



CAYMAN ISLANDS
REGIONAL MISSION
COUNCIL

WEEKLY
UPDATE!

January 18, 2017

TRAINING IN MISSION (TIM) 2017 PARTICIPANTS

IN THIS ISSUE

Mission Through New Lens

The Training in Mission Programme (TIM) transformed me. For seven months I lived with nine (9) other persons from Samoa, South Korea, Myanmar, Zambia, Kiribati, Rwanda/UK, South Africa, Taiwan, and Guyana. One of the biggest challenges was being from a small country that most people I met did not believe existed. I hope after meeting and living with me, they will never forget where Cayman is and will even be able to locate it on any map. Throughout the seven-month journey I learned so many new things about myself and more importantly I realized how much I don't know about my country and the Caribbean region, in regard to some of the content we learned. Who were the indigenous people of Cayman? Is the Caribbean beginning to suffer from climate change? Is the economic situation in Cayman ethical? Is patriarchy seen as "normal" in the Caribbean rather than as oppressive to women?

A common thing we learned amongst the group of us, is that no matter what country we came from we all suffer from similar issues, personally, contextually, and within our churches. The programme challenged me to become more aware of what is going on globally and within my own context, the Caribbean region. I feel as though I have changed a lot because I am more comfortable or more confident in challenging and addressing issues rather than ignoring them; like what is done in Cayman very often. Being away from home I realize how many issues we ignore or overlook especially with youth.

The TIM programme pushed me to this realization and helped me to see mission in a completely new way. I began to see mission as a way of transformation rather than an imposing of religion and culture like what was done during the colonial period. The programme gave us a safe and non judgmental space to question and challenge the Bible, Christianity, and even the missionary movement. To question why for example, the European culture, lifestyle, and language was enforced when they brought Christianity to different parts of the world. Why did they impose language and culture on others? At this point, I wondered what kind of "Mission trip" questions mission and missionaries.



MISSION THROUGH NEW LENS

The most important thing we learned from the start to the end of the programme, is that mission is everywhere...even at home.



Date: January 20, 2018
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm
Venue: Council Office, Prospect

YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

Let's work together to improve our Council's ministry to Youth!
See you this Saturday!



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
BREAKFAST

February 3rd at 8:00am at the
Morritt's Resort in East End

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 14 - 19

Keswick Meetings - First Baptist (evenings)/Family Life Centre (lunch hour)

January 20

YLNE Annual General Meeting & Youth Symposium - Council Office at 9:00am

January 22

National Heroes Day (Public Holiday) - Council Office closed

January 27

Council Meeting - William Pouchie Memorial United Church at 9:00am

January 27

Girls' Brigade Service Project - Prospect Youth Centre

January 28

Women's Fellowship Sunday/Start of Women's Fellowship Week

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

Mission Through New Lens contd.

Yet, the programme dismantled the stereotypes of mission and brought a fresh perspective that did not even involve religion or Christianity at all. The basis of mission is to be "human" and treat other people as human beings rather than as disposable or as sinners in need of saving.

Traveling to New Zealand, Fiji, Kiribati, and Taiwan with the participants opened my eyes to the many things we take for granted in Cayman such as fresh air, low levels of poverty, clean water, and a very comfortable lifestyle. However, it also made me realize (as a country) are we aware of the growing issues we overlook: the growing rates in divorce, the increase in youth crime and drug use, growing number in domestic violence cases, and the increase in the standard of living. For many who read this, they live comfortable lives (like myself), yet, as affluent as Cayman may seem there are many people here struggling.



It is time to stop overlooking them and help, as a church, a community, as a human being.

The most important thing we learned from the start to the end of the programme, is that mission is everywhere...even at home. It is simple, if some is in need help them not because you are a Christian or because it is what Jesus would do...help them because it is the "humane" thing to do.

Read more about Renita's TIM Journey: <https://beyondtheshores.wordpress.com/>

Look Ya Nah!



Did you know that Bethesda provides counselling services for businesses/companies?

Click www.caymanetherapy.com to learn more.

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THEME: Knowing The Word

January 21 Rev. Rohan Forrester
"The Foundational Word"

January 28 Women's Fellowship
Leadership

The Lived Out Word: *By Love Serve*

What's Happening in CIRMC?

YOUTH SYMPOSIUM / YLNE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
January 20, 2018 from 10:00am - 2:00pm

The theme for the General Meeting and Symposium is: "Re-energizing Youth Ministry", which will involve a panel discussion/forum for attendees to inquire and share with those present. The discussion will give people the opportunity to express the challenges and successes of their congregation in regard to youth ministry. It is the hope that as a Council the symposium will be the beginning of finding strategies or ways to improve/re-shape Youth Ministry throughout our congregations.

Meeting Topics/Discussion Points: Discipleship & Youth, Understanding the functions/role of YLNE, Evaluating Youth Mistry in the Council, Looking at new approaches/strategies for Youth Ministry, Contextualizing Youth Ministry

YOUTH LEADERS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THEME: RE-ENERGIZING YOUTH MINISTRY

LET'S JOIN HANDS



Date: January 20, 2018
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm
Venue: Council Office, Prospect

Ministers and at least two representatives from each congregation are encouraged to attend.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The Cayman Council Women's Fellowship will be having a "Fellowship Breakfast" on February 3rd at 8:00am at the Morritt's Resort in East End. The Rt. Rev. L Christopher Mason (Moderator of the Synod, UCJCI) will share as the guest speaker, and will speak in regard to the theme: "Live in the Word". The Fellowship Breakfast will cost \$25.
All are invited to attend!

CATCH UP ON WHAT YOU MISSED! PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE CIRMC WEBSITE!

[CLICK HERE TO SEE MORE](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

COUNCIL EVENTS

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TRAINING #1

The Call to Serve
February 10, 2018 from
9:00am - 12:00pm

ASH WEDNESDAY GATHERING

February 14, 2018 at 7:30am
Savannah United Church

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TRAINING #2

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

YLNE AGM & Youth Symposium

YOUTH LEADERS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THEME: RE-ENERGIZING YOUTH MINISTRY

LET'S JOIN HANDS



Date: January 20, 2018
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm
Venue: Council Office, Prospect

Fellowship Breakfast



February 3, 2018
at 8 AM
Morritt's Resort
Queen's Highway, East End

Theme: Live in the Word
Guest Speaker

Re. Rev. S. Christopher Mason
Moderator of the Synod of the United Church in
Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

Cost : \$25.00
All are invited



Cayman Council Women's Fellowship

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands
Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council



Ash Wednesday Gathering

February 14, 2018

Theme: **The Sacrifice of LOVE**
Making Disciples of Peace



Quiet Meditation: 7:30am | Worship Service: 8:00am

Youth Gathering: 10:00am

Location: Savannah United Church