

July 14, 2021



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# Plant What You Eat- Home Garden Programme Launched

## Historic MOU Signed

## Why Thursdays in 'Black'?

## Vacation Bible School RIDING IN HOPE

VOLUME 7  
ISSUE 28

Our Vision: Touching Lives, Nurturing Disciples, Seeking Transformation through Christ

# ‘Two are better than One’

## Council for World Mission and Caribbean and North America Council for Mission Sign Historic MOU



In the final of our series on UCJCI working in partnership we return to two organizations previously featured which have made a significant move of committing to work together.

In a momentous occasion on 7 July 2021, long standing partners in mission, the Council for World Mission (CWM) and the Caribbean and North America Council for Mission (CANACOM) renewed their partnership through a revised MOU. The occasion was marked by an online signing event via the Zoom video conferencing platform.

Pictured above are the signatories to the MOU, Rev. Dr. Jooseop Keum (left) – CWM’s newly appointed General Secretary and Rev. Carlington Keen (right) Chair of CANACOM. The moment of signing was completed by applause and cheers from the on looking audience who noted their joy to have witnessed the moment of renewed partnership and the exciting possibilities for ongoing partnership in the Caribbean and North America. In attendance were CWM’s outgoing General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Collin Cowan who shared with CANACOM’s Education in Mission Secretary, Mrs. Jennifer P. Martin, in the historical recounting of the partnership journey between CANACOM and CWM. Present also, were members of CWM’s Board of Directors, members of CANACOM’s Finance and Administrative Committee and CANACOM’s Council Members

Moderator of CWM, Rev. Lydia Neshangwe, shared in the celebration and offered the closing charge referencing Ecclesiastes 4: 9-10. She noted that the partnership and its outworking, as was evident in the event, restored the fact that

"hope is real". The audience was reminded of the importance of walking in partnership as two were better than one, since both could help each other.

The event ended with both organizations giving an update on their work and stating their commitment to the continued partnership, especially in the Caribbean Region.

### RETRACING THE STEPS OF RELATIONSHIP

*Rev. Dr. Collin Cowan and Mrs. Jennifer Martin provided the virtual gathering with a historical context of the relationship between CANACOM and CWM in a joint retracing of history.*

Established in 1977, as the successor to the London Missionary Society, Council for World Mission (CWM) is a worldwide partnership of 32 member churches who are committed to sharing their resources of money, people, skills

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and insights to carry out God's mission globally and locally. In pursuit of its vision, 'Life-flourishing Communities, living out God's promise of a New Heaven and a New Earth', CWM develops strategies and designs programmes to carry out its mission, 'Called in Christ to radical and prophetic discipleship, working in partnership with churches and the ecumenical community to resist life-denying systems, affirm peace, do justice and enable life- flourishing communities'.

CWM was an integral part in the formation and the development of the Caribbean and North America Council for Mission (CANACOM). Both bodies have remained in close relationship since CANACOM's birth on September 11, 1986.

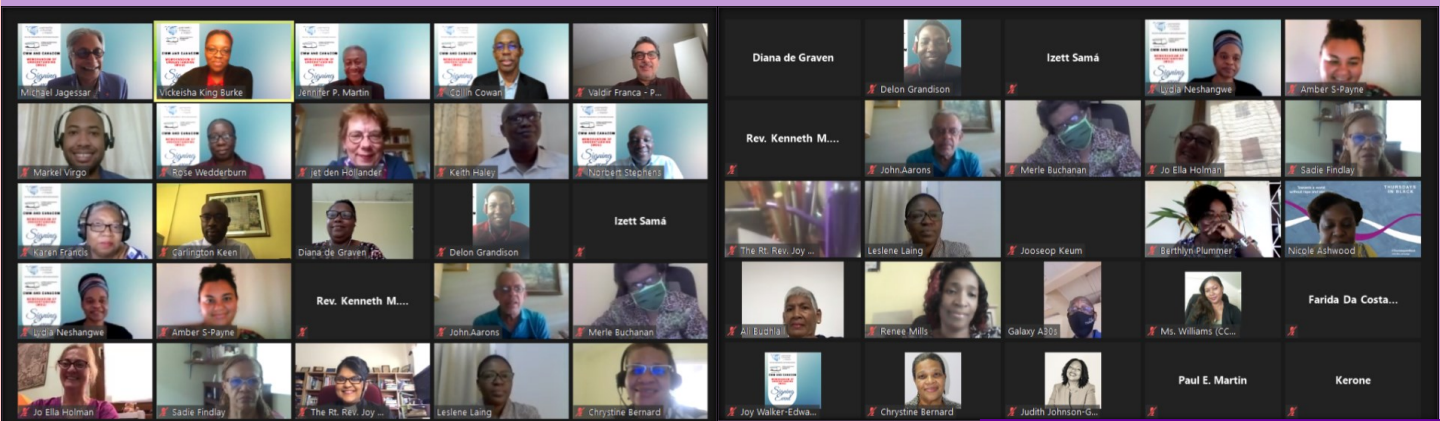
CANACOM began in a Spirit-moving way. The Presbyterian Church of the USA (PCUSA) felt that it needed a wider and more mutual way of doing mission and the Rev. Dr. Cliff Kirkpatrick, the then Director of Missions, became very impressed with the concept of "mutuality in mission" which was being advocated by the Council for World Mission (CWM).

