



THE UNITED CHURCH IN  
JAMAICA AND THE  
CAYMAN ISLANDS

*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. Dr. Clinton Smith (UWD)**
- **Rev. Dr. Margaret Fowler**
- **Rev. Astor Carlyle and his family**
- **Our sisters and brothers who are bereaved (including those in London)**

# UCJCI UPDATE

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

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# MINISTRY TO OUR YOUTH & CHILDREN

**W**hat is certain, is that if we are to grow as a church and to be **Renewed and Transformed in our development as Disciples for Life**, attention must be paid to the Ministry to our Youth and Children.

Not surprisingly, the reports to our recently held Synod, have reflected this kind of focus.

The Synod is pleased to report the establishment of a **Synodical Youth Ministry Council**. This Council will seek to ensure the **six goals** of youth ministry (age 13-25) are achieved being:

- **Christian Nurture**
- **Growth**
- **Involvement**
- **Personal and leadership development**
- **Identity**
- **Retention**

The Council will comprise of youth representatives, programme secretaries, uniform groups, ministers, youth leaders and specialists drawn from United Church and will include Caymanian representation.

**Its major responsibilities are:**  
**Visioning, Resourcing, Monitoring and Evaluation.**

## OUR CHILDREN



### Church School Material

The Synod has also been giving focused attention to the material it provides to nurture our children in the teachings of the Word.

Accordingly, in late 2015, a consultation was held with the three regions in Jamaica to consider available options for Church School Material.

Two options were considered: 'Spill the Beans' and the 'Caribbean Bible Lesson Series'.

It was determined that Church School Teachers who are accustomed to following the **Lectionary Readings** and liturgical seasons were far more appreciative of the "**Spill the Beans**" material because it had a strong liturgical outlay.

It was however, considered by some as not user friendly, un-relatable and incredibly wordy.

It was noted that the **Caribbean Bible Lessons** have a **strong Caribbean flavour**. It was considered by many to be extremely user friendly.

It broke down the day's lesson into segments that are easily understood and requires little preparation. -It was also noted that there are both user and teacher manuals which assist both teacher and student to interact with the lesson.

Based on the responses across the Regions, it is recommended to and approved by the Central Mission Council (CMC) that the "**Caribbean Bible Lesson Series**" be designated the approved Church School material for the Jamaican regions.

As additional resource material for the church school ministry, it was agreed that the booklet, "**The Ethos of the United Church**" be presented to the Church School Committee by the Secretariat to ensure incorporation of this document into their church school set of materials. ■



70:

**Rev. Dr. Gordon  
Evans  
June 20**

## CAMP NEWS

### THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **Remember to sign up** for Camps.
- The Camp forms are available at the Regional Offices Island-wide.
- **Encourage persons to sign up** as Camp Leaders.

The camp dates are:

- Children's Camp** -  
July 8-15, 2017
- Junior Camp** -  
July 15 - 22, 2017
- Pacesetter Teens**  
(also known as Teens 1)  
July 22 - 29, 2017
- Discovery Teens**  
(also known as Teens 2)  
July 29 - Aug 5, 2017
- Youth Camp** -  
August 5 - 12, 2017
- Young Adults Conference** -  
August 17 - 20, 2017

## CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION POLICY IN CIRMC.

**A**s we continue to give focus on our Ministry to our Youth and Children, news out of the Cayman Regional Mission Council (**CIRMC**) provides a guide for action as it relates to work done towards the implementation of the UCJCI's Child Care and Protection Policy.

Led by Regional Deputy General Secretary, **Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble Bloomfield**, following on the soft launch of the Policy in **Child Month, May 2016**, the Council held three Workshops. One hundred and twenty persons – including Clergy, Elders, Youth Workers, Sunday School Teachers, Girls' Brigade Officers and volunteers have been trained.

The Workshop included a devotion based on the '**Children of the Bible, the Cayman Islands Children Law 2012, Revision, the Code of Conduct**', for persons working with children and the UCJCI Policy document.

In addition, in the Cayman Islands, persons inclusive of teachers who are working with children were asked to participate in the **Red Cross 'Darkness to Light' Programme**. This programme offers specific training in **detecting all forms of child abuse**.

There has been an excellent response from members and adherents to these two programmes—providing a model for action as Jamaica now prepares to follow through on the necessary implementation of the precepts of the UCJCI Child Care and Protection Policy.



**W**e are proud as a member church to join in the celebration of the **40th Anniversary of the Council for World Mission** in 2017. Plans are in place to commemorate the event with a special service on **16th July**, which is designated **CWM Sunday**. This service will be held at St. Paul's United Church, Montego Bay starting at 4pm. **Rev. Barbara Bridges**, CWM Board member, will be the guest speaker at the Service.

We are inviting all persons who have served CWM or attended a CWM event (TIM, Face to Face, Face the Facts, Mission Partner, Team Visits etc) to make a special effort to attend.

**See you there!!!**



### FREE CONCERT!!

As part of its 50th Anniversary activities, the Jamaica Folk Singers presents on June 25, 2017, a 'Free' concert at Meadowbrook United Church at 4:00 p.m. An offering will be taken.