

UCJCI UPDATE

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

THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE **CAYMAN ISLANDS**

> Congregational Disciples of Christ Presbyterian

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

SYNODICAL THEME:

"Renewal and Transformation: Discipleship for Life"

IN THIS ISSUE

Celebrating Rev. Dr. **Margaret Fowler UCJCI Values Leadership Corner Ad Corner**

PRAY FOR:



- Revds. Herbert Redway Snr. & Jr. whose son-in-law and brother-in -law, respectively, Mr. Neville Lloyd Jackson, has passed on
- The family of Rev. Dr. Margaret Fowler who has passed on.
- Rev. Joel **Downer** whose father-in-law, Dr. Johnson, has Noel passed on. His thanksgiving service will be held today, September 25, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Webster Memorial United Church.

Volume 5: Issue 38

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

ebrating a Faithful Servant of God

late **Reverend** celebrated on September 19, 2019 at her thanksgiving service, held at Webster Memorial United Church, for her conscientious service, unheralded devotion, and unquestionable distinction, in honour of the cause of Christ.

"Hers was a mission to comfort. to fortify, and to be a tangible expression of hope" were the words of Rev. Norbert Stephens, General Secretary of 4 the UCJCI, in his Synodical Reflection on the life of this stalwart of the faith.

On October 5, 1988, Ms. Margaret Fowler arrived in Jamaiinner-city of Kingston.

try, even as she sought to bind Child Care and Protection Policy. up the broken-hearted. This We are also truly grateful for her Theological College of the nominational duties. West Indies/University of

faithful steward, a the West Indies, she was placed Such engagements included: notable servant. The in the Mt. Zion/Barrett Town The Theodora Project for Dr. Charge, and was subsequently Education & Personal Devel-Margaret Fowler was ordained to the Ministry.

> Rev. Dr. Fowler later served in the Negril United Charge, and finally at the Hope United (NATFATIP), People's Ac-Charge, where she served for nearly a decade.



ca as a mission partner from She also offered dependable, dedithe Church of Scotland, out cated service at the regional levof an appeal by the then Unit-el, where she was engaged as ed Church of Jamaica and Chair of the Western Regional Grand Cayman, for assistance Mission Council (WRMC), and with broadening the scope of at the synodical level, where she mission among residents of the served on several standing and special committees, and played a Her genuine expressions of key role in the drafting and imloving care were felt in minis- plementation of the Synod's

experience led to her sense of work towards uplifting the wider call to the Ministry of Word society, through intervention and Sacraments, and upon programmes outside of the arena graduating from the United of her official pastoral and de-

opment, membership of the National Task Force Against Trafficking in Persons tion for Community Transformation (PACT) Foundation, and the National Council on Drug Abuse.

In his homily, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans, Moderator of the UCJCI, likened her commitment to Jamaica and the UCJCI to the story of Ruth in Scripture, who passionately expressed to her mother-inlaw, Naomi, who urged her to depart from her, to her own people, "Entreat me not to leave you, or to turn back from following after you; for wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried. The Lord do so to me, and more also, if anything but death parts you and me" (Ruth 1:16-17). Her life, he said, reflected faith, compassion, courage, humility, determination, and hope.

Now, sorrowfully, but gratefully, we bid her farewell, and give God many thanks for her example of a life well-lived. May her soul rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon her.

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CELEBRATION!

Celebrating a Faithful Servant of God



70: Rev. Ashley Smith September 25

"With a long life I will satisfy him and let him see My salvation" (Psalm 91:16).



Pallbearers depart the sanctuary carrying the coffin of the late Rev. Dr. Margaret Fowler



UCJCI VALUES

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

A LOVING FELLOWSHIP AND UNITY—Strengthening our community of believers in a Christ-like manner, by affirming each other and responding to each other's needs with understanding and compassion, so as to encourage others to be drawn to a life in Christ (Romans 15:17); constantly acting in love towards one another while acknowledging our diversity, but always seeking the unity of the Church for the building of the kingdom (Romans 14:19, Acts 2:42-47, Ephesians 2:11-22, 4:1-16).



