



UCJCI UPDATE

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

THE UNITED CHURCH
IN JAMAICA AND THE
CAYMAN ISLANDS

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Congregational
Disciples of Christ
Presbyterian

UCYAAM E-Conference Inspires, Equips for Service

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

SYNODICAL THEME:
"Renewal and Transform-
ation: Discipleship for
Life"

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PRAY FOR:



*Rev. Kevin Calvert, whose father-in-law, Mr. Goson Brown, has passed on.

*Rev. Nevroy Francis, whose grandmother, Mrs. Eva Cunningham-Johnson, has passed on.

The inaugural conference of the United Church Young Adults Action Movement (UCYAAM) was held from August 13-16, 2020 via the Zoom platform, and what a stirring and inspiring occasion it was for the UCYAAMers!

With notable interest in the Movement, its direction and the theme of the conference, "Mobilized to Act: For Such a Time as This" (based on the story of Esther and the talents in the bible), fifty-seven (57) persons joined the conference via Zoom and sixty-five (65) others on the YouTube channel.

The UCYAAMers were joined in their opening session by the General Secretary of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, Rev. Norbert Stephens, who presented on, "Big People Talk: M&M".

He charged the young adults to be clear in their

direction, confident in their desires, committed to their decisions, corrected by their defeats, and conscious of God's dependability.

Other presenters included, Dr. Gail Hudson, who presented on, "Workplace Tips: Dos and Don'ts"; Mrs.

Erica McDonald of Highly Favoured Ministry, who gave practical tips for improving their ministry through praise and worship; Mr. Stokely Reid, Education Officer at the Ministry of Education's Guidance Counselling Unit, who presented on



Suzette Brissett-President



Debesha Roberts-1ST VP



Kirk Hanson- 2nd VP



Lindy Annakie-Treasurer



Cassandra Morris-Secretary



Nichola Daley-Asst. Sec/Trea.



Joanna Walker-PRO



Sadeka Chisholm-E&D Cord.



Jason Notice- Sports& Cul. Cord

INSTRUMENTS OF GOD...Given to Evangelism,
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United Church Young Adults Action Movement Synodical
Executive for 2020-2022

(Cont'd on Page 2)

CELEBRATIONS!



70:

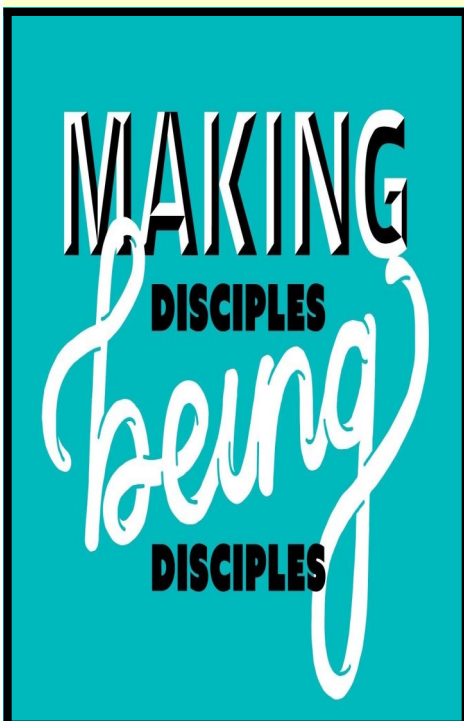
Rev. Dr. Roderick Hewitt
August 30

Mrs. Rose Wedderburn
August 31

UCJCI VALUES

In seeking to live out our calling, we particularly value and are committed to:

The Bible: The preaching, teaching, studying, and obeying of God's Word, as the supreme rule of faith and life (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Matthew 4:1-11, Ephesians 6:10-17).



UCYAAM E-Conference

(Continued from Page 1)

“Big People Talk: How to Manage Back to School/Work Stress/Challenges Amid COVID-19”.

There was also bible study, led by **Rev. Delroy Johnson, Minister of the Discovery Bay Charge of United Churches**, who challenged the UCYAAMers that they were called to ponder to what they are being called as servants and what it means to be gifted. They were reminded that God does not give us anything that we cannot handle, and we should seek to *plant our talents and not bury them*.

Other studies included those led by **Ms. Nickaya Hamilton**, who encouraged those who joined to keep trusting God, while asking participants to join in prayer for the Movement; **Rev. Everton Brissett, Minister of the Savanna-la-Mar Charge of United Churches**, who focussed his study on Esther's story, whereby the young adults were challenged to be advocates and to serve beyond themselves. He also encouraged the UCYAAMers to not be afraid to stand up for justice when they get an opportunity. They should be guided by the right people who, even when they are afraid, will be there to support them in reaching the objective.

Following an enriching time of spiritual upliftment and practical learning, the **48th Annual General Meeting and Elections** were held, with the following persons voted into the **Synodical Executive** body for the 2020-2022 period:

Suzette Edwards Brissett, President, Savanna-la-Mar United Church

Debesha Grant-Roberts, 1st Vice President, Seafield United Church

Kirk Hanson, 2nd Vice President, Ebenezer United Church

Cassandra Morris, Secretary, Andrews Memorial United Church

Lindy Annakie, Treasurer, Lucea United Church

Nichola Francis Daley, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, New Broughton United Church

Sadeka Graham Chisholm, Evangelism & Discipleship Coordinator, Duke Street United Church

Joanna Walker, Public Relations Officer, St. Paul's United Church (Montego Bay)

Jason Notice, Sports & Culture Coordinator, Castleton United Church

Following the AGM, the young adults partnered with **God's Remnant Assembly Mission**, our Caribbean brothers and sisters engaged in evangelism and discipleship, under the topic, *“Spared at the Mercy Seat.”* On the final day of the e-conference, the UCYAAMers enjoyed *Praise Fest*, with performances and engagements from **Dunamis Ministry (Lowe River/Duke Street United congregations)**, **Mount Carmel United Church Praise Team (NERMC)** and **Sis. Joanna Walker, JCDC Gospel Song Winner 2019 from St. Paul's Mo-Bay**. *Praise be to God for this vibrant ministry under excellent leadership!*

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

LEADERSHIP CORNER

Expand Your Circle of Acquaintances

It's always easier to stay within environments where we are comfortable and secure. In fact, that's what most people do. They avoid change and remain where it's safe. But you can't grow and avoid change at the same time. If you want to expand your influence, you have to expand your circle of acquaintances.

