



THE UNITED CHURCH
IN JAMAICA AND THE
CAYMAN ISLANDS

*Congregational
Disciples of Christ
Presbyterian*

12 Carlton Crescent,
Kingston 10

Tel: 926-8734

E-mail: synod@ucjci.com

Website: www.ucjci.com

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

IN THIS ISSUE

UCJCI Touches the World!	1-2
Special Highlights!	2
Leadership Corner	3
Ad Corner	4

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
- **Ms. Lorraine Howell** who is grieving after a family tragedy
- **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 18

Wednesday, November 21, 2018

UCJCI TOUCHES THE WORLD!

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands has extended its reach throughout the world, through its ecumenical relations in a number of fora.

Our involvement in the spiritual transformation, and restoration of lives continues to be felt through the network that we have formed with mission and ministry partners. They include: **The Council for World Mission (CWM)**, the **United Reformed Church**, the **United Church of Canada**, **Global Ministries**, the **Church of Scotland**, the **World Council of Churches (WCC)**, the **World Council of Reformed Churches (WCRC)**, the **Guyana Congregational Union**, **Jamaica Ecumenical Mutual Mission**, **Caribbean and North America Council for Mission (CANACOM)**, and **Columbia Theological Semi-**

nary.

Our very able ministers have extended themselves beyond our borders to gain further insight into the call to Mission.

One of those persons is our **Rev. Carlene Walford**, who participated in CWM's "A New Face" programme in **Auckland, New Zealand** from August 6 to September 15, 2018. This programme is one of full-time residential immersion, that spans up to six (6) weeks and is designed to give participants a cross-cultural experience of Mission. This year, the activities were centred on female-gender issues, and the next will be focussed on Ministers with disabilities.

Even further, CWM, in partnership with the WCC and WCRC, began a series of colloquia among member churches. This was in direct response to what CWM understands to be an

oppressive and exploitative economic and financial structure in world economies, and improper environmental practices.

The Caribbean and Europe region came together in Guyana from September 25-29, 2018 and concluded the final of three colloquia. Participants engaged in information-sharing, theological reflections, bible studies, and programme planning, as part of an effort to develop a **New International Financial and Economic Architecture (NIFEA)** from the grassroots level.

The UCJCI team, including **Sis. Sonia Fry**, **Rev. Donovan Myers**, **Rev. Norman Francis**, and **Mr. Nigel Henry** have developed and presented a proposal for an initiative towards poverty eradication.

(Continued on Page 2)



UCJCI and Guyanese Youth at CWM Social Advocacy Forum



UCJCI team at CWM NIFEA Colloquium in Guyana

CELEBRATIONS!



70:

Rev. James Davis
November 21

Rev. Nigel Pusey
November 23

Rev. Stottrell Lowe
November 24

(Continued from Page 1)

Also impactful was the **World Council of Churches'** hosting of a meeting of 20 ecumenical officers from its member churches in **Latin America and the Caribbean** from September 17-21, 2018 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The meeting sought to bring the Officers into a closer space for interactions and discussions on topics that they would apply in their local contexts. Member churches also had the opportunity to share their ongoing activities and the challenges being experienced.

The UCJCI has been involved in even more regional and international gatherings/activities through our mission partnership with the **Caribbean and North America Council for Mission (CANACOM)**. Education in Mission Secretary, Mrs. Jennifer Martin, who is also a member of the UCJCI, was among participants at the **Presbyterian Church USA's (PCUSA's) Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering** on August 2-5, 2018 in Kentucky (USA). This was held under the theme: "Arise, shine, your light has come!" This too reaped benefits for the Mission of the Church.



Participants at the WCC meeting of Ecumenical Officers in Argentina on September 17-21, 2018

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS!



Graduates at the NERMC Elders and Lay Pastors' Graduation Service held on November 11, 2018 at Webster Memorial United Church. Thirty (30) persons graduated from the programme, including: Three (3) Lay Pastors (from Castleton and Port Maria United Churches) and twenty-seven (27) Elders (from Boulevard, Harbour View, Hope, Lincoln Kirk, Meadowbrook, New Bethel, Oberlin, Salisbury Plain, Shortwood, St. Paul's Lockett Avenue, and Webster Memorial United Churches)



Participants at the NERMC Christmas Social at Immanuel United Church on Nov. 17, 2018

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

LEADERSHIP CORNER

Church Leadership that Ensures Growth

What's the difference between a growing church and a declining church? There are many, but one of the biggest differences is the attitude of the leaders.

