



# The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

## Weekly Update

February 23, 2022 || Volume 9 Issue 08

### REPARATIONS TASK FORCE

The Reparations Task Force of the UCJCI has been very interested in the discussions and debates surrounding whether the Maroons can truly be categorized as an indigenous group of people. The Maroons are credited for having paved the path for the emancipation of Jamaican Black people. However, some people reminded us that there were Maroons that helped to keep other black people in slavery. Arguments have been raging on all sides. The debate continues.

The UCJCI Reparations Task Force is delighted to be a part of this self-awareness work. The bedrock of our work stands on the idea (and practice) of repairing that which has been broken by the heinous experience of slavery and colonialism. We consistently move our discussions beyond the necessary monetary payments which form part of the global reparation debate. But, we believe such funds are to be channeled into educational, entrepreneurial, cultural and other projects which will benefit communities of descendants of formerly enslaved persons.

Our meetings invariably have as agenda items matters which address the repair of self-images damaged by centuries of destructive exposure, through the oppressive experience of slavery and beyond. During February, "Black History Month", it was decided that among our offerings would be ZOOM presentations to students from two (2) Primary Schools and four (4) high schools.

The idea of speaking about our Maroon sisters and brothers alongside the subject of blackness and

self-esteem took on a life of its own. Among the sharing arose the story of a member of the UCJCI; now deceased, who told her children and grandchildren about her heritage. She told them that she had Maroon and Arawak Indian blood in her veins. She did not want them to be ignorant about her past, therefore, about their past and certainly their present too.

Now, they wished they had listened. Out of this discussion, "Nanny is Our Granny" came into being. Dr. Hilary Robertson-Hickling of the Task Force has produced a beautiful recording.

The matter of blackness and self-esteem is still not settled in the minds of many. We felt that work with this important subject would be a contribution which we could meaningfully make during, but not only, Black History Month. Thus, Jennifer Martin and Miss Leslene Laing of the Caribbean and North America Council for Mission (CANACOM) will make a presentation to four high schools.

We have worked with Rev. Dr. Michael Jagessar, Regional Secretary and Vিকেisha King-Burke, of the Caribbean Region of the Council for World Mission (CWM) on this subject. Mrs. King-Burke will moderate one session.

We are very pleased to invite you to these ZOOM presentations.

Jennifer P. Martin  
Deputy Chair  
UCJCI Reparations Task Force

caribbean Caribbean and North America Council for Mission (CANACOM) Improving our Service

CANACOM AND CWM CARIBBEAN CONVERSATIONS IN BLACK HISTORY MONTH

"Queen Nanny is Our Granny"

Dr. Hilary Hickling  
Reparations Task Force - United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands Speaks to the Caribbean Primary School Children about the Maroons of Jamaica

ZOOM Meeting ID: 869 3122 6279  
Friday February 25, 2022 At 11:00am Bogota  
ZOOM Passcode: Nanny

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CANACOM AND CWM CARIBBEAN CONVERSATIONS IN BLACK HISTORY MONTH

"Queen Nanny is Our Granny"

Dr. Hilary Hickling  
Reparations Task Force - United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands Speaks to the Maningays Hill Primary School Children about the Maroons of Jamaica

ZOOM Meeting ID: 890 2988 5172  
Friday February 25, 2022 At 8:00am Bogota  
ZOOM Passcode: 759874

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CANACOM AND CWM CARIBBEAN CONVERSATIONS IN BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Blackness and Self-Esteem

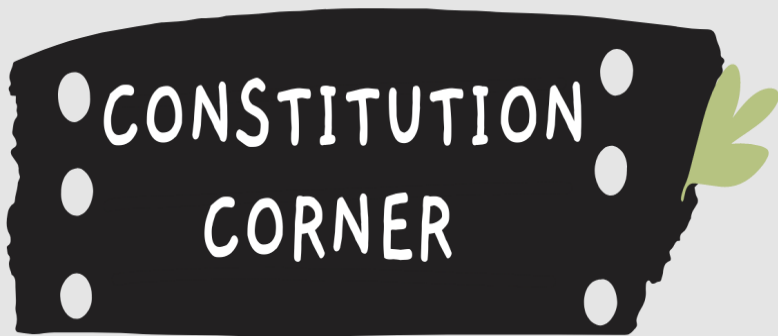
Jennifer P. Martin (Mrs.)  
Education in Mission Secretary CANACOM

Leslene Laing (Miss)  
Administrative Assistant CANACOM

ZOOM Meeting ID: 894 1098 1340  
Friday February 25, 2022 At 11:00am Bogota  
ZOOM Passcode: 499253

### IN THIS ISSUE.....

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Welcome back to Constitution Corner! This is our first publication for 2022.