Expanding your circle of acquaintances may be uncomfortable, but it can do a lot for you. First, it helps you improve. Expanding your circle will expose you to new ideas. It will prompt you to see things from a different point of view, which will help you generate new ideas of your own. It will help you to learn new working methods and pick up additional skills. And it will help you to become more innovative.

Expanding your circle also has another valuable benefit. It expands your network, putting you into contact with more people and giving you potential access to their networks.

HOW TO EXPAND YOUR CIRCLE

Expand Beyond your Inner Circle. Why not ask some of your friends to introduce you to some of their friends? Ask if they can set up a lunch, or ask if you can tag along as friends engage in their hobbies. Or simply ask for a phone number and make contact yourself. You'll be amazed by how quickly your circle expands in this first round.

Expand Beyond Your Expertise.

"Talk your craft" with others who share expertise in your area, but you should never limit yourself to connecting with people within your department or profession. If you work in an organization of any size, one large enough to have multiple departments, then I recommend that you start by connecting with people in the other departments. It doesn't matter what kind of an organization you're in, when there is connection and understanding between departments, everyone wins.

Expand Beyond Your Strengths. Even outside of work, I think we all tend to respect and gravitate to people whose strengths are like our own. Sports stars hang out together. Entrepreneurs enjoy trading stories with other entrepreneurs. The problem is that if you spend time only with people like yourself, your world can become terribly small and your thinking limited.

If you are a creative type, go out of your way to meet people who are analytical. If you have a type-A personality, then learn to appreciate the strengths of people who are more laid back. If your thing is business, spend time with people who work in non-profit environments. Anytime you get a chance to meet people with strengths very different from your own, learn to celebrate their abilities and get to know them better. It will broaden your experience and increase your appreciation of people.

Expand Beyond Your Routine. One of the greatest impediments to meeting new people is routine. We often go to the same places all the time—the same gas stations, grocery store and restaurants. We employ the same providers of services. We use the same companies for our business. It's just easy. But sometimes we need to shake things up and try something new. It's all about getting outside of your comfort zone. It's extra work...but it's valuable.

The whole point is to remind you that you can't wait for life to come to you. You need to initiate, invest, and do what's right when you don't feel like it—especially when it comes to cultivating relationships.

I can't remember a single time I've regretted getting outside of my comfort zone and trying to get acquainted with someone I don't know. Even if I failed to connect, or if there was no chemistry, or if the person turned out to be unpleasant, it always yielded some kind of benefit, either because I had a new experience, learned something new, or received an introduction to someone else I enjoyed meeting. It's an investment in time—and influence—that is always worth making.

Source: "The 360-Degree Leader" by John C. Maxwell



COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS FEATURE

UCJCI'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Individual Prayer:
Every Wednesday
from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

(2 Timothy 1:7)

UCJCI'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

POINTS FOR PRAYER

- * A stop to the spread of the disease.
- * Healing for those who are infected with the disease.
- * Strength, comfort and peace for the loved ones of persons who have died from the disease.
- * Encouragement for the children who are confused and fearful during this time.
- * That persons will draw closer to God, and families draw closer to each other, during this time.
- * That all persons will take this matter seriously, and responsibly take the necessary precautions.
- * Support for our healthcare systems and workers who are on the frontlines.
- * Safety of all elderly persons, those with comorbidities and our tourism workers.
- * Provision for the needy, those in quarantine and those who have lost, or will lose, their jobs.
- * Our local and world economies.

UCJCI FAMILY AD CORNER



Southern Regional Mission Council
invites you to join our Online Evangelistic Services

"Get Connected
with Jesus"

Sunday, September 13-
Sunday, September 20, 2020
6:00-7:30 p.m. nightly



<https://www.facebook.com/ridgemountunitedchurch/>



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMwFvwm0QfwZ7bSSU6uBxEg>
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmoXgjfqRK8WGoKfoTthnw>



Dear Friend,

Are you ready for a breakthrough?

You are invited to an online transformative worship experience that promises to be a riveting and life changing mix of real-world scenarios as shared through the lenses of faith, hope and redemption. A big feature of the event, will be the showcasing of "Released from Lockdown", a play produced by the Webster Memorial United Church to be aired during the event on Sunday, August 30 at 3:30pm.

The production is written by Sophia Lewin and directed by Fae Ellington and will be streamed online for families to watch from the convenience of home. This forms part of the church's virtual faith-based ministry, which has taken on new life since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Join online via YouTube, Livestream and Facebook @webestermemorial. Tune in for the pre-show at 3:00pm, which will include a power-packed praise and worship session.

You can't afford to miss this blessing. Be sure to join and be released from lockdown. Plan your watch parties at home and bring your praise for this ultimate family event. Remember to ensure appropriate physical distancing protocols are required for persons viewing in groups.

See you there!

Pastor Rev. Astor Carlyle