

CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

WEEKLY UPDATE

October 20, 2022

SEASON OF PENTECOST

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 42

UCJCI 42nd SYNOD THEME - Rooted, Resilient: Responding in HOPE (Health, Opportunity, Peace, Evangelism)

Abundant Hope

By Rev. Louis-Herard Sully

Please read Luke 18:9-14

Being hopeful is a confident expectancy. Many of us hope for things and are waiting for them to come or to happen. It is a wonderful thing to have hope. The Bible teaches that hope stands for both the act of hoping and the things hope for. In 1Cor. 9:10, when the plowman plows and the thresher, threshes, they ought to do so in the hope of sharing in the harvest. In 1Peter 1:3, Peter writes to the elect stating, "Praise be to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

Considering God's word, hope does not arise from an individual desires or wishes, but from God, who is the believer's hope. Genuine hope is not wishful thinking, but a firm assurance.

The parable in St. Luke 18, speaks of the Pharisees who trust in their own righteousness. Such confidence in one's inherent righteousness is a foolish hope. The Pharisees fall short of the Divine standard. The word of God constantly teaching us that sinners are justified when God's perfect righteousness is imputed to their account, and it was only on that basis that the tax collector and anyone else could be saved. The Pharisee by exalting his own works, revealed that his entire hope lay in his not being as bad as someone else, and therefore, lacked any sense of his own unworthiness and sin.

It is evident here that the tax collector's humility prepared him to face the reality of his own sin. His behavior prompted him to respond in humility and repentance, 'God, be merciful.'

As we hope in the Lord, we must face the reality of our own behavior, not to consider ourselves to be not as bad as someone else, but to humble ourselves in the presence of God. We must face the reality of our own life. So often we present ourselves to God like the Pharisee who lacked any sense of his own unworthiness.

As Christian, our hope is based on God's faithfulness.

We are unworthy people who sin constantly in our day-to-day experiences. The hardships that we face are sometimes overwhelming. Hardships and challenges can cause despair and discouragement. The moment we can face the reality of our human condition and present ourselves to God, not as someone else, but the way we are, God will lavish in us the hope that we need and long for. That hope is well expressed in Jeremiah 29:11-12, "For I know the plan I have for you declares the Lord, they are plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future then you will call upon me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you."

Maybe many of us are suffering today with one thing or another and may be at the threshold of losing hope. However, retaining hope while we suffer shows that we understand God's merciful ways of relating to us. God is faithful and God's faithfulness endures forever.

Our Hope comes from trusting God.

Many of us get disappointed and depressed due to putting our trust in an individual. Doing so often break relationships and creates problems. Sometimes, the purpose of the trust has to do with an expectancy which is usually based on a need. We ought to detach ourselves from the human view of that expectancy and rely on God perspective, especially in a time of crisis. In Mark 5, Jairus' crisis made him confused and hopeless, Jesus said to him, "Do not be afraid, just trust me". Christ is the source of all hope, and we ought to look at our situations from His point of view. What He wants us to do is to depend on Him and that dependence, will help us to overcome all difficulties and deepen our trust in God. Depending on God will give us greater confidence about the future. Today, people are troubled about the future of this world in every aspect, which in turn, cause them to be hopeless. The good news is that Jesus is the source of hope, you only need to trust him.

Friends, the world is at a cross way, no one knows what to expect next. This is very troublesome, confusing, conflicting. Being in this world without hope will not lead to triumph but to despair.

I want to offer you this hope that I have today. If you desire to experience hope abundantly, it can be found only in Jesus Christ. Jesus said in Matthew 11:28-29, "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your soul." This is the hope that you need right now. When you come to Jesus who is the source of hope, you have nothing to worry about because He said in St. John 10:28, "I give them eternal life and they will never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand." If you are looking for a safe place, I encourage you to pray this prayer.

Thank you, Jesus, for speaking to me. Come into my life and help me to trust in You for the hope that You offer freely. I recognize that I am a sinner, forgive me for my sins and accept me as your special child today.

Lord, please take away my sense of discouragement and fill me with confidence that you will never leave me nor forsake.

Lord, please bless me, keep and guide me as I put my trust in You during this difficult period we are facing in this world. Amen.

Installation of Lay Pastor

Pastor Ormond Williams will be installed as the Lay Pastor for the North-East Charge on **Sunday, October 30, 2022**. A Joint Charge Service will be held at the **East End United Church at 10:00** am. The Moderator, Rt. Rev Gary Harriott will be the Guest Speaker at the Service. Members of the Council are invited to attend the Service.







Members of the Bodden Town Girl's Brigade Company participated in the Service



D'Leah Cardoza signing to the 'Jesus Loves Me' Medley



CPHS Priority Registration deadline is October 31st

If you have a child who is currently NOT a student attending Cayman Prep and High School, but you would potentially like to join the school in the 2023-2024 academic year, in KG – Year 10, please take note that the priority application deadline is October 31, 2022. This includes a child that is either hoping to join KG 2023/24 or attends another primary school, high school or is home-schooled and wishes to be considered to attend the school.

