



A Weekly Update from The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands



October 20, 2021

Issue 8 Volume 41



October 22, 2021

Rev. Herbert Augustus Redway Sr

A native of St. Ann, Herbert Augustus Redway, was born in Dumbarton, Liberty Hill on October 22, 1921. Redway had his sight set on becoming a pharmacist but it was while he was undergoing preparation for his chosen vocation that he experienced a compelling sense of call to the Christian ministry. Such was the force of this call that he proceeded to apply for and succeeded in gaining admission to Theological College. Upon his satisfactory completion of the requirements for ordination as a minister in the Congregational Union of Jamaica, he was duly ordained. Thus began a period of active and dedicated service extending into the fifth decade.

Following the completion of his probation he was inducted as pastor in the James Hill Charge of churches in Clarendon in 1951 and then, shortly after getting married to his late wife Mrs. of Linette Mavis Hall Redway they set out for service in what was then British Guiana (now Guyana) under the auspices of the Guyana Congregational Union from 1953 to 1957.

They settled in the community of Buxton and, for the next four years, provided pastoral leadership in the Arundel Congregational Church. Upon the completion of the mission in Guyana, they returned to Jamaica and continued their service through the Congregational Union of Jamaica and its successors. The partnership in love and service between the Rev. and Mrs. Redway lasted some sixty-two years. While in Guyana, the couple adopted their eldest child, Marva. The union subsequently produced seven children: Nova, Yvette, Herbert Jr., Flona, Glendon, Gareth and Everett. Gareth, the twin brother of Glendon, died in 1977 while he

was still a student at Cornwall College in Montego Bay. Mrs. Redway departed this life on September 24, 2015. After returning to Jamaica the Redways were called to serve in the Four Paths Charge, in Clarendon and then the Davyton Charge, in Manchester in 1959.

Arising from the uniting event of December 1, 1965 between the Congregational Union of Jamaica and the Presbyterian Church of Jamaica, the new church was named the United Church of Jamaica and Grand Cayman. All the pastors of the uniting denominations became members of the new church, available to serve in any Charge. It is this that led Rev. Redway in 1967 to respond favorably to a call from a former Congregational Charge to become the pastor of the former Brownsville Presbyterian Charge in Hanover.

However, the Redways' sojourn in the Brownsville Charge lasted approximately seven years and concluded when he responded to a call to become the pastor of the St. Paul's Charge in Montego Bay. Some thirty-seven years after his ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacraments, the Rev. Redway formally entered the ranks of retired ministers of the United Church of Jamaica and Grand Cayman and demitted the St. Paul's Charge of Churches in 1988. He, however, continued to offer service on a year to year basis in the Mt. Zion and Hampden Charges until 1995.

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UCJCI FACTS

LAST WEEK'S UNSCRAMBLE

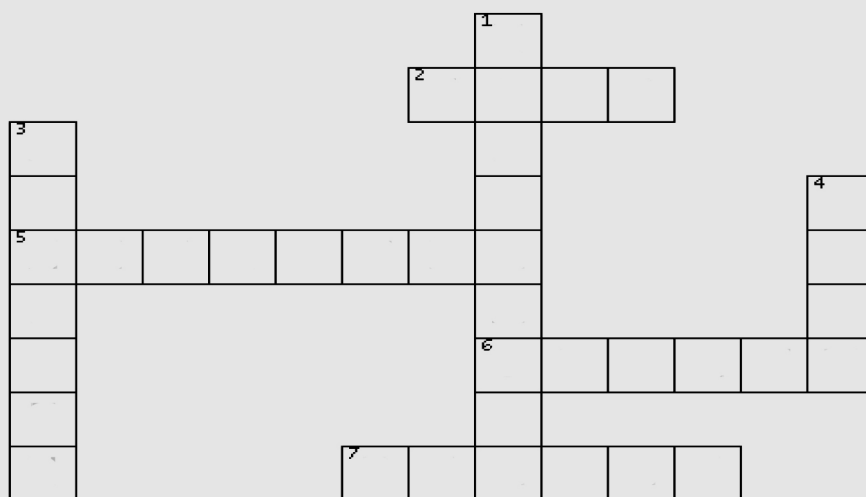
The union of these three denominations formed the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.

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PRESBYTERIAN

ASGONLIRSETNAGIOTC

CONGREGATIONALIST

CIPSLDIES FO ITCHSR
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



ACROSS

- Number of Regional Mission Councils.
- Chairman of the Congregational Board.
- Minimum number for Congregation status.
- Colour of SRMC.

DOWN

- Chairman of the Synod.
- Oldest Presbyterian Congregation.
- First name of a Moderator.

