



The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands Weekly Update

July 13, 2022 || Volume 9 Issue 27

Marriage Enrichment Seminar

To have and to hold, for better, for worse
For richer, for poorer
In sickness and health, 'til death do us part

Opening the floor for rich discussions at the Marriage Enrichment Seminar held on June 25, 2022, Rev. J. Oliver Daley, as moderator and counselor for over 20 years, reminded us that marriage is a gift from God and, in a healthy and secure form, is important to the development of individuals and society.

Being sensitive to our psycho-social environment and our responsibility as a church, The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, through the vice-chairs of the discipleship task force, has embarked on a series of activities starting with targeting marriages through this seminar.

The panelists shared theoretical, scriptural and experience-based knowledge guided by the wedding vows.

To have and to hold, for better, for worse

Rev. Dr. Collin and Mrs. Michelle Cowan shared some of the worse and better moments in their 36 years of marriage. The couple spoke about the rough days that rained misunderstanding and bleak moments for the future of their marriage. One of the recommendations that they mentioned, that was also emphasized throughout the seminar, was to seek Godly counsel. This process of "sitting on the couch" taught them to speak to each other and not about each other, as they sought to work through their age difference, difference in family background and self expression, and their financial background. Deciding to learn about each other and deciding to love each other, to have and to hold each other, in spite of, is never actually a goal achieved but one lived. As the journey continued,

they have had to learn to deal with issues stemming from one of their children having a chronic illness. Arguably, one of the biggest takeaways from their marriage, mentioned by Rev. Dr. Collin Cowan, is to develop and work at self love and awareness to be able to take and give criticism to survive the ebbs and flows.

For richer, for poorer

While the first presenters mentioned having issues sorting through the wallets, Rev. Dr. Dave Hazle, in his presentation, dived into threats couples face because of the lack, need or abundance of money. He shared that only some 43 per cent of married couples are financially secure, and "life is always changing and so are the fortunes of couples", for better or for worse. He did highlight however, that there are significant financial advantages such as the pooling of resources to ease the burden of an individual paying bills.

While honoring his wife, Mrs. Maureen Hazle for the lessons she continues to teach and enforce in their marriage, Dr. Hazle emphasized the importance of having open conversations about money to identify the weaknesses, strengths and expectations, and to derive a system that works.

With that, he shared five important lessons to make marriages successful:

1. Avoid borrowing for your wedding.
2. Be clear about the haves and have nots- what are you bringing to the marriage- e.g. assets and liabilities.
3. Do not get married just "for richer".
4. Take tithing and giving seriously.
5. Make financial planning and money management intentional. That includes things like saving and investments, major purchases and individual personal development.

In sickness and health, 'til death do us part

We can argue that all couples must have experienced sickness and health, but for Pastor Roger and Michelle Stewart, that diagnosis was no ordinary ache and pain. The journey of unveiling purpose through pain had the couple experiencing sickness on different fronts. They described the journey as having beautiful long sentences and paragraphs punctuated with pain, having had to deal with the sickness of Pastor Roger's father, Pastor Roger himself, Mrs. Ashwood-Stewart and the only child they could have because of challenges to conceive. If that were not enough, their only child eventually succumbed to his illness. In harnessing and understanding grief, they had to ask questions like "who is sick?" and "sick how?" to truly be able to dissect and deal with the reality of physical illness and its implications on mental, emotional and relational health in their family and marriage. Like the other presenters, this couple lauded the benefits of Godly counselling in helping them wrestle with and overcome their challenges. As for good health, take their advice and create Kodak moments to fuel you with hope and reflective warmth and laughter through the bumpy patches.

The Love Album



Highlights from Portmore United Church 45th Anniversary



Rev. Dr. Gordon Evans delivering his response.

“PUC 45: Renewed & Empowered by the Holy Spirit”

On Sunday, July 10, 2022, the Portmore United Church celebrated 45 years of existence. On the momentous occasion, the exquisite church on the corner renamed and dedicated the church hall in honor of Rev. Dr. Gordon Evans. Dr .Evans was one of the persons instrumental in the starting of this congregation just before his final year of seminary.

Rev. Dr. Gordon Evans served at Portmore United Church for 11 years.



Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council

FCA Cayman Sports Symposium

By Mrs. Yolanda Whitaker

Appointed Country Director for the Cayman Islands
Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)

Appointed Country Director for the Cayman Islands Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). The FCA Cayman Sports Symposium held on June 25, 2022, was a tremendous blessing. While we aimed for the moon, we landed among the stars. All participants, including our MLA Ms. Heather Bodden, supported the mission and vision of our local Sports Ministry Movement in collaboration with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Organization. Throughout the week we had the opportunity to meet with several Pastors, Coaches, and other like-minded organizations, which proved to be a great success. We also traveled to Cayman Brac to meet with a group of Pastors and Coaches, filled with excitement and gratitude for their inclusion in the week's activities.

We have a lot of small and big activities to plan for later this year and 2023. As we prepare to move forward, we seek volunteers to join and contribute to this ministry any way they can. Those interested to learn more, please, contact us through the Savannah United Church or the Council Office. I wish to express special thanks to Rev. Euthman Wray and Ms. Camille Watt for their encouragement and support throughout the visit of Brother Dan Bishop, VP of FCA Caribbean.



