



# 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 Disciples,  
Seeking Transformation  
through Christ"

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

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## PRAY FOR:



- Rev. Valerine Reynolds whose mother, Mrs. Daphne Delveta Nelson, has passed on. Her thanksgiving service will be held on **November 9, 2019** at **William Knibb Baptist Church, Trelawny**, at **11 a.m.**

- The people of **Haiti & The Bahamas**

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Wednesday, November 6, 2019

# We Celebrate Church School Month!!

**W**e celebrate Church School's Month in November, under the theme, "Transformers for Christ—The Mission is Possible!"

Through this theme, the Children's Ministry Commission sought to combine the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School, "Transformers for Christ", with the Synodical sub-theme for this Quarter, "The Disciple in Mission".

This theme combination was chosen as a way of assisting and encouraging our church school children to engage in evangelistic mission among their family members, neighbours, classmates, friends, and even those who may be considered their enemies.

During the month, children throughout our Regions will engage in missional activities, such as visiting a children's home and church members who are ill or shut-in. In some congregations, the children will even lead a Sunday worship service!

In addition to the commemoration of Church School Month, our Children's Ministry Commission has outlined various plans for ministry to, and by, our children. These include, *creating an annual Calendar of Activities, the introduction of Kidsquake (performing and visual arts competition) in all of our Regions, the production of a Children's Ministry Handbook, the creation of a bible curriculum for Church School for 2021, the training of our church school teachers using transformational teaching methods, the creation of an online children's ministry*

*page, as well as the introduction of dynamic performing arts and sports programmes.*

The Children's Ministry Commission also aims to engage our children in missional activities in our two (2) nations and abroad on a regular basis, and to work with partner churches overseas for such engagement. It is their intention to provide training for our church school teachers in evangelism and social outreach, who will, in turn, train the children on these areas.

The UCJCI is intent on being a children-friendly church, and this Commission was established to fulfil this vision. We thank God for all who labour in love in our congregations to assist our children to blossom and grow in the knowledge and disciplines of Christ. God be praised!



Bryce United Church's Vacation Bible School 2019 participants outside the sanctuary and during a peace march through the streets. The placard reads, "Take care of each other! Let there be peace!!"

# UCJCI VALUES

# PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS



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

**SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES** (Prayer, Fasting, Worship, etc.) - Personally and corporately communing with the Triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—attributing honour and seeking after God’s heart to be empowered for ministry (Psalm 95:1-6, Matthew 6:5-18).



**Above:** Baptism service at St. John’s United Church on October 27, 2019, being led by Interim Minister, Rev. Paul Dacosta-Pinto. **Below:** Reception of 12 new members at Portmore United Church on October 6, 2019.



Bryce United Church’s VBS 2019 participants visiting with Sis. Claudette Robinson, a shut-in school teacher.



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

## LEADERSHIP CORNER

### The Fulfilment Challenge of Leadership

**W**herever people find themselves in life, they usually possess the natural desire to move up. They want greater recognition. They want to make more money. They want to live in a better home. They want to advance and improve.

Leaders are no different. They want to move up rather than stay put. They want to make a greater impact. They want to be at the front of a pack or the top of an organization, especially early in their lives and careers. But is being out front really all that it's cracked up to be? I think the answer is yes and no.

#### Why Leaders Like the Front

There are advantages to being in front or on top of an organization. But the same things that can benefit leaders can also make leadership difficult.

**The front is the most recognized position for a leader**, but recognition is a double-edged sword. When things go wrong, the person recognized as responsible is also the leader. Yes, being in front can be good for your ego, but it can also cost you your job.

#### The view is better from the front.

There is a perspective that one has from the front (or top) of an organization that cannot be had from anywhere else. But responsibility comes with that perspective. If you see problems that threaten to derail the organization, harm employees, or cheat customers, you have a responsibility to try to resolve them—no matter how messy, costly, or difficult it is. Leaders at the front don't have the freedom to neglect what their position allows them to see.

