

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

Weekly Update February 2, 2022 / | Volume 9 Issue 5

### **Black History Month**

"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deuteronomy 6vs. 6 - 7 NIV)

That was the heart of what Rt. Ex. Marcus Mosiah Garvey meant when he said "A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."

We should take seriously what the philosopher George Santayana meant when he wrote "Those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it." Rather than fear the pain of recollection of this challenging time in our history, we should seek to set right the historical record for our generation and for those yet to come. Rootless trees are easily uprooted.

An excerpt from *"The Church Humbly Rec-ognizes Wrongs and Boldly acts to Repair"* written by Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans, Chair of the Reparations Taskforce.

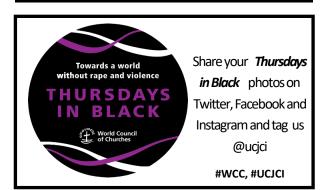
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### In this issue

Remembering Rev. Dr. Edmond FolkesPage 2
Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council
Page 3
House Church LiturgyPage 4
Covid~19 UpdatesPage 5
NoticesPage 6
Prayer CornerPage 7

#### End Violence Against Women and Children



# Remembering Rev. Dr. Edmond Folkes, JP







Thank you for joining us in Celebrating the Life of Rev. Dr. Edmond Folkes, JP. The memorial service held at Ridgemount United Church on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, is available for your viewing on the **UCJCI's Channel** on YouTube. Don't forget to sign the virtual memorial book by going to **letusremember.ucjci.com**.

# Tríbutes from the Vírtual Memoríal Book

"He took me from Christening to Baptism to marriage. I will always be thankful to you for my spiritual walk and your nurturing way of correcting the young people. Your laughter rings in my head. Thank you my Uncle. See you UP THERE." - Grace Ría Líndsay

"There is not a childhood memory without Parson in it. From signing official documents/papers to giving us rides from church on Sunday afternoons, to transporting us to school every morning for years. I had the opportunity to have been blessed by his kindness and I am grateful that I have these memories of such a kind and gentle heart. My condolences to Dr Folkes and the rest of the family. It is safe to say there are thousands of people praying for you because Parson's reach went beyond places we can't even imagine. I am one of the thousands who are lifting you up in prayer." - Keisha Harris

### Cayman Regional Mission Council

### John Gray Memorial



Mrs. Katherine D. Jackson, Cert. Hon. with the two new Women's Fellowship members, Mrs. Beverly Simpson and Ms. Brendell Rivers.

Katherine Jackson, President of the Church's Women's Fellowship put forth the call to the women in the congregation, inviting them to join the dynamic women's movement and Ms. Brendell Rivers and Mrs. Beverly Simpson gladly responded to the invitation. Ms. Jackson stated that she was very excited to have two new persons join the Fellowship and looked forward to working with them. She also shared that during this Women's Fellowship Week, the members would be sharing with one another via telephone calls using the new 2022 devotional books as well as participating in a day of fasting and prayer on Wednesday, 26th with the Island's Women's Fellowship groups.

### Savannah United Church



Induction of New Officers with blue stoles (from left Ernestin -Powell, Winsome Radcliffe, and Maxine Bravo)



Mrs. Reneé Barnes was admitted to the Savannah Women's Fellowship during the service.

### House Church Liturgy for February 6, 2022

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany** 

#### Rooted and Called to be the Community of Faith

Explore the impact of the vision on Isaiah's life and ministry and that of his community. • Is the Isaiah text a paradigm for our worship in the faith community?

"It is no secret that much of the worship you and I lead and participate in derives its shape from Isaiah 6. It begins with a hymn of praise (Is. 6:3), moves to an admission of sin (Is. 6:5), followed by forgiveness of that sin (Is. 6:7), concluded by a call to service and positive response (Is. 6:8). That is the basic shell of what we do as we worship, a fact that suggests this order of worship is very old indeed." ~ John Holbert

Isaiah understood his calling and dedicated himself to serving a community he recognized as being unholy.  $\cdot$  How can the community of faith understand the vision of Isaiah in the context of the world today?  $\cdot$  Is there the need for some of us who lead others to be cleansed?

