

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

THE FAMILY NEWS

Elmslie Memorial Charge

Volume 204, May 2022



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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



New Elder, Lorna Reid

During Elmslie's congregational meeting in mid-February, long-time member, Lorna Reid, was elected to the Congregational Board of Elders. Lorna had, in fact, served on a previous occasion several years ago.

Lorna was brought up in a single parent home in Jamaica, alongside two brothers and a sister. "My early Christian connection was Anglican," she says, "but as there was no youth fellowship in the church my family and I attended, I asked my mother if I, along with a friend, could attend one at Webster Memorial United Church. Since that time, I have been attached to the United Church."

She moved to the Cayman Islands in August 1981 to take up a post in the Cayman Islands Middle School as an art teacher. On arriving, she was asked to join the Special Education Department as she had worked with a remedial adult education program in Jamaica for four years. She served in that department for six years, then moved to the Art Department. "I am a teacher of Visual and Performing Arts, having a Diploma in Fine Arts, a Certificate in Art Education, Dance Education and in Special Education. I also gained a Master's in Education Management and another as an Education Specialist.

"Having become a Christian at the age of 12, and although I have had many challenges, I am thankful that I have had strong support every step of my journey. I was an active Girls' Brigade leader, a youth leader and, later, a young adults' leader. I have sung in the choir and became a youth advocate in Jamaica. This I know was my first giant step to service in God's kingdom. The transition to Cayman was made possible due to the work I undertook in the youth arm of the church."

Lorna variously worshiped in Elmslie, Savannah United and Webster Memorial in her early years here. However, she eventually decided to become a member at Elmslie.

"I was baptised with most of the Koinonia group at the Prospect Youth Centre during David Larson's time as youth leader in the mid/late eighties. That was a period of recommitment and reawakening for me. I have continued to grow stronger in my faith and service as I have sought God's dictates and direction for my life.

"Education, sports, dance and art are strong areas of service for me. I see these as my mission

Continued on Page 3



Charges Delinked and Linked

Following lengthy discussion and prayer within the Council and churches with regard to restructuring, the final process, the delinking of the George Town Charge and the linking of the new John Gray Memorial-South Sound United Charge, took place at Savannah Church on April 3rd. The process was officiated by the Chair of Council, **Rev. Rohan Forrester**, who also preached the sermon.

The delinking was of Elmslie Memorial and South Sound United, with the latter linking with John Gray Memorial, with **Rev. Donovan Myles** the minister.



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

'Miss Janilee' Reaches 90



Sunday, 10th April, was a big birthday for someone so well-known and well-liked that little introduction is necessary. **Mrs. Janilee Clifford** has all her life been involved with the community and, since its building in the early fifties, with Robert Young Memorial Church. For many years, she was a teacher at the Cayman Prep School - she is one of the longest serving members of staff - and up to today is as sharp as she ever was.

On the actual day, there was celebratory time at the Robert Young morning service with the presentation of a bouquet of flowers presented by **Mrs. Janette Hoilett** who was a colleague at the Prep School, and her two eldest daughters, **Cathy** and **Carol**, sang a song and read a poem. The RGDS, **Rev. Yvette Noble Bloomfield**, and the deputy chair of the Prep School, **Mrs. Sheena Thompson**, also expressed appreciation for her services.

The following afternoon, a reception was held at her home on Crewe Road with an open invitation to all to come and wish her a happy birthday. A sign on the front gate asking drivers to honk as they drove by resulted in a noisy but thoroughly enjoyable party.

Baby News



Congratulations to **Lewis & Crystal Wilson** on the birth of their son, **Luke Martin Wilson**, on 4th April 2022 - a second grandchild for **Cathy Gomez** and 13th great-grandchild for **Janilee Clifford**.

Message from Global Missions Committee

Chair of the committee, **Betty Ann Mobley**, writes

Dear Elmslie Church Family,

On behalf of the Global Mission Committee, we want to thank you for your continued support for our seven missionaries and two mission organizations.

We wish to inform you of some new projects and initiatives that we have been working on.

We have put in place a prayer partner for each of our missionaries. This ensures that all of our missionaries have an individual, in addition to the church, that is committed to praying for them on a consistent basis.

We have started a Field Connector Programme, where each member of the committee is assigned to one of our missionaries and will contact them at least once every two months. This is to check on their wellbeing, their personal and spiritual needs and to gain a ministry update.

Continued on Page 4

Living Water Ministry

With the cruise ships having returned, there is a need for people to man the Living Water Ministry. For many years, there have been those who have been in the church to greet those who stop by – usually off the ships - to view the sanctuary, to offer them a bottle of water and some literature. It is an opportunity, too, to engage in conversation and even to pray for people should they wish.