Rev. Kirkpatrick decided to visit the headquarters of CWM in London to discuss with the then General Secretary, Rev. Dr.

From the discussion, it was felt that the idea had real merit and both pledged to interest their respective groups of Churches in implementation – the Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, the Reformed Churches of North America, and the Rev. Dr. Maitland Evans, the Reformed Churches of the Caribbean. Fortunately the Reformed Churches of the Caribbean were already together in an ecumenical body which had a mission dimension – the Caribbean Association of Reformed Churches (CARC).

CANACOM is a mission partnership of churches in the Caribbean and North America which practices a unique vision of God's mission, based on mutuality. The mission statement of CANACOM is "A call to bear common witness, to challenge and empower one another for creative involvement in mission". Created as a vehicle for partnership in mission in the Caribbean and North American contexts, there are currently fourteen (14) Member Churches in CANACOM. Facilitating the mission of these churches in their contexts as well as common initiatives within the partnership, CANACOM functions as both facilitator and collaborator.

The special relationship with CWM was undergirded in part by its generous financial contribution which formed an



Attendees at the virtual MOU signing.

Bernard Thorogood, the possibility of the PCUSA becoming a member of CWM. During the discussion, he suggested that instead of the PCUSA becoming a member of CWM, it would be of greater significance if that Church could partner with the Reformed Churches in the Caribbean, as well as other Reformed Churches in North America, to form a body in the Western world, similar to that of CWM, based on the concept of mutuality in mission.

This would be particularly meaningful, he declared, as the only geographical area of the world in which CWM did not have a presence was North and South America. The PCUSA had had long- standing relationships with many Churches in the Caribbean, including the United Church of Jamaica and Grand Cayman, which was a member of CWM. Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick returned with the idea and during a discussion on bilateral relationships, mentioned it to the Rev. Dr. Maitland Evans, the then General Secretary of the United Church of Jamaica and Grand Cayman.

endowment fund towards CANACOM's sustainability. It should also be mentioned that in addition to the financial support, the link between CWM and CANACOM was maintained by four other means:

- CANACOM was regarded by CWM as "the visible expression of the CWM concept of mutuality in mission" in the Western world.
- The Young Adults in Mission (YAM) Work camp was regarded as a joint programme between CANACOM and CWM, as representatives from the other five regions of CWM have the right to be participants in the Work camps. In addition to contributing 50% of the budget of the Work

*Cont'd on page 4*

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camp, CWM paid the airfares for these participants.

- The Commission on Women and Men in Mission was regarded as a joint programme between CWM and CANACOM.
- It was agreed that CANACOM would send a participant to the Training in Mission (TIM) programme of CWM each year.

Throughout the years, the relationship has grown from strength to strength. This MOU builds on the Report and MOU of 1998 and the concrete ways in which the working relationship of CANACOM and CWM through the Caribbean Region has evolved. Hence, today's event marks both continuity and the beginning of a new era in our journey in mission together.



Moderator of CWM, Rev. Lydia Neshangwe, shared in the celebration and offered the closing charge.