Explore this in the context of the corruption, crime and violence as well as the marginalization and inequity which exist in the society and at times in the church.

The Gospel reading is also relevant to the worshipping community.

- The Disciples were initially skeptical which showed their lack of faith in Christ. How do we move from skepticism to faith in our life experiences?
- How can this miraculous draught of fish find meaning in the worshipping community?

 $\cdot$  Explore the themes of companionship, solidarity, equity, advocacy and justice in the community of faith and the wider society.

#### Scriptures

Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13) || Psalm 138 || 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 || Luke 5:1-11

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## COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AFFECTING CONGREGATIONAL LIFE IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

### **Cayman Islands**

The number of COVID-19 cases in the Cayman Islands since the start of the pandemic is 11,666. As of this past weekend, more than 6,000 people in Cayman were in isolation after testing positive for Covid-19. The Cayman Government has responded with regulations aimed at controlling the spread of the virus, including but not limited, to protocols for travel and gatherings. Consequently, indoor gatherings, including church services, are now restricted to 100 persons while outdoor gatherings are restricted to 250 persons.

### Jamaica

There are 124,967 confirmed cases of which 6,668 are active with 2675 deaths. There have been 161 new cases in the last 24 hours. The Government of Jamaica said the amendments under the Disaster Risk Management Act (DRMA) will remain the same until February 11, 2022.

Please note and be guided by the following:

1. Church Services – The number of persons allowed in the sanctuary for worship should be determined by the physical distancing requirement of a minimum of six feet between persons, but should not exceed 100 persons.

2. Weddings – the maximum number of persons allowed is 100.

3. Funeral services are allowed with a maximum of 20 persons within the place of worship or facility.

4. Burials are allowed for 30 minutes Mondays to Fridays between 9 am and 4 pm with a maximum of 20 persons at the graveside.

The other relevant provisions remain the same as under:

- 5. No physical crusades, conferences or conventions will be permitted.
- 6. Physical gatherings are limited to 10 persons.
- 7. Stay at home persons 60 years and over. Fully vaccinated persons are exempt.

Please note that the wearing of masks, hand sanitizing and social distancing are still required for public spaces and gatherings.



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### HOPE UNITED CHURCH PRESENTS:

### TRAINING IN: PERSONAL EVANGELISM PRESENTER: REV. SYLVAN HINDS

#### Monday February 7, 2022 at 6:30 pm (Part 1)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84274832870?pwd=V3pwL0hVVmtGc2FVN2d3dlo1dXh0dz09 Meeting ID: 842 7483 2870 Passcode: 929328

#### Thursday February 10, 2022 at 6:30 pm (Part 2) https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81899001372?pwd=aUdBTzIJR1IZSEo0UGVKb1ZQQXJqQ109

Meeting ID: 818 9900 1372 Passcode: 294661



### **Prayer Corner**

#### Prayer Requests

- Family of the late Rev. Dr. Edmond Folkes who passed on Monday from a brief illness.
- Rev. Rohan Kong and his wife whose newborn son, Joel Kong, remains in hospital since birth.
- Mrs. Karen Francis, whose husband Rev. Dr. Norman Francis has passed on.
- The climbing number of COVID-19 infections in the Cayman Islands.
- Patients, families and workers in the health sector in the Cayman Islands and Jamaica.
- Members of staff with relatives affected by COVID-19.
- The church and the various plans for the New year.

#### Prayer

We pray for the lost, the hurting, the lonely, the sick, the bereaved, and those who are imprisonedbehind both visible and invisible walls. Send your comfort, your peace, and your calming presence to those who are without hope. Protect the defenseless, and hold them close to your heart.

Amen.

# The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

#### Congregational, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian

Moderator: Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott

General Secretary: Rev. Norbert Stephens

#### Regional Deputy General Secretaries

- Cayman Regional Mission Council-Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield
- North-Eastern Regional Mission Council -Mrs. Rose Wedderburn
  - Southern Regional Mission Council-Mrs. Janet McConnell
  - Western Regional Mission Council-Mrs. Mauleen Henry

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