



# 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

12 Carlton Crescent,  
Kingston 10

Tel: 926-8734

E-mail: [synod@ucjci.com](mailto:synod@ucjci.com)  
Website: [www.ucjci.com](http://www.ucjci.com)

OUR VISION: "Touching  
Lives, Nurturing Disciples,  
Seeking Transformation

**SYNODICAL THEME:**  
"Renewal and Transfor-  
mation: Discipleship for  
Life"

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## PRAY FOR:



- **Revs. Dave Spence and Millard Edwards** who are recovering from illness
- **Rev. Raymond and Mrs. Ruth Coke** whose son, **Samuel Martin**, has passed on. His thanksgiving service will be held on **June 29, 2019** at **10 a.m.** at **Webster Memorial United Church**.
- **Rev. Walter Russell** who is ill

# MODERATOR'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO NERMC

**T**he Moderator of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, **Rt. Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans**, paid his first official visit to the **North-Eastern Regional Mission Council (NERMC)** from May 16-19, 2019, culminating in a worship service at **St. Andrew's Scots Kirk United Church, Kingston**.

This was part of a schedule of ten (10) visits to be paid by the Moderator across our four (4) Regions during his two-year term in office.

The visit to the NERMC was marked by activities such as fruit-tree planting at some of the UCJCI institutions, and visits to our retired, shut-in ordained and commissioned Ministers.

The worship service was inspiring, and captured the vision of the Moderator and the spirit of the Church in this new Synodical term.

The evening's cultural expressions resonated with the hearts of the people. Sharing in the ministry were: **The Carifolk Singers** with a

heartly selection of folk songs, the **Lincoln Kirk Cultural Ministry** offering dub-poetry by **Mr. Charles Roberts**, as well as ministry by saxophone offered by **Mr. Raheem Vassell**.

Adding to the depth and substance of the occasion were solo ministries by **Sisters**



The Moderator, Rt. Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans, recesses in dance

**Yvonne Miller of North Street United Church** and **Joan Jonas of Webster Memorial United Church**, songs by the **Duke Street and Meadowbrook United Church Choirs**, and praise and worship led by **St. John's United Church Praise Team**. Indeed, the audience was delighted by the rich ministry!

**Rt. Rev. Dr. Cowans** delivered an inspiring sermon based on **Jeremiah 20**. In this passage, the prophet Jeremiah confessed his frustration at the seeming long time the Lord was taking to fulfill His prophecies. He faced such ridicule, and as a result declared that he would no longer preach to the people. However, he confessed in verse 9, "But if I say, 'I will not mention His word or speak anymore in His name,' His word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot."

The Moderator thus encouraged the congregation that God's word is sure and we should, with assurance, "just do" what we are called to do. *How can we not? **God's word is alive inside of us.***

The time of worship was followed by a panel discussion in which the Moderator fielded questions about the direction of the Church. Those gathered left with food for thought, and the answer of renewed hope and expectation of a transformed Church. God be praised!

# CELEBRATIONS!

# MODERATOR'S VISIT TO NERMC



70:

*Rt. Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans  
July 1*



**The Platform Party** (from left): Mr. Alex Hayden, Liturgist; Rev. Roy Dodman, Chair of NERMC; Rt. Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans, Moderator, UCJCI; Rev. Norbert Stephens, General Secretary, UCJCI; and Rev. Dr. Henry Samuel, Regional Deputy General Secretary, NERMC

## UCJCI VALUES



**“In seeking to live out our calling, we particularly value and are committed to:**

**DISCIPLESHIP AND HOLINESS**—The intentional and relational development of believers to become mature followers of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:2, Colossians 3:1-17).



The congregation in worship

Fruit-tree planting at Camperdown High School during the Moderator's official visit to the NERMC



Some of the Ministers in attendance



The Carifolk Singers in song

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



## LEADERSHIP CORNER

### Relationships: Indispensable to Effective Leadership

**T**he ability to work with people and develop relationships is absolutely indispensable to effective leadership. If employees need good people skills, think about how much more critical those skills are for leaders.

People truly do want to go along with people they get along with. And while someone can have people skills and not be a good leader, he or she cannot be a good leader without people skills.

*What can a person do to manage and cultivate good relationships as a leader? It requires three (3) things:*

**Have a Leader's Head—Understand People.** The first quality of a relational leader is the ability to understand how people feel and think. As you work with others, recognize that all people, whether leaders or followers, have some things in common:

*They like to feel special, so sincerely compliment them.*

*They want a better tomorrow, so show them hope.*

*They desire direction, so navigate for them.*

*They might be selfish, so speak to their needs first.*

*They get low emotionally, so encourage them.*

*They want success, so help them win.*

Recognizing these truths, a leader must still be able to treat people as individuals. The ability to look at each person, understand and connect with him or her is a major factor in relational success. That means treating people differently, not all the same as one another. You have

to be able to adapt your leadership style to the person you're leading.