Contributed by Vickeisha King Burke

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- B.Sc. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (WITH PROGRAMME AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT)
- B.Sc. PROGRAMME AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT
- B.Sc. TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT
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**APPLY FOR 2021**



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MANDEVILLE: 876.631.8716 / 876.632.4075  
TOWER ISLE: 876.341.0734  
MONTEGO BAY: 876.940.0382 / 876.971.8401

# Moderator's Musing



## *Why Thursdays in "Black"?*

"Thursdays in Black" is the tagline used in mobilising the global campaign of the church against violence in general, especially violence and rape against women and girls. The negative connotation that is at times associated with "**Blackness**" has made it challenging for some persons to embrace the campaign, even though they share its vision.

"**Black**" is used in many cultures to signify **mourning**, and so, when we wear the colour "**black**" on Thursdays as part of this Campaign, we are mourning with those who have been victims of violence and rape; we are standing in solidarity with them; sharing their pain and disappointment that instead of providing care and protection, their places of safety (home, church, community, society) have become the source of their hurt. When we **together** wear "**black**" we send a strong statement to our societies that violence and rape are terrible crimes against humanity and should NOT be tolerated.

"**Black**" is a colour of **strength, determination and resilience**. In fact, some people feel intimidated by the colour. To wear "**black**" on Thursdays is to connect with the strength we possess, and that if we act together, we can overcome this scourge of violence and rape. "**Black**" speaks to the seriousness and resoluteness with which we must be prepared to take on this problem of violence and rape.



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



# PLANT WHAT YOU EAT!

## GREENDALE UNITED CHURCH LAUNCHES HOME GARDEN PROGRAMME



The Greendale United Church under the directive from God, "Plant gardens and eat their produce". Jer. 29:5b, and recognizing the increasing percentage of food insecurity in the Jamaican population, launched their Home Garden Programme (GUHG) on Sunday July 4, 2021 in their worship service under the theme "*Plant What You Eat*".

As a pre-launch activity the Minister, Rev. Dwight Kelly, and Co-ordinator, Mrs Kimberley Matthews, engaged in a radio interview on Power106 **Farm Talk** programme with Althea McKenzie on Thursday July 1, 2021.

The Programme is a food security in-reach out-reach ministry for congregants and community members to grow their own food also helping the

less fortunate.

As part of the launch on Sunday afternoon a riveting and informative presentation was made by Mr. Locksley Waites Agronomist, National Co-ordinator Fruit Trees Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) giving tips for Home Gardening. This was followed by an engaging question and answer session. We were joined by our Moderator Rt Rev Gary Harriot who congratulated the efforts and closed with the benediction.

The covenantal programme will see participants receiving seedlings and seeds. The participants will give frequent updates and in the process under some special categories receive prizes and surprises.



Mr. Locksley Waites Agronomist, National Co-ordinator Fruit Trees Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) giving tips for Home Gardening.



Ms. Kimberley Matthews, Coordinator of the Greendale United Home Garden Programme (GUHG)

### Home Gardening

- Home gardening is the act of turning an outside space into a productive and functional area for the family.



- Home gardening involves growing fruits, vegetables and herbs for personal consumption.

### Getting Started

There are a few simple ingredients for success

- a little bit of room
  - Sunlight
  - Containers if needed
  - growing media
  - Water
  - nutrients
- The single most important ingredient for success is Tender Loving Care because your plants have to depend entirely on YOU for all of their needs.

### Benefits

- lowers the cost of providing your family with healthy, fresh food
- reduces the environmental impact of transporting and warehousing food
- makes your meals more personal, interesting
- connects your family to the natural cycles of weather, growth and renewal
- provides wholesome activity and lasting memories for your children

Information shared at the launch of the Home Garden Programme.

Rev. Dwight Kelly listens with interest at the launch of the Home Garden Programme





# Super Summer in the Spirit!

## Vacation Bible School

**THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS**

**VBS 2021**

Theme: *Riding in Hope*

**JULY 26-30**  
10 AM-11:15 AM

VIRTUAL REGISTRATION

**RIDE WITH US!**

What plans do you have for your children and youth this summer? How about our UCJCI age-appropriate activities? Contact the Programme Secretary in your Regional Mission Council for more information.

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



# ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND FACTS ABOUT PARISH DISASTER COMMITTEES

When one speaks of the role of Local Government in Disaster Management one is in fact speaking of the part played by the 13 Local Authorities (KSAMAC) and 12 Parish councils in planning for, responding to and educating communities about Disaster Management. These activities are carried out in collaboration with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM).