Volunteers are needed who might spend a morning or two, for about three hours, on days when the ships are visiting. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

Lorna Reid (Cont'd. from Pg. 1)

nineties. I founded the Cayman Islands National Dance Company in 1988 and have been the choreographer for opening ceremonies for international netball, football and the Carifta Games. I have been involved with many Carifesta festivals as well as at the World Arts Council. I believe God called me to these, and I have sought to bring him glory in them. I am also a member of the Board of Directors of the Cayman National Cultural Foundation and served on the National Gallery Board back in the early 2000s.

“The adoption of my youngest nephew **Rajay** and guardianship of my youngest niece **Shamara**, both belonging to my younger brother, gave me two children to call my own. But I have enjoyed the experience of mothering and serving as aunt to many more in the school and church communities.”

She says that her present vision is to help bridge the gap between the varied groups of adults in our church community. She has watched these groups lose their grip on what they saw as their place in the church and reflected that that the end result has been a church which she believes is floundering. “I am not sure how I can help, but I know I am being called to try.

“I have been running a mile a minute doing what I see as God's work, but I am fearful that He may not be as involved in what I am or was doing as He wants me to be. Being an elder will allow me a seat at the table where decisions to enhance the work and mobilization of the church are made. It is my hope that I will be an effective and efficient part of what God wants to do in and through Elmslie.

“I sometimes wonder whether the church universal, and Elmslie in particular, are losing their impact and effectiveness on the individual lives of our community. I worry that, if we do not work now at restoring trust and faith in God, we will lose a generation - or more. It is therefore very important that the work of the church is relevant to the needs of the community.”

Let us keep Lorna in our prayers as she undertakes this important responsibility in the church.

Editor's note:

At the same congregational meeting at which Lorna was elected an elder, Colin Wilson was also elected. However, Colin has since resigned.

Special Anniversary

Congratulations to **Lyn & David Allen** who, on 19th May, will celebrate 15th years of marriage. We pray that God bless you with many more happy years together.

Special May Birthdays
Happy Birthday to
Katherine Walmsley - 21 on the 23rd
Zeta Ramoon - 80 on the 26th

100th Anniversary Celebrations

The Planning Committee is gearing up for its next two events, **Jazz Under the Stars** (Monday, 23rd May), and **Fun Run/Walk** (Saturday, 28th May). See details for both below. Please continue to show your support by participating in both of these exciting events. Registration forms for the Fun Run/Walk are available on our website www.elmslieunitedchurch.ky. For tickets to the Jazz event, stop by any of the locations listed in the flyer below.

ELMSLIE MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH PRESENTS
JAZZ UNDER THE STARS
 Featuring Antonio Sanchez (piano), Lisvany Cisneros (bass), Roberto Cortes (sax) and Ernesto Raymont (drums)

Monday, 23rd May 2022 | 7:30pm
 National Gallery of the Cayman Islands

ADM \$25

Tickets available at:
 Godfrey's Enterprise 926-0968
 Alex's Variety Store 923-4651
 L & T Tyres 949-6162
 Divers Supply 926-2909

Special guest, **Derrya Carbo**, and other performances

CREDIT UNION
 and other sponsors

Join us and be a part of history!

1922 2022
 SANCTUARY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS
 1922 2022
 Built on Jesus Christ the sure foundation

RUN/WALK
MAY 28, 2022

Course: Starts and ends at Elmslie Church. Choose your course (loop of under 2 miles or loop of under 3 miles).

Start Time: 5:15 pm (walkers) and 5:30 pm (runners).

Fee: CI\$15 Adults and CI\$10 Youth (Under 17).

Registration: 1) Download the registration form from the church website www.elmslieunitedchurch.ky. Complete, scan and e-mail the form to elmslie100anniversary@gmail.com.
 2) Drop forms and payments by way of cash or cheque (payable to Elmslie Memorial United Church) to the Elmslie Church Hall on Tuesday, 17th May (3pm - 7:30pm).
 3) Collect event packages on Thursday, 24th May or Thursday, 26th May (4pm - 7:30pm) at the Elmslie Church Hall. There will be no registration the day of the event.

Amenities: First 300 participants will receive a t-shirt and a water bottle. Light refreshments provided.

Contacts: Evelyn at 916-5754 or Harriet at 926-1826.

Pantry Ministry

Harriet Vassell took over responsibility for the Pantry Ministry early last year. She says,

"Each week, there were about 40-45 people in attendance last year, with different speakers coming for the praise and worship time. In June we had a birthday party sponsored by **Elitia Vassell** which was enjoyed and appreciated by all. On 21st and 28th July, we were visited by the Children and Teen Camp students who entertained us and helped serve the soup."

In August, the ministry took a summer break but were then interrupted by the outbreak of Covid in September. "So we decided to distribute bags and soup every two weeks outside the church hall," she continued. "South Sound United sponsored a Christmas bag which contained some practical gifts as well as a copy of Our Daily Bread which we handed out on Wednesday, 1st December, just before the Christmas break."

