



# UCJCI UPDATE

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

THE UNITED CHURCH  
IN JAMAICA AND THE  
CAYMAN ISLANDS

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*Congregational  
Disciples of Christ  
Presbyterian*

## UCJCI Campers in Guyana!

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**OUR VISION:** "Touching  
Lives, Nurturing Disci-  
ples, Seeking Transfor-  
mation through Christ"

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### PRAY FOR:



- **Rev. Bevis Byfield** who is not well
- **Nyle Stewart** as he grapples with life-threatening illness
- **Rev. Ranford Hewitt** who is not well

Specially and fervently requested by the Youth of the **Guyana Congregational Union**, young people from UCJCI congregations participated in a very inspiring and transformative Camp/Conference in Guyana, from **August 3-10, 2018!**

The Camp was fully-sponsored by the **Council for World Mission (CWM)** – our partners in mission - under the theme: **"Di Struggle is Real"**.

The UCJCI Camp participants were from the following congregations: **Ebenezer/Andrews Memorial, Meadowbrook, Savanna-la-Mar, Long Look, Grove Town, and**

**Discovery Bay United Churches**, and they ranged from ages 18 to 27 years. Leading the team was: **Rev. Khereen Wilson Bailey**, Minister of **Andrews Memorial United Church, Manchester**.

The Camp's theme was strategically chosen, in an effort to spotlight daily challenges that young people face, with a view to developing solutions to them, for a safer and more fulfilling life, based on right choices. The event also sought to provide an environment of shared culture, love, and togetherness among young people from the local and regional CWM member churches.

It was an activity-packed week! Our Campers arrived during the Emancipation celebrations, and this exposure served to reinforce and validate their own personal response to such a profound event in black history.

They also visited **Buxton Congregational Church**, where they were entertained and educated on the significance and implications of Emancipation History, and were fascinated by the extent to which the Guyanese populace embrace African culture. Indeed, the theme of the Camp had an element of Africanism, being patois-based!

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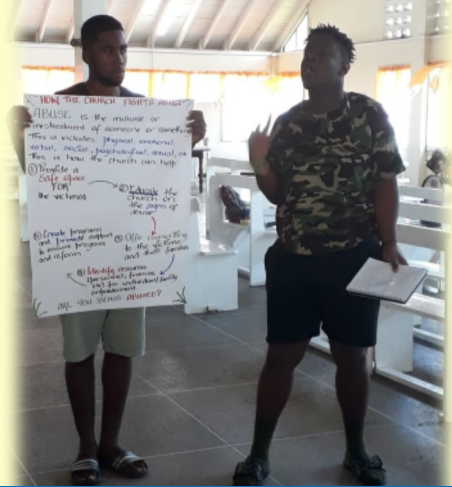
Campers, from left: Miss Tiana Forbes, Miss Ashley Murphy, Mr. Radrae Plummer, Miss Tassania Henningham, The Reverend Khereen Wilson-Bailey (Team Leader), and Mr. Bosworth 'Jayden' Ewen

## Pictorial Highlights

## UCJCI Campers in Guyana!



Ashley Murphy painting a wall at the GCU Headquarters



Bosworth 'Jayden' Ewen (right) making a presentation on Domestic & Gender-Based Violence



Jamaican and Guyanese Campers at the cultural event

(Continued from Page 1)

Another highlight of the Camp was the Health Fair, hosted by the Campers, which increased their health-consciousness. The Jamaican delegation was invited to be part of its operations and management, and our **Tiana Forbes** was duly recognized for particularly active participation in the event. There was also a Gospel Concert, in which the Jamaican team presented a full production, much to the enjoyment of the other Campers!

Open discussions were held, reminding the Campers of the presence of God in their struggles. Conversations and presentations were made concerning the issues: Human Sexuality, Gender-Based and Domestic Violence, Substance Abuse, and Dating. The Campers were also engaged with a motivational speech, and discussions on Financial Empowerment. The latter was very timely for the group, even as they prepare to begin a new school year, and will seek to set goals for wisely managing their allowances.

A Commitment Service was also held, with the message delivered by our **Rev. Khereen Wilson Bailey**, and this was a blessing to the group! Quite apt, was also a cultural exchange, which proved enlightening for both nationalities. The church service was one of the events which helped our team to embrace the positive aspects of the Jamaican culture; and the good Guyanese food was a true delight!

Missional engagement was certainly included in the schedule! The Campers remodelled the Secretary's Office at **Quamina House** (the Head Office of the Guyana Congregational Union). Through this venture, they learnt the value of volunteerism.

They also engaged in a scavenger hunt, which served to introduce the Jamaican team to popular and historical sites in Georgetown. These included: **The St. George's Cathedral, the Georgetown Court House, the Starbroek Market Clock, Durban Park** (where they took photographs with the 1763 Monument of

Cuffy), and the **Georgetown Botanical Gardens**, which they later roamed, and then visited the zoo. The Campers expressed that this scavenger hunt taught them that challenges may immediately follow the other, but we can overcome them if we have faith and patience.