The Parish Councils play a very critical role in Jamaica's Disaster Management Programme, coordinating and providing leadership to other response agencies and organizations at the local level. Their existing programmes and human resources make them well placed to provide central government with vital information on the needs of residents and the state of infrastructure so that remedial action may be taken at the earliest possible time.

## What is the Parish Disaster Committee (PDC)?

The Parish Disaster Committee is a multi-agency organizing body that the ODPEM works through to effect emergency response at the local level. It therefore can be described as one of the most important components of the national disaster management structures that will enable timely, efficient and appropriate decisions to be taken in the event of a disaster.

## Who Comprises the PDC?

Parish Disaster Committees operate out of the Parish Council offices and are chaired jointly by the Custos and the Mayor of the parish with the Mayor being the working member of the committee. Each parish also has a Disaster Coordinator who is responsible for coordinating all the activities geared towards awareness, prevention, mitigation and response. Other members of the committee consist of Councillors, key representatives of the Parish council system such as the Poor Relief, Roads and Works, representatives from the Jamaica Constabulary Force, the Jamaica Fire Brigade, government ministries and agencies represented at the parish level such as the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS), the Jamaica Information Service (JIS), National Works Agency, utility companies and voluntary organizations.

## Functions of the PDC

Each Parish Disaster Committee has the responsibility for formulating its own parish disaster plan to meet local



emergencies in keeping with guidelines set out by the ODPEM. There are six sub-committees, which carry out their roles and functions for emergency operations, which are as follows:

- Public Information/Education
- Emergency Operations, Communications and Transportation
- Emergency Health Care
- Welfare, Shelter and Relief Clearance
- Administration
- Damage Assessment
- Public Utilities Maintenance and Response

## The Parish Emergency Operations Centre

The Parish Emergency Operations Centre (PEOC) is the hub of operations for coordinating emergency response at the parish level. It is that area where the multi agency representatives come together to pool thoughts ideas and to answer to emergency needs for the community. It is multi-agency because each disaster situation / emergency has multiple implications for intervention. The purpose of the PEOC is to coordinate emergency response utilizing the multi-agency approach. This is so because every disaster or emergency situation is multifaceted. To save energy, money and other resources by having a coordinated response to the disaster. The PEOC will be required to coordinate emergency operations in tandem with the National EOC operated by ODPEM.

## Activation of the PEOC

The PEOC should be activated partially or in full, depending on the scale of the incident. Partial Activation means only some of the members are called out. Full activation means all members

*Cont'd on page11*

**PRAY ♦ PRAY ♦ PRAY**

**UCJCI responds to the  
COVID-19  
pandemic and other local,  
regional and global  
challenges as a community  
of faith**

## **Let us Pray Together**

**Every Wednesday  
12 noon—1:00 pm**

- Mr. Patrick Newman whose mother, Jean Powell, died and for his daughter, Necketa who is recovering from surgery.
  - Healing for Mrs. Josephine Stephens, wife of the General Secretary who sustained an injury this week.
  - A recent spike in crime in the Cayman Islands
  - Camps and virtual encounters planned for children and youth this summer
  - Wisdom and disciplined behaviour which advances health in the face of COVID-19
  - Plans for re-opening of the Cayman borders and re-building of the tourism sector
  - The people of Haiti and Cuba as they face political turmoil.
- The people of Cuba in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Elsa. Medicine is desperately needed.

## **LITURGY FOR WORSHIP AT HOME**

**This coming Sunday...**

**July 18, 2021**

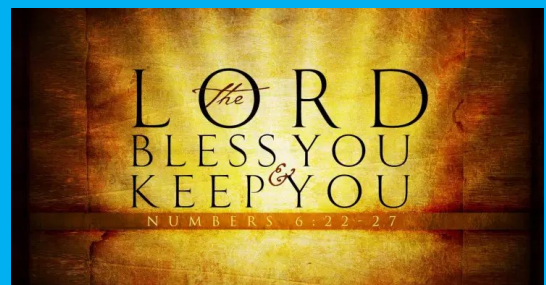


### **Messengers of Peace: Caring for the Weak & Marginalized**

Jeremiah 23:1-6 and Psalm 23  
Ephesians 2:11-22 Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

