



UCJCI UPDATE

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

THE UNITED CHURCH
IN JAMAICA AND THE
CAYMAN ISLANDS

Congregational
Disciples of Christ
Presbyterian

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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:



Dr. Norma Smellie, whose sister, Mrs. Thelma Williams, has passed on.

Persons in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands who suffered trauma and property damage from the recent earthquake.

Volume 6: Issue 7

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

United Church Women's Fellowship: Channels of Hope

The United Church Women's Fellowship has been a source of strength and the wind beneath the wings of outreach in many congregations across the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.

Celebrating Women's Fellowship Week from January 26 to February 1, 2020, the women across the Regions celebrated in their signature style of robust outreach and fund-raising!

Starting the morning on Women's Fellowship Sunday was a thoughtful conversation on the UCJCI's United in Faith radio programme by President-General of the Fellowship, Mrs. Pauline Bryan, who shared on the work and plans of this tremendous Movement. On that day, the Women's Fellowship was recognized in worship services in all

UCJCI congregations.

With one communal gathering in the Western Region, over 500 persons assembled at the Farm Heights United Church for Sunday worship, and later in the week, had numerous projects, including clean up of the Watson Taylor Beach in Lucea, Hanover.

In the North-Eastern Region, the sisters also engaged in numerous projects, visits to the sick and shut-in, and a fund-raising lap-a-thon in Port Maria and Kingston on February 1, 2020, with total participation by over 140 sisters! Emerging as trophy winner was New Bethel United Church, who

raised the most funds!

The Southern Region also engaged in numerous projects, with a rally and ingathering held on February 9, 2020 at Ridgemount United Church, where 200 sisters were in attendance. Palmer's Cross United Church was commended for having the highest returns on that day, while the Myrtle Grandison-Lawson Shield was awarded to Andrews Memorial United Church for the highest returns from their lap-a-thon!

We thank the Women's Fellowship of the United Church for their consistent and spirited labour of love to fulfill the mission of Christ in their communities, for the betterment of lives. They are, indeed, channels of hope and we are truly grateful for their unceasing contribution to the life and witness of Christ's Church! To God be all the glory.



Women's Fellowship members from the Western Regional Mission Council clean up the Watson Taylor Beach in Lucea, Hanover.

CELEBRATIONS!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP WEEK ACTIVITIES

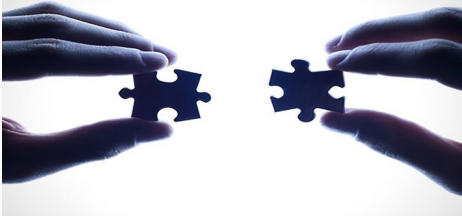


70:

Rev. Valerie Reynolds
February 19

Rev. Norman Francis
February 23

UCJCI PARTNERSHIPS



The United Church maintains special international relations with the **Council for World Mission (CWM)**, **The World Council of Churches (WCC)**, **The World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC)** and are ecumenical partners with **The Church of Scotland**, **The United Reformed Church in the UK**, **The United Church of Canada**, **Presbyterian Church USA**, **The United Church of Christ in the USA** and **Global Ministries** among others.



Prayer Breakfast in the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council



Members of New Bethel United Church's Women's Fellowship who won the NERMC lap-a-thon



Members of the Southern Regional Mission Council's Women's Fellowship at the rally and ingathering



Send comments and news about your congregation to: ucjciupdate@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP CORNER

Practice to Lead Across

Leading is not a one-time event; it's an ongoing process that takes time—especially with peers.

If you want to gain influence and credibility with people working alongside you, then don't try to take shortcuts or cheat the process. Instead, learn to understand, practice, and complete the leadership loop with them. *What does the leadership loop look like?* Caring, Learning, Appreciating, Contributing, Verbalizing, Leading and Succeeding. It's a cycle that starts with caring and ends with succeeding.

CARING—Take an Interest in People. This may sound too simple, but it really all starts here. You have to show people that you care about them by taking an interest in them. Many leaders are so action-oriented and agenda driven that they don't make people a high enough priority. If that describes you, then you need to turn that around.

Look for value in every person. Put yourself in others' shoes. Find reasons to like them. You won't take an interest in people if deep down you care nothing about them. And if you care nothing about them, that flaw will always be a hindrance to your ability to lead people.

LEARNING—Get to Know People. Showing people that you care about them is always a good thing. But also make an effort to get to know them as individuals. Take the time to talk to peers in the organization. Ask to hear their stories. Try to discover their best skills. Learn to appreciate their differences. Ask for their opinions on work-related issues. And as much as you can, try to put yourself in their shoes.