Reparation: A response

written by Mr. Travis Barrett,

United Church Young People's Fellowship (UCYPF) Synodical Cultural Coordinator (2020-2022)

Must be the Business of the Church!

I have noted the publications by Karen Francis and Rev Dr. Gordon Cowans and it is with their conclusions that I saw it necessary to respond. Indeed, reparations should be the call of all stakeholders for which the church is one of the main. Many may claim that the church should focus on repairing the souls of the "bad apples" within the society and leave these political decisions to the politicians. But, one must realize that the church was instrumental in providing a justification for slavery, and as such, it is only right that it lobbies for a cause to amend the problems that it played a role in originating.

It is disheartening to read the comments highlighted in Karen Francis' article, which were made by the former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (UK) in 2015. Nonetheless, as she clearly stated, though he made a statement that does not quite say, "Let's forget about it", it simply boils down to that.

You Can't Determine Your Fate.

Imagine if a perpetrator had the power of telling a judge what his sentence should be? It would only be "human" that such a person would direct the judge to forgive and forget. How can you ask those who have fallen victim to your crimes against humanity to forgive and forget? Any logical thinker would reject this proposition, as it is clearly a test of intelligence. Are you still of the belief that people of African descent are barbaric and unable to think on their own? Because if you haven't noticed, your period of apprenticeship has ended and we are a free people chartering our own course, demanding reparation.

Ontological influence of the Church

I am not a theologian therefore my thoughts backed by scriptures may be limited. Nonetheless, this issue at hand needs no scholar to unravel the level of injustice perpetuated through the unwillingness of UK officials to act on this matter of reparations. Truthfully, and sadly so, the church was used as the vehicle for legitimizing the system of slavery. Ironically, it is from the very same church that the notion of forgiving and forgetting is preached; we are told to turn the other cheek; we are told

that if anyone wants to take our shirt, we should hand over our coat as well. Smart right? Honestly, it puzzles me how the same instrument that was used to justify the desecration of human bodies, dehumanizing a whole race, and maintaining a system of chattel slavery, is the very instrument that we use as our path to freedom.

Forgive Yes, Forget What?

I think we have forgiven, only if we use the definition proposed by psychologists who define forgiveness as a conscious, deliberate decision to release feelings of resentment or vengeance toward a person or group who has harmed you, regardless of whether they actually deserve your forgiveness. This I think we have achieved, as we have come to realize that truly, it was the forefathers of Britain doing and not necessarily those existing now despite the legacies they have inherited off the backs of slaves. But, it's the inability to forget that drives this passion for reparation. A passion that is not vengeance, but simply a request for what is truly owed to us after years of servitude. Since contemporary Britain has the privilege of benefiting from slavery, and they themselves have come to realise how dehumanizing it was, they should not reserve their social responsibility to make the necessary amends to the generations of those who were victims of their forefathers' actions. Evidently, we are still seeing the effects of slavery, not limited to the socio-economic effects but, our level of agency as a people influenced by our ontology due to white epistemology and actions.

Thanks for the reminder, Rev Dr. Cowans

One should not lay a guilt trip on the church under the frame of forgive and forget. In fact, the church's support in the call for reparation is justifiable. It is to this end that I must concur with the section titled "Lest We Forget" in Rev Dr. Gordon Cowans' article. Indeed, just as Zachaeus had a duty to recognize how his work unfairly disadvantaged others and responded, so too should the UK. Therefore, it is quite commendable that the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands saw it fit to make a bold move to establish a task force for dealing with this delicate matter.

HAITI RELIEF

Since the earthquake, which had its epicenter near Haiti, on Saturday August 14, 2021, has devastated the nation, the country has been experiencing strong tremors. Many persons are still homeless and living under rubbles. Some are hesitant to erect concrete structures as they fear another earthquake at any given time.

At the last count, the death toll was 2,207, with 344 people still missing. The severe physical, economic and social impact on Haiti have been made more challenging as shortly thereafter they experienced the passage of Tropical Storm Grace. All of this follows the recent assassination of their President.



As part of our initial response as a church, we wish to offer financial support to the relief efforts in Haiti, through our established contacts there. We are aware of the restrictions on attendance in worship in Jamaica and would suggest that, where possible, congregations make a contribution from their own funds.

How to Donate

Cayman Islands:

Send your contributions to your local congregations, which will then remit the same to the Cayman Regional Office

Jamaica:

Bank: National Commercial Bank
Jamaica Ltd

Address: 90-94 Slipe Rd. Kingston 5

Account Name: United Church in
Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

Account #: 234297392

Type of account : Savings

Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council

Personal Evangelism Q & A

By Rev Otto Menko

Here are some questions to reflect on as well as some answers to consider.