A token of appreciation presented by Ms. Camille Watt on the behalf of Savannah United Church.



Luncheon with the Cayman Brac Coaches.



Visit to the John Gray High School.

LITURGY FOR WORSHIP AT HOME

July 17
(Pentecost 6)

Responding:
There's A Choice to Be Made

The prophet Amos was scathing in his reproof of those who chose profit over people. Mary was lauded for staying close to Jesus, while Martha was busy elsewhere. As the church responds we must always seek to make the right choice.

Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52;
Col. 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42



GET THE FACTS ON MONKEYPOX

What is Monkeypox Disease?

A rare disease that is caused by an infection from the monkeypox virus

How is the Monkeypox virus transmitted?

It can be transmitted from animals to humans through:

- ◊ bites or scratches by an animal carrying the virus
- ◊ handling and eating meat from infected animals

It can be transmitted from human to human through close contact with:

- ◊ skin lesions e.g. rash, blister, sores, scab, etc
- ◊ body fluids
- ◊ droplets from respiratory secretions e.g. cough, sneeze, spit
- ◊ recently contaminated objects e.g. bed linen, clothes and frequently touched areas

What is the incubation period ?

The incubation period (time between infection and when the symptoms start) is usually from 6 to 13 days but can range as 5 to 21 days

What are the main signs and symptoms?

- ◊ Fever ◊ Chills ◊ Intense Headaches ◊ Extreme Exhaustion
- ◊ Muscle ache and Backache ◊ Swollen lymph nodes
- ◊ Rash (usually appears 1-3 days after the fever)

Symptoms can be mild or severe and associated skin rash can be itchy or painful

What is the treatment for Monkeypox Disease?

Treatment is based on the symptoms. If experiencing fever or pain, Panadol can be taken. Drink lots of fluids to maintain hydration

Who is at risk of being infected with the Monkeypox virus?

Any person in close contact with someone who has monkeypox

How can the risk of getting Monkeypox be reduced?

Key prevention measures include COVID-19 prevention measures:

- ◊ Wear your mask ◊ Wash your hands ◊ Physical Distance
- ◊ Frequently sanitise areas that are frequently touched ◊ Avoid crowds



Is there a Vaccine for Monkeypox?

- ◊ There is a vaccine against monkeypox that is generally available. A recently approved vaccine has been produced for research purpose only



UCYAAM

CONFERENCE

2022

AUG. 18-21, 2022

50th Edition

Madge Saunders Conference
Tower Isle, St. Mary

ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY
LIMITED SPACE



Prayer Corner

Prayer Requests

- The family of Rev. Dr. Gilbert McKenzie, former minister of the UCJCI, who passed recently
- Rev. Dr. Henroy Samuels who lost his brother
- Miss Heather Thompson who lost her Uncle
- The family of Mrs. Lola McKinley who passed recently
- The family of Ms. Rachel McLean who passed recently
- Rev. Godfrey Meghoo who is ill
- Mrs. Janet McConnell who lost her uncle recently
- Mrs. Sheila Arscott-Smith who lost her brother-in-law recently
- Rev. Rohan Kong, his wife Stephanie and their son, Joel Kong
- Members of staff with relatives affected by COVID-19
- Victims and perpetrators of crime and violence in Jamaica and the security force and government as they respond

Prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank you for your mercies and your blessings.

Help us to value ourselves and others as you have called us to. Help us to be a true source of your love.



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



You can listen to United In Faith episodes at your convenience on our Anchor F.M. Platform. Click the link either in our Instagram bio or when it is circulated via WhatsApp.



NOTICES

THE UNITED CHURCH SENIOR CITIZEN HOME

WE ARE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!
VACANCIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR BOTH
MALE AND FEMALE SENIORS.



Send us an email to ucscheme32@gmail.com or call the Director, Miss Bailey, at 876-373-8474 or 876-962-3768 to make your enquiries.

32 Villa Road, Mandeville P.O., Manchester

2022 EMANCIPATION LECTURE

“The 29th Annual Emancipation Lecture will be at Meadowbrook United Church, Sunday, July 31, at 4:00 p.m.

Speaker: Professor Rosalea Hamilton, CEO of the LASCO Chin Foundation and Chair of Caribbean Philanthropic Alliance.

The Emancipation Lecture Series is hosted annually by Bethel and Boulevard Baptist churches, Meadowbrook United, Webster Memorial United and Hope United churches, and the United Theological College of the West Indies.

More on this in our next issue!



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#WCC, #UCJCI #evgw
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Santa Cruz United Church
Presents a

Cook Out

**MONDAY
AUG
1
2022**



**9:00 AM
On Church Grounds**

MENU:
• Jerk/Fry Chicken-\$1000
• Jerk Pork •Fish: Fry/Steam-\$1500

SIDE ORDER:
Bammy, Rice & Peas, Roast Breadfruit, Tun Cornmeal & more!!!

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(On the bypass road)**

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Celebrate Emancipation Day with us!!!



Happy BIRTHDAY



Rev. Tamara Smith– Coleman
July 14



Rev. Carlene Walford
July 19

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Congregational, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian

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