There were other fun activities, including a Camp Fire, and Celebratory Dinner to commemorate eighty-four (84) years of the **Guyana Congregational Young People's Union**. The evening's activities included speeches by Ministers, Advisors, and the GCU Chairman, **Rev. Valeska Austin**, and presentations of Camp Prizes.

The following were awarded to Jamaican team members: **Mr. Conference 2018 – Mr. Bosworth Ewen, Miss Congeniality – Miss Tassania Henningham, and Second-Runner-up to Mr. Conference – Mr. Radrae Plummer**. During the appreciation ceremony, **Miss Ashley Murphy** was recognized for her outstanding involvement in the Camp.

We express our wholehearted appreciation to the **Council for World Mission (CWM)** for funding such an impactful event. CWM's Mission, "*Called to partnership in Christ to mutually challenge, encourage, and equip churches to share in God's Mission*" continues to take effect in the United Church for the good of all. Our young people have returned enthused and inspired to live Christ's vision for His body, in a holistic way. Indeed they are now more equipped to: "**Touch Lives, Nurture Disciples, and Seek Transformation through Christ**".

The UCJCI's next CWM-sponsored event will be the **Social Advocacy Training Programme** from **August 26-31, 2018**. Through this vehicle of Discipleship, CWM seeks to groom youths to influence others towards social action for mission. We give God the glory!



Campers at the Health Fair

Send comments and news about your congregation to: [ucjiupdate@gmail.com](mailto:ucjiupdate@gmail.com)

## LEADERSHIP CORNER

### Traits of a Leader Who Has Integrity

Integrity is critical to effective leadership. It includes, but goes beyond Honesty. Honesty is telling the truth—conforming our words to reality. Integrity is conforming reality to our words—in other words, keeping promises and fulfilling expectations. This requires an integrated character, a oneness, primarily with self but also with life.

Integrity is one of the most character-defining attributes a person can have. It defines who we are and what we stand for, and whether or not we can brave through conflict and hardship, while sticking to our values.

**Author Lachlan Brown** suggests thirteen (13) traits of persons with Integrity:

**HUMILITY:** Individuals with Integrity never truly understand the worth within themselves. They are humble, never thinking they live up to the standards society sets for them. They do not brag and do not show off what they have, because they are always striving to become better.

**GOODNESS:** They find joy in enriching the lives of those around them, even if it means sacrificing the happiness in their own lives for a while.

**AUTHENTICITY:** There is no better identifier for Integrity than authenticity. Authentic people show you their true selves; they do not live under a set of lies or any masks. They stick to what they believe in, no matter what.

**HONESTY:** We can't have Integrity without honesty. People with Integrity do not believe they need to lie, because they take pride in the truths that surround them. They know the life they want to lead, and that life includes one filled with honesty and truthfulness, not deception.

**TRUSTWORTHINESS:** A common sign of Integrity is trustworthiness. You can always rely on these people to have a word as strong as stone. Integrity pre-

vents people from letting others down, from betraying and from lying, because they respect those around them and themselves.

**THEY GIVE CREDIT:** When you meet someone with true Integrity, you can be certain that they will never try to steal your credit or take what you made and call it their own. They understand the value of hard work and dedication, and know the importance of giving credit where credit is due.

**THEY VALUE YOUR TIME:** So many people see no problem with being late, whether it comes to meetings or projects. But being late is a form of disrespect, and only those with true Integrity can see that. Instead, they stick to deadlines, schedules, and arranged set-ups, because they would never dare to waste anyone's time.

**THEY DON'T ARGUE RUDELY:** Rudeness is becoming an unfortunate part of society especially in the online world. We shout at each other and call each other names, and allow irrational emotional reactions to define the way we interact with the world. But people with true Integrity avoid these situations. They know how to disagree in a civil manner; they even know when it's better to just walk away.

**THEY GIVE SECOND CHANCES:** Oftentimes, we see someone make a mistake and our first impulse is to blame them, get mad at them, and call them out. But individuals with high levels of Integrity resist this impulse. Instead, they know how valuable it is to give others the benefit of the doubt. Don't assume the worst from everyone; if you suspect someone of lying or cheating but they claim otherwise, then find it in your heart to give them that second chance.

**EMOTIONALLY INTUITIVE:** Most people live as if they are the only important person in the world, not caring for the well-being of others, physical or

emotional. But when you have Integrity, you are more attuned with the world and those around you. You do not live in your own little bubble, but allow yourself to be a part of everyone else's. When you notice that someone is experiencing something troubling, you do your best to actively assist them with their situation. This is true Integrity.

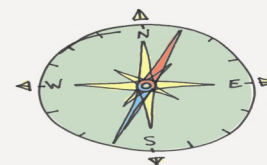
**APOLOGETIC:** For some of us, our inability to apologize is a matter of foolish pride taking precedence over rationality. Even though we know it would be better to apologize, we never let ourselves say those two simple words—"I'm sorry"—simply because we don't want to "lose". But true Integrity can see past the vanity of losing and winning, and prefers instead to create peace instead of tension. If this requires being the bigger man or woman and apologizing first, then so be it.

