



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

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nett Smith** 1-2

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PRAY FOR:



- **Rev. Bevis Byfield** who is not well
- **Rev. Dr. Margaret Fowler** who is not well
- The family of **Rev. Roy-land Thompson** who has passed on. His thanksgiving service will be held on **January 17, 2019 at 10 a.m. at Ridgemount United Church, Mandeville.**
- **Rev. Dr. Dave Hazle** whose mother-in-law, **Ms. Myrtle Kettle**, has passed on. Her thanksgiving service will be held on **January 19, 2019 at 10 a.m. at Hopewell Missionary Church, Han-over.**

Volume 5: Issue 2

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

WE HONOUR MRS. SHERNETT SMITH

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands seeks to wholeheartedly honour, and express appreciation for, **Mrs. Shernett Smith**, a faithful and longstanding member of the UCJCI, and recently retired Executive Director of our Shirley Retreat Hotel.

Mrs. Smith has been a member of this Church since 1959, under the antecedent Disciples of Christ denomination, and remains with us today. She is currently a member of **King's Gate United Church**, and was employed to the UCJCI for 38 years!

She served as **General Secretary of the Disciples of**

Christ from 1980 to 1992, as Deputy General Secretary of the UCJCI from 1992-1999, and as Director of Shirley Retreat Hotel and Jamaica Ecumenical Mutual Mission (JEMM) from 1989 to 2018. Indeed, she will continue to serve **JEMM** on a full-time basis.

Mrs. Smith's testimony is one of persistence and achievement. In her assignment at Shirley Retreat Hotel, she was responsible for significant strides taken by the organization.

She played a significant role in the structural development of the hotel—from a 4-bedroom house to a 13-bedroom facility. She was responsible for the develop-

ment of a 120-seat conference facility on property, as well as a small conference room that accommodates 10-12 persons.

Indeed, under her leadership, Shirley Retreat Hotel was converted from the status of Guest House, to what it is today.

Each year, Mrs. Smith faithfully led the organization to meet requirements for certification by the **Kingston & St. Andrew Health Department**. She adopted, as priority, the training and development of the team, ensuring customer satisfaction, and a hotel with a reputation for culinary excellence.

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Shirley Retreat Hotel



Mrs. Shernett Smith

CELEBRATIONS!



70:

Rev. Naggie Sterling

January 14

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Indeed, her journey at Shirley Retreat Hotel has been one of sacrifices for the cause and mission of Christ, but she shares that it has been, indeed, *rewarding*. For her, there were highs and lows on this pathway, but she remarks, *“Service done for Christ ultimately brings satisfaction and rewards.”*

In offering advice to upcoming leaders, she says, *“Be sure of the object of your service.”* Indeed, she will continue to follow her own advice in this new phase of her life, which, for her, will be marked by volunteerism.

For Mrs. Shernett Smith, the Mission of Christ is pre-eminent in her journey of life. We praise and thank God for her diligence and commitment. She has, indeed, made a tremendous contribution to the life and work of the UCJCI, and we honour her for her willing service. Her life of service is an example to us all.



Shirley Retreat Hotel's Restaurant

UCJCI FAMILY AD CORNER

FEB 2, 2019

**NERMC YAAM
Prayer Breakfast**

#Let's Get In The ACT!



**Special Guest
Speaker** **@PORT MARIA
UNITED CHURCH
ST. MARY**
8:30am
**Tickets
\$1000**
All proceeds... is in aid of Pringle Home for Children

**Four Paths United Church, Clarendon, will celebrate their
185th Anniversary, with a special Church Service on
Sunday, January 20, 2019 at 10 a.m.**

**Guest Speaker: Rev. Donald Williams, Minister of Port
Maria United Church**

All are invited to celebrate this wonderful milestone!!

LEADERSHIP CORNER

Discovering Your Authentic Leadership

Over the past 50 years, leadership scholars have conducted more than 1,000 studies in an attempt to determine the definitive styles, characteristics, or personality traits of great leaders. None of these studies has produced a clear profile of the ideal leader. Thank goodness.

If scholars had produced a cookie-cutter leadership style, individuals would be forever trying to imitate it. They would make themselves into personae, not people, and others would see through them immediately.

No one can be authentic by trying to imitate someone else. You can learn from others' experiences, but there is no way you can be successful when you are trying to be like them. People trust you when you are genuine and authentic, not a replica of someone else.

We are challenged to lead authentically, demonstrating a passion for our purpose, practising our values consistently, leading with our hearts as well as our heads, establishing long-term meaningful relationships, and having the self-discipline to get results. *Authentic leaders know who they are.*

How do you become an Authentic Leader?

Learn from your life story. The story of Authentic Leadership begins with understanding the story of your life. Through your life story, you can find the inspiration to make an impact in the world.

While the life stories of authentic leaders cover the full spectrum of experiences—including the positive impact of parents, athletic coaches, teachers, and mentors—many leaders have reported that their motivation came from a difficult experience in their lives.

They described the transformative effects of the loss of a job, personal illness,

the untimely death of a close friend or relative, and feelings of being excluded, discriminated against, and rejected by peers. Rather than seeing themselves as victims, though, authentic leaders used these formative experiences to give meaning to their lives. They reframed these events to rise above their challenges, and to discover their passion to lead.

Know your authentic self. One of the most important capabilities for leaders to develop is Self-Awareness. Yet many leaders, especially those early in their careers, are trying so hard to establish themselves, that they leave little time for self-exploration.

Often their drive enables them to be professionally successful for a while, but they are unable to sustain that success. As they age, they may find something is missing in their lives and realize they are holding back from being the person they want to be.

Knowing their authentic selves requires the courage and honesty to open up and examine their experiences. As they do so, leaders become more humane and willing to be vulnerable.

Practise Your Values and Principles. The values that form the basis for authentic leadership are derived from our beliefs and convictions, but you will not know what your true values are until they are tested under pressure.

Leadership principles are values translated into action. It is relatively easy to list your values and to live by them when things are going well. When your success, your career, or even your life hangs in the balance, you learn what is most important, what you are prepared to sacrifice, and what trade-offs you are willing to make.

Balance your extrinsic and intrinsic motivations. Because authentic leaders need to sustain high levels of motiva-

tion and keep their lives in balance, it is critically important for them to understand what drives them.

There are two (2) types of motivations—extrinsic and intrinsic. Although they are sometimes reluctant to admit it, many leaders are propelled to achieve by measuring their success against the outside world's parameters. They enjoy the recognition and status that come with advancement.

Intrinsic motivations, on the other hand, are derived from their sense of the meaning of their life. They are closely linked to one's life story and the way one frames it. Examples include personal growth, helping other people develop, taking on social causes, and making a difference in the world.

The key is to find a balance between your desires for external validation and the intrinsic motivations that provide fulfilment in your work.

Integrate your life by staying grounded. Lead a balanced life, bringing together all its elements—work, family, community, church, and friends, so that you can be the same person in each environment. All of these are essential to your effectiveness as a leader.

By creating a virtuous circle in which results reinforce the effectiveness of their leadership, authentic leaders are able to sustain those results through good times and bad. It may be possible to drive short-term outcomes without being authentic, but authentic leadership is the only way to create sustainable long-term results.

Source: "Discovering Your Authentic Leadership" by Bill George, Peter Sims, Andrew N. McLean, and Diana Mayer

