



THE UNITED CHURCH
IN JAMAICA AND THE
CAYMAN ISLANDS

*Congregational
Disciples of Christ
Presbyterian*

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OUR VISION: "Touching
Lives, Nurturing Disci-
ples, Seeking Transfor-
mation through Christ"

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PRAY FOR:



- **Rev. Bevis Byfield** who is not well
- **Rev. Ranford Hewitt** who continues to recover from illness
- **Rev. Dr. Margaret Fowler** who is not well
- **Rev. Royland Thompson** who is not well
- **Rev. Rohan Kong**, whose aunt, **Ms. Winifred Kong**, has passed on

UCJCI UPDATE

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

Volume 4: Issue 19

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

PROPELLING OUR VISION!

Friday, November 23, 2018 saw a total of **seventy-six (76) Congregational Communications Officers** from **fifty-nine (59) congregations** in the Jamaican Regions, being trained through an Initiative of the Synod Office.

Twenty-seven (27) persons from 18 congregations in the **Western Regional Mission Council (WRMC)**, twenty-nine (29) participants from 25 congregations in the **North-Eastern Regional Mission Council (NERMC)**, and twenty (20) persons from 16 congregations in the **Southern Regional Mission Council (SRMC)** have been trained to fulfil this role.

WHAT IS THEIR ROLE?

The Congregational Communications Officer is the person in the UCJCI Congregation who has been strategically

appointed by the Congregational Board, to relay information from the Synod and Regional Offices to the congregation. He or she may also be asked at times to relay information to their congregation from Auxiliaries of the Church.

The Communications Officers together, represent a critical pillar of the Synod's communications strategy. They work closely with the Synod Administration Centre's (SAC's) Communications Unit, to keep congregations informed of the strategic direction, mission priorities, core functions, programmes, events, initiatives, and new developments within our Church. The Officers play a key role in the make-up of the Communications framework of the Church.

They will also relay information back to the SAC's Communications Unit on the initiatives, events, pro-

grammes, and new developments within *their* congregation, so that the wider Church can in turn be informed.

In summary, he or she will work closely with the Unit to ensure that the Mission and Ministry of the Church is communicated to the Congregations on a timely basis.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

One hundred and fifty-five (155) of our congregations now have Communications Officers, and they will all undertake Communications Skills training.

The next workshop is scheduled for the **Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council (CIRMC)** in early 2019. The programme will thereafter continue in the Jamaican Regions.

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WRMC Officers in training, led by Prof. Hopeton Dunn



WRMC Officers training, led by Ms. Thelma Bartley

CELEBRATIONS!

70:

Rev. Delroy Harris
Rev. Lascelle Tulloch
November 29

Rev. Rohan Kong
December 4

(Continued from Page 1)

Facilitated by exceptional professionals in the field, **Professor Hopeton Dunn, PhD** and **Ms. Thelma Bartley**, the objectives of the training programmes have been achieved.

These have included: The grooming of Officers who are effective at creative message delivery that is engaging, clear, and impactful for the listeners, inciting the desired outcomes. The sessions have also been geared towards sensitizing the Communications Officers to their role, and assisting them to frame it within their own context.

Indeed, our Officers are excited to be a part of this Mission. Let's support them, and so fuel their inspiration for an exciting journey ahead!



WRMC Officers in training on Nov. 23, 2018

UCJCI FAMILY AD CORNER

HOPE UNITED CHURCH RALLY OF THE MONTHS APRIL - BORN'S PROJECT



Saturday, December 1, 2018, 3:30 P.M. to 8:30 p.m.

All-inclusive Cruise Package includes:

Comfortable Relaxing Sight-seeing Cruise...The Glow of the Sunset...The Lights of the City
 Jamaican Roots Music by "Energy Plus" Mento Band.

Disco Dancing on Deck...under the Stars.

SUMPTUOUS Jamaican Meal and Drink • Complementary Welcome Soup

Come Feel the Christmas Breeze near Lime Cay!

Savour the Experience!

