



UCJCI UPDATE

JUNE 14, 2023 VOL. 10 ISSUE 18

THE OFFICIAL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



PAULINE MURRAY OF ST. ANDREW'S SCOTS KIRK MOMENTS AFTER HER IMMERSION IS SUPPORTED BY FELLOW MEMBER, COLLETTE RILEY.

ON THE INSIDE

- UCJCI DOING THE WORK OF MINISTRY
 - TRAINING IN RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
 - REFRESHING LEADERSHIP
- COUNCIL NEWS - CAYMAN AND NERMIC MAKING DISCIPLES
- CHILDREN'S COMMISSION EXPRESSES SORROW OVER BRUTAL SLAYING OF CHILD
- WORSHIPPING AND PRAYING TOGETHER
- UPCOMING EVENTS

UCJCI UPDATE

UPDATE IS PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS. THE PUBLICATION PROVIDES INFORMATION ABOUT OUR CHURCH, NEWS OF HAPPENINGS IN REGIONS AND LOCAL CONGREGATIONS, MATERIAL TO FACILITATE WORSHIP AND STUDY OF THE BIBLE, ACTIVITIES FOR PARTICIPATION AND PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL PERSPECTIVES ON ISSUES OF PUBLIC CONCERN.

FEATURE ARTICLE - UCJCI IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION

DAILY NEWS ITEMS IN JAMAICA INDICATE THAT CONFLICT IS NOT BEING PROPERLY MANAGED. AS DISAGREEMENTS ESCALATE TO VIOLENCE, THE REPORTS OF DEATHS RESULTING FROM INJURY FILL NEWSPAPERS, OCCUPY PRIME TIME NEWS ON RADIO, TELEVISION AND SOCIAL MEDIA. UCJCI HAS SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE TO DELIVER TRAINING IN RESTORATIVE PRACTICES. READ ABOUT IT ON **PAGES 2 AND 3.**



UCJCI DOING THE WORK OF MINISTRY

Rooted, Resilient: Re-ignited by the Spirit
(Return, Reconnect, Realign, Re-ignite)

THIS WEEK'S REPORT

Over the past weeks UCJCI Update has featured the priorities identified at Synod in order to communicate with the wider church our discerned and agreed agenda in ministry and mission. In the coming issues, we will transition from informing readers about work which should be done based on agreements at Synod, to work which is being done that aligns with the Synod priorities.

In this issue, we share the North Eastern Regional Mission Council's capacity building in the area of Restorative Justice and the Southern Regional Mission Council initiative of work with leadership. Both efforts reflect the commitment to collaboration, training and leadership.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE - Engaging Members and Leaders in Conflict Resolution

According to the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), "Restorative Justice seeks to resolve conflict by having all parties involved come together to reach an agreement." The MOJ, which has responsibility for Jamaica's Restorative Justice Programme, has committed to inform and educate the public and to invite participation in implementing this model of justice. In so doing they reached out to churches seeking collaboration. The UCJCI responded positively, committing to partnership with the Government of Jamaica in delivering training to members of our congregations. This collaboration led to the beginning of training in NERMC on June 13 and 14 which saw 35 persons embarking on this mission initiative.



TRAINER DENNIS COWARD DELIVERS PERTINENT INFORMATION AND PARTICIPANTS ENGAGE IN DISCUSSION



UCJCI DOING THE WORK OF MINISTRY cont'd

The training workshops were facilitated by trainers Ms. Sophia Ellis, Restorative Justice Parish Officer and Mr. Derrick Coward, Restorative Justice Facilitator from the Greenwich Farm Justice Centre and Mrs. Khamar Kennedy and Mrs. Lorraine Barnes from the Pembroke Hall Justice Centre.

Two other workshops are planned to continue the training on June 20 and 21, 2023 for those who have already begun training.



**SCENES OF
TRAINING JUNE 13
AND 14 IN THE
BOARDROOM AT
THE SYNOD OFFICE.**

REFRESH! A Day of Inspiration and Empowerment

SRMC Ministers and Lay Pastors Day of Prayer and Fasting



Ordained ministers and Lay Pastors in the Southern Regional Mission Council met at Kendal Camp and Conference Centre on June 8, 2023, to participate in a day of prayer and fasting – Refresh 2023!

