

A large, leafy tree, likely a mango, stands prominently in the center of a paved area. Behind it is a concrete building with several windows and red and blue shutters. The foreground is a grassy lawn.

# CGST NEWSLETTER

## JUNE 2025

Visit the website  
[www.cgst.edu.jm](http://www.cgst.edu.jm)

## Graduating Class of 2024



### CGST Graduation 2024: Celebrating Achievement and Purpose

The 2024 Graduation Ceremony of the Caribbean Graduate School of Theology (CGST) was held on Saturday, November 23, at the Boulevard Baptist Church in Kingston. It was a joyful and momentous occasion that celebrated the dedication and academic success of our graduating class.

This year, CGST proudly conferred degrees on twenty-three (23) graduates - four (4) from the Theological Studies program and nineteen (19) from the Counselling Psychology department. These graduates are now equipped to make meaningful contributions across the region and beyond, carrying forward CGST's mission of transformational leadership rooted in Christian values.

The ceremony was further enriched by the inspiring address from our distinguished graduate speaker, Dr. Margaret Burgess—renowned attorney-at-law, educator, and children's advocate—who was also awarded the honorary Doctor of Divinity in recognition of her exemplary service and unwavering commitment to justice and education.

As we celebrate this milestone, we invite alumni, friends, and partners to continue investing in CGST's mission. Your support is vital in providing scholarships and sustaining our operations, ensuring that students from across the Caribbean can access quality theological and professional training.



**Guest Speaker, Graduation 2024 - Dr. Margaret Burgess**



**Graduating Class of 2024 with Chairman, President of CGST, President of JTS et al.**

## **CGST President Active in Regional and Global Ministry**

Our President, Dr. Anthony Oliver, continues to serve faithfully across the Caribbean and beyond, bringing glory to God through his wide-ranging ministry engagements. His recent involvements include partnering with alumni and students at health fairs, preaching at May Pen Keswick and Bethel Baptist Church Believers' Spiritual Enrichment Week in Jamaica (January 2025), and ministering in Trinidad (December 2024, January and May 2025). He has also preached in the United States—in Chicago, New York, and Florida—and participated in international conferences in Rome and Albania.



**President of CGST, Dr. Anthony Oliver**

## **Alumni Making a Difference in Ministry and Media**

CGST's alumni continue to serve with distinction, using their training to impact lives across various sectors.

Deseree Whittle, missionary and attorney at law, a graduate of the Master of Divinity programme, exemplifies a life of service and purpose. A former missionary in a Francophone nation in Africa, she has more recently been called to the Jamaican Bar as an attorney-at-law. Deseree remains actively involved in ministry, particularly among teenagers in Harbour View and Kingston, where she brings guidance, mentorship, and hope to the next generation.



### **The President of CGST with Deseree Whittle, Missionary and Attorney-At-Law**

Dr. Leleith Tomlinson, another outstanding alumna, currently serves as a university administrator in Jamaica. She is also the host of the popular television programme *Sip and Chat* on Mercy and Truth Ministries Television (MTM TV), which she has moderated for the past five years. We extend heartfelt congratulations to Leleith on this media milestone and applaud her continued influence in education and public discourse.

We celebrate our alumni who are faithfully living out the CGST mission in diverse and impactful ways. Their stories inspire us to keep equipping servant leaders for the Caribbean and beyond.



**Dr. Leleith Tomlinson**

## Explore Micro-Credentials at CGST: Flexible, Online, Impactful

Caribbean Graduate School of Theology (CGST) now offers **micro-credential opportunities** designed to equip leaders with targeted, high-quality training—whether you're deepening your current ministry or expanding your skills for new opportunities.

Drawing from our existing master's and undergraduate-level courses, these micro-credentials allow students to study practical, relevant topics in a flexible online format. Some of the courses currently offered include:

### **Master's Level:**

#### **❖ *Pastoral Counselling***

Basic Skills in Counselling

Marriage and Family Therapy

Pastoral Care and Counselling

#### **❖ *Biblical Hebrew***

Biblical Hebrew I

Biblical Hebrew II

Hebrew Grammar and Exegesis

#### **❖ *New Testament Greek***

New Testament Greek I

New Testament Greek II

Greek Grammar and Exegesis



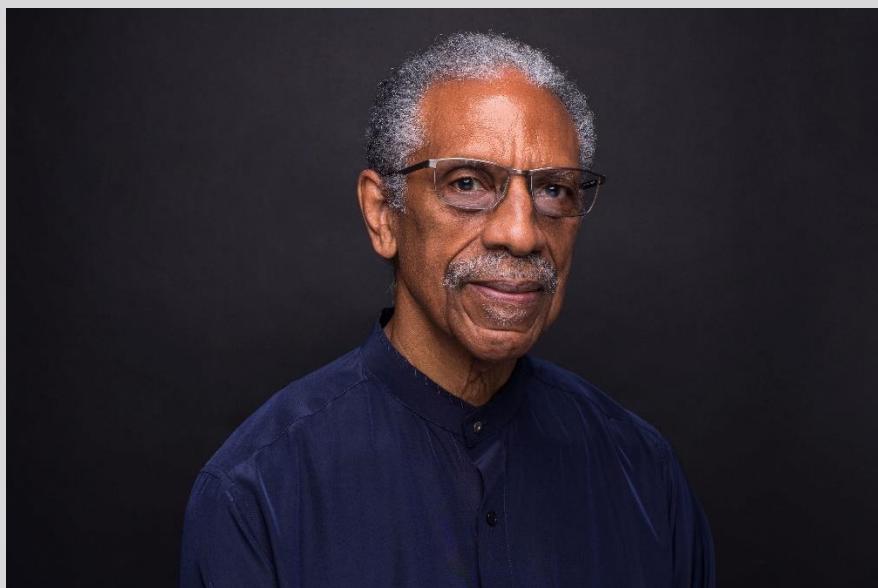
**Dr. Christopher Newton, HOD Theological and Religious Studies**

### **Undergraduate Level:**

- ❖ Child Protection and the Law
- ❖ Personal Evangelism
- ❖ Introduction to Digital Essentials
- ❖ Artificial Intelligence for Church Ministry

All courses are delivered **fully online**, making them accessible to students across the Caribbean and throughout the Caribbean Diaspora in the United States and Canada.

Whether you are a church leader, educator, youth worker, or simply passionate about growth, there is a course for you. **Join us and take the next step in your learning journey.**



**Professor Brendan Bain**

Professor Brendan Bain facilitated a thought-provoking webinar on June 29, 2024, titled *“Revisiting HIV: A Caribbean Perspective.”* Professor Bain, a respected public health expert, formerly served as Professor of Community Health at the University of the West Indies. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and was named an Honorary Fellow of the Caribbean Graduate School of Theology in 2009.

### **Partner with Us: Help Advance the Mission of CGST**

At the Caribbean Graduate School of Theology (CGST), we are committed to equipping transformational leaders for the Caribbean and beyond. To continue this vital work, we invite you—our alumni, friends, and partners—to join us in supporting several ongoing projects and initiatives that will significantly enhance our effectiveness and reach.

Current funding priorities include:

- ❖ **Securing a pool of computers** to improve administrative efficiency, increased faculty productivity and student access to technology.
- ❖ **Launching a new website** in the coming weeks to serve all stakeholders including prospective and current students, staff, faculty members, alumni and the public.
- ❖ **Increasing scholarship funds and operational support** to ensure that students from across the region can receive quality theological and professional education.

There are also many meaningful ways to support CGST's mission:

- ❖ **Be a prayer intercessor** – Lift up the work, faculty and students in prayer.
- ❖ **Be a CGST champion** – Advocate for our mission in your networks.
- ❖ **Encourage prospective students** – Inspire others to pursue their calling through study at CGST.

We welcome your involvement—whether through giving, praying, promoting, or mentoring. **Contact us today for a conversation about how you can make a difference.**

Kindly see below for CGST's banking information:

#### **JMD Account**

Name of Bank: National Commercial Bank  
Name of Account: Caribbean Graduate School of Theology  
Type of Account: Chequing  
Account Number: 331-001-651  
Branch: Manor Park/ Constant Spring

#### **USD Account**

Name of Bank: National Commercial Bank  
Name of Account: Caribbean Graduate School of Theology  
Type of Account: Savings  
Account Number: 334-216-748  
Branch: Manor Park/Constant Spring

Payment may also be made via the 'online payment' option on the website. Kindly see link below.

<https://cgst.edu.jm/online-payment/>

Payment confirmation should be emailed to [accountsoffice@cgst.edu.jm](mailto:accountsoffice@cgst.edu.jm).

*Together, we can continue shaping leaders who will impact the Caribbean and the world for Christ.*