



UCJCI UPDATE

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THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

Congregational Disciples of Christ and Presbyterian

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OUR VISION: "Touching lives, Nurturing Disciples, Seeking Transformation through Christ."

ON BEING A SERVANT-LEADER

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PRAY FOR:



Our soon to be ordained Ministers of the Word and Sacraments:

Mr. Donald Burke
Mr. Rohan Kong
Mr. Carlington Douglas

Ridgemount United Church, November 9, 2017 at 2.30 p.m.

The role of the Christian Disciple as a Servant Leader is the theme of the broadcast aired on the UCJCI's United in Faith radio programme on Radio Jamaica 6:30 am on Sundays.

As part of the series there was an interview of soon to be ordained Ministers of the Word and Sacraments, Ministry Interns Rohan Kong, and Carlington Douglas.

Other programmes will also look at the lay leader, especially those assigned to the care of our children in Sunday school, as well as camps and even in our schools.

Photos on Page 2, show workshops being carried out on the Child Protection Policy in the NERMC Region.

But **Who is a Servant-Leader?** This is at the heart of the issue, and will

be the topic of an interview with the **Rev. J. Oliver Daley**, veteran retired UCJCI Minister, who many believe epitomise one of the best servant-leaders who have come out of the United Church.

The modern servant-leadership movement was launched by Robert K. Greenleaf in his 1970 essay, "**The Servant as Leader**," in which he coined the terms "servant-leader" and "servant leadership".

The concept of the leader as servant however was God's. In the St. James Bible, the word **leader** is used only six times. More frequently the role is called "servant." In fact God referred to Moses, not as His leader, but as His

'servant'. This is also what Christ taught. In His teaching of leadership, Jesus revolutionized the concept, by overturning the existing order for, the term "**servant**" was understood everywhere then to mean "low prestige", "low respect", and "low honour" – not a role to which many people would be attracted.

However, being a "servant" is His requirement for those who would want to lead in His Kingdom. He said of Himself, in Mark 10:45, "*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*"

During the interviews, some principal characteristics of the Servant-Leader are revealed. They include the following:



WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE “SERVANT-LEADER?”



●**Dependence.** Jesus surrendered the privileges of His God-nature and became dependent on His heavenly Father. He became in all ways like a human being. As we become “empty” of self and dependent on God, the Holy Spirit will use us. Humility then is an essential quality of the servant-leader,

●**Approval.** God took delight in His servant Jesus. On at least two occasions God declared that delight audibly. (Matthew 3:17; 17:5) That delight is reciprocal. Jesus said. “I delight to do thy will, O my God.” (Psalm 40:8) **Take delight in doing acts of service to God and to others in His name!**

●**Modesty.** God’s servant conducts a ministry that appears almost self-effacing. This is demonstrated by Jesus, when He responded to the temptation of the devil for Him to grab a headline-grabbing leap from the rooftop of the temple (Matthew 4:5) Jesus exemplifies the description of God in Isaiah 45: 15, in the words “*truly you are a God who hides himself.*”

****Be modest in your approach to your servant ministry***

●**Empathy.** The Lord’s servant is sympathetic with the weak, and is mercifully understanding to those who err. This is a characteristic of God’s Agape love! The ideal servant does not trample on the weak or failing. ■

ABOVE:

A cross-section of the many who attended the North Eastern Regional Mission Council’s Capacity Building Workshop on Reformation Theology. This was led by Rev. Tara Tyme-Campbell, Minister of St. Paul’s United Church, Montego Bay.

AT LEFT:

Rev. Jane Kaluba, Mission partner from Zambia, serving in the Immanuel/Boscobel Charge, joined in the proceedings with enthusiasm, showing off her national dress.