The leaders came together for inspiration and empowerment through worship and fellowship and to be recharged and re-energized for ministry. On this day, our leaders became the subjects of ministry.

This was also a time of spiritual refreshing, consecration, and the building of collegial relationships for leading this new synodical period. The inclement weather certainly posed a challenge, however, twenty (20) of the thirty-five (35) leaders engaged in pastoral ministry in the region braved the weather and attended. (cont'd p. 5)

It is the prayer of the SRMC that the time of worship and fellowship allowed the leaders to:

- sense a closer connection to God, having spent meaningful time in God's presence
- feel a deeper bond of friendship and collegiality
- experience new energy drawing from the well-spring of God's love and the collegial exchange of ideas and experiences;
- feel re-ignited and renewed in the sense of Call to serve Christ's church;
- be better prepared to lead the region in this Synodical period and beyond.

UCJCI DOING THE WORK OF MINISTRY (cont'd)



(cont'd from p. 4)

The speaker was Bishop Leslie Pinnock from the New Testament Church of God. He spoke from Psalm 23:1-3 reminding the leaders we are also led by the Shepherd who guides and provides direction, but also requires spiritual leaders to be obedient in resting. The leaders also participated in small group reflections and were individually anointed and prayed for. The ministers and lay pastors affirmed post event that it was indeed refreshing and that a few more similar days would be welcomed.

The invitation to the leaders presented the rationale for the event:

The work of vocational ministry, whether lay or ordained, can be both energizing and exhausting. While we may draw great strength from and are excited by serving, we also expend much energy and effort in fulfilling our calling. In fact, church workers often have to constantly give of ourselves physically, emotionally and spiritually. This on-going "giving out" may leave us empty, drained and fatigued. Some of us may even feel constantly pressured to perform and to produce. This begs the questions, 'how do we get replenished?' and 'where can we turn for a refilling?' The Ministers & Pastors Empowerment Day is intended to serve such a purpose. It is a day for the empty to be refilled, the broken to be made whole, and the hurting to find healing.



Bishop Leslie Pinnock



The Children's Ministry Commission of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands is deeply saddened by the recent brutal and barbaric slaying of 8-year old Danielle Rowe from Braeton Primary School in Jamaica. We join the nation in condemning this act.

Our sincere condolences to her family, school, and friends at this time.

May God's Spirit comfort you as you grieve the loss of your precious daughter.

Family, friends, and well wishers, be assured that the Lord is near to the broken hearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit".

(PSALM 34:17-18)

News from Cayman Region



Welcome New Members

L-R: Woodward Terry, Carol Terry, Hadee Ebanks and Dureen Myers

On Sunday, June 4, 2023, four new members were admitted into membership in the William Pouchie Memorial United Church, North Side, under the leadership of the Rev. Rohan Forrester.

The new members received a heartfelt welcome from the Elders and members of the Congregation. May their joining be a blessing for them and their new spiritual fellowship.



News from North Eastern Region

In May this year, the St. Andrew's Scots Kirk answered the call to discipleship with a service of adult baptism by immersion of Pauline Murray, Phillip Hamilton and Ann-Marie Dixon seen in the photo below. They are flanked by Chaka Che, elder, and Rev. Nevroy Francis, Interim Minister for Scots Kirk, and surrounded by members of the Scots Kirk community.





THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
(PRESBYTERIAN, CONGREGATIONAL AND DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

CAMP MINISTRY

presents

CAMP 2023

VENUE:

MADGE SAUNDERS CONFERENCE CENTRE

THEME:
"DEEPA INNA
CHRIST... FIRMA
INNA FAITH...
RESILIENT!"

GET READY!
GET READY!!
GET READY!!!

