UCJCIUDATE UCCUTATE

NOVEMBER 22, 2023 VOL. 10 NO. 27



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

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

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)



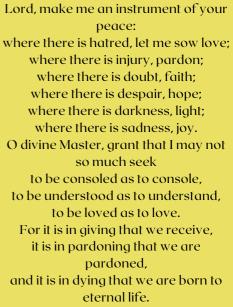
BOULEVARD UNITED PEACE MARCH (PAGES 5)

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

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

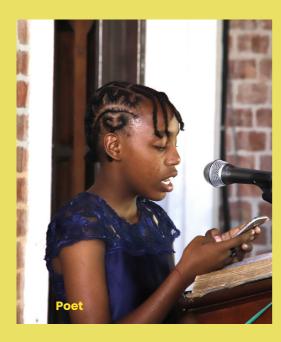






Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi









ACT JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY AND WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD

Cont'd from page 3

A PEACE WI SEH!

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.



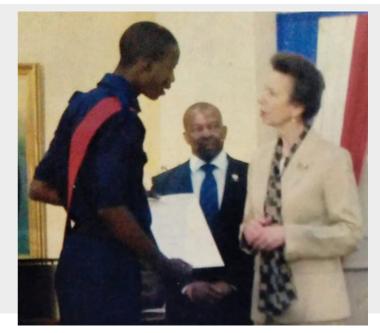
The Church School department of St. Paul's United with teachers and Superintendent Mrs. Carol DaCosta (left).



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 Wesbter 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.



FROM CHURCH SCHOOL TO IMPACTING THE JAMAICAN SOCIETY

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



Tamika Benjamin

UCJCI CELEBRATES CHURCH SCHOOL MONTH

PEACE WALK. "A PEACE WI SEY!"





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





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.



Celebrating Men

INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY NOVEMBER 19

has it is work his the







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 teritary 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-Athons, 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



INTERSCHOOL/ INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 10th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

The Board of Directors of the IS/IVCF Cayman Islands

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

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

ORIENTATIO INFORMATIO SESSIO

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







REV. STOTRELL LOWE

NOVEMBER 24



REV. ALJA DIAS

Belated Greetings

NOVEMBER 4

NOVEMBER 19



MS ANNISEA BREMMER



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.

Our minds



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







Children You're Invited to

Dynamic Kidsm Action for Christ! Sunday November ZOOM 26th Meeting ID: 895 3772 7051 @5pm Passcode: 967890

'RALLY INNA DI YAAD!'

SANTA CRUZ UNITED CHURCH



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

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:

ASIS

- 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

> 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