplines of Abstinence including solitude, silence and fasting. She however underscored that for Reformed Christians spirituality is based on the understanding and the living out of the Five Solas- *Sola Fide*, by faith alone, *Sola Scriptura*, by Scripture alone, *Solus Christus*, through Christ alone, *Sola Gratia*, by grace alone and *Soli Deo Gloria*, glory to God alone. The group was challenged with the question:

Does your spirituality inform your ethical values? In their evaluation, the Participants indicated an eagerness to continue and that they are anxious to learn more about God, the Word, their faith, the Christ and the Church. The Course continues on 17th February, 2018 with Bishop Dr. P.J. Lawrence and Mr. Mike Bowerman sharing on the Word in Life and Worship.



“I don't normally have twenty minutes undisturbed for reflection and I really appreciate this time.”

SAVE THE DATE!

COUNCIL EVENTS

THIS SATURDAY!

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TRAINING #2

Word in Life/Worship
February 17, 2018 from
9:00am - 12:00pm

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TRAINING #3

UCJCI History
March 3, 2018 from
9:00am - 12:00pm

SPORTS DAY 2018

March 10, 2018
Truman Bodden Sports Complex

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MEETING

March 19, 2018
Council Office at 5:30pm

Annual Family SPORTS DAY

TRUMAN BODDEN SPORTS COMPLEX

TEENAGERS/ADULTS	CHILDREN
TUG A WAR	OBSTACLE RACES
SPRINT RACES	LIME & SPOON
RELAY RACES	SACK RACES

MARCH 10, 2018 • 3:30PM

Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council - UCJCI
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
WORKSHOPS 2018



WORKSHOPS ARE FOR ELDERS, YOUTH DIRECTORS AND THOSE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE UNITED CHURCH

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| 1 THE CALL TO SERVE
February 10, 2018 (9:00am - 12:00pm) | 2 THE WORD IN LIFE/WORSHIP
February 17, 2018 (9:00am - 12:00pm) |
| 3 UCJCI HISTORY/ETHOS
March 3, 2018 (9:00am - 12:00pm) | 4 THE ELDER - ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES
March 24, 2018 (9:00am - 12:00pm) |
| 5 THE SACRAMENTS
April 14, 2018 (9:00am - 12:00pm) | 6 WORSHIP
May 12, 2018 (9:00am - 12:00pm) |
| 7 MISSION/EVANGELISM SYMPOSIUM
June 2, 2018 (9:00am - 12:00pm) | 8 STEWARDSHIP/DISCIPLESHP
June 9, 2018 (9:00am - 12:00pm) |

June 10, 2018

Leadership Development Training & Service of Dedication
at Elmslie Memorial, 5:30pm

LD Workshops 1-8 Will be held at the Council Office

SAVE THE DATE!

Cayman Convocation

2018

APRIL 22, 2018

9:30AM

