The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands Weekly Update

July 27, 2022 || Volume 9 Issue 30

Pringle Home for Children

Established in 1922, the Pringle Home for Girls located in Carron Hall, St. Mary is celebrating one hundred years of continuous service in care and protection of vulnerable and at risk children. The home was established by the then Presbyterian Church currently the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands (UCJCI). The home is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the UCJCI and is given oversight and subvention by the Government of Jamaica through the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information and its Child Protection and Family Services Agency (CPFSA).

The UCJCI exercises its mission to protect children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm by engaging in services to impact and transform their life outcomes. The measures include providing access to academic and vocational training; physical and psychological wellness and safety; recreational activities for behaviour modification and rehabilitation; social skills training and spiritual development. These interventions are targeted to achieve their wholesome development as socially responsible and productive adults.

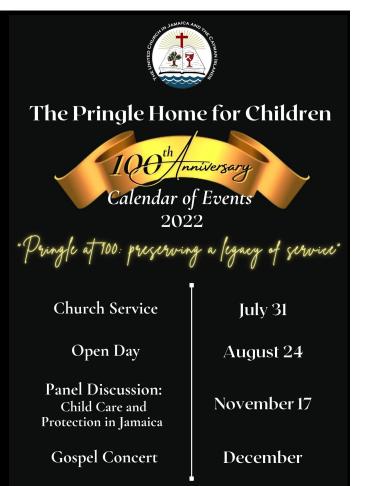
Five celebration events are planned to run from July to December 2022 starting with the church service at the Carron Hall United Church, and the publication of a Gleaner Supplement on July 31. An Open Day will be held at the Pringle Home on August 24, to engage the community and stakeholders to include performances by the Pringle Home girls; access to a range of useful services and information on the home, health matters, utility services etc. A panel discussion on child care and protection in Jamaica will be hosted on the UCJCI Zoom platform and the celebration will have, as its closing event, a gospel concert.

HAPPY



EMANCIPATION DAY August 1

The anniversary celebration has two main purposes, firstly, it seeks to recognize the signal contribution of the Pringle Home in caring for hundreds of vulnerable children who have become productive citizens in the areas of health, education, management and religion in Jamaica and internationally. Many past residents serve the institution as mentors. Secondly, the celebration will inform, sensitize and promote the engagement of the wider society to address the pressing need to expand and modernize the services for vulnerable and at-risk children to reduce the loss of critical human manpower for sustainable growth and development. Social protection enhances both the current and future well-being of children, and their ability as adults to economic social engage in wholesome and opportunities, thereby reducing their dependency and risk to engage in anti-social behaviors. It is therefore incumbent on the state and the citizenry to collaborate ensure the physical and emotional safety and to well-being of all children.





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29th CHURCHES' EMANCIPATION LECTURE

Emancipation and the Independence Journey: 60 Years of Lessons & Legacies Going backward, moving forward or standing still? Are we truly independent or emancipated?



Sunday July 31, 2022 @ 4pm

Attend in Person: Meadowbrook United Church 2 Flemington Drive, Kingston 19



Presenter: Rosalea Hamilton, Ph.D. CEO, LASCO Chin Foundation Chair, Caribbean Philanthropic Alliance

Join Online: YouTube - Meadowbrook United Church Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council

Confirmation of New members at the Savannah United Church

By Ms. Camile Watt



Rev. Euthman Wray, Minister of the Savannah United Church received three new members into fellowship on Sunday July 3, 2022. The new members, Miranda Hinds, Aiysia Whitelock and Jadon Rankine were welcomed into fellowship by Elders and the Congregation.

Vacation Bible School

The John Gray Memorial United Church VBS was held from July 4-8, 2022, with an average of 20 kids attending and a total of 15 volunteers for the week. This year's theme was **Jerusalem Marketplace** focusing on learning about the week and the stories leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection. Leaders and kids alike were able to travel back in time to Jerusalem by visiting Synagogue School, Marketplace Shops, and the Village Playground.

Each morning started with an Opening Celebration that led straight into Tribe Time, where tribes got together to learn about special Hebrew customs. During the day, everyone stopped at The Bakery for a little pick-me-up snack that kept them going until the Closing Celebration. For our Operation Kid-2-Kid this year, the kids completed hand-made cards which will be given to the shut-ins/elderly. Although much smaller in numbers this year, everyone had a great time!

