

The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

Weekly Update

October 5, 2022.

UNITED CHURCH MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SYNODICAL MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY on OCTOBER 9, 2022

Each year, we pause to celebrate the United Church Synodical Men's Fellowship Sunday. This year we do so under the theme "Men on a Mission – From Crisis to Christ".

Crisis may be defined as a situation that is extremely dangerous or when there are many problems. As we examine the state of our world today, we are forced to conclude that it is in crisis. There are indeed many problems. Currently, there is a war between Russia and Ukraine that has created an energy crisis, a food security crisis and an international transportation crisis to name a few. There is an environmental crisis caused by climate change. The Covid 19 pandemic appears to be receding, but we are now faced with Monkey Pox. One crisis after another.

Jamaica is affected by all of these and more. We are beset by crime and violence, corruption and a general breakdown in values. Our younger generation is distracted by different value systems. Scamming and the general easy way out in making a living seems now to be the order of the day. We look to persons who may be regarded as less than desirable but who have become role models, and social media has become a negative influence especially on our young



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people. Education is under siege and there is general indiscipline in schools. Indeed, there are crises all around us.

But we need not despair. With every crisis comes opportunities. Recall in Mark 6:34 - 44, the disciples informed Jesus that they were in a crisis and that He should send the crowd away to find food for themselves. But Jesus enquired about the resources that were available and He used the available five loaves and two fishes to feed the crowd. Although the disciples were with Him daily, they did not understand that He was bigger than the crisis. This was only manifested to them when the five loaves and two fishes fed over five thousand men, not counting women and children. They eventually had twelve baskets of excess food.

Christ has given us the resources that can transform our society. Like the disciples, we are not recognizing the power He has endowed on us. We need to utilize our God-given resources of talent, time and money to transform our society. We need to use our influences by:

- becoming Sunday School Teachers,
- mentors for the young boys and girls in our community,
- assisting with the Home Work Programmes,
- identifying the young boys in our communities and involving them in the Boys' Brigade of which we ought to be leaders,
- getting involved in other community projects such as feeding the hungry, caring for the fatherless, the aged and the disabled.

Christ said that whatever we do for the least of these brothers and sisters, we do it for Him. We can use our resources to move people from today's crises to Christ.

My challenge is that we begin to identify the resources with which God has blessed us and invite our other brothers – young and not so young - to join us as we begin this mission of moving our people from the crises that seem to pervade us. I am confident that the results we achieve will assist in advancing the Kingdom of God.

I wish God's blessings on you as you celebrate this Men's Fellowship Sunday and may you, with urgency, seek to join this Mission of moving people from crisis to Christ.

ERROL MILLER. ACTING PRESIDENT GENERAL

UNITED CHURCH MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

IN JAMAICA, APPROXIMATELY
300 WOMEN DIE ANNUALLY
FROM BREAST CANCER.



EARLY DETECTION IS KEY GET SCREENED TODAY!



UCJCI October – December 2022 Focus Jesus Christ: Our Living Hope

In this final quarter of the year, much of our readings come from the prophets, as they seek to foster Hope in the lives of God's people in trying times. We have cause to reflect on their unwavering Hope as the world faces so many things that challenge our own Hope in God. If Faith is Hope in action, what is Hope?

Some of us see Hope as prayerful anticipation, as that which sustains and keeps. It is also the beginning of a concrete reality, not yet come to pass. Of course, Hope is neither incidental nor accidental. It comes from a vision (not always clear to others), nurtured by action and plans.

Within the context of Scripture, two Hebrew words qawa and batah speak to Hope, rooted in trust. As we move through Heritage Week, Reformation Sunday, Pirates' Week and into Advent and Christmas, our focus shifts to Jesus and His role in our lives of Faith. We seek to understand our Hope in Jesus Christ, unmoving and very much alive, through the lens of Health, Opportunities, Peace, and Evangelism and in the realities of our countries in this season. May we find Jesus to be our Living Hope in good and bad times.

Caribbean Youth Initiative PROGRAMME

The joint CWM Caribbean and CANACOM 2022 Youth Initiative will take place on October 14 – 17, 2022, at the Hotel Four Seasons in Kingston, Jamaica, under the theme, "Rising to Life: Leadership, Identity, Faithfulness, and Empowerment".