This month's edition of Constitution Corner will look at the Officers of the Church, namely:

- The Deputy Chairman of the Congregational Board;
- The Secretary of the Church;
- The Treasurer of the Church; and
- Auditors.

The establishment of these Offices and their duties are found in the By-Laws of the Constitution, Chapter 1, paragraphs 3(b)-(c) and paragraph 4.

#### Who qualifies for election as these officers?

The Deputy Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer are elected from among the Elders of the congregation. In the case of the Auditors, the persons who qualify for such election are persons who are independent of any control of the church's accounts and must be appointed in accordance with such other terms and conditions as shall be issued by the Synod and Council from time to time.

#### What are their duties?

The Duties are as follows:

##### The Deputy Chairman of the Congregational Board:

Preside over meetings of the Congregational Board (or portions of such meetings) as requested so to do by the Minister, and shall also preside at meetings held in the absence of the Minister, the Associate Minister or Lay Pastor. (Constitution, Chapter 1, Section 2(b))

##### Secretary:

1. Maintaining, or supervising the maintenance of, the Membership Roll of the church in consultation with the Minister
2. Taking minutes of the Congregational Board Meetings and the Congregational Meetings
3. Undertaking such other duties and responsibilities as shall be agreed upon by the Minister and Congregational Board from time to time.
4. Acting administratively during a vacancy prior to the appointment of the Interim Minister.

##### Treasurer:

1. To be responsible for the receipt and expenditure of all church funds,
2. To keep an accurate record of all accounts, and to see that all funds are counted, recorded and safely deposited in a bank so designated by the Board, in accordance with the established policies and guidelines of the Congregation, Council and Synod.
3. To ensure that expenditure is in accordance with the Budget approved by the Congregation or has been separately authorised by, or pursuant to authority granted by, the Congregational Board; and
4. To Submit reports to all meetings of the Board giving account of all financial transactions.

##### Auditors

The auditors shall be responsible for checking that the church's records are accurate, authentic and maintained in compliance with the established policies of the congregation, Council and Synod, and shall report thereon to the Congregation and the Regional Mission Council by 31<sup>st</sup> March annually.

##### Term Limits

For the Deputy Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, the Constitution prescribes term limits of four one-year terms. However, no such term limit exist for Auditors.

Knox College celebrates 75 years of **Lasting Legacy Empowered for the Future**. The celebration of the anniversary started in January and will prolong throughout the year. The opening church service took place Sunday, February 20, 2022.



# KNOX COLLEGE

THE DAILY GLEANER, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1947

## Mrs Foot Opens Knox College

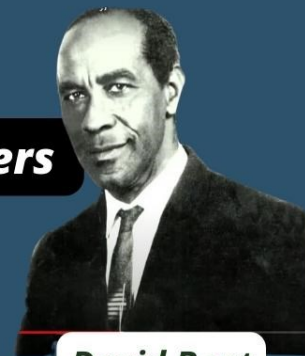
*Mrs Creech Jones  
Attends Big Function  
At Spaldings*

AS THOUGH recalling the atmosphere in which John Knox the famous Scottish reformer and historian per-

of State for the Colonies would visit the island at the same time. She knew in a flash that her husband would not come and that she would have to do the public speaking. When the trap was closed on her she tried several means to get out, but Mr. Lewis Davidson's request was couched with such charm that she felt pretty badly. There were the gentlemen around her such as Mr. Easter and Mr. Linton who had spent the better part of their time beguiling vast assemblies with their honied tones who would not be

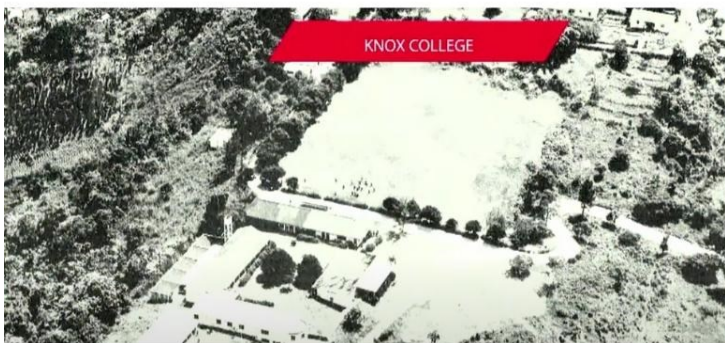


Rev. Dr. Lewis Davidson



David Bent

**Co-founders**



## Time Marches On 2

Time is the Master, we are his subjects.

