



UCJCI UPDATE

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
Volume 3: Issue 22. Wednesday, March 21, 2018

THE UNITED CHURCH IN
JAMAICA AND THE
CAYMAN ISLANDS

*Congregational
Disciples of Christ and
Presbyterian*

12, Carlton Crescent,
Kingston 10. Tel: 926-8734,
email: synod @ucjci.com.
Website: www.ucjci.com

OUR VISION: "Touching
lives, Nurturing Disciples,
Seeking Transformation
through Christ."

IN THIS ISSUE

A REFLECTION & A TESTIMONY 1-3

AD CORNER 3

LEADERSHIP CORNER 4

PRAY FOR:



•Mrs. Carlene Andrade, whose brother, Allan Wynter, died under tragic circumstances last week

•Rev. Bevis Byfield who is not well

A REFLECTION & A TESTIMONY



Mr. Courtney Campbell (centre) with students and Rev. Dr. Dave Hazle front left, and Rev. Verna Cassells front right.

The Reflection was led by Mr. Courtney Campbell, as he addressed students at his old stomping ground of the University Chapel.

He used the opportunity to reflect on the life – lessons of Caleb, to render his personal testimony. He said: "This morning, we will reflect on a special man of God. He was 85 years old when this as-

pect of his story was recorded. So I am calling this reflection "Lessons from an old man."

Old age is a good thing. In Jamaica, about this time last year, we celebrated that the world's oldest citizen Mrs. Violet Moss-Brown was born and still lived in Duanvale, Trelawny was born.

Old age is a blessing from the Lord. When living by the Word

of God, old age brings wisdom that is able to help and guide others. I am now in my 50s so I know that, for you, I am old!

"Is not wisdom found among the aged?"

Does not long life bring understanding?" Job 12:12.

Older Christians have a duty to help the younger generation. (Contd. On Pages 2-3)

CELEBRATIONS



70:

Rev. Donald Williams

March 28th.

REFLECTIONS & TESTIMONY CONTD.

I have learnt a lot from elderly Christians. They have been through many different experiences, including hardships, that have helped my walk of faith. Something special happens with elderly Christians.

Our body may appear old but our insides are being renewed daily. We never truly get old. We only get old when we stop seeking the advancement of the Kingdom of God and stop building up others in Christ. **Even in old age, we must do God's work.**

**Even when I am old and gray,
do not forsake me, my God,
till I declare your power to the next
generation,
your mighty acts to all who are to
come.” - Psalm 71:18-19.**

So Caleb tells us about God's power and greatness. He tells the boys, the young men. He tells the girls and the women about God's power and greatness. **What can we learn from this old man Caleb?** Joshua 14:6-15.

LESSONS FROM CALEB...

LESSONS FROM CALEB:

Caleb was consistently courageous - 45 years before this, Caleb was sent out on a mission. He, along, with eleven other men were sent into the land of Canaan to check things out. They were to report back to Moses, and the nation on what they found. Upon their return, ten men gave a negative **report** that discouraged the people from going into the land – saying they land was inhabited by giants that made them look like grasshoppers. Caleb, and Joshua, however, looked on the positive, that the land was fruitful and remembering above all else that God had promised them the land!

They declared that we are well able to overcome it.

Courageous in spite of the opposition. Though outnumbered, and a member of the minority, Caleb remained courageous. He stood up for what he believed, spoke what he believed. Caleb was able to say “**I, however, followed the Lord my God wholeheartedly**

We are called to be **courageous in spite of the obstacles.**

Those who know the geography of that land, and the history of the ancient people there say that the land that Caleb asked for was the most dangerous area of the land. It was fortified with walled cities, and occupied by giants, yet this had no effect upon Caleb.

Courageous because of the opportunities. It was the land of promise, plenty and prosperity.

Why was Caleb so courageous? He believed God. “If God is for us, who can be against us?”

Caleb also looked back and remembered God's faithfulness. He was there 45 years earlier when God delivered Israel from the Egyptians and seen the 10 plagues and God destroying the Egyptian army in the Red Sea crossing. He would have seen God's presence and guiding hand in the pillar of cloud by day and pillar of first by night. He knew that whatever God had promised, He was able to perform.

As a young Christian man, I had to be courageous. To tell my other 16 year old friends that I had surrendered my life to Christ required courage, to stand up for Christ on the University campus when other lifestyles were so loud and popular required courage,

To live out Christian principles in the workplace especially in terms of how you treat others justly requires courage.

These times call for us to be consistently courageous. On one hand, it is an exciting time to be alive even as we are in the midst of the fourth industrial revolution with this connected digital world of AI and big data. Yet, we are living in a world of increasing inequity and selfishness, a world marked by strife and weak values.