For three days, participants will be engaging from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm daily in worship and Bible Study, group work sessions, round table conversations, and devising strategies to make practical and actionable the theme in focus in their respective contexts.



The Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council will be represented by Ms. Jennelle McLaughlin from the Elmslie Memorial Church. She is well known for her commitment to and involvement in various areas of children and youth ministry in her church and around the CIRMC (youth, music, Sunday school,

dance, mentoring, Youth Sundays, and special events). She is an active member of the Youth Leadership National Executive (YLNE) and a role model to teens and pre-teens.

We thank Jennelle for taking the time away from work to attend this event and wish her God's blessings.

Liturgy For Worship At Home

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 - Psalm 66- 2 Timothy 2:8-15 **Luke 17:11-19**

Radical Hope (Health)

What is Radical about the Hope of those persons in today's readings? In the face of cancer, C-19, Monkey pox, Chikungunya, Dengue, Diabetes, and other physical, emotional, and mental health concerns; can we help believers to put their trust in God?

Possible theme songs:

'Sing Praises unto God, Sing Praises', 'Let us with a Gladsome Mind', 'Great is Thy Faithfulness', or 'My Faith it is'.

Prayer Corner

Prayer Requests

- The family of the late Karl Bright who passed last week
- Lay Pastor John Macmillan and Mrs. Itza Bodden, Youth Worker, in Cayman who both face health related challenges
- The family of Ms. Rose Spalding, who passed on recently
- Rev. Dr. James Gibbs, who is recovering from illness and who lost his brother, Winston George Gibbs
- All who have experienced weather related to the passage of Hurricane Ian
- Pastor John McMillan
- Rev. Ranford Hewitt
- The Bulgin Family
- Members of staff with relatives affected by COVID-19
- People affected by the war between Ukraine and Russian
- Victims and perpetrators of crime and violence in Jamaica and the security force and government as they respond

Prayer

Psalm 20

May the Lord answer you when you are in distress;

may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.

May he send you help from the sanctuary and grant you support from Zion.

May he remember all your sacrifices and accept your burnt offerings.[b]

May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.

May we shout for joy over your victory and lift up our banners in the name of our God.

May the Lord grant all your requests.

Now this I know:

The Lord gives victory to his anointed.

He answers him from his heavenly sanctuary with the victorious power of his right hand.

Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm.

Lord, give victory to the king!

Answer us when we call!



Portmore United Church





Baptism

Candidates for Baptism



Special Prayer for our nation's children/schools.

Bridgeport High School represented the island in the sanctuary.



" Living The Word, Changing Lives ... "

TRAINING SESSIONS

INTRODUCTION:

Purpose of the Child of God, "Living the Word, Changing Lives..." Campaign/Ministry The intent of the Child of God, "Living the Word, Changing Lives..." Campaign/Ministry is to engender a lifestyle that physically brings to life the action/activities of the Spiritual teachings of Jesus Christ among the believer. That is to empower the believer to demonstrate the "Fruit of the Spirit" which are Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness and Temperance. (Galatians 5:22 & 23KJV) through The Development of "Active Spiritual Discipline".

Phase 2 – of the Child of God, "Living the Word, Changing Lives..." Campaign developed by the Discipleship Ministry of Webster Memorial United Church has been assigned to Public Educational/Training Sessions aimed at Members and Adherents of the Church.

Following on a successful initiation of the **Discipleship 'Child of God' Training Sessions** earlier this year at Webster on "**The Development of Active Spiritual Discipline**"; we are encouraged by the level of interest and thirst for knowledge demonstrated not only by the members and adherents of our Church Webster, but also by interested persons from other denominations locally and globally spanning participants from the **USA**, **Canada**, **and the Caribbean**. This has endorsed our contention that Training is not only needed but desperately wanted. Therefore, the Discipleship Ministry have responded to offering another series of Training Sessions under the theme "**The Fundamentals of Our Faith**".

THE TRAINING PROGRAMME PURPOSE:

The Fundamentals of Our Faith is another response to the question: Who is a Child of God, 'Living the Word, Changing Lives...'?

