



UCJCI UPDATE

NOVEMBER 22, 2023 VOL. 10 NO. 27

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

ON THE INSIDE

- CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATED AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED (LOCKETT AVENUE)
- PAST AND PRESENT - THE IMPACT OF CHURCH SCHOOL
- NEWS FROM CAYMAN
- CELEBRATING OUR WOMEN AND MEN
- HONOURING REV. DR. ELSA CLARKE
- WORSHIP AND PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES
- UPCOMING EVENTS



COUSINS MICHAEL AND YOUNG JADANE RELAX IN THE WORSHIP SPACE AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED ON CHILDREN'S DAY. (PAGES 2 AND 3)

UCJCI UPDATE

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

FEATURE ARTICLE

THE SONG 'I AM A PROMISE' IS A FUN WAY OF ENCOURAGING A HOPEFUL OUTLOOK IN CHILDREN WITH DECLARATIONS OF FAITH. IT IS ALSO A CALL TO ACTION TO NURTURE CHILDREN AND PROVIDE THEM WITH THE ENVIRONMENTS, OPPORTUNITIES AND TEACHING OF CHRISTIAN VALUES THAT WILL INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD OF POSITIVE OUTCOMES IN THEIR LIVES. THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COMMISSION HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN REMINDING THE WHOLE CHURCH THAT CHILDREN WILL GROW UP AND THEIR FUTURE CAN BE IMPACTED POSITIVELY WHEN THEY HAVE BEEN NURTURED IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH. DURING NOVEMBER, UCJCI'S DESIGNATED CHURCH SCHOOL MONTH, LET'S DO OUR PART. **(PAGES 4 AND 5)**



BOULEVARD UNITED PEACE MARCH (PAGES 5)

CHILDREN'S DAY AT ST. PAUL'S (LOCKETT AVE.)

The children at St. Paul's United Church (Lockett Ave.) took centre-stage on Sunday November 19, 2023 for Children's Day during this Church School month. The children participated in the service as liturgists, readers, leading praise, prayer and offering a poem.



PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not
so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are
pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to
eternal life.

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi



ACT JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY AND WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD

A PEACE WI SEH!

Cont'd from page 3

With a stirring message based on Micah 6: 8 and Phillipians 4: 8,9, student minister assigned to St. Paul's United (Lockett Avenue) Debesha Grant Roberts, challenged parents, members of the congregation, visitors and children to pursue peace in keeping with the Church School month theme.

Suggesting that both portions of scripture provide practical ways to pursue peace, the student minister outlined ways in which peace has been disrupted all over the world and in Jamaica. Pointing to the war in the Ukraine, the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, turf wars in community, domestic violence in homes, bullying in school, the workplace and disputes in the church Debesha described the state of peace as illustrated in the Old and New Testaments..

"Peace is aligned with wholeness, total health, and the total welfare of a person thing or situation"

The preacher noted that standing for peace requires action and not just talk; loving mercy requires loving neighbour, and walking humbly with God means becoming agents of transformation. Mrs. Grant Roberts concluded with the call to internalise things which are true, honest, just, pure and virtuous. She led the congregation in repeating the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi which summons commitment to be instruments of peace.

Mrs. Debesha Grant Roberts, first year UCJCI ministerial student at the United Theological College of the West Indies.

The Church School department of St. Paul's United with teachers and Superintendent Mrs. Carol DaCosta (left).



UCJCI CELEBRATES CHURCH SCHOOL MONTH

THE PAST AND THE PRESENT...



Jahnick Semaj

Jahnick Semaj received the Duke of Edinburgh Award in 2015 while a member at Webster Memorial Boys' Brigade company, (Pic above right) Today, Jahnick is a member of Shortwood United Church where he is a Church School teacher for the 7-9 year group.



FROM CHURCH SCHOOL TO DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD RECIPIENT.