He facilitates creation. Develops and defines beauty. Calls for order and care.

Forms mountains, vales, crags and caverns; oceans and seas, rivers, streams, tributaries.

Plants an ember deep for eons and calls it forth, "Volcano".

Seasons and orbits display his mastery. His subjects tell his stories over and over, over and over, and again. We all go and he remains and his word and word of him live on.

He Replaces, replenishes, renews, restores.

Time is the Master, we are his subjects. He beckons us

### Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council- CIRMC

#### WHY IS SELFCARE A MUST?

Taking proper care of ourselves is fundamental to our well being. When we are attentive to our mental, physical, and spiritual needs, we do more than preventing ill health; we also promote a wholesome and vibrant life.

However, attending to our needs and finding times to do so is challenging even under the best of circumstances. Juggling between demanding jobs, family life, and other engagements often leaves us with no other option but to drop in our bed at the end of the day exhausted and feeling unprepared for another day with a long list of things to accomplish.

Finding ourselves unexpectedly in a new era marked by a global pandemic -with its additional challenges - has pushed many of us to our limits. We have been affected by some or all the following: Self-isolation, self-distancing, vaccinations, repeated testing, constant mask-wearing, refraining from physical contact, restrictions on gathering, lost jobs, economic

hardships, trying to separate reliable information from fake news, and misinformation, lingering, long-term physical and psychological effects of the virus and the loss of so many lives is taking a heavy toll on all of us. We feel stressed out, overwhelmed, uncertain, helpless, and discouraged more than ever before.

"We need to pay attention to self-care," says Ms. April Lewis, Licensed Therapist of the Bethesda Counselling Centre. "As a therapist, during these times of Covid-19, I frequently teach and encourage my clients the following: eat regular meals, get enough sleep, care for personal hygiene, and anything else

"learn from the signs".

He is free to all who will have him, to do with, whatever one wills. He is opportunity to leave a mark, become a witness. Write a letter, write a verse; speak kindly, try, never curse.

Get angry, go apologize, look deep within and see beyond.

Retrace your step, set it right. Return the favour. Give one and move on. Build a bridge, carry a burden. Empty yourself and so be filled. This is opportunity he - Time offers before we leave him or he renders us timed-out.

Time Is The Master, we are his subjects. Time Marches On, diligently March with him.

Paul D DaCosta-Pinto © February 2021

that maintains good health."

She also suggests, "Make self-care a priority, set specific self care goals, make self-care a habit, set boundaries to protect your self-care, and keep up with self-care, even when you're feeling good."

Self-care is - in a way - becoming rooted via attitude, activities, and relationships that help us find much-needed stability, strength, and nourishment. Becoming grounded this way, we will not only survive but thrive.

Here are a few additional tips for taking care of ourselves:

1. 'Daily walk' with the Lord.
2. Regular engagement for mutual support with our spiritual brothers and sisters.
3. Frequent exercise (even if it is only 5 minutes)
4. Time spent in the fresh air and sunlight.
5. Walking, gardening, etc.
6. Using and not abusing technology.
7. Practicing gratefulness and appreciation
8. Looking for ways to help others
9. Listening to music, singing, reading books.
10. Not feeding our mind on news and information that create anxiety.
11. Playing games with our family.

Self-care is about finding the balance between the demands of life and the measures we must take to meet those demands and unexpected challenges as wholesome persons, who can thrive and flourish even in the harshest circumstances, who are "like a tree planted by streams of water, yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers."

(Psalm 1:3 NIV)



# COVID-19 UPDATES

## Affecting Congregational Life

### *Cayman Islands*

#### ACTIVE CASES

1527

#### DEATHS

17

#### NEW CASES

63

\*COVID-19 statistics as of Monday, February 21, 2022.