Mrs. Elizabeth Fowler, mother of the late Rev. Dr. Margaret Fowler (front, centre)



Rev. Norbert D. Stephens, General Secretary of the UCJCI, offering the Synodical Reflection



Students of Mona Preparatory School offering a tribute in song. Seated from left are: Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield, RDGS, CIRMC, and Rt. Rev. Dr. Gordon Cowans, Moderator, UCJCI

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LEADERSHIP CORNER

Seven Principles of Christian Leadership

pastor described the church as the most leader-ship-intensive organization in the world. Stephen Grunlan wrote, "Church leaders do not have the authority of military leaders or the financial incentives of the corporate world; they only have leadership skills on which to rely." Those leadership skills will define whether church leaders—or all Christian leaders, because they have the same values and focus—are successful.

Christian leadership is not rooted in worldly notions of success, such as the love of money or power. Jesus Himself spoke against this when expressing the importance of serving others. "Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:25-28).

Christian Leadership Principles

Love. God is love (1 John 4:8) and "the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us" (Romans 5:5). Love is central to Christianity and every Christian. Any Christian leader should be driven in his or her life by the love of God in anything that he or she does. In this light, may other people recognize the heart and motives of that leader.

Modesty. We have all encountered the know-it-all-leader, the submit-orelse type of leader. But Proverbs 16:5 says the proud of heart are "an abomination" to God. Being arrogant does

not help model or demonstrate Christ's interests. Rather, it is in direct conflict with Christian leadership. "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud" (Proverbs 16:18-19).

Self development. Jesus modelled self-development. He often slipped away to spend time with God. One of the most striking examples of this is when Jesus prayed in the garden at Gethsemane just before His arrest. "And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, 'Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." (Luke 22:41-42)

Motivation. Instead of misleading or exploiting people, good leaders motivate others, Grunlan said. In Nehemiah 2:17, "Nehemiah fearlessly motivated the people to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. He laid out a vision, he shared a plan and he reassured God's people that God was with them. When we are moving people for our benefit, we manipulate and exploit them. But when we call people to a higher purpose, we motivate them," Grunlan wrote.

Correction. Correcting others in the right way is important for all Christians. Many passages in Scripture speak to this principle, as the following examples illustrate: "But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to

their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will" (2 Timothy 2:23-26).

How can Christian leaders approach correcting others in the right way? Bill Lawrence offers the following tips:

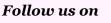
- * By understanding their temperaments
- * By respecting their concerns
- * By believing in their gifts
- * By supporting their dreams
- * By challenging their flaws

Integrity. Good leaders practice and value integrity. "Righteous lips are the delight of kings, and they love him who speaks what is right" (Proverbs 16:13). People don't follow leaders who lack integrity. Integrity involves actions as well as words. It involves practicing what we preach, being consistent and dependable, doing what we say we will do, and living in such a way that others will trust us.

Followers of God's will. "Is there anything more important in a leader than he or she seeking God's direction?" Brent Rinehart asked. A good leader seeks the Lord, commits his (her) way to the Lord and the Lord establishes the next steps. "The preparations of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord...Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established" (Proverbs 16:1,3).

Source: https://online.campbellsville.edu/category/ministry/













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UCJCI FAMILY AD CORNE

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

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The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

Education Commission Ethics Sub-Committee Presents

"Live Right, DO Right"

Methodologies for Teaching Ethics & Values in United Church High Schools

we invite all

Principals, Board Chairs, Chaplins, Guideance Councilors, PTA Reps. and Student's Council Reps. from all United

Church High Schools

ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2019 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Webster Memorial Church Hall
53 Half Way Tree Road, Kingston 10
(on the property of Webster

Memorial United Church)





PLEASE RSVP BY Monday, September 23, 2019
contact Monique Lofters at 876-926-6059 OR email ucjcieecegmail.com OR
contact, Rev Dave Hazle at 876-792-0871 (call / whats app)
OR via email hazledave7egmail.com

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands



Evangelism An Intense

October 18-21, 2019 Knox Cobbla Campus, Manchester

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands



United Church Men's Fellowship

presents their

34th Annual General Meeting

On October 5, 2019 at Ridgemount United Church Mandeville, Manchester

Theme: "Men Living Lives of Christian Witness and Service, Transforming Lives and Changing Spaces"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Roderick Hewitt, President, International University of the Caribbean

Devotions by: Rev. Norbert D. Stephens,

General Secretary, UCJCI

Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. Cost: \$1,500 (including coffee fellowship and lunch)