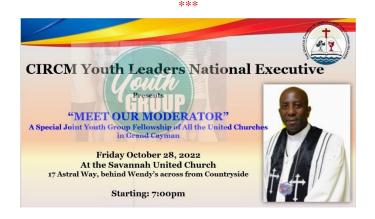
If you have a child who meets any of the below criteria, does not currently attend Cayman Prep and is not already on the waitlist, you should complete the online application form found on our website www.cayprep.edu.ky and pay the non-refundable application fee of \$300 before the 31st of October to gain priority for the 2023-2024 school year.

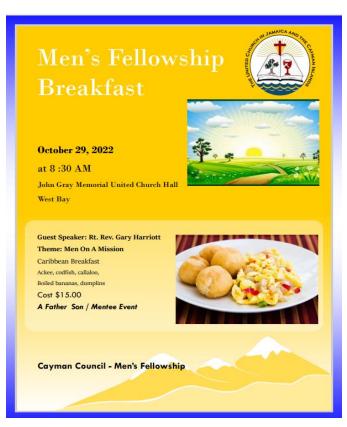
If you have already applied you do not need to do this again, if you are not sure if you have applied, please call the Primary School on 949-5932 or the High School on 949-9115. Alternatively email hsadmissions@cayprep.edu.ky or psadmissions@cayprep.edu.ky

Priority status on our waitlist is available to:

- 1. Children who are Members, or who are children or grandchildren of Members of the United Church, in good standing (requires Church letter)
- 2. Children of active adherents of the United Church (requires Church letter)
- 3. Children of current permanent staff of the School
- 4. Children who have a sibling in the School
- 5. Children who have previously had sibling/s in the School
- 6. Past students and children of past students of the School
- 7. Others in order of receipt of completed application form and application fee.

If you have any questions, please call the High School on 949-9115 or Primary School on 949-5932 or email hsadmissions@cayprep.edu.ky or psadmissions@cayprep.edu.ky

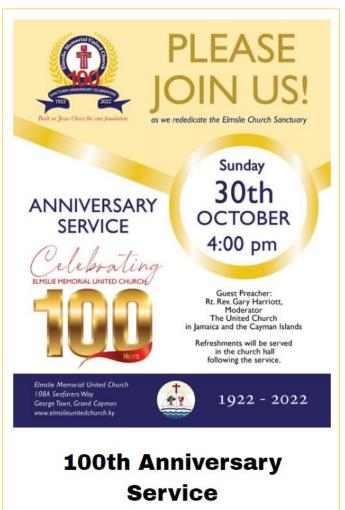






Banquet









20th Sunday in Pentecost

October 23,2022

Abundant Hope (Evangelism)

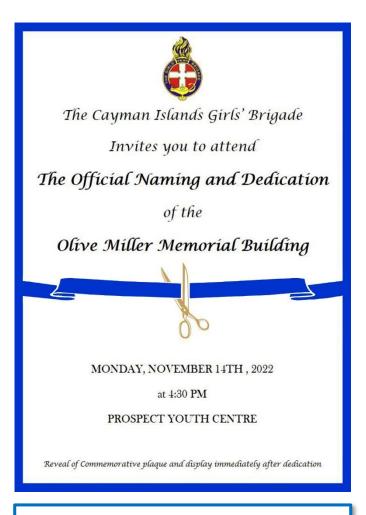
Psalm 84:1-7 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14

God's grace, love and generosity pours out like a flood. Having experienced that love and anointing, we give back, never faltering even in the face of death. It is only when emptied of self that we can be filled, and having been filled by God's Spirit, we pour into others. At risk of losing it all, stay focused on God's prize.

Remember to read the

POPULAR REPORT

Of the October 8, 2022 Council Meeting in its entirety Thank You!



Remember in your prayers

All those God has placed on your heart and those brought to your attention in some way. Please also include in your prayers at this time

- Pastor John Macmillan (RYMC) and
- Mrs. Itza Bodden, Youth Worker (EE-GB) both face health related challenges.
- The bereaved families of the late Mrs. Janilee Clifford (Robert Young Memorial) and
- Mrs. Johnet Jackson (Savannah United).



Please Read

The Patron's Accreditation and Compliance Report

Cayman Prep & High School, 17-19 May 2022



on Radio Cayman 89.9 every Sunday at 7:45 am

October 23, 2022 Rev. Louis-Herard Sully

Published by the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands 292 Prospect Point Road

P.O. Box 1700 Grand Cayman KY1-1109 CAYMAN ISLANDS Tel: 1 345 947-1963 Email: rdgs@cicucjci.com or cirmcinfo@gmail.com Website: unitedchurch.org.ky