



“WORLD PEACE is what we now need. Forget the **STRIFE!** Let go of **GREED.** Give up your **ANGER,** and abandon **HATE! REPLACE** that **PAIN,** with **LOVE** and **FAITH.**

-Pauline DiBenedetto



**CAYMAN ISLANDS
REGIONAL MISSION
COUNCIL**

**WEEKLY
UPDATE!**

March 1, 2018

UCJCI HAS LAUNCHED A PEACE PROMOTION INITIATIVE

A Declaration and Promotion of a State of Peace for Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

A Declaration and Promotion of a State of Peace for Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands has launched a Peace Promotion Initiative and it is constituted in the theme of our upcoming Convocation, “Discipleship for Life: Disciples of Peace”. We have declared a State of Peace in our countries, and will undertake symbolic activities that directly or indirectly engender peace in different aspects of our lives and broader community.

PEACE for us means- Pursing Effective Associations through Christ-centred Effort

It commenced on February 14, 2018 - Ash Wednesday - at the Gathering held at the Savannah United Church and at the Day of Fellowship events in Jamaica. The State of Peace will promote the celebration of peace that already exists in our various communities and nations. More importantly, it will also enjoin and encourage the whole church to become disciples of peace - **Peacemakers** - cooperating with God to create a world of peace, justice, and righteousness. Ultimately, the State of Peace will reach out to citizens of our two (2) nations to become activists for peace.

The Peace Promotion Initiative is being undertaken in three phases:

1. PRE-CONVOCATION INITIATIVE - February 14, 2018 to April 8, 2018
2. CONVOCATION - April 15, 2018 (Jamaica)/April 22, 2018 (Cayman)
3. POST-CONVOCATION INITIATIVE - April 22, 2018 to June 24, 2018



1. Sunday, February 18, 2018: **PEACE IN OUR HOMES** Invite to the peace table families in our congregations that are challenged because of conflict, and/or violence. The congregants will stand and join hands, as the Minister/Lay Pastor leads in prayer for them.

2. Sunday, February 25, 2018: **PEACE IN OUR COMMUNITIES** Invite representatives of neighbouring communities to join us for worship. (They may already be represented in the congregation.) We invite them to the peace table; they join hands while the congregants stand and pray, led by the Minister/Lay Pastor, for peace or sustained peace in their communities.

3. Sunday, March 4, 2018: **PEACE IN OUR SCHOOLS** Students wear their uniform to church, and are prayed for, along with teachers and principals from the congregation, by the Minister/Lay Pastor and Church. We invite youth groups within the congregations to offer a dramatic presentation that promotes peace in schools.

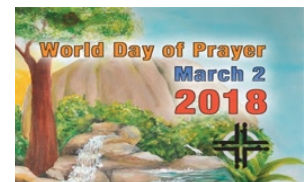
4. Sunday, March 11, 2018: **PEACE IN THE CONGREGATION** The preacher ministers around the issue of **PEACE IN THE LOCAL CONGREGATION**; and the sermon is linked to the proposed Synodical Sub focus for the week: “How to Use the Word in Decision-making”. What does the Word of God say about how our decisions impact the peace between Believers in Christ? Invite to the peace table for prayer members of the congregation who are challenged by situations of conflict within the congregation. The Minister/Lay Pastor prays for them.

IN THIS ISSUE



DECLARATION OF PEACE

Therein, we will declare a State of Peace in our countries, and undertake symbolic activities that directly or indirectly engender peace in different aspects of our lives and broader community.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2018

World Day of Prayer will be celebrated in more than 170 countries on Friday, March 2. The women of Suriname, invites us to explore universal issues of climate change...



SPORTS DAY 2018

March 10, 2018 at 3:00pm sharp. Join our United Church congregations at the Truman Bodden Sports Complex for our Council’s Sports Day!

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2
World Day of Prayer

March 3
Leadership Development Training #3 (UCJCI History/Ethos) - Council Office from 9:00am - 12:00pm

March 3
Girls' Brigade Tea Party - The Whitakers (North Side)

March 8
International Women's Day

March 9 - 11
Mission Weekend - Elmslie Memorial United Church

March 10
Men's Fellowship Breakfast - Elmslie Memorial United Church at 7:30am

March 10
Council Sports & Fellowship Day - Truman Bodden Sports Complex at 3:00pm

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

Look Ya Nah!



A Moment with Bethesda:

Therapy Question for Today: How do I deal with stress?

Answer: Realize what you cannot control, and those things you can manage with stress reduction techniques such as deep breathing. Then make a decision if needed.

Follow us on Facebook for more tips:

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

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THEME: Living Out The WORD

March 4 - Ms. April Lewis (Theme: How to use the WORD in relationships)

March 11 - Mr. Bryan Bothwell (Theme: How to use the WORD in decision making)

Declaration of Peace contd.

5. Sunday, March 18, 2018: **PEACE ACROSS DENOMINATIONS** Invite members of five (5) denominations to our worship service. They are invited to the peace table, along with a member of The United Church; they all join hands, as the Minister/Lay Pastor prays for unity among believers across denominations. The congregation stands and joins hands in solidarity.

6. Sunday, March 25, 2018: **PEACE IN OUR DISTRICTS** Invite to the peace table for prayer, persons who work in the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service (RCIPS) and Judiciary, as well as Justices of the Peace, Mediators, and Political Representatives from the constituency within which the church is located, The Minister/Lay Pastor and congregation join hands and pray for them and their work in the districts.