Tamika Benjamin



FROM CHURCH SCHOOL TO IMPACTING THE JAMAICAN SOCIETY

Dr. Tamika Benjamin is the National Mathematics Coordinator in the Ministry of Education.

UCJCI CELEBRATES CHURCH SCHOOL MONTH

PEACE WALK. "A PEACE WI SEY!"



BOULEVARD
UNITED CHURCH
SCHOOL DID A
PEACE WALK ON
SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 18,
2023



*Celebrating her
Life and
Witness*

REV. DR. ELSA CLARKE

Virtual Memorial (Zoom)

Monday November 27, 2023

6 to 8 p.m.

Please see meeting details below:

Meeting ID: 885 4950 7955

Passcode: 173238



Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday November 29, 2023

10 a.m.

at Ridgemount United Church

Main Street, Mandeville, Manchester.

Let us honour her

Celebrating Men

**INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY
NOVEMBER 19**



Rev. Dr. Dave Hazle



**Join Us For
'Man Talk'
UTC
UNDERCROFT**

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 19,
2023
AT 7:00 PM

RSVP - REV DR DAVE
HAZLE

CALL OR WHATSAPP
876-792-0871



Pics from MAN TALK hosted by Rev. Dr. Dave Hazle, UCJCI Warden at UTCWI, with a gathering of young residents on the UTCWI campus from tertiary institutions in the area.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

SOUTHERN REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

WOMEN IN CHRIST BEARING FRUITS

Approximately one hundred and forty (140) women of the Southern Regional Mission Council's Women's Fellowship gathered for their Bi-Annual Women's Gathering at the Four Paths United Church in Clarendon on Saturday, October 14, 2023. The event did not follow the customary pattern as it was twinned with an awards function to mark and celebrate 30 years of excellent service. The speaker for the morning's service was the Chair of Council, Rev. Anthony Chung who spoke on the theme: WOMEN IN CHRIST: BEARING FRUITS.



Sis. Anice Blake (left) Andrews United receiving her award from Sis. Cheryl Shaw, President General.

Former Presidents General: Sis. O. Rose Henry, Sis. Ruth Coke, Sis. Norma Sinclair and Sis. Pauline Bryan

In attendance were the Moderator, Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott and the Regional Deputy General Secretary, Mrs. Janet McConnell. The Southern Sisters were also honoured to have four former President-Generals, Mrs. Norma Sinclair, Mrs. Ruth Coke, Mrs. O Rose Henry and Mrs. Pauline Bryan sharing the day with them as well as the current President-General Mrs. Cheryl Shaw.

THIRTY YEARS OF EXCELLENT SERVICE

The Award Ceremony was chaired by the immediate past President-General, Mrs. Pauline Bryan. One of the highlights of the afternoon was the address of the Keynote Speaker, National Executive Consultant, Mrs. Joy Walker-Edwards whose address encouraged the sisters to look at the lives of three women of the Bible, and to challenge themselves to follow in their footsteps. Twenty-five (25) sisters were awarded for long and dedicated service in their branches. Additionally, seven Sisters received awards for service to

Cont'd on page 7

SOUTHERN REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Cont'd from page 6

the Region, and two special awards for service were presented to Mrs. Patricia Bernard for her work with the Girls' Brigade and Mrs. Barbara Chamberlain who has been a long-serving organist at Women's Fellowship functions.

LAUNCH OF THE REV. DR ADLYN WHITE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Rev. Dr. Adlyn White - first female Moderator of the Synod of The United Church.

The SRMC was honoured to have Sis. O Rose Henry, who worked closely with the Late Dr White, to launch the scholarship. In attendance at the launch were, Dr White's sister, Mrs. Ruth Coke and her niece, Mrs. Sonia Black.

A Board of Trustees formed by six (6) members from the SRMC will administer the scholarship in addition to a member of Dr White's family. It is hoped that the first scholarship valued at \$250,000 will be offered in the academic year beginning September 2024.

