



UCJCI UPDATE

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

THE UNITED CHURCH
IN JAMAICA AND THE
CAYMAN ISLANDS

Volume 7: Issue 1

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

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"

UCJCI VALUES

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)

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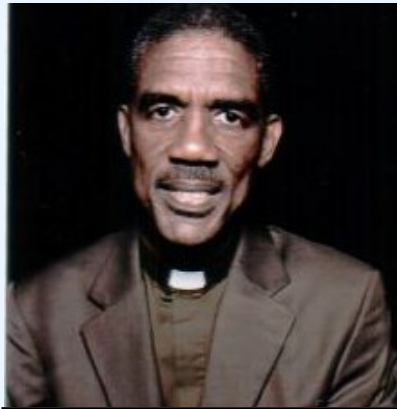
FACING THE NEW YEAR WITH RESILIENCE— FI WI GOD GREAT FI TRUE!

God's Word had been clear and continues to be clear as to how people ought to live to promote health, wellbeing and fulfillment in the whole human race.

The Prophet Micah in chapter 6:8, declares it as succinctly as ever, *what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.* To make this New Year truly new and different, the church and every Christian, every person must hear and heed this call to justice, mercy and humility. You and I have it within us to help to usher in a new normal in which our neighbour's wellbeing is as important to us as our own. A new normal in which all our children become increasing safe because we play our role in that village that it takes to raise a child. When food security is enhanced because we each commit to plant some food bearing plant in our yard, on our verandahs, or in every church yard. That new normal could be when community and national leadership is chosen based on their commitment to righteousness and justice.

That normal will align itself with the will of the great God to whom we pray when we say, *Thy will be done on earth.*

As people of faith we stand together today at the launch of a new year convinced as the apostle was when he wrote to the Romans in Chapter 8:28, *we know that all things work together for good to those who love God and to those who are the called according to His purpose.* It is a statement which defies the calamitous experience of a time of great trial and testing.



Rt. Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans—Moderator,
The United Church in Jamaica and the
Cayman Islands

That even in these unprecedented tribulations, the great God we serve is aiding us to find purpose in the pain, purpose which will lead His people to even deeper commitment to follow His will. Yes, this dreadful, traumatic experience of a global pandemic can be turned for good as the people of God

reach out to grasp every opportunity to humbly live, to promote loving mercy and justice for all.

Let Christians everywhere be in the forefront of the creation of a new normal, more carefully aligned with the will of God.

Let this be the year !



YOUTH NEWS**UCYAAM—OUT OF THE STARTING BLOCK****JANUARY
IS UCYAAM
MONTH**

UCYAAM is the United Church Young Adults Action Movement. During January UCYAAM has organised a number of activities to introduce their theme for the year

***Called to Serve
for Such a Time
as This.***

**For further information
contact:**

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UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

Young Adults Action Movement

Discipleship for Life: Called to serve for such a time as this.

**YOUNG ADULTS MONTH CELEBRATION 2021:
EVANGELISM THE HEART BEAT OF OUR CHURCH**

Our theme for this year is *Called to serve for such a time as this.*

Inspirational Passages: Esther 4:14, Matthew 25:14-27, Romans 8:30, St. John 21:1-19

Our approach to Evangelism:

- Sharing the word of God in creative ways – **Virtual Crusade**
- Sharing our resources (time, money, gifts, and talent) - **UCYAAM CARES DAY**
- Worship and fellowship – **UCYAAM Church Service**

VIRTUAL CRUSADE----- January 10 – 15, 2021

Select churches will be invited to host each night. The Young Adults from the selected churches are expected to play a leading role in the service.

UCYAAM CARES DAY----- January 16, 2021

Our logo is a reminder of the call to reach out to our fellowmen in needs meeting ways. *UCYAAM Cares day* is that day when all young adults across all regions demonstrate to their communities how much they care. We invite you to share pictures of your act of care with us

UCYAAM CHURCH SERVICE----- January 17, 2020

Due to the pandemic, we encourage local and virtual church services. We further encourage:

- A time of prayer for those who are enduring difficult times,
- Prayer of thanksgiving for God's faithfulness in good and bad times
- A time of prayer to ignite the passion in us to serve God's people.
- The collection of a walk-up offering in aid of our UCYAAM Cares Project to purchase and donate six (6) gadgets to needy students in mission councils

YOUTH NEWS**UCYPF LAUNCHES NEW THEME—C.L.I.C.K.**

Happy New Year

Youths, let us declare a future filled with joy and perseverance, having learnt from the past and overcoming our individual hurdles.

This year, be encouraged to commit, lead and inspire in Christlike knowledge (CLICK):

- *Commit to being living sacrifices aiming to develop a strong personal relationship with God, bolstered by the renewal of our minds.*
- *Lead enthusiastically as examples, knowing that God equips the called and has charged you to care for His sheep.*
- *Inspire others to LOVE God, their neighbours and self, in thoughts, words and deeds to strengthen each other and ultimately please God.*

*Love and blessings,
Vanessa Blissett
Synodical President*



“Youths, let’s C.L.I.C.K.”

We are excited to announce our new theme for the UCYPF
Synodical tenure of 2020-2022.

