



CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL WEEKLY UPDATE

June 27, 2024

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 26

Rooted and Resilient: Re-ignited by the Spirit to Re-Align

UCJCI Biblical Focus for July-September

Re-Alignment Begins in the House of the Lord

Re-Align: Discern the Time

"He said to me, 'Son of man, stand up on your feet and I will speak to you.' As he spoke, the Spirit came into me and raised me to my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.

He said: 'Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me to this very day. The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says.' And whether they listen or fail to listen—for they are a rebellious people—they will know that a prophet has been among them.'
(Ezekiel 2:1-5)

In our reading, Ezekiel is called to speak to the nation of Israel, whom God describes as rebellious, impudent and stubborn transgressors. Evidently, they were out of alignment with God. Israel represented a political nation, but also a spiritual people set apart by God to do God's will. At the time of the message, the Messiah had not yet come, and Ezekiel was God's lone mouthpiece. God's directive in the text suggests that although Ezekiel might not be received positively, he would have administered his responsibility as God's prophet.

At the time of Jesus' ministry, many were still unwilling/unable to receive the good news, as they were busy rejecting Jesus. This too indicated that they were unaligned, for they were not in

agreement with Jesus. Their disbelief prevented miracles and other signs from happening. Shortly after, Jesus sent out the Twelve to other cities, to evangelize and bear witness to Jesus through signs and wonders.

Diagnostic Test

A) What are the signs and wonders visible in the community today? Are the signs and wonders in the country bearing witness to Jesus?

B) Those who bore witness to Jesus were sent with nothing, and the communities were supposed to provide for their needs. What is the level of giving, how are people meeting the needs of God's anointed? (UCJCI Preaching Themes - July 7, 2024)

Hurricane Beryl

As Hurricane Beryl passed near Jamaica and the Cayman Islands on July 3-4, 2024, we are grateful to God for being spared from the hurricane's full force. While we avoided significant damage in Cayman, the impact on some communities in Jamaica remains substantial. Unfortunately, the Children's Camp in Jamaica, scheduled for July 6-11, 2024, had to be postponed and will be reassessed. Here in Cayman, we plan to proceed with the Children's Camp starting on July 9 and the Teen's Camp on July 16.



The Prospect Youth Centre ready for the storm

Cayman Convocation 2024



The first Convocation in Cayman since the COVID-19 pandemic was held on Sunday, June 30, 2024, at the Elmslie Memorial United Church, under the theme, **'Rooted, Resilient: Re-Ignited by the Spirit.'** The Synod Office was represented by **Rev. Norbert Stephens**, General Secretary of the UCJCI, and **Ms. Anissea Bremmer**, the Synod's Human and Mission Resource Manager. The Convocation also included the Induction of the new Regional Deputy General Secretary of the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council (CIRMC), the **Rev. Donovan Myers**, the Installation of the Executive of the CIRMC, an Expression of Appreciation to the Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield, Immediate Past CIRMC-RDGS, and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The Induction Ceremony was officiated by the Rev. L. Christopher Mason, past Moderator of the UCJCI.

In his message, Rev. Stephens referred to significant societal transformations driven by technological advancements over the past few decades, yet despite these changes in daily life and communication, the fundamental needs for community, moral guidance, and the divine Spirit remain constant.

Rev. Stephens emphasized that true community is rooted in relationships and guided by the Spirit, which enables us to view each other as brothers

and sisters in Christ. He underlined the crucial role of the Church and its community in embodying these principles, thereby overcoming the challenges of modern isolation, aggression, and disconnection. The Church must actively work to be a **Renewing, Empowering, and Defiant** force in the face of societal decay and opposition.

Renewing Spirit: The Church must embody the Spirit that renews and revives communities, addressing the decay and destruction present in society. This involves translating proclamations into tangible actions that reflect the Church's mission and values.

Empowering Spirit: The Church should be an empowering force, providing support and healing to those struggling within and outside the community. This involves creating partnerships, fostering collaboration, and offering refuge and hope to those in need.

Defiant Spirit: The Church must exhibit a defiant spirit against overwhelming challenges and persistent opposition. This means standing up against forces that undermine real community, promoting justice and accountability, and remaining steadfast in its mission to transform and renew society.

In response to his Induction, Rev. Myers expressed his gratitude for God's call to ministry and the support he received from the UCJCI and his family. He acknowledged the challenging times faced by the Church but highlighted its history of creative and brave responses to various needs. Rev. Myers urged the Church to unite, leverage its identity and mission, including all voices to navigate the future and be ready to make tough decisions for the greater good and carry out God's mission. He concluded his response by saying he remains hopeful due to the Church's gifted people and resources and called for mutual prayer and support to fulfill God's purposes.

The Cayman Convocation 2024 ended with a time of fellowship and refreshments in the Church Hall.

Images of the Cayman Convocation 2024

(Photos curtesy of Mrs. Terry Merren and Otto Menko)







The United Church in Jamaica
and the Cayman Islands

SUMMER DAY CAMP 2024

Cayman Islands (CIRMC)

"Spread the Fyah"

FUN, WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP





Children's Camp
July 9-14

Teens' Camp
July 16-21

Venue: Prospect Youth Centre
8am - 6pm Daily
Cost: CI\$150

Remember in your prayers

All those God has placed on your heart and those brought to your attention in some way, especially those suffering from the effects of Hurricane Beryl. Please also include in your prayers our retired Ministers, Rev. Harry Bodden, Rev. Joe Crawford, and Rev. Godfrey Meghoo.



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