

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

# THE FAMILY NEWS

Elmslie Memorial Charge

Volume 206, July 2022



## Minister:

Rev. L. Christopher Mason

## Music & Worship Minister:

Antonio Sanchez

## Youth Minister:

Roy McGregor

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## Elmslie Website:

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## Bethesda Counselling Website:

[www.bethesdacounselling.ky](http://www.bethesdacounselling.ky)

## Service Times:

Sundays

Elmslie Memorial United

10:30am

Prayer Service last Sunday of each month 6:30pm

Robert Young United

583 Crewe Road

8:45am

## Tom Mason Ordained

A new journey for **Tom Mason** will start on July 1st as he begins his pastoral ministry in the two-point Pastoral Charge of Elmvale and Knox Flos Presbyterian Churches in Ontario, Canada.

Many at Elmslie and throughout the Council will remember Tom who was a member at Elmslie and South Sound for many years, becoming a lay pastor at the latter before leaving for Canada a year or so back.

Tom was for many years the manager of Comfort Suites. During his early years in Cayman, he recommitted his life to the Lord. He gained a desire to study theology and, during his spare time, did on-line studies through Knox College in Toronto, eventually earning a Master's in Theology in 2018 and one in Divinity in 2020. He was ordained a few months ago and has now been called to serve as a minister.

Tom and his wife, **Terry**, are still missed by people here but we can be assured that our loss will be his new churches' gain.

To make this additionally a special year, he and Terry welcomed their first grandchild, **Mackenzie Rosemary**, early in June, daughter to their son **Kyle** and his wife **Tori**.

We congratulate Tom on his appointment and pray God will bless and use him for his glory.



## Council News

The Cayman Islands Regional Council held a meeting on May 28th. Several matters concerning the United Church in Cayman were discussed. Below are some that might be of special interest to the George Town Charge.

- A Synod remit, presented by **Rose Wedderburn**, DGS of the Southern Region Mission Council, deputizing for the General Secretary, **Rev. Norbert Stephens**, stated concern due to the lack of interest for full-time ministry among the youth and church membership.
- Members nominated Revs. **Astor Carlyle** and **Tara Tyme** to the office of Moderator of Synod. Other councils will also make nominations and the vote for Moderator will take place at September's meeting of Council.
- A five-year lease agreement with a new tenant for the former Atlantis property was signed in April.
- Special note was made of the new relationship of Elmslie and Robert Young Memorial Churches. **John Macmillan** will continue as the lay pastor at Robert Young, now deemed "a mission station", under the supervision of **Rev. Chris Mason**.
- Note was made of the summer camps at the Prospect Youth Centre under the theme "A New Season." This year, these will be day only camps. It was also noted that all charges will be hosting VBS during the summer months.
- To date, \$2600 had been raised in support of Ukraine. This money would be forwarded through the Red Cross.
- Each congregation gave a brief report. With regard to Robert Young, it was stated that there had been a steady increase in numbers but few young people were attending. There were plans to repeat several former extra events during the latter part of the year to increase awareness on the church's presence in the community.

*Continued on Page 3*



*Mission Statement: The George Town Charge exists to love God, love others and make disciples.*

## 100th Anniversary Celebrations



### Bye for Now to Jazz Musicians

On Sunday, 5th June, Elmslie said farewell to Cuban musicians, **Lisvany Cisneros** and **Roberto Cortes** (pictured above with **Evelyn Rockett**, head of fundraising for the Anniversary Celebrations Planning Committee).



The Anniversary Celebrations Planning Committee wishes to thank all who supported both the Jazz Under the Stars and Fun Run/Walk which were held in May. For more pictures, see the Elmslie Church Facebook page.

## Memory Stone Laying Anniversary

Let's surround the church with flowers! On 1st July 1920, the cornerstones were laid at Elmslie. To commemorate this important day in Elmslie's history, on Friday, 1st July, the church will be open to the public and congregation for a midday meditation service at 12:30 pm. Everyone is invited and asked to bring flowers to lay around the church building in memory of persons who faithfully attended Elmslie throughout the past 100+ years and were involved in the various ministries of the church. Names of these persons will be written into books provided in the sanctuary. Snacks will be offered in the church hall after the service.

## Special Thanks

Many will have noticed activity on the church's roof over the past weeks. Special thanks to the Property Committee along with **Thomas Myles** and his team for the much needed repairs. Also, thanks to T.H.E. Merren Design who sanded and varnished the woodwork at the entrance of the sanctuary as well as the doors and railings. Many will note, too, the much improved carpet in the sanctuary!



## Council News (Cont'd. from Page 1)

It was noted that Elmslie's in-person attendance was showing an upward trend and that on-line viewership was extending round the world. Council was told of the planned activities for the sanctuary's 100th Anniversary Celebrations. Of special note was the plan to honour **Rev. Talmage Ebanks** who grew up in the church and entered the ministry from there. The highlight of the Anniversary Celebrations will be a banquet and service at the end of October to which the Moderator, the **Right Rev. Gary Harriott** has confirmed his attendance.

A full copy of the Popular Report can be obtained from the Council office, or requested from the church office.

## Dr. Boothe is Re-commissioned

**Nigel Boothe** who has been serving as an Elder of Elmslie since 2019 was re-commissioned by Rev. Chris on Sunday, 5th June.