We are looking forward to
Committing, **L**eading and **I**nspiring in **C**hristlike **K**nowledge
with you.

Follow us on



@ucjci

Let us Pray

In the recent New Year's Sunday message, the Moderator, UCJCI, issued a rallying call. Let us commit to prayer.

Respect for the elderly.

Let this be the year when our elders and the elderly are accorded respect and consideration due them.



Protect creation.

Let this be the year when the protection of our environment is accepted as a stewardship responsibility to God who is the owner and provider.



End Domestic Violence

Let this be the year when domestic violence, with its disproportionate effect on women and children, fall to an all-time low.



Healthcare a human right.

Let this be the year when basic standards of healthcare are universally accepted as a human right.



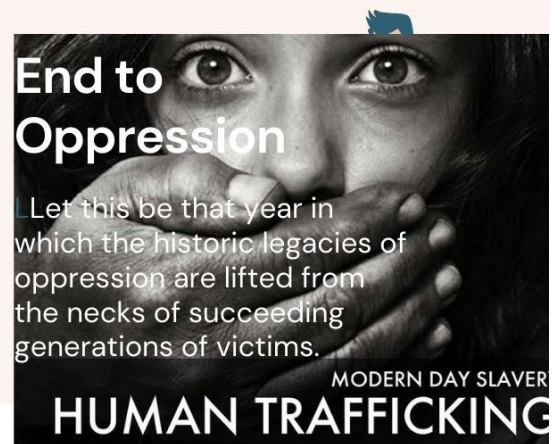
Prioritise Education

Let this be the year when all children's educational opportunities are prioritized.



End to Oppression

Let this be that year in which the historic legacies of oppression are lifted from the necks of succeeding generations of victims.



MODERN DAY SLAVER

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

CELEBRATIONS!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January 2



Rev. Karlene Thomas Barnes

January 3



Rev. Lloyd Reid

January 3



Rev. Alice Blair

January 5



Rev. I. Wayne Silvera

January 8



Ms. Ceta Rose

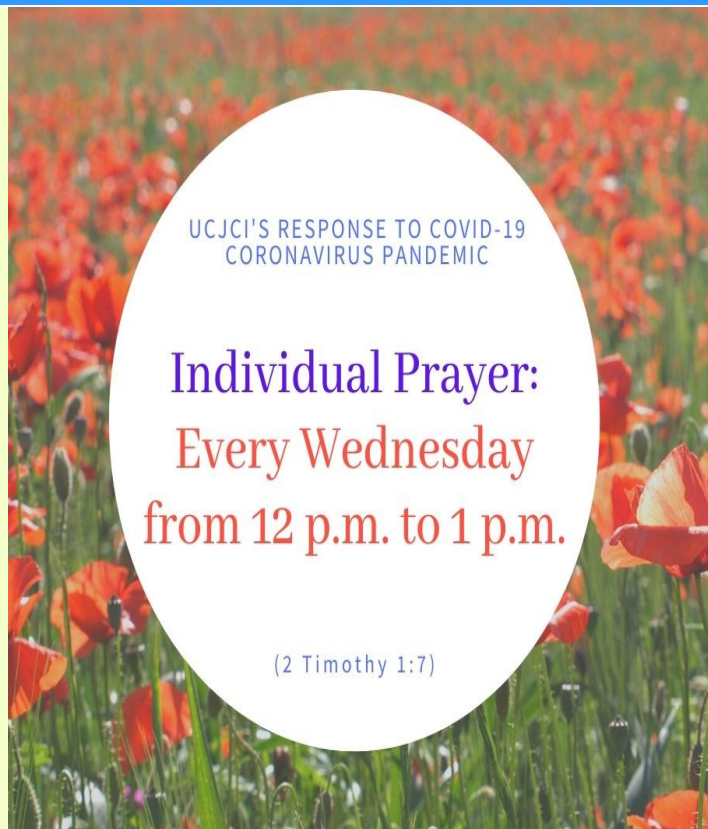


Rev. Laddia Young

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING:

LET US PRAY FOR:

- ◆ Rev. Dr. Roderick Hewitt and family at the passing of his sister Mrs Essiline Smith who resided in the USA
- ◆ Continued concerns for the education of children and youth in Jamaica
- ◆ Persons who are finding it difficult to adapt to the changes brought on by COVID 19
- ◆ Decision-making about the livelihood of persons in public and private sector spaces in Cayman and Jamaica
 - ◆ Rev. Donovan Myers and family
- ◆ Discernment of God’s will and direction as the New Year begins



HOUSE WORSHIP LITURGY THEMES FOR JANUARY

The liturgy developed by the House Worship Team will reflect the Synodical worship themes.

THEME FOR THE MONTH: Rooting our Physical Health in God brings us Hope

January 10

Anointed by the Holy Spirit so that our physical lives may be restored.

January 24

Surely God is with us

January 17

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?

January 31

God has brought us through many physical tribulations and God deserves our unreserved praise and thanks

Liturgies are available from your Minister/Lay Pastor, Communication Officer for your congregation and from your Regional Mission Council Office.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE...

- ◆ The Women and Men lay out their plans
- ◆ Be a World Changer!

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