The week of July 4-8, 2022, was filled with excitement as children walked into a whole new world of Adventure as the Savannah United Church Sanctuary, Hall and Sunday School Classrooms were transformed to reflect the theme: Discovering Adventure Island.

Fun recreational games, decorative themed snacks, engaging Bible Story lessons and amazing artwork were some of the many fun activities the children were engaged in. On the closing night of July 8th, Mrs. Caris Bramwell, Cayman Director of The Child Evangelism Fellowship was invited to share a reflective session with

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

WEBSTER MEMORIAL BODDEN TOWN

July 25-29 (Mon.-Fri.) 8:00 am - 12:00 pm



the children. Overall, a total of 54 children attended the Savannah United Church Vacation Bible School with the support and assistance of 33 Adult Leaders and 9 Teen Leaders. Special thanks are expressed to all the sponsors and volunteers who made this VBS one that our community children will remember and cherish for a lifetime.

Cyber Crime & Financial Security

Ridgemount United Church hosted a townhall meeting on Cyber crime and Financial Security on July 23. Here are a few tips from the panelists, Mr. Dane Nicholson, Manager Special Investigations & Fraud Prevention at National Commercial Bank and Mr. Christopher Brown, Cyber Security Expert from Jamaica Constabulary Force:

1. Youth are the most vulnerable to fraudulent activities linked to social media It was recommended they check the source before making purchases advertised on social media. E.g. when purchasing cellphones.

2. Be mindful of SIM-swap scams where fraudsters use people's cell number and false ID. They then say the card is lost or stolen and that they need a replacement SIM. This is then used to bypass security measures that banks use to protect customers by using the text feature in the two-factor authentication.

3. Avoid using cellphone number as the recovery method for your email address. Number 2 helps fraudsters access your email. Use another email address instead.

4. Avoid clicking links in emails sent to you that look strange or you are not familiar with the sender.

5. Avoid individuals/website that say they have a link in the bank. They will say the link can get you a loan and erase the trail so that you do not have to repay the loan. There is no link. This is fraud.

6. Observe where your debit and credit cards are used and if someone is looking at your card too intently (observing it back and front).

You can read more about this discussion in the *Jamaica Observer* article, "Cybersecurity experts warn again of SIM swaps, social media scams" published on July 26.



Jamaica Council of Churches

2B Washington Blvd, Kingston 20, Jamaica, West Indies

> Telephone: (876) 969-3886 Website: www.jamaicacouncilofchurches.org

Repeal the ICA "Gag": Parliament's gifts for Jamaica 60

The Jamaica Council of Churches (JCC) has noted the recommendation by the Integrity Commission (IC) that the Parliament of Jamaica repeal Section 53(3) of the Integrity Act, and so reserve to the Integrity Commission the use of its discretionary authority to make statements about its investigations, as it sees fit. This, the IC contends, will fulfil the intention of the Integrity Act.

Regarding matters of principle and practice, the JCC is committed to equity, fairness, and transparency in governance. Indeed, Scripture teaches us that in the dispensing of justice there should be equity: "You shall not show partiality" (Deut. 16:19).

We are very aware that the level of distrust in Jamaica is at crisis proportions, which makes our country increasingly difficult to govern. The low esteem in which many Jamaicans hold our political leaders is particularly frightening and it is imperative and urgent that action be taken to reduce, if not eliminate, the trust deficit which presently exists. The Integrity Act is one of the tools that many Jamaica agree will greatly assist in doing so.

We call on our Parliament to favourably consider the recommendation of the Integrity Commission and repose trust in the wisdom of its eminently qualified members to fulfil the intention of the Integrity Act. It is our view that this action will help to sustain the government's commitment to remove the corruption that plagues public operations and validate the sincerity of statements it has made, such as, "zero tolerance on corruption" and "corruption is a dangerous virus."

Further to this, it will address the longing for transparency of the law-abiding members of the Jamaican public, who await the day when the rhetoric about ending corruption finally translates into intentional action. Finally, it will go a far way towards eradicating the aforementioned trust deficit that exists among our Jamaican populace towards our Parliamentarians.

The JCC has confidence in the assurance given by the Integrity Commission, that: "Surely, public confidence can be reposed in the IC to exercise the discretionary authority to comment on the IC's investigations in a responsible and judicious manner, and in a way that best serves the interest of the Jamaican state, the Jamaican public and the Jamaican taxpayer."