SCHEDULE:

Children's Camp (Ages 8 - 10)

- Saturday July 8 - Thursday July 13, 2023

Junior Camp (Ages 11 - 13)

- Saturday July 15 - Thursday July 20, 2023

Pacesetter Teens (Teens 1) (Ages 14 - 17)

- Saturday July 22 - Thursday July 27, 2023

Discovery Teens (Teens 2) (Ages 14 - 17)

- Saturday July 29 - Thursday August 3, 2023



COST PER
CAMPER:
\$10,500



UNITED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE
OF THE WEST INDIES

Certificate in **DIGITAL DISCIPLESHIP**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is designed to offer participants opportunities to learn about the vast potential of social media as a teaching and instructional tool for influencing a digital audience with appropriately designed social media content amidst the continuous changes in teaching and learning globally.

COURSE GOAL:

Participants will become familiar with the concept of digital discipleship, be able to assess the advantages and disadvantages of various social media platforms with respect to their intended audience, and successfully implement a programme of nurturing disciples digitally.

June 24 - July 29, 2023

(Saturdays Only)

9AM - 12PM

Duration: 6 Weeks

Delivery: Online

Registration:

Early Bird (ends June 2)

JMD 15,000

Regular:

JMD 17,000

TARGET AUDIENCES

All levels of congregational leaders (including clergy)

Information Technology specialists within the congregation.

General church membership interested in exploring the possibilities of digital media as a tool for discipleship.



**SUMMER
SHORT
COURSE**

@UTCWConnect

Call us at 876-927-1724 / 2868



LOADING...



UCJCI MAN-FEST REAL MEN...REAL VIBZ!

Knox College, Spalding

SATURDAY JULY 1, 2023

Music, Fun, Food and Fellowship

Prizes and Surprizes for the Council with the highest attendance of men

REGISTRATION opens soon.

THEME FOR WORSHIP AT HOME



Reconnect with your Father

Suggested Scripture: Genesis 18:1–15 (21:1–7)

The world has often given distorted ideas of the relationship between fathers and their children. Many believe that fathers rarely connect emotionally with their children. However, reconnecting with God should remind us that our relationship with Him is a precious gift worth holding on to.

Reconnecting with our Father, God, connects us with the clearest and most powerful examples of a father's love. He, our Heavenly Father, gave His only Son to enable our reconnection with Him. His love exemplified for us, the depth, power and sacrifice of a Father's love.

So you would know just how much I love you!

LET US PRAY FOR ...

- The family, friends and community in Jamaica grieving the brutal murder of 8-year old Danielle Rowe.
- For our preparedness and safety during the current hurricane season.
- Camp ministry in the United Church. Pray for wisdom and thoroughness in planning, success in execution and a harvest of souls for commitment and service in the church..
- Efforts in reaching men for Christ especially the Man-Fest planned for July 1.
- That ministers, lay pastors and administrators will experience restful and refreshing times away from work during the summer.



JOIN OUR AMAZING TEAM

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NORTH-EASTERN REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

Job Summary: To perform a variety of administrative/secretarial duties in supporting the Deputy General Secretary in order to maintain and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Regional Mission Council.

- ✓ Drafts letters, official and routine correspondence and memoranda
- ✓ Maintain the financial records for the Council

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

- Diploma in Business Administration or another related discipline OR
- Five GCE O'Level or CXC/CSEC subjects at the General Proficiency Level, including English Language with three years related work experience

Send your resume to
synodhr@ucjci.com

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 2023



EMPLOYMENT & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

DIRECTOR MOUNT OLIVET BOYS' HOME

If you have provided leadership and management for the delivery of care and protection for children then this could be the position for you.

Send your resume to: synodhr@ucjci.com

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelor of Science (BSc.) in Social Sciences (Social Work/Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, etc.)
- Three (3) years' experience in managing a residential child care institution

Only short-listed applicants will be interviewed

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023.



SYNODICAL THEME:

Rooted, Resilient: Re-ignited by the Spirit

(Return, Reconnect, Realign, Re-ignite)

OUR VISION

*Touching Lives, Nurturing Disciples, Seeking Transformation
through Christ*

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

12 Carlton Crescent, Kingston 10 Jamaica, W. I.
Tel: 876 9268734; ♦ E-mail: synod@ucjci.com ♦ Website: 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

North Eastern Regional Mission Council
Mrs. Rose Wedderburn

Southern Regional Mission Council
Mrs. Janet McConnell

Western Regional Mission Council
Mrs. Mauleen Henry