



CAYMAN ISLANDS  
REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

WEEKLY UPDATE!

OCTOBER 31, 2019

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CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION POLICY WORKSHOP  
PARTICIPANTS -OCTOBER 26, 2019



L-R Rev. L.Christopher Mason, Dr. E. Elizabeth McLaughlin, Ms. Laura Young, Ms. Camile Watt, Ms. Shana McLaughlin, RDGS, Mrs. Astra Christian, Mrs. Valerie Anderson, Mr. Andre Christian and Mr. Roy McGregor . To date 170 persons have been trained in the CIRMC.

*THE CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION (CCPP)  
POLICY OF THE UCJCI*

(Extract from the Preamble of the Policy Document)

At the **Synod of 2015** the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands passed a resolution to develop a **Child Care and Protection Policy** for the whole church. A policy that would not only protect our children but would protect our leaders most of whom are volunteers. For the United Church this is more than just writing a statement or for guidelines, this is a powerful commitment – a totally new strategy of engagement – a church that values its children and young people above rubies.

**The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands** has taken not only a local view of the situation of our children but a world view looking at policies in Africa, United Kingdom and Australia / Pacific; consulting with other agencies to begin to provide not only a legal statute for within the Polity of the Church but an overall training component that outlines the churches priorities and commitment to child protection, the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands is fully aware of the violent attacks on our children in Jamaica and the challenges faced in the Cayman Islands the realities are very clear our children must be protected at all times. As a church community we **need to ensure and understand how to take appropriate measures to protect our children's rights and promote violence free communities.** We have a commitment to work with families to protect children.

**Observance** of this policy is expected of **Clergy, Lay Pastors, Elders, Sunday School Teachers and Superintendents, Youth Leaders, Camp Counselors, Volunteers and all adults** within the Church environment interfacing with children on a regular basis. The policy also provides an overview of the training and support mechanisms being put in place to facilitate the sustainability of child welfare and protection in the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.

*PROVISIONS 1-4 OF THE CCPP*

1. **All children** in our care shall be “protected against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation” (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF, 1989). This will include advocating child health, safety and protection embodied in national legislation and partnering with other church communities as well as relevant Ministries Departments and Agencies to protect the rights of children. This role includes promoting and monitoring family welfare within church communities and upholding the observance of child rights in all activities of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.
2. **All children, and persons working with children** shall be **treated with dignity and respect** in actions, in attitude and in the thoughtful use of language as would be expected in Christian communication.
3. There shall be **adult supervision of children** during all activities of the United Church, which includes parental supervision and that conducted by caregivers and in the daily operation of United Church auxiliaries such as Children's Homes. It is also expected that, as much as is feasible, authorized, same-gender adult caregivers be used to accompany children to the bathroom during Church services and other activities.
4. **An arbitrator** to implement the policy will be appointed/or selected at national and local congregational levels. Performance of persons selected for these roles will be monitored on an ongoing basis. This role will be selected by Ministers within each United Church Congregation

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 1-4:** CWM Mission Audit and Strategic Planning Workshop -Council Office
- November 2:** 9:00 am **Special Council Meeting** – Launch of Lay Leadership Training Programme
- November 5:** 5:30 pm Treasurers' MAT Meeting -Council Office
- November 6:** 5:30 pm -Property MAT-Council Office
- November 7:** **5:30 pm** Strategic Development Task Force Meeting – Council Office
- November 14:** Ordination -Jamaica
- November 15-16:** CMC Meeting Jamaica



Rev. Rohan Forrester and the Webster Memorial Church Choir in worship on Reformation Sunday- October 27, 2019. Rev. Forrester reminded the Congregation that the Mission involved Waiting, Watching and Working!



- November 3:** Rev. Norman Francis
- November 10:** Rev. Godfrey Meghoo
- November 17:** Rev. Otto Menko
- November 24:** Ms. Camile Watt

*Please remember in your prayers- Rev. Joe Crawford, Rev. Harry Bodden, Mrs. Marge Quinland, Mr. McNee McLaughlin, the children at the Health City Hospital and all persons who are facing health challenges at this time.*

*Lord, in your mercy; hear our prayers.*

Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul. 3 John 1:2

### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP THANKSGIVING LUNCH

November 28, 2019 11am to 2pm

Elmslie United Church Hall

Cost: \$15.00

Tickets available from Women's Fellowship members.



### UCJCI TRAINING FOR LAY LEADERS

A NEW APPROACH TO TRAINING LAY LEADERS will begin in January 2020 in the United Church. This is for all members of the United Church who are interested in being trained for service in the church. All prospective Elders and Lay Pastors are required to undergo the training.

Training will be done in each Region during January to June focusing on topics which are vital to the role of leadership and includes areas such as Effective Caregiving, The Spirituality of the Leader and Leading Small Groups.

If you are interested, please contact the Regional Mission Council for dates, venue, costs and Registration Forms.

Please email [rdgs@cicucjci.com](mailto:rdgs@cicucjci.com) or [cirmcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:cirmcinfo@gmail.com)