We fear that without the repeal of the "Gag" implied by Section 53(3) of the Integrity Act, the Act will be seen as mere tokenism, that will allow the status quo to remain, betraying the hope that Jamaicans may have had, that change was at hand to limit perceived and actual corruption. Lndeed, scrutiny that ensures accountability and transparency of one's management of business on behalf of the Jamaican people should be encouraged as a routine feature of responsible governance.

May our Parliament do what is necessary to improve trust between the Jamaican people and their government during Jamaica 60!

Most Rev. Kenneth D. Richards, DD, CD Archbishop of Kingston President Jamaica Council of Churches

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CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Highlight

Young Adults' Action Movement Anniversary Church Service





The United Church Young Adults' Action Movement honoured Rev. Dr. Maitland Evans for his contribution to the foundation of the auxiliary during their Synodical Church Service held on July 17th for the celebration of the 50th anniversary. The service was held at the Meadowbrook United Church.

Remember you can rewatch the service at any time on YouTube.

Liturgy For Worship At Home

July 31 (Emancipation Sunday)

Responding: New Perspectives & New Priorities Freedom Is A Must!!

Exodus 3:1-14; Psalm 107:1-9 Galatians 5:1-12

The church's position as the Body of Christ provides a new perspective on life; it also gives us new priorities. We must seek to bring the values & virtues of the kingdom of God into the realities of human life while rejecting the vices of greed, selfishness and pride.

PRAYER CORNER

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,

Thank You for your presence in the world. You touch our pain and warm our hearts with hope.

Fill us with the joy of your Spirit and make us faithful messengers of your Gospel.

Amen.

- Prayer Request
- Mrs. Folkes and family as they mourn the death of one of her sons
- Rev. Ranford Hewitt who is in the hospital
- Rev. Rohan Kong, his wife Stephanie and their son, Joel Kong, who is back in the hospital
- Rev. Wendell McKoy and family as they mourn the sudden passing of his brother-in-law
- Miss Lorraine Howell and family
- The family of Rev. Dr. Gilbert McKenzie, former minister of the UCJCI, who passed recently
- 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



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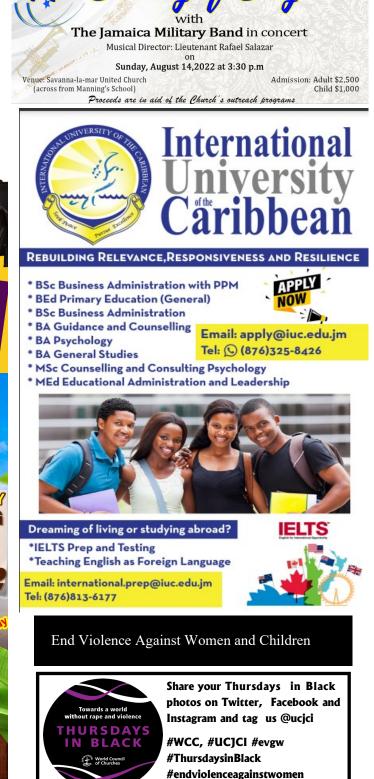
WE ARE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS! VACANCIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR BOTH MALE AND FEMALE SENIORS.



Send us an email to ucschome32@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





Savanna-la-mar United Church presents Webster Young Adults Action Movement Presents our

Every drop matters

JULY 30, 2022

WEBSTER MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH 53 HALF WAY TREE ROAD **KINGSTON 10** PREREGISTER AT

HTTPS://Calendly.com/wmucyoungadults/ Webster-memorial-young-adults-BLOOD-Drive-Jul2022





BAILLIESTON UNITED CHURCH PRESENTS THE RETURN OF THEIR ANNUAL ... E



COME OUT ONE &

BAILLI

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

MENU FISH CURRIED GO

ALL



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 on a Monday.

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Happy Birthday



Rev. Harry Bodden

August 2

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

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Contact Us

<u>Address:</u> 12 Carlton Crescent, Kingston 10 <u>Telephone No:</u> 876-926-8734 | <u>E-mail Address:</u> synod@ucjci.com <u>Website:</u> www.ucjci.com <u>YouTube:</u> UCJCI's Channel || <u>Instagram:</u> @UCJCI