



John Gray Memorial Church history lesson for CWM



Premier Bush flanked by Francine Gardner of Webster and CWM's Moderator and GS



Premier Bush addresses Reception for CWM



CWM Pacific Region Trustees model the bags provided by the Cayman Council to mark the visit!



CWM's trustees gathered in the Cayman Islands for an extraordinary meeting from 28 to 30 October 2010 to receive reports from the six regions of CWM on how plans for shaping the implementation of its current strategy are progressing. The CWM Officers had arrived some days earlier for preliminary meetings. Altogether about 40 delegates visited Cayman, having started to arrive on October 23rd, with the final group leaving 2nd November.

The meetings took place at the Marriott Beach Resort, where the Trustees and Officers also stayed. The Cayman Islands Council of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands served as the local church host, having assisted with making the arrangements and in leading devotions, Bible Study, etc. The CWM participants were also hosted to a reception and dinner with Clergy and Elders of the United Church one evening, at the John Gray Memorial Church, where they had the chance to enjoy some traditional local dishes, a few of which were quite familiar to the Trustees from the South Pacific! The Premier of the Cayman Islands, Hon. McKeever Bush, OBE, JP, attended the reception and warmly welcomed them to the Cayman Islands. He also spoke highly of how Cayman had benefited so much from the missionary work of those who came in the 1800's and early 1900's to establish churches and schools, and of the important role the churches continue to play in Cayman society. Many of the Trustees were also able to attend service in some of the United Churches on Sunday 31st October, Reformation Sunday, with CWM Moderator Rev. Prince Dibeela preaching at one.

CWM reported that it has been conducting a series of reviews of its current, management, governance and location. Proposals for the new Strategy were accepted at the Trustee Body Meeting in Hong Kong between 18 and 23 July. At this extraordinary meeting in Cayman, trustees reviewed all the latest updates on plans for the new strategy and a fresh report from the Location Review group.

In what CWM hailed as an historic decision, the Trustees voted in favour of keeping its secretariat offices based in London. Trustees debated the latest report of the location review group, which contained extensive research and recommendations from three site visits undertaken in Singapore, London and Johannesburg during August and September, before they arrived at a firm decision.

Trustees also focused on the possibility that CWM must review the operational culture and ethos of the secretariat rather than a shift in geographical location.

Director of Communications Steve Cox, who was at the meeting, said that once the issue of location had been decided, trustees were encouraged to look at how the secretariat should develop in line with the new strategy: "There was an overall consensus that London should remain the home of the secretariat and there was a feeling that the location review had changed focus. Instead of looking at geographical positioning - it became about how the current secretariat can remain in the city but operate differently - focusing on changes to the culture, attitudes and perceptions surrounding that location."

The trustees have instructed the incoming General Secretary to study the location review report in more depth to consider issues surrounding a potential culture change at the secretariat offices in line with CWM's new mission strategy over the next decade.

Each of CWM's 31 member churches is represented on the trustee body. CWM's trustees serve for three years and are responsible for the organisation's strategic direction.