As presented by the Ministry; a Definition of a Child of God, "Living the Word, Changing Lives..." is defined follows:

A Child of God is "someone who believes in God, dedicated to service, demonstrating a willingness to serve others through the anointing of the Holy Spirit, based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, has faith in God, and is grounded in the Word of God through Prayer."

Training Sessions will be coordinated by Mrs. Elaine Commissiong under the guidance of Webster Semior Minister
Rev. Astor Carlyle. Guest Presenters for these sessions are: Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott, Rev. Norbert Stephens, Rev Henley Bernard,
Rev. Lembe Sivile, Rev Dr. Collin Cowan and Rev. Dr Burchell Taylor.

Presentations will begin on Tuesday, September 27, 2022.

Sessions will be held weekly thereafter on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm. These Training Sessions will be in the Webster Sanctuary and on Zoom.

Vision: Instituting a Spiritual Lifestyle of Active Service among all Believers

Mission: Empowering a Physical Lifestyle of Actions/Activities, that is based on the Spiritual Teachings of Jesus Christ within all Believers.

THE UNITED CHURCH SENIOR CITIZEN HOME

WE ARE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

VACANCIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR BOTH MALE AND FEMALE SENIORS.



Send us an email to ucschome32@gmail.com or call the Director, Miss Bailey, at 876-373-8474 or 876-962-3768 to make your enquiries.

32 Villa Road, Mandeville P.O., Manchester



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What is Monkeypox Disease?

A rare disease that is caused by an infection from the monkeypox virus

How is the Monkeypox virus transmitted?

It can be transmitted from animals to humans through:

- bites or scratches by an animal carrying the virus handling and eating meat from infected animals

It can be transmitted from human to human through close contact with:

- skin lesions e.g. rash, blister, sores, scab, etc

- droplets from respiratory secretions e.g. cough, sneeze, spit recently contaminated objects e.g. bed linen, clothes and frequently touched areas

What is the incubation period?

The incubation period (time between infection and when the symptoms start) is usually from 6 to 13 days but can range as 5 to 21 days

What are the main signs and symptoms?

- Fever ◆ Chills ◆ Intense Headaches ◆ Extreme Exhaustion
- Muscle ache and Backache
 Swollen lymph nodes
 Rash (usually appears 1-3 days after the fever)

Symptoms can be mild or severe and associated skin rash can be itchy or painful

♣ What is the treatment for Monkeypox Disease?

Treatment is based on the symptoms. If experiencing fever or pain, Panadol can be taken Drink lots of fluids to maintain hydration

Who is at risk of being infected with the Monkeypox virus?

Any person in close contact with someone who has monkeypox

+ How can the risk of getting Monkeypox be reduced?

Key prevention measures include COVID-19 prevention measures:

• Wear your mask • Wash your hands • Physical Distance
 • Frequently sanitise areas that are frequently touched • Avoid crowds









Is there a Vaccine for Monkeypox?

• There is a vaccine against monkeypox that is generally available. A recently approved vaccine has been produced for research purpose only

Jamaica has no known case of monkeypox at this time.





Tune in to United in Faith Sundays on RJR 94 F.M at 6:30 a.m.



You can listen to United In Faith episodes at your convenience on our Anchor F.M. Platform. Click the link either in our Instagram bio or when it is circulated via WhatsApp.







Registration for CWM's eDARE 2022 is now open!

We invite you to register using the link below:

https://forms.gle/ iWjf9BmB2FWLArw39

We look forward to seeing you DARE!

End Violence Against Women and Children



Share your Thursdays in Black photos on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and tag us @ucjci

#WCC, #UCJCI #evgw #ThursdaysinBlack #endviolenceagainstwomen

Birthology



Rev. Dave Spence October 11



Rev. Donovan Myers October 12

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

<u>Moderator</u>: Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott <u>General Secretary</u>: Rev. Norbert Stephens

Regional Deputy General Secretaries

Cayman Regional Mission Council-Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield Southern Regional Mission Council-Mrs. Janet McConnell

North-Eastern Regional Mission Council - Mrs. Rose Wedderburn

Western Regional Mission Council-Mrs. Mauleen Henry

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We appreciate your feedback. Please send your comments and input to citc@ucjci.com