What is personal evangelism?

Personal evangelism is sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others.

Do I need a special call to share the good news of Jesus Christ?

No, I don't. Experiencing His reality and salvation in my life would naturally compel me to tell others who He is and what He has done for us all.

Do I need special gifts or training to engage in personal evangelism?

No, I don't. God can use me just as I am, a one-of-a-kind individual with a unique blend of characteristics, personality, mannerisms, and experiences. Of course, there is always room for improvement!

Are personal evangelism and witnessing the same?

No, they are not. They are different but as the two sides of a coin, they are inseparable. While personal evangelism is actually telling, talking, explaining, conversing about Jesus, witnessing is about living our life, conducting ourselves and our affairs in such a way that they point to Him. Without witnessing, evangelism is ineffective and it even becomes counterproductive.

When is the best time for personal evangelism?

Anytime. Our everyday life constantly creates situations and opportunities for us to make a comment, steer a conversation or raise a question leading or pointing to the person and work of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit will guide us when to speak and when to stay silent, what to say and how to say it.

With whom should I share the good news about Jesus?

With anyone, of course. They can be strangers, casual acquaintances, colleagues, friends, and family. The most effective way of personal evangelism is when we become part of their life journey and our engagement is not limited to a fleeting encounter.

What are the most common challenges of personal evangelism?

There are all sorts of barriers and obstacles that you may encounter and need to overcome in the process. These can range from feeling inadequate, anxious, nervous, shy to being afraid of rejection, criticism, ridicule, and so on. But as long as your faith is genuine, living, and active and you are willing to learn along the way how to share it and are ready to trust God with the outcomes, then you're ready to begin.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AFFECTING CONGREGATIONAL LIFE IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

-From the Office of the General Secretary

There is now evidence of a community spread of COVID-19 in the Cayman Islands and as such the Government has reintroduced regulations to control the spread of the virus, including but not limited, to protocols for travel and gatherings. **Consequently, indoor gatherings are now restricted to 100 persons.** Please find attached suggested protocols for congregations in the Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council (CIRMC).

The Government of Jamaica, on September 22, 2021, announced amendments to an order under the Disaster Risk Management Act (DRMA) to facilitate in-person worship at churches on Saturdays and Sundays. These provisions are for the period **September 25 to October 28, 2021.**

Please note and be guided by the following:

1. **Church Services** – Sundays have been designated *No Movement Days*, however Church Services are allowed under the following conditions:
 - **Persons are allowed movement to attend worship services between the hours of 7 a.m. and 3 p.m.**
 - **The number of persons allowed in the sanctuary for worship on Sundays should be determined by the physical distancing requirement of a minimum of six feet between persons, but should not exceed 50 persons.**
 - **Each person attending worship is required to have a completed Place of Worship Authorization Form (amended version attached).**

Please do the following prior to the service:

- i. Print and fill out all sections of the Authorization Form
- ii. Insert the name of the person who will participate in the service (use one Form for each person who will participate, do not exceed 20 persons)
- iii. Each Form should be signed by the Minister or Lay Pastor, including her/his own Form
- iv. Place your Church Stamp/Seal where indicated on each completed Form. This is a critical requirement (if you do not have a Church Stamp, visit your regional office and have them stamp each document)
- v. Ensure that each participant in the worship service has her/his copy of the Authorization Form, along with a valid form of identification, for presentation to the police at a check point

2. **Weddings** – the maximum number of persons allowed has moved **from 20 to 50 persons.**

The other relevant provisions remain the same as under:

3. **No crusades, conferences or conventions** will be permitted.
4. **Funeral services are allowed with at a maximum of 20 persons within the place of worship or facility.**
5. **Burials** are allowed for **30 minutes** Mondays to Fridays between **9 am and 4 pm** with a **maximum of 15 persons** at the graveside.
6. **Physical Gatherings** are limited to **10 persons.**
7. **Stay at home** – **persons 60 years** and over. Fully vaccinated persons are exempt.

Please note that the wearing of masks, hand sanitizing and social distancing are still required for public spaces and gatherings.

We invite you to comply with these provisions.