The Cayman Government has responded with regulations aimed at controlling the spread of the virus, including but not limited, to protocols for travel and gatherings. Consequently, indoor gatherings, including church services, are now restricted to 100 persons while outdoor gatherings are restricted to 250 persons.

### *Jamaica*

#### ACTIVE CASES

878

#### NEW DEATHS

3

#### NEW CASES

35

\*COVID-19 statistics as of Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

The Government of Jamaica, yesterday February 22, 2022, announced a number of changes to the provisions affecting church activities under the Disaster Risk Management Act. These changes come into effect February 25 to March 17, 2022.

- Church Services – the number of persons allowed in the sanctuary for worship services will be the maximum capacity of the designated area for worship calculated at 1 person per 36 square feet.

For example – worship area: 5000 sq. ft.

Calculation  $5000/36 = 138$  people.

- Weddings – the maximum number of persons allowed is 100.
- Funerals – the maximum number of persons (inclusive of officials) allowed within the facility/sanctuary is 100
- Burials – are allowed Mondays to Fridays between 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a maximum of 100 persons.

The other relevant provisions remain the same as under:

- No physical crusades, conferences or conventions will be permitted.
- Physical gatherings are limited to 10 persons.
- Stay at home – persons 60 years and over. Fully vaccinated persons are exempt.

Please note that the wearing of masks, hand sanitizing and social distancing are still required for public spaces and gatherings.

We invite you to comply with these provisions.

# LITURGY FOR WORSHIP AT HOME

"Rooted and Willing to covenant with Christ"

February 27

- EXODUS 34:29-35
- PSLAM 99
- 2 CORINTHIANS 3:12-4-2
- LUKE 9:28-36, (37-43A)

On this Transfiguration Sunday, Luke provides the best glimpse of the depth of the connection between the Law, the Prophet Ministry and the Messiah.

The theme of the covenant is very evident in the Hebrew text. Covenant served as the foundation and structure for the sustainability of Jewish society. God covenanted with God's chosen people and invited them to be in covenant with each other.

"The Mosaic covenant was a bilateral, or conditional covenant, meaning that both parties were responsible to fulfill a duty to the other. The people were responsible to follow the Law, and in return, God promised to abundantly bless and protect Israel" (Exodus 19:5-8).

The covenantal relationship between God and Jesus as well as the role of the Law and the Prophet can be explored.

The Transfiguration of Jesus is meant to help us to confirm our faith in Jesus, and recognize the covenantal relationship into which we have entered. However, it is also juxtaposed in the Lucan text with the inability of the Disciples to heal the demon-possessed boy.

What does this mean for the Church today? · Are we keeping our covenant to be Disciples who are faithful and available to serve?



## 2022 THEME

**"Black Health and Wellness"**

The 2022 theme considers activities, rituals and initiatives that Black communities have done well.

End Violence Against Women and Children

Towards a world without rape and violence

**THURSDAYS IN BLACK**



Share your **Thursdays in Black** photos on **Twitter, Facebook and Instagram** and tag us **@ucjci**  
**#WCC, #UCJCI**

# PRAYER CORNER

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## REQUESTS

- Healing and recovery for David Henry from King's Gate United who is ill.
- Victims and perpetrators of crime and violence in Jamaica and security force and government as they respond.
- Family of the late Rev. Dr. Edmond Folkes who passed from a brief illness.
- Rev. Rohan Kong and his wife whose newborn son, Joel Kong, remains in hospital since birth.
- Mrs. Karen Francis, whose husband Rev. Dr. Norman Francis has passed on.
- The climbing number of COVID-19 infections in the Cayman Islands.
- Patients, families and workers in the health sector in the Cayman Islands and Jamaica.
- Members of staff with relatives affected by COVID-19.
- The church and the various plans for the New year.

## Prayer

MAY the GOD of HOPE, COMFORT, GRACE, MERCY, and LOVE forgive you and help you forgive others and release them to Him.

May He bless you with grace and peace, power and protection, health, and healing, holiness and godliness.

May He sustain you as you cast all your cares upon Him. May He fulfill the plans He has for you--plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Amen.