Special thanks are extended to sisters of the branches for their hard work in raising funds through the Lap-A-thons, enabling this vision to become a reality. By Love, we continue to Serve.

Another highlight of the afternoon was the launch of The Rev. Dr Adlyn White Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship was launched with an accumulation of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) generated from the 2021 and 2023 fund raising Lap-a-thons.

Rev. Dr Adlyn White was a native of the Southern Region, born in Medina, Manchester. Her leadership of the United Church's work among women spanned twenty-five (25) years.

Through her leadership, the following were achieved:

- Development of leadership skills among women.
- Preparation of the annual study booklets (devotional booklets) for branches.
- Establishment of several new branches.
- The training of women in programme planning and the executing of their plans.



A section of the Fellowship at this year's gathering.

NEWS FROM CAYMAN REGION



The Board of Directors of the IS/IVCF Cayman Islands

INTERSCHOOL/ INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 10th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Interschool/Intervarsity Christian Fellowship (IS/IVCF) recently celebrated its 10th anniversary with a Fundraising Dinner on Saturday, November 4, 2023, at Ristorante Pappagallo.

IS/IVCF is a non-profit, interdenominational, student-led ministry whose vision is to see students built into communities of disciples, transformed by the Gospel, and impacting others with their experience. The ministry is an affiliate member of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES), which exists in over 160 countries worldwide.

IS/IVCF was officially established in the Cayman Islands in 2013. The board of directors and staff are very grateful to those who were able to support the event and crave continued prayers and support as they seek to evangelize and disciple the youths of these islands.

ORIENTATION AND INFORMATION SESSION



UCJCI LAY LEADERS CERTIFICATE COURSE MODULES 2 AND 3

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2023



VIA ZOOM

Meeting ID: 861 7325 1669

Passcode: 939497

SESSION BEGINS AT 10:00 A.M.

Information on Module Offerings, Schedules, Registration, Cost

WHO ARE MODULES 2 AND 3 FOR?

- **PERSONS WHO HAVE COMPLETED MODULE 1**
- **PERSONS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN HONING THEIR LEADERSHIP SKILLS IN SPECIALIZED AREAS SUCH AS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY, YOUTH MINISTRY, EVANGELISM, DISCIPLESHIP, COMMUNICATION AND PIONEER MINISTRY WITH SPECIAL GROUPS (MEN, WOMEN, PERSONS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES)**
- **PERSONS WHO WANT TO OFFER TO SERVE AS LAY PASTORS**

For more information email:
ucjci.karen.francis@gmail.com

MINISTERS AND LAY PASTORS

LET'S SHARE RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Can we work together to bring the Word to those who are thirsting for it?

Let's reach beyond our communities by sharing the links to our online bible studies, with **DATE, TOPIC, TIME, LINK**

Ministers and Lay Pastors, if you want to participate, please send information to ucjci.karen.francis@gmail.com

NORTH STREET AND ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCHES



WEEKLY WEDNESDAY ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

TOPIC: DEFENDING OUR FAITH IN AND OUT OF SEASON
A STUDY IN APOLOGETICS

6:00 P.M.

JOIN VIA ZOOM

Meeting ID: 850 369 0667

Passcode: 3eEM4L



Birthday Greetings



REV. STOTRELL LOWE

NOVEMBER 24



REV. ALJA DIAS

Belated Greetings

NOVEMBER 4



MS ANNISEA BREMMER

NOVEMBER 19



MS LAUREL-ANN
LIVINGSTON



Worship Together

PRAYER THEMES FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH TO
USE IN OUR HOMES AND FOR GATHERING IN
OUR CONGREGATIONS

FAN CHRIST'S FLAME TO THE GLORY OF GOD...