PRAYER CORNER

- ◆ Rev. Dr Gordon Cowans who is unwell
- ◆ Rev L. Christopher Mason who is unwell
- ◆ Mrs. Karen Francis, whose husband Rev. Dr. Norman Francis has passed on.
- ◆ Rev. Delia Picart-Hibbert whose mother, Mrs. Escelene Picart passed on.
- ◆ Rev. Garwell Bacchas and family with the passing of his brother, Mike and sister-in-law, Marcia.
- ◆ Rev Rohan Kong who lost his father.
- ◆ The climbing number of COVID 19 infections in Jamaica.
- ◆ Patients, families and workers in the health sector in Jamaica.
- ◆ Members of staff with relatives affected by COVID 19.
- ◆ The people of Haiti and Afghanistan.

A prayer :

Oh Lord, we beseech you in weakness and strength. We pray that your holy spirit will remain a guiding light in these times of darkness and a comforter in these times of despair. Let wisdom and sobriety be a portion of your anointing bestowed upon us as we try to navigate this life.

Amen.

AT HOME LITURGY

October 24, 2021
The Call to Evangelism–
Perseverance

Job 42:1-6, 10-17

Psalm 34:1-8,19-22

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Psalm 126

Hebrews 7:23-28

Mark 10:46-52

1 Corinthians 3:5-10

The invitation to follow Christ does not conclude when a person responds with a personal or public confession of faith. It continues with our follow-up, discipleship, and assimilation so that the fruit of the gospel might remain and be preserved. The initial decision to believe in Jesus Christ is but the beginning of a life of fellowship and covenant obedience.

Additionally, some persons may not respond to the initial witness of the gospel but over time may come to the place of commitment through deliberate and focused follow up.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MON OCT 25 | WED OCT 27 | FRI OCT 29 2021

EDARE
discernment & radical engagement

the commitment
the call
the agonies

3 SESSIONS/DAY
LONDON/WEST AFRICAN TIME (GMT+1):
| SESSION 1 | 12:00PM - 1:30PM
| SESSION 2 | 2:30PM - 4:00PM
| SESSION 3 | 5:00PM - 6:30PM

RISE to LIFE
doing theology in public places

THREE ENERGIES MEET AT THIS EDARE EVENT

- the commitment** of CWM to "chant down Babylon" and its shitstems in order to allow all life (not just humans, but creation and the planet) to flourish;
- the call** upon church and community agents, biblical critics and theologians, to practice and perform our trades in public places;
- the agonies** that current endemics (esp. racism, sexism, covid) bring which require collaborative theological, biblical, and missional responses.

REGISTER NOW!

<https://edare.cwmission.org/register>

We are **IUC** International University of the Caribbean

ASSOCIATE DEGREE: GERIATRIC CARE
ASSOCIATE DEGREE: RESTAURANT OPERATIONS
B.Sc. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
B.Sc. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (WITH PROGRAMME AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT)
B.Sc. PROGRAMME AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT
B.Sc. TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT
B.A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
B.A. GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING
B.Ed. PRIMARY EDUCATION
B.A. PSYCHOLOGY
B.A. GENERAL STUDIES
MSc COUNSELLING & CONSULTING PSYCHOLOGY
MA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MBA LOGISTICS & PORT MANAGEMENT



SHORT COURSES AVAILABLE RIGHT THROUGH THE YEAR



Add us on
facebook
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twitter

www.iuc2.edu.jm
Email: iuc.recruiting@iuc.edu.jm

REGIONAL CENTRES

KINGSTON: 876.754.1921 / 7469 / 8737
MANDEVILLE: 876.631.8716 / 876.632.4079
TOWER ISLE: 876.341.0734
MONTEGO BAY: 876.940.0382 / 876.971.8401

The Jamaica Diaspora Behavioral & Mental Health Task Force & the Jamaica Diaspora Worldwide Organizations Taskforce (JDWOT) PRESENTS

Faith & Mental Wellness

Register for sessions at bit.ly/jdtan-faithmh. Zoom login will be sent upon registration

Saturdays Sept 11 - Oct 30 @ 10 AM ET / 9 AM JA Time

Week 1
Saturday, Sept 11, 2021
Intro to Mental Health & Mental Illness
Presenters: Henry Lewis & Joshua Smith

Week 2
Saturday, Sept 18, 2021
Engaging & Motivating the Youth Population
Presenters: Melanie Baker & Nia Jones

Week 3
Saturday, Sept 25, 2021
Understanding Trauma & Its Effects on Mental Health
Presenters: Lauren Capel & Tierra Sydnor-Diggs

BREAK

Week 4
Saturday, Oct 16, 2021
Coping with the Stress of Congregational Isolation Before & After Quarantine
Presenters: Lauren Capel, Nia Jones, Feona Kerr & Henry Lewis Jr.