7. Sunday, April 1, 2018 (Easter Sunday): **PEACE IN OUR NATION** Use as Worship Petition/Motif: "Open for me The Gates of Resurrection; I will enter and give thanks for life." (Texts: Deuteronomy 30:11-20; John 10:1-10; Psalm 30.) Invite the congregation to declare: "Let there be peace in Jamaica/the Cayman Islands and let it begin with me". Close the worship service with the singing of the National Song (Cayman).

8. Sunday, April 8, 2018 (Second Sunday of Easter): **PEACE IN THE WORLD** Use as Worship Petition/Motif: "Open for me The Gates of Rejuvenation; I will enter and give thanks for creativity and use it to change the world." (Texts: Psalm 103; Isaiah 40:25-31; 2 Timothy 2:20-26.) Have a child read a poem of "PEACE" as the benediction. The poem will be printed in the Order of Service.

World Peace by Pauline DiBenedetto

"WORLD PEACE is what we now need. Forget the STRIFE! Let go of GREED. Give up your ANGER, and abandon HATE! REPLACE that PAIN, with LOVE and FAITH. To have WORLD PEACE, we must take a STAND; God placed the POWER in "ALL" of our HANDS. We can't just HOPE WORLD PEACE will COME. We need to ACT, for the TIME has COME. It's up to "ME" and it's up to "YOU!" Let us WITNESS what the POWER of LOVE CAN DO!"

All God's Creation is Very Good!

World Day of Prayer 2018 | March 2, 2018



The World Day of Prayer 2018 host country will be Suriname. The Theme for this year is "All God's Creation is Very Good!" The World Day of Prayer (WDP) programme was written by the WDP Committee of Suriname. "A heri grontapu di Gado meki bun doro, dóro!"

World Day of Prayer will be celebrated in more than 170 countries on Friday, March 2. Join in the prayer service, written by the women of Suriname, which invites us to explore universal issues of climate change, natural disasters and pollution both in the Suriname context and around the world, and our response in light of God's generosity. As in the beginning, God created from chaos. But everything that was created found its place in creation. All were related to each other - the earth with the light, the waters with the sky, the tree seeds with the living creatures, and the humankind with God. None could exist without the other, and the source of all was God. There was goodness in that integrated system of relationships. But essential to that was the commitment to care. And we know that we are failing!

Women from Suriname lift up their voices to remind us that we are caretakers of God's creation! They are bringing to our attention the urgent need for caring at a time when more than 180 countries have signed the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. A commitment to keep the earth cooler depends on public policies implemented by governments, but also on our personal lifestyle. How good is God's creation? That is the question to meditate and respond to with a personal commitment to care for creation. World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. Services begin at sunrise in the Pacific and follow the sun across the globe on the day of celebration. Each year a different country's committee serves as the writers of the World Day of Prayer worship service. Each year, we are called to action in response to the concerns raised by the writers' country.

SAVE THE DATE!

COUNCIL EVENTS

THIS SATURDAY!

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TRAINING #3

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

NEXT SATURDAY!

SPORTS DAY 2018

March 10, 2018
STARTING AT 3:00PM
 Truman Bodden Sports Complex

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MEETING

March 19, 2018
 Council Office at 5:30pm

CAYMAN CONVOCATION

April 22, 2018
 Starting at 9:30am



MISSIONS WEEKEND

MARCH 9 - 11, 2018

*Elmslie Memorial & South Sound United Churches
 Annual Joint-Charge Weekend will see the return of:*



Friday, 8:00pm - Joint-Youth Groups of SSU & EMU at Elmslie

Saturday, 7:30am - Caribbean-style Breakfast
for everyone
 in the Elmslie Church Hall

Sunday, 9:00am - Worship Service at SSU

Sunday, 10:30am - Worship Service at EMU

Sunday, 6:30pm - Joint Service at SSU



Annual Family SPORTS DAY

STARTING AT 3:00PM

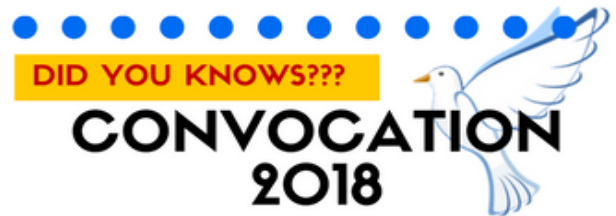
TRUMAN BODDEN SPORTS COMPLEX

Marshalls Needed! Interested? Contact cirmc.info@gmail.com

Important! – Congregations/Charges are responsible for supplying food/water etc. for Athletes and supporters.

COME IN YOUR CHARGE/CONGREGATION COLOURS

EAST END/GUN BAY CHARGE	
GEORGE TOWN CHARGE	
JOHN GRAY MEMORIAL	
ROBERT YOUNG/SAVANNAH CHARGE	
WEBSTER MEMORIAL	
WILLIAM POUCHIE MEMORIAL	



DISCIPLES OF PEACE

Not sure what to wear for our Council's Convocation...?

Here's some help, wear something **BLUE!**

The Theme for the UCJCI Convocation in Jamaica and Cayman is "Disciple of Peace". Since the day will be about "peace", everyone is encouraged to wear the colour for peace, **BLUE!**