**Have a Leader's Heart—Love People.** Henry Gruland captures the idea: *"Being a leader is more than just wanting to lead. Leaders have empathy for others and a keen ability to find the best in people...not the worst...by truly caring for others."* You cannot be a truly effective leader, the kind who people want to follow, unless you love people.

**Extend a Leader's Hand—Help People.** People respect a leader who keeps their interests in mind. If your focus is on what you can put into people rather than what you can get out of them, they'll love and respect you—and those create a great foundation for building relationships.

#### Reflect on this...

*How are your people skills? Do you mix well with strangers? Do you interact well with all kinds of people? Can you find common ground readily? What about long-term interaction? Are you able to sustain relationships?* If your relational skills are weak, your leadership will always suffer.

#### To improve your relationships, do the following:

**Improve your mind.** If your ability to understand people needs improvement, jump-start it by reading several books on the subject. Then spend more time observing people and talking to them to apply what you've learned.

**Strengthen your heart.** If you are not as caring toward others as you could be, you need to get the focus

off yourself. Make a list of little things you could do to add value to friends and colleagues. Then try to do one of them every day. Don't wait until you feel like it to help others. Act your way into feeling.

**Repair a hurting relationship.** Think of a valued long-term relationship that has faded. Do what you can to rebuild it. Get in touch with the person and try to reconnect. If you had a falling out, take responsibility for your part in it, and apologize. Try to better understand, love, and serve that person.

In a short story titled *"The Capitol of the World"*, Ernest Hemingway tells about a father and a teenage son, Paco, whose relationship breaks down. After the son runs away from home, the father begins a long journey in search of him. Finally as a last resort, the man puts an ad in the local newspaper in Madrid. It read, *"Dear Paco, meet me in front of the newspaper office tomorrow at noon...all is forgiven...I love you."* The next morning in front of the newspaper office were eight hundred men named Paco, desiring to restore a broken relationship. Never underestimate the power of relationships on people's lives.

*Source: "The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader" by John C. Maxwell*





# UCJCI FAMILY AD CORNER

**THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS**



## SUMMER CAMP 2019

"Youth Campers" Something new and different is coming your way. LOOK OUT!

**THEME: DISCIPLES ON DI MOVE**

**DATES**

- Children's Camp: July 6 - 12 (Ages 8-10)
- Junior Camp: July 13 - 19 (Ages 11-13)
- Pacesetter Teens: July 20 - 26 (Ages 14-17)
- Discovery Teens: July 27 - August 2 (Ages 14-17)
- Young Adults Conference: August 15-18 (Ages 21-40)

**Camp Fee \$8700.00**  
Please note that the fee for Young Adults Conference is a separate cost

**Venue: Madge Saunders Conference Center  
Tower Isles, St Mary.**

Come and experience Spiritual Growth, Mission and Fellowship

The UCJCI's Men's and Women's Fellowship

**FREE ADMISSION**

**COME TO THE NATIONAL 'PASSPORT TO HEALTH' FAIR!!**

**Free Medical Tests and Counselling for the Family!**  
**Amazing Children's Village with 'Bounce-About'**  
**Spectacular Farmer's Market!**  
**Outstanding Lunch-Hour Concert & SO MUCH MORE!!**






**GRAND CONCERT**

Featuring:  
**Fab-5 Band!!**  
 with Gem Myers

**Sponsored By:**



**WHEN? - JUNE 29, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. WHERE? - THE GROUNDS OF MANCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL.**  
 REGISTER NOW! TEL: (876) 592-6030 / 999-4179.

**MT. OLIVET CHARGE OF UNITED CHURCHES**  
 PRESENTS ITS

# ONE DAY Believers' Convention

**THEME "SET YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER" 2 KINGS 20:1**

**SPEAKERS:**

- MORNING SESSION**  
**REV. RANSFORD SMIKLE**  
 SPALDINGS GOSPEL ASSEMBLY
- AFTERNOON SESSION**  
**REV. NORLEEN JACKSON**  
 SANTA CRUZ UNITED CHURCH
- HOST MINISTER**  
**REV. ROHAN A KONG**

**STARTS AT 10AM**


**SUNDAY JUNE 30 2019**

**MOUNT OLIVET UNITED CHURCH  
 WALDERSTON, MANCHESTER**

**LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!**  
 COME WITH YOUR PRAISE, EXPECT A BLESSING...

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

# Youth ENCOUNTER



**Fellowship Ministry Mission Discipleship Worship Evangelism**

**An Intense Encounter!!!**

**October 18-21, 2019**  
 Venue and cost to be announced!