Since March this year, they have been meeting in the hall every two weeks, just for an hour, with the attendance rising to 60-65. "We have a speaker each time and we distribute a bowl of soup and a bag of non-perishables which they take with them." Harriet adds, "The purpose of the Pantry Ministry is to give assistance to the less fortunate. I spoke at the South Sound United Church back in June, thanking those there who had contributed. I also want to express my appreciation to our helpers **Francilla, Shovourne, Ann Marie, Mr. Martin**, the custodian, and **Roy** for their continuous help each week."



Quotable Quotes about Witnessing

"Witnessing is not merely an activity; it's a way of life. We don't do witnessing. We are witnesses – good or bad" (Anon).

"Evangelism is simple one beggar telling another where to find bread" (Bishop Niles)

"Witnessing is taking a good look at Jesus Christ and then telling what you have seen" (Lorne Sanny).

"There are five gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John – and you. Most people will never read the first four" (Billy Sunday).

"God hasn't engaged us as lawyers; he has summoned us as witnesses" (Lorne Sanny).

"Traditional wisdom tells us that someone with an experience is more powerful than someone with an argument" (Charles Price).

If Christians wish us to believe in their Redeemer, why don't they look a little more redeemed?" (Frederich Nietzsche)

Special Visitors

Visitors from the UK with a special connection to Cayman spent two weeks on the island in early April, and visited Elmslie for the Good Friday service.

During the first half of the 1970s, **Sheila Lockwood** came to work at the Cayman Islands High School as a maths teacher. However, she came as a Girls' Brigade officer and **Mrs. Olive Miller** soon had her involved, especially with the West Bay Company. She was also responsible for starting the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme here. However, it was in Elmslie church that she was introduced to a young man, **Robert Ridgway**, working here for a year as a Cadastral Survey officer.

She left Cayman in 1975, married Robert and lived in numerous countries because of his job, and they had two daughters, **Margaret** and **Anne**.

Sadly, Sheila contracted Parkinson's Disease some twenty years ago and died in May 2018. She requested that her ashes be interred in Cayman, and after two attempts to come to Cayman, both times thwarted by COVID, the family finally arrived, and a special service was held in the West Bay Cemetery.



From left, back: **Tim & Margaret Winchcomb, Robert Ridgway, Anne & Jon Vendy** Front: **Ellie & Mark Winchcomb** and **Nathan & Esther Vendy**

Global Missions (Cont'd. from Pg. 2)

We are in the process of creating an Annual Review of Missionary Giving. This will enable us to receive annual financial reports, know where or what the funds are being used for, and whether the funds are still needed after many years. This is information that will assist us in being responsible and accountable with our missionary giving.

In addition to our regular giving, this year we donated funds for the purchase of a laptop for the Mt. Olivet Church in Jamaica. We are also pleased to be able to support a mission project in Tanzania, East Africa, starting mid-May. This will be carried out by our own **Mr. Mike Bowerman** and **Bishop P.J. Lawrence** who will be training 25 - 30 Christian leaders who will themselves become trainers. Topics that will be covered are Witness and Evangelism, Christian Leadership, Old and New Testament, and Church History. Please keep them in your prayers.

The GMC is planning a Mission Sunday which is tentatively scheduled for June 26th.

Please continue to pray for our missionaries and for this committee to effectively mobilize the body of Christ to fulfill the great commission of "Go into all the world and preach the Good News."

Mission Trip to Tanzania



A team of four will be travelling to Tanzania in East Africa during the last two weeks of May at the invitation of the Anglian Union and the Bishop of Ruvuma, **Rt. Rev. Raphael Haule**. The visit has two primary goals: to provide training and teaching for the diocesan leadership and to investigate the practicalities of building a school.

Bishop PJ Lawrence and **Mike Bowerman** will be spearheading the first. The training will focus on Old Testament, New Testament and Church History, led by Bishop PJ, while Mike will do workshops on Evangelism and Witnessing and a second series on Church Leadership. They will also be involved in preaching at the weekends. **Andrew & Debreca Rollins**, who are members at St. George's Anglican, will be working towards having the school built.

Please pray for the team and for those to whom they are going. Specifically pray

- For God's Spirit to show them what to teach and how to prepare, and to do so in a way which those to whom they are ministering will find understandable and helpful, especially as it is a very different culture.

- For Bishop Raphael and for those who will attend the training sessions. Pray for our interaction together and that the participants will return to their ministries able to serve more effectively, and be truly blessed and encouraged.

- For God's protection in travel and from illness, and for his strength: spiritual, emotional and, yes, physical. Bishop PJ and Mike are aware that they are not as young as they were!



Cayman Keswick
2022
'All One In Christ'

All meeting Sunday evenings: 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Feb 6	@ Cayman Islands Baptist Church
Mar 6	@ First Baptist Church
Apr 3	@ First Baptist Church
May 1	@ Cayman Islands Baptist Church
Jun 5	@ Church of God Chapel GT



Sunday 1st May
6pm
Cayman Islands Baptist Church

SPEAKER:
Pastor Steve Brady

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