The leaders of growing churches almost always share a common attitude. So do the leaders of declining churches. Indeed, the attitude has a huge influence over the results each church sees.

Attitude may or may not be everything, but it's close. Here are five (5) attitude differences in growing churches and declining churches:

WE CAN vs. WE CAN'T. Perhaps the biggest difference between growing churches and declining churches is the attitude around what's possible. Growing churches believe they can. Declining churches believe they can't.

Growing churches make a way when there's no way. When you sit around your leadership table, do you come up with 20 ways to make it happen, or 20 reasons why it won't work? That tells you far more about your church than you probably want it to.

Growing churches believe they can. And even if they're wrong, at least they tried. The mission is important enough to take significant risk.

THEM VS. US. Declining churches focus on themselves. Growing churches focus on the people they're trying to reach. If your leadership table conversations are only about the needs and wants of your members, it's a sign that your church is insider-focused. The Great Commission is to reach the world. Growing churches not only know that; they live it.

PRINCIPLES VS. PREFERENCES.

Declining churches focus on their members' preferences. "John didn't like the music." "Allison thinks we're not deep enough." "Peter wants to start a new programme." And so the leaders respond, trying to please everybody.

In reality, declining churches bend to the preferences of their members. Growing churches don't. Instead, they focus on the principles (even strategies) that will help them to reach the world. Is your leadership team principle-driven or preference-driven? There's a world of difference between the two.

PROACTIVE VS. REACTIVE. This is closely related to points 2 and 3 above, but the difference is deadly or life-giving depending on where you land.

Growing churches are proactive. They choose their agenda and immediately get on issues that can impact their future. Declining churches are reactive, letting members determine the agenda and reacting to problems as they arise. In fact, most declining churches are so busy reacting to problems other people raise that they never get around to charting a course for the future. If you never get around to charting a course for the future, you will have no future.

Growing churches have a strong bias for setting their own agendas, not in the selfish sense, but in a way that determined leaders see what the mission requires and decide to deal with it. The leaders in a growing church simply refuse to yield to the agenda of others that would take them off mission. And as a result, they are far more effective.

NOW VS. EVENTUALLY. Grow-

ing churches act. And they act now. Declining churches don't. Declining churches don't actually say they won't act, they'll just say they'll get to it eventually or someday, or when the time is right—which means never.

By contrast, great leaders and great teams banish the word "someday" and other such words from their vocabulary. If you want to be effective, you act. If you want to be ineffective, you don't. Talk without action has little value. And too many church leaders specialize in talk.

In addition, too many church teams meet for the sake of meeting. If you can't remember the last time you made a major decision that changed the course of your church, your leaders are wasting their time.

If you talk about the same issues meeting after meeting with no resolution, you're not leading, you're spinning your wheels. *Does that mean you have to act on everything?* Yes and No. If you're not going to act, strike the item off the agenda and move on. If you're going to act, act. Now. Just make a decision and move on with it. Don't get stuck in the no man's land of believing the lie that talking about things solves things. As Carey Graham says, "Action produces traction." So act.

So attitude is one thing, but there are large, invisible barriers to growth most leaders miss. Let's take them into account.

Source: "5 Crucial Attitude Differences Between Churches that Grow and Churches that Don't" by Carey Nieuwhof



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)

CASH BAR

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

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

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

JAMAICA ECUMENICAL MUTUAL MISSION (JEMM)

The Methodist Church in the Caribbean & the Americas - Jamaica District Conference, the Moravian Church in Jamaica & the Cayman Islands, the United Church in Jamaica & the Cayman Islands)

Presents

PRE 40th ANNIVERSARY TAKE - OUT LUNCHEON

At

King's Gate United Church Hall

(49 Hope Road, Kingston 10)

On

Friday, November 30, 2018

Meals Served: 12 Noon - 4 p.m.

Menu: Escovitched Fish, Steamed Fish, Barbecued Chicken, Jerked Pork

Served with: Rice & Peas, Bammy, Festival, Tossed Salad

Contribution: \$1,200.00

THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL UCYPF

Presents

IT'S ANNUAL YOUTH CONCERT



DELIBERATELY NURTURING ANOTHER FOR CHRIST

DECEMBER 1, 2018

TIME: 3:30 PM

ENTRY FEE : 200

SPALDING UNITED CHURCH

REFRESHMENT WILL BE ON SALE