



UCJCI UPDATE

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THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

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Congregational Disciples of Christ and Presbyterian

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

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PRAY FOR:

Rev. Wayne Wisdom who lost his father.



NEW MT. OLIVET FACILITY

The Mt. Olivet Boys Home, owned and operated by the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands (UCJCI), in Manchester, Jamaica, has initiated the installation of what it calls a "Pre Independent Living" section which will house boys who are at or are arriving at the age of 18 years, when they would be expected to leave the Home, and be responsible for themselves in the outside community.

Over the years, concern has been expressed that some of these 'graduates' of the 'Home' were not quite ready, and in fact ill-prepared to fully assume responsibilities for



The Mt. Olivet Boys' Home

Gleaner photo.

themselves after having been in the Home all their lives.

The decision was therefore taken to institute a sort of half-way house which would aid the process.

Regional Deputy General Secretary, Mrs. Rose Wedderburn has said that the new facility being prepared will currently be a part of the Director's Cottage in the short term. The Facility will enable the boys to learn to prepare their own meals and laundry, as they get ready to under-

take the responsibilities they will soon have to master on their own as adults.- the aim being to empower them to earn and to take care of themselves in the wider society.

Chairman of the Council, Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans has described the new facility as "a significant development." He also spoke of an intention to source at least two computers, to provide the young men Internet access and to facilitate continued studies, as they prepare themselves for the world of work.

CELEBRATIONS



● **Rev. Dr. Adlyn White**
November 16.

● **Rev. Bryan Stone**
● **Miss Laurel Livingston**
November 19.

● **Rev. James Davis**
November 21.

● **Rev. Nigel Pusey**
November 23.



We celebrate the outstanding success of **Ashley Baker**, one of our boys at the Mt. Olivet Boys Home, who graduated from Knox College with honours on Friday,

HAITI RESPONSE



In response to the effects of 'Hurricane Matthew' on our sister nation of Haiti, a committee led by Mr. Paul Miller and drawn from all four regions has been established to consider the UCJCI's response to the loss of lives, property and livelihood especially in the southern part of Haiti. It was decided to take a **long term approach** to the situation in Haiti, with special attention to the **Ley Cayes Region** through the following activities:

1. **An appeal** for monetary contributions ended on **October 31, 2016**.

July 8, 2016 with Upper Second Class Honours which means he obtained a minimum average of 70% for the **best eight (8) subjects** plus Dance & Drama. He also received the David & Thelma Bent Scholarship for the "**Most persistent, resilient, innovative student, who in the face of challenges maintains discipline and consistent academic excellence**". Ashley was successful in all eight CSEC subjects that he sat in 2016. He is now pursuing the Associate of Science Degree in Social Work at Knox Community College.

Ashley should have been a part of the Yohan Blake Foundation sponsored 12 day trip to France with five other boys and a staff member from the Home but he declined in order to attend his graduation.

2. **The Cayman Region** will remit their monetary gifts **directly to Haiti**.

3. **A solidarity visit** to **Joan Page Bain** by the General Secretary, **Rev. Norbert Stephens**, taking critical items such as **medication and solar lanterns**.

4. **A clothing drive** for the next 18 months among the regions using collection points at **Knox Community College** and the **Council Office at Ridge-mount**, for the Southern Regional Mission Council, (SRMC); for the Western Regional Mission Council (WRMC) at the **St. Paul's United Church**, for the North Eastern Regional Mission Council (NERMC) at the **Port Maria United Church, Buff Bay United Church and the Council Office in Kingston** and at the Cayman Island Regional Mission Council (CIRMC). **Council Office, Prospect**; - for support for collections, sorting, shipping/transportation to Haiti.

5. **Seeking a solidarity grant** to support the purchase of livestock (chicken) and seedlings for long term restoration of the agricultural sector.

6. **Ensure continued education** of the political, economic, social, regional issues related to Haiti.

7. **Pursue with Caricom**, acceptable housing construction standards in Haiti.

8. **Building and Health Assistance** : A team from the Cayman Region led by **Rev. Louis Sully** along with **Dr. Elizabeth McLaughlin**, Nurse **Alice Jane Ebanks** and educator, **Sue Trill** will be visiting **Les Cayes, Haiti**, from **November 18-26** to assist with the restoration and building efforts. The team has received a donation of \$6000 KYD received from four congregations in the Council.

9. **Pursue missional presence** through joint work and professional teams.