As Shepherd, Jesus not only rekindles us, but He also restores and reigns over us for God's glory. When we allow the flame of Jesus to be kindled in us by serving Him, we blaze in the Light of His Glory

PSALM 100
MATTHEW
25:31-46

We Pray together for

- The United Church family as we mourn the loss of Rev. Dr. Elsa Clarke.
- Rev. Anna-Kay Henry-McGreggor and Mr. Roy McGreggor who lost their twins over the weekend.
- The students, teachers, administrators and parents of schools, institutions and business places impacted by bomb threats in recent weeks
- Rev. Sandra Collins, whose mother Mrs. Annette Grant-Foster, has died
- Ms Anissea Bremmer (Human and Mission Resource Manager) who is unwell.
- Rev. Karlene Thomas-Barnes who is recuperating from illness
- Rev. Dr. Richmond Nelson who is unwell.
- The family, friends and members of the Salem charge at the death of Rev. Hyacinth Edwards.
- Rev. Astor Carlyle who is unwell.
- The Israeli and Palestinian conflict.



EVENTS PAGES



SUPPORT WITH PRAYER AND PRESENCE

The following pages carry notification of events. Please send your posters and flyers in pdf, j-peg or png format to citc@gmail.com for promotion in UCJCI Update.

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*Our
minds*



*Our
rights*

HOPE UNITED CHURCH HOSTS A CONVERSATION WITH
DR. NAVESHA DUNCAN-SERGILE ON

MENTAL HEALTH: OUR RESPONSIBILITY



AM I TOO
YOUNG?

ARE WE
TOO
OLD?



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH 2023 @4:00PM
IN THE CHURCH HALL, 221 OLD HOPE ROAD
CONTACT: 876-927-2909/ HOPEUNITED@CWJAMAICA.COM



WEBSTER MEMORIAL
UNITED CHURCH



WEBSTER YOUNG ADULTS ACTION MOVEMENT
PRESENTS



BI-ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

YOUR BLOOD COULD SAVE SOMEONE'S
LIFE!



Saturday **25** 2023
November

10 am - 3:30 pm

Webster Memorial United Church
53 Half Way Tree Road, Kingston 10

Preregister at:



ALSO ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR
THE GIRLS' BRIGADE:

- + Toiletries
- + Sanitary Napkins
- + Wash Cloths | Towels
- + Socks



#MEKSUREYUH *Reach*



WEBSTER MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
presents



Business Directory

SHOWCASE 2023

COME OUT & SHOP
LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS!

Saturday
NOV
25

10AM TO 5PM



RIGHT HERE ON THE CHURCH GROUNDS
53 HALF WAY TREE ROAD, KINGSTON 10.

Children
You're
Invited to



**Dynamic
Kids in
Action for
Christ!**

ZOOM

Meeting ID: 895 3772 7051

Passcode: 967890

**Sunday
November
26th
@5pm**

'RALLY INNA DI YAAD!'

SANTA CRUZ UNITED CHURCH



RALLY OF THE ZONES

THEME: Let Everything that has Breath,
PRAISE THE LORD

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER
26, 2023

START TIME 6 PM

VENUE: CHURCH GROUNDS
21 INSTITUTION DRIVE, SANTA CRUZ,

'Wi come ya fi praise di Lawd!'



ST. ANDREW'S
SCOTS KIRK
UNITED CHURCH

Under the Distinguished Patronage of the
Rev. Dr. Ralph Hoyte
Presents

MUSICAL OASIS

43 A DUKE STREET, KINGSTON
SUNDAY, DEC 3, 2023
STARTING @ 4:00 PM

FEATURING:

**Kevin
Downswell**

Dwight Richards

Roy Rayon

Backed by:

**DESI JONES
BAND**

OTHER PERFORMANCES BY:

- Raheem Vassell
- Calvin (Bubbles) Cameron
- Everton Pessoa
- Ozou'ne Sundalyah
- Amelia Afflick
- Samantha Thompson

MC: OWEN "BLAKAA ELLIS



CONTRIBUTION
\$3,000

TICKET OUTLET:
Fontana, Barbican

For more information
telephone: 876-922-1818



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

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