**ACCOUNTABILITY:** To a person with Integrity, nothing is more crucial than their word and their bond. Those with Integrity use accountability as the defining element in whether they can trust another person, or even trust themselves.

**GENUINENESS:** Nothing about an individual with Integrity is dishonest, untruthful, or a white lie. They believe that being genuine is the best way to interact with others and the world around them. They would bleed for their values and the truths that define them.

*Source: "People with True Integrity Have These 13 Awesome Traits" by Lachlan Brown*

*Shared by: Rev. Dr. Henroy Samuels in Synod Office devotions on August 20, 2018*

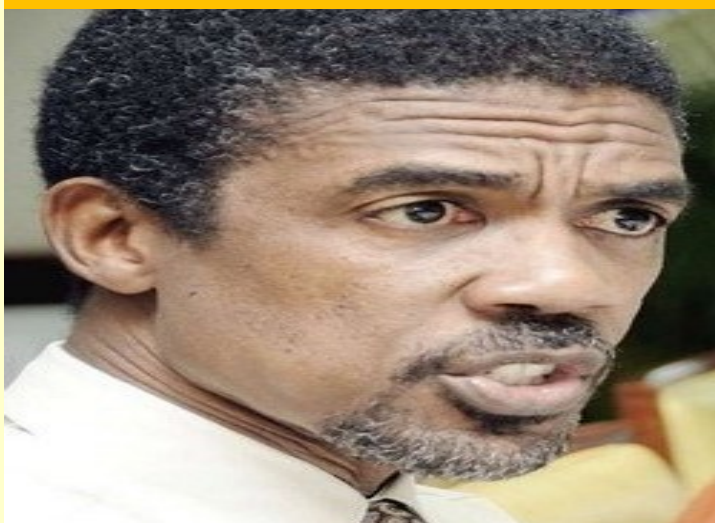


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## PROFILES OF NOMINEES FOR MODERATOR: 2019-2021

### Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans

### Rev. Gary Harriott



An ordained Minister of the UCJCI since 1986

Served in **pastoral ministry at St. Andrew Scots Kirk United Church** from 1983 to 1993

Became **Principal of Knox College** in 1994, a post he held for almost twenty (20) years, then **Head of Knox Community College** until his retirement from the institution in 2018

Was awarded the **Diploma in Ministerial Studies** from the United Theological College of the West Indies and **Licentiate in Theology** from the University of the West Indies

Obtained the **Doctor of Ministry degree** from Columbia Theological Seminary and the **Diploma in Education, specializing in Guidance and Counselling** from Church Teachers College

Was awarded the **Bachelor of Science degree in Economics** from the University of the West Indies and a **Master of Commerce degree in Economics** from the University of Melbourne, Australia

Recently served as **Chairman of the Southern Regional Mission Council** and is a **Founding Member of the Inner-City Development Trust**

**Member of the National Advisory Council on Disabilities, Caribbean Coordinator of the Ecumenical Disability Advocates Network of the World Council of Churches, Founding Member of the Cari-Folk Singers, and Member of the 3D Projects Management Committee**

Served as: **Chair of the Synod Committee on Disabilities, the former Education for Ministry & Mission and Strategic Planning Committees, Member of the Finance Committee and Member of the Board of the United Church Mission Enterprise**

Now serves as **Minister of St. Paul's United Church (Lockett Ave.)**

Ordained Minister since 1991

Served in **pastoral ministry at the East End/Gun Bay Charge in Grand Cayman, Ebenezer and Webster Memorial United Churches**, and presently on a part-time basis at the **Bryce Charge of United Churches** in Manchester

Served as **Interim Minister for the Shortwood and Lincoln Kirk United Churches**, and the **Denbigh and Lowe River Charges**, and was **Director of Youth Ministries, Chaplaincy and Counselling, and Ministerial Formation** for the UCJCI

Holds **Diplomas in Ministerial Studies** from the Jamaica Bible College and the United Theological College of the West Indies, a **Bachelor of Arts degree in Theology** from the University of the West Indies, a **Master of Arts degree in Pastoral Psychology and Counselling** from St. Stephen's and St. Andrew's College in Canada, in collaboration with the International University of the Caribbean (IUC), Jamaica

**General Secretary for the Jamaica Council of Churches** since September 2006 and **Secretary for the Jamaica Umbrella Group of Churches** from 2006-2018; **Former Coordinator of the Counselling programme at Webster Memorial's Eden Garden Social Services**, current **Host of the Family Counselling programme on RJR, Leader of Noonday Meditation on RJR, and Radio Jamaica's Spiritual Advisor**

**Lectured** on a part-time basis at the International University of the Caribbean, and has **positions on various Boards and Committees**. These include: **Director of The Violence Prevention Alliance, Director of LOVE FM, Director of the Ecumenical Loan Fund, Member of the National Leadership Prayer Breakfast Committee, Member of the World Council of Churches' Ecumenical HIV & AIDS Initiative and Advocacy Reference Group**

**Member of the General Council of the IUC**