**Leaders in front get to determine the direction.** Good leaders of organizations get to control mainly two things: direction and timing. Unfortunately, if they aren't leading well and people aren't following them, they can't

even control those two things.

**Leaders can set the pace.** Leaders love progress. It's one of their primary motivations. That's why explorer David Livingstone said, *"I will go anywhere provided it is forward."* As a leader, you probably love moving forward, and the faster the better. But that can also work against you. If you are running so far ahead that your people can't follow, then your organization won't succeed. Achievers often cross the finish line first, but leaders rarely do. A leader's success comes from bringing others across the finish line with them.

*How then can you be fulfilled in the middle of the pack?* The right attitude is absolutely essential to contentment in the middle of an organization. Truly, leadership is more disposition than position. With the right attitude and the right skills, you can influence others from wherever you are in an organization.

**So how do you develop an attitude of contentment and fulfilment right where you are?** Start by doing the following five things:

**Develop Strong Relationships.** The key to fulfilment isn't making every interaction with others go smoothly; it comes from developing strong relationships with them. It's more important to get along with people than to get ahead of them. If you make it your goal to reach out to others and build relationships with them, you will derive fulfilment wherever you are.

**Define a Win in Terms of Teamwork.** Legendary basketball coach, John Wooden, said, "The main ingredient of stardom is the rest of the team." In other words, teamwork is what creates success. One player may

be crucial to a team, but one player cannot make a team. That is also true of leaders.

**Engage in Continual Communication.** One of the frustrations of leaders who aren't in front or on top is that they are several steps removed from the source of the organization's vision. And since the vision is constantly being shaped and formed, it's important to engage in continual communication. If you're "in" on the vision and continually keeping up-to-date, then you won't be blindsided by changes or demoralized by being out of the loop.

While being the recipient of communication is important, it is equally or more important to communicate up. As you interact with your leaders, let them know how you are advancing the vision. Get their feedback and ask questions to find out if there are other things you should know to more effectively pass on the vision to others. The more you effectively you fulfil your role as a leader in the middle, the more fulfilled you will be.

**Gain Experience and Maturity.** Ed Cole said, "Maturity doesn't come with age. It begins with the acceptance of responsibility." When you begin looking at your life and work with more experience and a longer view, being in front doesn't seem as important. Focusing on the responsibilities with which you are entrusted wherever you are and completing them with excellence brings greater fulfilment than the position, title, or prestige one gets from being on top.

*Source: "The 360 Degree Leader" by John C. Maxwell*



# UCJCI FAMILY AD CORNER

The United Church in Jamaica  
and the Cayman Islands

**"OUR CHURCH" PUBLICATION IS NOW  
AVAILABLE!!!**



KYD 5.00 per copy  
JMD 800.00 per copy

- Useful for:
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  - Lay Pastors' Training
  - Elders' Training
  - Staff & Volunteers Orientation
  - Auxiliary Leaders' Training
  - Ministry Leaders' Training
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THE "OUR CHURCH" BOOK TELLS THE  
HISTORY, BELIEFS, GOVERNANCE, AND  
PRACTICES OF THE UNITED CHURCH IN  
JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS.

Contact your Regional Office to place your order.



The Ordination of

**Pastor Laddia D. Young**

**Pastor Alex D. C. Hayden**

to the

**Ministry of Word & Sacraments**

will be held on

**Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.**

**at the Ridgemount United Church,  
Main Street, Mandeville**

*"God called some to be...pastors..." Eph.4:11*



**NEED A  
RECORDING  
STUDIO?**

The United Church's Recording Studio is available

12 Carlton Crescent, Kingston 10  
Mondays to Fridays; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m

: 876-926-6059 or 876-926-8734

Recording of radio programmes, and voice overs for commercials and other types of broadcasts.

Cost: \$2,500 per hour for ministries and UCJCI institutions; \$3,000 per hour for non-ministries

St. John's United Church

**HARVEST  
SERVICE**

Sunday November 10, 2019

Worship Begins at 10:00AM