



# CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

## WEEKLY UPDATE

February 25, 2020

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 8

through our actions and words. Evangelism, after all, is more than a programme. It is LIFE.

### SEASON OF LENT

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### Women's Fellowship CI Responds to the Moderator's Plea

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands at its 41st Synod, held in Montego Bay, Jamaica from April 29 – May 2, 2019, pledged to assist financially and in other ways to the work and ministry being done with and for boys in both Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.

The Moderator, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans encouraged the whole church to be mindful of the vulnerability of too many of the boys in both societies. The four Regional Mission Councils, which includes our Council in the Cayman Islands were tasked with identifying programmes that were catering to the needs of boys and the offer tangible support.

The Women's Fellowship, an auxiliary in the United Church which in the Cayman Islands is chaired by Mrs. Carol Ann Ebanks, decided to respond to the Moderator's challenge and hence the **Boyz2Men Programme** was identified.

From the proceeds of the Thanksgiving Lunch held in November 2019, the sum of KYD\$500.00 was earmarked for the Boys2Men Programme. We offer not only our financial support but pledge to support the leadership and the participants in whatever ways we can.



Left to Right: Mr. Seaford Russell Jr. (former participant Boyz2Men) Mrs. Carol Ann Ebanks- President Women's Fellowship Council – Cayman, Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield – Regional Deputy General Secretary, Mr. Simon Miller and Mr. Christopher Murray – Coordinators of the Boz2Men Programme.

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### Ash Wednesday Gathering



In the liturgical calendar of the Church **Ash Wednesday** marks the beginning of the season of **Lent**. The Lenten season is a time of preparation for **Holy Week** and **Easter** and is associated with fasting in order to aid the believer's focus on matters of spiritual importance. Fasting can take on many forms, lengths, intensity and practice.

In many churches Ash Wednesday is commonly observed with marking the forehead with ashes as a solemn reminder of our mortality and of our need to repent and reconcile with God.

In the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands Ash Wednesday has also been long observed as a day of gathering together for fellowship, prayer and celebration for congregants of all ages. Since the UCJCI has declared 2020 as **the Year of Evangelism**, this theme is our primary focus and is at the core of all our activities, including our Ash Wednesday Gathering.

Let us therefore resolve ourselves to developing a deeper level of understanding of what it means to be evangelical and how to make this central to our identity not only as a corporate body but also as individuals blessed with unique personal gifts and personality. The closer we walk to God, the clearer we represent the nature and image of Jesus Christ through our own being,

As a church, we are pleased with the effort being made by the program to positively influence the young men in the Cayman society. The strategies developed and the various activities being undertaken bode well for the transformative behavioral changes of the boys and indeed they are being prepared to be gentlemen and good citizens in the Cayman Islands.

By Yvette Noble-Bloomfield (Rev. Dr.) RDGS-CIRMC.

## Girls' Brigade Tea Party



The 11th Annual Girls' Brigade National Council Tea Party Fundraising Event took place on last Saturday afternoon at Mr. Handel and Audrey Whittaker's residence in Frank Sound depicting the theme "Arabian Night".

The well over 100 persons in attendance included President Mrs. Olive Miller, Chairperson Ms. Debra McLaughlin, Chair of Council Rev. Rohan Forrester and Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield (RDGS). Mr. Roy McGregor Youth Minister for the George Town Charge acted as Master of Ceremonies dressed as Aladdin.

The event was a resounding success with its theme-inspired decorations, dresses and outfits. The programme included activities such as bracelet making, face painting and such special treats as a chocolate fountain (for all ages!), plantation tea (the beverage of choice for 'grown-ups') and a special solo rendered by Elmslie's very own Ms. Gabrielle Webb.



Special thanks are in order to the gracious hosts and all those who planned, facilitated and contributed to this

## Congratulations to Mr. Isaac Jeralow Rankine

The Cayman Island Regional Mission Council extends heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Isaac Jeralow Rankine of East End on the occasion of receiving the Gold Heritage Cross award for a lifetime of high-quality engagement in the preservation and celebration of Caymanian cultural heritage.



Mr. Rankine was among seven who were honored for their contribution to the country's arts and historical legacy at the Cayman National Cultural Foundation's 26th annual National Arts and Culture Awards last Thursday. He was recognized as a culture ambassador of the Cayman Islands for his ongoing work in the net-making tradition.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February 26. (Wednesday) Ash Wednesday

**Ash Wednesday Gathering** - 7:30-11:30am - Savannah United Church

### February 29. (Saturday)

**Training for Lay Leaders Module 1/Day 3** - 8:30am - 4:00pm - Council office

### March 1. (Sunday) 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

### March 3. (Tuesday)

**Synod Planning Committee meeting** - 6:00pm - Council office

### March 4. (Wednesday)

**Youth Ministers'/Workers' meeting** - 9:00am - Council office

### March 6. (Friday)

**World Day of Prayer** - 12:00pm - Elmslie United Church

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### MARCH

01. Rev. Alice Blair

08. Mr. Herman Wilson

memorable event.