Week 5
Saturday, Oct 23, 2021
Healthy Grieving While Maintaining Spiritual Faith
Presenter: Joshua Smith

Week 6
Saturday, Oct 30, 2021
Selfcare for Leaders: Learning to Put Your Mask on First
Presenters: Lauren Capel & Tierra Sydnor-Diggs

PRESENTERS

Lauren Capel, LCSW
Co-founder Keys of Hope Consultants
A licensed social worker with over 13 years experience, with experience in trauma informed care. She provides services to children, adults and families and serves in ministry.

Tierra Sydnor-Diggs
LCSW-C, Director Keys of Hope Consultants
A speaker and trainer, Tierra has over 19 years of experience as a Restorative Practices Practitioner and certified trainer. Tierra serves in ministry.

Joshua P. Smith, LPC
CEO J.P. Smith LLC
A best-selling author, speaker, entrepreneur and life/ministry coach, Joshua has worked in the mental health field for 12 years and serves in a pastoral capacity.

Melanie S. Baker
M. Sc. Special Education
A trained teacher and mental health therapist. Henry has worked in education and serves in a pastoral capacity. He is currently pursuing his PhD in Organizational Psychology.

Henry Jason Lewis Jr.
Executive Coach & Author
A trained teacher and mental health therapist. Henry has worked in education and serves in a pastoral capacity. He is currently pursuing his PhD in Organizational Psychology.

Nia Jones
Licensed Social Worker & Consultant
Podcast co-host, Nia has worked with youth for 15 years. A mental health advocate, she has been recognized for her work with NAMI, Baltimore through the "Always Forward" yearly fundraiser.

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE WILL BE GIVEN FOR ATTENDING AT LEAST FOUR OF THE SIX SESSIONS

The Jamaica Diaspora Taskforce Action Network (JDTAN) is a worldwide network of sectoral-focused Diaspora Taskforces with members across 30+ countries. Taskforces have been operating since 2013 as a collaborative approach to engage and mobilize the Jamaican Diaspora to join forces and support national development. It started with Education followed by Agriculture and has expanded to cover over 15 sectors.

Our behavioral and Mental health Taskforce has coordinated a series focused on increasing mental health awareness for the Faith Community in Jamaica. The series will be presented by individuals who are licensed professionals in varying capacities as is evident by their biographies. The attached flyer outlines the topics that were developed in collaboration with persons living in Jamaica who identified specific present-day issues and concerns in their communities.

The series is designed for multi-denominational pastors, ministry staff and volunteers.

UPCOMING EVENTS



**Tune in to Our
United in Faith
Programme
Aired Every Sunday
on RJR 94 FM at
6:30 am**

The United in Faith Programme can now be found online on our Anchor fm platform.

Type <https://rb.gy/bmxwpw> in your search bar to access the episodes.

The link to each episode will be circulated via WhatsApp every Monday.



St. John's United Church
**HARVEST
SERVICE**
Sunday November 7, 2021
Worship Begins at 10:00AM
YouTube facebook
St. John's United Church Jamaica

End Violence Against Women and Children



**Towards a world
without rape and violence**
**THURSDAYS
IN BLACK**
World Council
of Churches

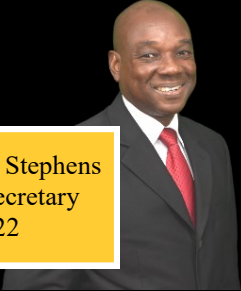
Share your *Thursdays in Black* photos on Instagram and tag us @ucjci #WCC, #UCJCI, #evgw, #ThursdaysinBlack, #endviolenceagainstwomen

Send us a poem, dub or song to be featured on Thursdays in Black on our Instagram page.


Send your submission to ctc@ucjci.com or ucjciupdate@gmail.com.

Don't forget to educate and encourage others to participate in this global campaign to end violence against women and children.


Happy Birthday



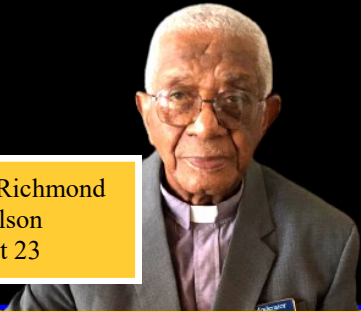
Rev Norbert Stephens
General Secretary
Oct 22




Rev Herbert Redway Sr
Oct 22




Rev Walter Russell
Oct 21



Rev Dr. Richmond
Nelson
Oct 23



Rev Donald Burke
Oct 23



Rev Sylvan Hinds
Oct 23

The United Church in Jamaica and The Cayman Islands Congregational, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian

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-
Rev. Norbert Stephens (Interim)

◇Western Regional Mission Council-
Mrs. Mauleen Henry

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