APPRECIATING—Respect People. We tend to appreciate people who can do things we admire. That's only natu-

ral. But if we only appreciate people like ourselves, we're missing so much. We should strive to see others' unique experiences and skills as a resource and try to learn from them. If you treat your peers and team members with this kind of respect, appreciating them for who they are, then they will be more likely to respect and listen to you in return.

CONTRIBUTING—Add Value to People. Few things increase the credibility of leaders more than adding value to the people around them. That is especially true when they are neither obligated to do it nor likely to receive any kind of direct benefit from it. When you go out of your way to add value to your peers, they understand that you really want them to win with no hidden agenda of their own.

Here are some suggestions for how to get started:

Don't keep your best stuff to yourself. Our natural tendency is to protect what's ours, whether it's our turf, our ideas, or our resources. But if you share what you have when it can help others, you really send a positive message to the people who work with you.

Fill in their gaps. Instead of exploiting other people's gaps to get ahead of them, why not fill in each other's gaps and both get ahead?

Invest in their growth. Why not share resources with your peers? As the saying goes, when you light another's candle, you lose nothing of your own. You just produce more light.

Take them along. If you want to influence your peers, share the good things you're doing with them.

VERBALIZING—Affirm People.

Take a moment to think about the teachers you've had in your life. *Who were your favourites? Why did you like those teachers more than the dozens of others?* If you're like most people, it was because they affirmed you and made you feel good about yourself.

The word *affirm* comes from *ad firmare*, which means "to make firm". So when you affirm people, you make firm within them the things you see about them. Do that often enough, and the belief that solidifies within them will become stronger than the doubts they have about themselves. Praise their strengths. Acknowledge their accomplishments. Say positive things about them to your leader and peers.

LEADING—Influence People. The things you've done up to now have served to build your relationship with them, give you credibility, and display that your motives are good. With that kind of history, you will have earned the opportunity to influence them.

SUCCEEDING—Win with People. Good leaders balance two very important motivations. *The first is to fulfil their vision. The second is to see others succeed.* Great leaders don't use people so that they can win. They lead people so that they all can win together. If that is truly your motivation, you can become the kind of person others want to follow. Your peers and team members will ask three questions: *Can I trust you? Are you committed to this? Do you care about me as a person?* If the people around you can answer yes to all of those questions, then you have a very good chance of making an impact on their lives.

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



UCJCI FAMILY AD CORNER



United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands
Renewal and Transformation: Discipleship for Life

SYNODICAL *Ash Wednesday* CONVOCATION 2020

Evangelism: The Heartbeat of the Church
FEBRUARY 26, 2020

WESTERN REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

VENUE: West Jamaica Seventh Day Adventist Conference Centre, Mt. Salem, St. James | TIME: 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
SPEAKER: Rev. Donovan McPherson, Minister, Eltham United Church

NORTH-EASTERN REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

VENUE: Boulevard Baptist Church, 2 Washington Boulevard, Kingston 10 | TIME: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
SPEAKER: Rev. Norbert D. Stephens, General Secretary, UCJCI

SOUTHERN REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

VENUE: Clarendon College, Chapelton, Clarendon
TIME: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. | SPEAKER: Rev. Lembe Sivile,
Minister, Lowe River Charge of United Churches

CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

VENUE: Savannah United Church, Grand Cayman
TIME: 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | SPEAKER: Rev. L. Christopher Mason,
Minister, George Town Charge of United Churches

ADMISSION: FREE!! COME FOR RENEWAL AND INSPIRATION!!

Worship, Message from our Moderator, Rt. Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans, Communion celebrations & Sermon.
Special programmes for children, youth, women and men, and afternoon group discussions on evangelism!!



WRM C REGIONAL & SYNODICAL ASH WEDNESDAY CONVOCATION

FEB 26
8:30AM
-
3:00PM
WEAR PURPLE

PREACHER: REV. DONOVAN MCPHERSON

EVANGELISM & HOLY COMMUNION

THEME: EVANGELISM: 'THE HEARTBEAT OF THE CHURCH'

PROVISIONAL LICENSING OF LAY TRAINING STUDENTS

SNACK AND WATER COUNTER BUT TAKE YOUR OWN LUNCH



North Eastern Regional Mission Council's



SYNODICAL ASH WEDNESDAY *Convocation*

February 26, 2020

THEME:
Evangelism:
The Heartbeat of the Church

Boulevard Baptist Church
2 Washington Boulevard, Kingston 10
@ 9:00 a.m.