Caleb was Committed to God. He was sold out. He was consecrated – didn't believe in half- baked commitment. He believed in ‘full hundred.’ Three times in this passage, Caleb is referred to as one



UCJCI student minister, Sandra Collins prays for fellow UWI students

who followed the Lord wholeheartedly. This means he stuck to his duty, he was diligent, he was passionate about his **commitment**, he was seeking to bring glory to God in everything. He lived and acted to please God. He was like this when he was young – according to God's testimony in Numbers 14:24 and he carried through with this in his senior years.

Christian Brethren, young people, **we cannot be too busy for the work of the Church. While I was on this UWI Mona campus as part of UCCF, I made a commitment to God – that I would always be involved in some ministry of my Church.**

Always remember that we are Christians first before our profession, trade or occupation. **I am a Christian who does banking for a living** Young men and young women, I strongly encourage you, commit to Christ from now.

It will be the most important decision you would have made in your life. But having committed to Christ, live out that commitment by serving in even one ministry of mission of the Church. If we truly love Christ, we will play our part in building His kingdom."

and ridicule truth, they focus on what feels good, what gets social media 'likes, and what gets them ahead instead of what is good for the community. We too must believe God.

We too must remember God's faithfulness. In these times, we are called like Caleb - to delight in what others despise, to press ahead like Joshua and Caleb when others want to go back, we must walk by faith when others walk by sight, we must see opportunities and prospects when others only see obstacles and problems.

Caleb was consistently courageous

not because he was confident in himself but **because he was confident in God.**

I too have learnt to build my life on the solid rock of Jesus Christ. All the blessings I have had are due to the grace of God. I am from humble family background, I was not a distinction student in high school, I didn't have a godfather at work, I had colleagues who were much brighter than I am. But if God is for you...As a family, we have had our share of crises. But we have trusted God, we have stepped out in faith, moved forward without knowing exactly where we were going. We have endured these crises, listened to God's guidance on career

We have done this by daily Bible reading and prayer and periodic prayer and fasting. When you dive into the Word of God and when we come before God in prayer, your perspective changes.

I commend to you the lessons of Caleb who claimed his mountain. Go capture your mountain – be courageous, be confident in God and be passionately committed to God and the building of His Kingdom. May the Holy Spirit help us to be consistently courageous, confident in our God and committed to Him so that we will be channels of blessing to our communities.

AD CORNER

RIVERSIDE UNITED CHURCH
PRESENTS

Easter In PRAISE

Theme: "Jesus did it just for me"

March 30, 2018

On the Church Ground

Featuring:
Riverside Drama Group
and many more...

Contribution
\$300

Come with your praise!!!

Bellevue United Church
presents

VICTORY PRAISE CONVENTION

MAR 25, 2018
10:00 AM

THEME: "Praise that brings victory"

Come experience God's miraculous power and receive breakthrough

Send comments and news about your congregation to ucjciupdate@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP CORNER

Employee Motivation – A New Model

Getting people to do their best work, even in trying circumstances, is one of managers' most enduring challenges. Accepted wisdom states that a motivated workforce means better organisational performance. Research has proven that persons are motivated by four (4) basic emotional needs: the drive to acquire goods that bolster our sense of wellbeing; the drive to bond with an organisation, association, nation, etc.; the drive to comprehend the world around us and make a meaningful contribution; and the drive to defend, which accounts for our quest to create institutions that promote justice, and that allow people to express their ideas and opinions.

How, then, do leaders fulfil these basic emotional drives? Through:

The reward system: The drive to acquire is most easily satisfied by an organisation's reward system. How effectively does the organisation discriminate between good and bad performers? Does it tie rewards to performance? Does it give the best people opportunities for advancement?

Culture: The most effective way to fulfil the drive to bond (to engender a

strong sense of camaraderie) is to create a culture that promotes teamwork, collaboration, openness, and friendship. In this environment, mutual reliance is fostered, and leaders encourage the sharing of best practices.

Job design: The drive to comprehend is best addressed by designing jobs that are meaningful, interesting, and challenging. The organisation accommodates their employees' creativity and pushes them to perfect their craft.

Performance-management and resource-allocation processes: Fair, trustworthy, and transparent processes for performance

management and resource allocation help to meet people's drive to defend. To great effect, trust is built by being just and transparent in granting rewards, assignments, and other forms of recognition.

The key is to take actions that, in concert, fulfil all four (4) employee drives. Data show that a comprehensive approach is best. When employees report even a slight enhancement in the fulfilment of any of the four (4) drives, their overall motivation shows a corresponding improvement.

These insights into human behaviour can help organisations get the best out of employees by fulfilling their most fundamental needs.

(Source: Harvard Business Review OnPoint, Fall 2015 Edition)



THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN IS-

CONVOCATION 2018.

8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. April 15

Theme: *"Discipleship for Life, Disciples of Peace"*

SPEAKER: REV. ASTOR CARLYLE

MONTEGO BAY CONFERENCE CENTRE, ST JAMES.

WEAR BLUE!

Come, broker for PEACE, Worship, Fellowship, and Celebrate! - There will be fun activities for the children and empowering engagement for the Youth.

ADMISSION: FREE! - SEE YOU THERE!