**Next week...**

**July 25, 2021**



### **Messengers of Peace: Sharing The Blessing**

2 Kings 4:42-44  
Psalm 145:10-18 Ephesians 3:14-21  
John 6:1-15





**THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA  
AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS**

**EVANGELISM MINISTRY PRESENTS**

# *An Evening of Testimony*

**SHARE IN MOMENTS OF PRAISE AND  
CELEBRATION OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS**

*Sunday, July 25, 2021  
6 p.m.*



**UCJCI'S CHANNEL**



**The United Church in Jamaica and the  
Cayman Islands**

Reparation Task Force  
presents

# **“EMANCIPENDENCE STILL COMIN...”**



**A WEEK OF AWARENESS AND  
REFLECTION THROUGH**

- ✦ Bible Studies
- ✦ Dramatic pieces
- ✦ Lecture
- ✦ Sermons
- ✦ Conversation for the family

**SUN, AUGUST 1 - SAT, AUGUST 7, 2021  
@6P.M. VIA**





**UCJCI Lay  
Training Institute**



# TRAINING FOR LAY LEADERS

## Understanding the Sacraments

**LECTURER:  
Rev. Rohan Forrester**

**Saturday July 17,  
2021  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00  
p.m. via Zoom**

## History and Ethos of UCJCI

**LECTURER:  
Rev. Henley Bernard**

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TOPICS, REGISTER WITH YOUR  
REGIONAL MISSION COUNCILS





are called out. When there is an accident, emergency or disaster situation, which requires coordination such as a large fire, drought, hurricane, health emergency, earthquakes etc. The PEOC should be able to operate on a 24-hour basis on a rotated shift basis.

### **Inter- agency Collaboration within the PDC Structure**

No one agency can adequately manage a disaster. Public and Private sector as well as voluntary agencies continue to provide invaluable support to the National Disaster Management Programme. It therefore means that the PDC should meet at least once per month to assess their state of preparedness and chart new courses of action to mitigate against the occurrence of disasters in their parish. The agencies involved at the local level include the Poor Relief, Red Cross, Jamaica Fire Brigade, National Works Agency, National Water commission, Jamaica Information Service, the Jamaica Constabulary Force, Jamaica Public Service Company, Corporate Entities that may be important in rendering assistance during and after a disaster.

### **Shelter Management**

One very critical function of Local Government is to identify shelters and train shelter managers. This is done in collaboration with the ODPEM. Prospective shelters are inspected by a multi-agency team made up of representatives of the Public Health Inspectorates, Building Officers in the Parish Council, Fire Prevention Officers and the Parish Disaster Coordinator. The team inspects buildings to ascertain structural integrity, adherence to public health standards, adequacy of water and other public amenities. If these requirements are not met the shelter is not recommended for use.

Other functions include developmental control, drain cleaning and drought relief.



# Happy Birthday



**REV. TAMARA SMITH COLEMAN**

**July 14**



**REV. CARLENE WALFORD**

**July 19**

## UCJCI VALUE S

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

### Stewardship:

By tithing, and with the generosity of thankfulness, the commitment of gifts and resources (time, talents, and money) to advance The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands 12 Carlton Crescent, Kingston 10 God's kingdom in the world; the proper care and optimal use of the resources provided for God's work; and the care of God's creation (1 Peter 4:10, 1 Corinthians 16:2, Matthew 23:23 )

**IN THE COMING  
ISSUE...**

**UCJCI Enlarged  
Territory – Ministry  
in Virtual Spaces**

## THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

*Congregational, Disciples of Christ ,Presbyterian*

*12 Carlton Crescent, Kingston 10*

*Tel: 876 926-8734*

*E-mail: [synod@ucjci.com](mailto:synod@ucjci.com) ♦ Website: [www.ucjci.com](http://www.ucjci.com)*

Moderator

**Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott**

General Secretary

**Rev. Norbert Stephens**

Regional Deputy General Secretaries

Cayman Regional Mission Council  
**Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble Bloomfield**

Southern Regional Mission Council  
**Rev. Norbert Stephens (Interim)**

North Eastern Regional Mission Council  
**Mrs. Rose Wedderburn**

Western Regional Mission Council  
**Mrs. Mauleen Henry**

*SYNODICAL THEME:*

**“Rooted, Resilient: Responding in H.O.P.E. (Health - Opportunity - Peace - Evangelism)”**