

## Finding JOY this Christmas

Members of the John Gray Memorial Church Women's Fellowship in attendance at their Christmas Gathering on December 7, 2018. They met at the home of Mrs. Madge Ebanks.



CAYMAN ISLANDS  
REGIONAL MISSION  
COUNCIL

**WEEKLY UPDATE!**

December 14, 2018

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Miss Jen, Miss Francine and Miss Madge of the JGMC WF sharing the joy of friendship

'Joy to the World, the Lord has come' written by Isaac Watts (1674-1748) is still one of the most popular Christmas Carols. Originally penned as a poem, based on Psalm 98, it was included in Watt's work entitled 'The Psalms of David, Imitated in the New Testament'. The Carol speaks to the Second Coming of the Messiah and was initially entitled 'The Messiah's Coming and Kingdom'. For Watts, the Psalms find their fulfilment in the New Testament.

The Carol is meant to call each of us into that closer relationship not just with the Babe in the Manger, but with the Jesus of History and the Christ of Faith. In so doing, we will find the **joy of our salvation**. Watts invites us to receive Jesus as king by making room for Him in our hearts.

The simple truth is that for too many persons, joy is external and only comes when there is some form of gratification. Joy is however not to be measured by wealth and power. Joy is not found in name recognition or in high seats and exalted places.

**Joy is found in the depth of the friendship and fellowship that we share with each other.** Joy is found in the sincere support we offer to each other. Joy is found in our willingness to pray with each other and encourage rather than ridicule each other.

Joy is most **profound in the humblest of circumstances** and stretches a smile across the face which indicates what is echoing in the heart.

Alas, as Christians we know that **joy is internal** and that no one can take away our joy.

On this third Sunday of Advent, when the pink candle of **Joy** is lit, let each of us with certainty know that the only path to joy is through Jesus Christ. Indeed, **Joy to the world the Lord has come**; let earth receive her king! Let every prepare Him room, let heaven and nature sing!

### ADVENT PRAYER JOY

Lord, deep within each of us, we long to experience joy. So often the joy that comes from You eludes us. So we crowd our lives with many things in order to find joy.

We pray that in this Advent Season we will be able to say 'real joy is mine, no matter if teardrops start; I've found the secret, its Jesus in my heart!'

O God, give us joy, down in our hearts this Advent. We pray in Christ's name, Amen

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 15-** Candlelight Service – Robert Young-6:00 pm

**December 16**–Cantata –William Pouchie Memorial – 9:00 am

**December 16-** Children’s Programme – JGMC-10:00 am

**December 16-** Children and Youth Programme- Savannah United -10:00 am

**December 16** - Cantata –Webster Memorial 11:00 am

**December 16** Children Christmas Programme – South Sound United -5:00 pm

**December 16** –Children’s Programme –Elmslie - 6:30 pm

**December 16** Candlelight Service – East End United -6:30 pm

**December 17** –After School Christmas Program- JGMC-6:30 pm

**December 20** Seniors’ Tea and Outing – JGMC - 4:30 PM

## KNOW YOUR UCJCI CONSTITUTION

## 4. The Ministry

To the Church is **committed** the trust of proclaiming Christ in word and deed. Every member is called to participate in the **worshipping, witnessing, serving life of the whole Church**. This is a part of the Priesthood of all believers.

The Ministry of **Word and Sacraments, pastoral care and counselling** are God's gifts to His Church.

Some persons are set apart by **Ordination** for this Ministry. This ordained Ministry is exercised within the Priesthood of the whole Church.

The **oversight** of the preaching of the Word and the administration of the Sacraments; the pastoral care and counselling of the people and the provision for the perpetuation of this ministry through the rite of ordination are **the permanent functions of the ordained ministry**.

Candidates for the Ministry at the time of Union shall, after the Union, have the same status as before.

Those accepted for ordination shall be commissioned and ordained as Ministers by the authority of Synod.



**December 2018**  
**THEME: ADVOCACY**

**December 16** – Rev. Harry Bodden

**December 23-** Rt. Rev. L. C Mason

**December 30-** Rev. Dr. Y. Noble-Bloomfield

Every Sunday at 7:45am on Radio Cayman

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Please email [rdgs@cicucjci.com](mailto:rdgs@cicucjci.com) for a detailed job description



Cayman Islands National Choral sharing the joy of music at the Elmslie Memorial Church on December 11, 2018.