**CWM WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
4th March 2022 Friday @ 18:00pm (SGT)

Calling churches to pray and stand  
**IN SOLIDARITY WITH**  
**MYANMAR**

Kingston 05:00am   New York 05:00am   London 10:00am   Johannesburg 12:00pm   Auckland 23:00pm

# Notices

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP NATIONAL CONVENTION

Men filled with H.O.P.E Responding to the Crisis



General Secretary  
Rev. Norbert Stephens



UCMF Chaplain  
Rev. Nevroy Samuels



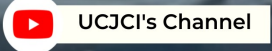
UCMF President-General  
Carlton Rodney



Speaker:  
Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott  
Moderator of the United Church



Men are allowed to gather and stream the worship experience in their sanctuaries. Access the live stream on YouTube :



FEB 26 2022 10 AM



The Council for World Mission (CWM)  
Caribbean and Europe Regions'  
Gender Justice Working Group



Worship,  
Table Talk & Poetry

"Women-Breaking Chains, Nurturing Communities,  
Planting Seeds of Hope"

Tuesday 8th March, 2022 at  
11:30 AM (Jamaica), 12:30 PM (Guyana and TT), 4:30 PM (UK)

Zoom Meeting ID: 851 0712 1476

Passcode: CWM-IWD

UCYAAM  
GATHERING  
OF THE  
YAAMS  
MARCH 26, 2022  
Edition  
Ridgemoor United church @12:30pm  
Which YAAM will be the winner?  
Which REGION will be crowned?  
Preacher:  
Rev. Khureen Wilson-Bailey



Tune in to United in Faith every Sunday on  
RJR 94 F.M at 6:30 a.m.

You can also listen to the episodes at your  
convenience on our Anchor F.M. platform.



THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS  
North Eastern Regional Mission Council

**2ND Mar 2022**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**DAY OF FELLOWSHIP**

*Service*

PREACHER:  
*Rev. Wendell McKay*  
&  
YOUTH CHARGE by:  
*Kashief Barton*

"ROOTED IN CHRIST:  
EQUIPPED FOR THE JOURNEY"

**Meadowbrook United Church**  
@9:00 a.m.

EXCITING CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME VIA ZOOM

THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

**TECHNOLOGY TRAINING SEMINARS**

MARCH - MAY 2022

- DATA COLLECTION & MANAGEMENT
- SOCIAL MEDIA & COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES
- LIVE STREAMING & PRODUCTION

First Saturdays are theoretical sessions via Zoom.  
On the second Saturdays, the practical sessions for Live Streaming and Production will be done at the locations below:

<b>NERMC</b> Webster Memorial Mar 12/19	<b>WRMC &amp; CIRMC</b> St. Paul's (St. James) Apr 23/30	<b>SRMC</b> Ridgemount May 14/21
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**REGISTER NOW**

<https://training.ucjci.com>

876-926-6059

SOUTHERN REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

**ASH WEDNESDAY CELEBRATION**  
*Feel the spirit of CONVENTION*

2ND MARCH 2022  
STARTING AT 10:00AM  
LIVE AT  
RIDGEMOUNT UNITED CHURCH  
AND YOUTUBE PAGE

THEME:  
**AWAKE:  
SING and DANCE  
AGAIN**

CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

**Ash Wednesday Virtual Gathering**

March 2, 2022  
9:00 am

Guest speaker: Rev. Norbert Stephens  
Tune in to Elmslie Church YouTube channel

**Rooted, Resilient: Responding in HOPE  
In the Spirit of Transition**

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED (JAMAICA)**

PRESENTS

**2022 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE**  
"I Know the Plans I have for you..."

FRIDAY MARCH 4, 2022  
04:30 P.M.

(PREPARED BY THE WOMEN OF ENGLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND)

MEETING ID: 883 8646 5490  
PASSCODE: 925972

# Happy Birthday



**Rev'd. Icylyn Parkinson**  
February 27



**Miss Sheree O'Conner**  
March 01

**The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands**  
**Congregational, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian**

**Moderator:** Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott

**General Secretary:** Rev. Norbert Stephens

**Regional Deputy General Secretaries**

- ◇ **Cayman Regional Mission Council-** Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield
- ◇ **North-Eastern Regional Mission Council -** Mrs. Rose Wedderburn
- ◇ **Southern Regional Mission Council-** Mrs. Janet McConnell
- ◇ **Western Regional Mission Council-** Mrs. Maureen Henry

***Contact Us***

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