The annual summer camps provide a great opportunity for our young people to have an enjoyable holiday while at the same time be challenged with regard to a personal relationship with Christ. In past years, many have made a commitment to him during camp. How can you be involved? Here are some suggestions:

- Praying for the camps, for the leaders and especially for individuals you may know who are attending.
- Offering to help in some way.
- Paying a visit during camp time to show your support.
- Sponsoring one or more campers – it costs just \$125.00.

**To register and/or sponsor a child, contact Roy McGregor. FIVE MORE SPONSORS NEEDED!**

## Quotable Quotes: When Satan is on the Attack

“Satan often uses temptation and accusation as a brutal one-two punch. He comes along and says, ‘Why don’t you try it? Everyone does it. You can get away with it. Who’s going to know?’ Then, as soon as we fall for his tempting lie, he changes his tune to accusation: ‘What kind of Christian are you to do such a thing? You are a pitiful excuse for a child of God. You might as well give up because God has given up on you. Why should he forgive you?’” (Anon)

“Satan never has a sabbath!” (Anon)

“God’s children are tested in two major areas: in the desert and in the abundant place. Most who have failed have not done so in the desert but in the abundant place” (Jon Bevere).

“The ones who get shipwrecked are those who, though they hear the advice, fail to heed it. Christians are not overcome by life’s storms because they suddenly decide to be atheists but because they neglect putting into operation the principles they have been taught” (Selwyn Hughes).

“The toughest battles are often with God and not with the devil. It is easier to say ‘no’ to the devil than to say ‘yes’ to God” (Ron Dunn).

“The name of the Lord is a high tower; the righteous run to it and are safe” (Proverbs 18:10). Remember, it is the blood of Jesus that forgives us; it is the name of Jesus that protects us.” (Anon)

## Youth Leaders' Conference

Youth Ministers and Leaders from the Elmslie Memorial United and Savannah United Churches attended the Annual Youth Leaders’ Conference, named ‘Orange,’ in Duluth, Atlanta, 26th - 30th April. The theme of the conference was *Are You Ready to be Human Again?* Through the presentations and specialized sessions, the participants learned about new ideas and practical solutions suitable for children and youth ministry in this post-pandemic era. Those attending were **Roy McGregor** (Youth Minister) and **Madda-lee Whittaker** (Youth Leader) (pictured below) from Elmslie, along with **Camile Watt** (Youth Minister), **Renee Barnes**, and **Suzette Stewart** (Youth Leaders) from Savannah. Roy reported that this conference was very different from the one he attended in 2019 as it not only catered to leaders in the church but also school teachers and leaders from other organisations. There was a lot of introspection at this conference which had him reflecting for the most part, and it also taught Madda and him how better to build relationships with children and teens, understand them more, use the technology in delivering lessons, practical ways to help them understand the Bible and how to walk closer with God.



Roy and Madda leaving for the Conference

CENTRE FOR THEOLOGICAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING  
CFLT – CAYMAN ISLANDS



The President, Licenses and the Graduating Class of 2021  
cordially invite you to attend the Fifth Annual Graduation Ceremony.

Presiding Bishop: Dr. Clinton M. Davis  
Chief Guest: Dr. Sjoerd M. de Vries, Minister of Religion

Date: June 24, 2022  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Venue: The Church of God Property, Trinity Tabernacle, 124 Beardslee Avenue, George Town.

Special 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Present  
Conferring of Honorary Doctorate Degrees on Mr. Michael Bowerman MBE, BEd, dLBC, Cert. Ed.  
in recognition of more than 50 years of Teaching the Scriptures, Evangelism and Ministry for God's Glory.

We graciously request your presence, prayers and blessings.

For more information, contact:  
Rev. Rev. Dr. P. J. Lawrence, Licentiate  
CFLT P.O. Box 403-9902, email: info@cflt.org

TEL: 944-666-7777 FAX: 944-666-7777  
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## Mission Trip to Tanzania

Mike Bowerman, along with Bishop PJ Lawrence and Andrew & Debecca Rollins from St. George's Anglican Church, recently returned from a mission trip to Tanzania.

It was a busy ten days in which they ministered in the Anglican Diocese of Ruvuma, the southern region of the country. Mike's primary task was training leaders and preaching, and he conducted 13 seminars on evangelism and witnessing as well as on Christian leadership, and preached four times. Bishop PJ also conducted training sessions and preached while the Rollins sought to look at ways they could help with some of the practical needs of the diocese.

The area in which they ministered is poor and the needs great. Two which Mike has identified and for which he is seeking further support are for Christian literature and for a small, very under-funded hospital run by the church. The ministers have few resources in terms of Christian and theological books and some money was left as 'seed' for a diocesan library. They were also able to help in a small way with some of the expenses of the hospital. If any one feels led to assist with either of these, they can contact Mike at bowerman@candw.ky or by calling 925-4590.



*Welcomed by the Mothers' Union*



*The workshop participants received some Cayman souvenirs after the last session*

## Golden Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to **Nancy & David Whitefield** who will celebrate 50 years of marriage on 26th June. May God bless you with many more happy years together!



## GET READY FOR VBS 2022!



Monday, 8th August - Friday, 12th August  
at Elmslie Memorial United Church  
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
Ages 4 - 17

Registration forms for both leaders and children are available on Elmslie's website [www.elmslieunitedchurch.ky](http://www.elmslieunitedchurch.ky) or contact Youth Minister, Roy McGregor.