Contribution \$4,500 (November 1 - 30, 2018)

Early Bird \$4,000 (August - October 30, 2018)

Dock: 3 Port Royal Street, Kingston (beside Craft Market)

CASH BAR

For Tickets and further Details Contact:

• Hope United Church, 221 Old Hope Road, Kingston 6 (Mona Prep), Tel: (876) 927 2909, Email: Hope United @cwjamaica.com
 • Winston Wright (876) 361 0556, Email: winstongwright@hotmail.com • Arlene Edwards (876) 327 7881, Email: aaedwards@cwjamaica.com

*Proceeds in Aid of Completing the Youth Centre for the At Risk Youths in the Papine Community
 and Improving the Church Sanctuary and Audio Visual Equipment*

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

LEADERSHIP CORNER

Reasons Leaders Stop Leading, and How to Get Going Again

Just because you have a leadership position doesn't mean you are leading. That's a sobering thought. All of us who carry the responsibility to lead, must be honest about the question, *"Are you leading?"*

It is so easy to be busy, work hard, even feel exhausted, and not actually be leading. In fact, in many cases the leader is working so hard and is so busy, they don't realize they are not leading.

Here are 12 quick tests for leading (You don't do every one of these every day, but they are all part of your leadership life):

If you are leading...

You are out in front.
 You know where you are going.
 People are following you.
 You are making progress.
 You are bringing change.
 You are experiencing resistance.
 You are making decisions.
 You are making mistakes.
 You are taking risks.
 Not everyone likes you.
 You always need more resources.
 You are not afraid to measure results.

How many did you check indicating, *"Yes, that's me"*? What if you can't check: *"Yes, that's me"* on too many of these? What do you do if a leader on your team doesn't match this profile?

The truth is that not every leader gets up every day and continues to lead. Sometimes, a leader stops leading. It's not usually an abrupt thing, and rarely a conscious decision, but slowly their leadership engine revs down to idle. They still work hard, remain busy, and perhaps shepherd the people well, but there is no forward movement.

Here are some reasons leaders stop leading:

The cumulative impact of complaints and criticism. They feel it's easier to pull back than keep taking the hits.

Years of work resulting in a soul-level tiredness. We all get tired, but when it

settles into the marrow, it's tough to keep going.

Attempting to do too much and do it alone. Doing rather than leading, and leading in isolation, are unsustainable.

Fear of failure. Playing it safe can make it seem like failure is avoidable.

Lost faith in your calling, and God's plan. When a leader is unclear about God's calling, presence, and plan, it's nearly impossible to lead.

No longer growing personally. None of us can lead further than we have personally travelled.

Personal struggles. We all face these from time to time, but continued personal struggles such as marriage, family, health can cause a leader to stop leading.

Unwilling to change. It's impossible to lead the way and make progress to a preferable future without leading change.

Lack of clear and compelling vision. It's difficult to move forward when the direction is unknown.

Prolonged effort without results. Leaders are human, and if a man or woman leads long enough without results, it almost begins to make sense to glide into maintenance mode and get basically the same outcomes.

Discouragement is the cumulative result of any number of these reasons added together. Being aware of these reasons is the first step to beating them before they hinder your mission.

The good news is that any leader can start leading again. Here is how:

TEND TO YOUR SOUL. You may need rest or wise counsel, and undoubtedly consistent prayer. A soul check for spiritual and emotional restoration is essential. It may be as simple as a day alone with God to get you back on track.

RESTORE YOUR CALLING. Don't make any decision about God's call in your life until you're restored in spirit, and have gained a healthy perspective on your thinking. Reflect on God's call. What did He say to you? Did that change? Do you believe there is more He's calling you to do? Seeking His will in the matter of your leadership is essential. What does God want? What do you want?

KNOW WHO IS WITH YOU. It's normal and natural to want and need several close insiders that you can trust and partner with in ministry. However, if your church/organization is small, start with one person. The group doesn't need to be large, and in fact, if it is, you are likely gathering friends rather than leaders.

GET OUT IN FRONT WITH ONE THING. To lead, you don't have to be an innovative wizard full of groundbreaking ideas. But you do need to be out in front of the pack in at least one progress-oriented endeavour. It might be launching a new ministry. It might be a complete overhaul of an existing ministry. It might be a new building. It could be a new business strategy. The point is, what are you leading? What are you moving forward?

AIM FOR SMALL WINS TO START. Too often leaders don't consider their efforts worthwhile unless it involves a grand and magnificent undertaking. However, most real and solid progress is made one step at a time. The cumulative effect of small wins toward momentum is far better than a single herculean effort. Aim to have solid momentum behind you. Indeed, these are proven ways to start leading again.

Source: "Top 10 Reasons Leaders Stop Leading, and How to Get Going Again" by Dan Reiland

Progress...