



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 Transfor-
mation: Discipleship for
Life"

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PRAY FOR:



*Rev. Raymond and Mrs. Ruth Coke, Rev. Godfrey and Mrs. Lynette Meghoo on the passing of Mrs. Mary Mangaroo, sister to Ruth and Lynette.

*The family of Rev. Keith Gordon, who has passed on.

Volume 6: Issue 35

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

UCJCI CARE PACKAGES DISTRIBUTION

Through a kind donation from the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA) in collaboration with the Caribbean and North America Council for Mission (CANACOM), the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands (UCJCI) received funds in a COVID-19 response to the needs of the poor and vulnerable, and in particular those who have been dislocated by the ravaging effects of the crisis.

Commenced in May 2020 and completed in July 2020, the objective of project was to provide, across Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, grocery baskets of essential food items for 200 families and elderly persons who have either lost their jobs or whose principal support has lost their job or income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Administered by the Regional Mission Councils, the distribution was done

through local UCJCI congregations, and **four hundred and sixty (460) persons** benefitted directly from the initiative.

Each grocery basket of love was estimated to value Two Thousand Five Hundred Jamaican Dollars (J\$2,500.00) or USD Eighteen (US\$18), with the total cost of the project being Five Hundred Thousand Jamaican Dollars (J\$500,000) or Three Thousand Six Hundred and Forty US Dollars (US\$3,640.00).

In our **Southern Regional Mission Council**, sixty (60) grocery baskets were distributed to sixty (60) families, benefitting one hundred and forty seven (147) persons, including the elderly and children, and persons who had lost their job or income due to the pandemic.

In our **Western Regional Mission Council**, fifty (50) grocery baskets were distributed to fifty (50) families, benefitting one hundred and fifty-nine (159) adults and children, including persons previously employed to the

tourism sector who had become unemployed due to the impact of the pandemic.

In our **North-Eastern Regional Mission Council** (NERMC), sixty-two (62) grocery baskets were distributed to sixty-two (62) families, benefitting eighty-nine (89) persons, including children. The persons who benefitted had either the breadwinner lose his/her job or their income was significantly reduced, and in some cases, their previous condition was made worse by the pandemic.

In our **Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council**, thirty (30) grocery gift vouchers valued at KYD25.00 each were purchased and distributed to both members and non-members of the UCJCI, with approximately 65 persons directly benefitting from the initiative. Elderly persons, as well as those experiencing job loss due to the pandemic, children and indigent persons all benefitted. *God be praised!*

CELEBRATIONS!

UCJCI CARE PACKAGES DISTRIBUTION



70:

Rev. Dr. Derik Davidson
September 16

Rev. Henley Bernard
Dr. Norma Smellie
September 20

Rev. Kraig DeLeon-
Diedrick
September 21



Rev. Dr. Henroy Samuels, RDGS, NERMC, hands a care package to Pastor Elmore Hall of Friendship Brook United Church for distribution in his congregation.

UCJCI VALUES

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

Evangelism: Sharing the story of God's amazing love demonstrated by Jesus Christ, in a relevant manner, to those without Christ in our community and beyond (Matthew 28:18-20).

Care packages—The Southern Regional Mission Council



Care packages in the Western Regional Mission Council

MAKING DISCIPLES
being
DISCIPLES



HOUSE WORSHIP LITURGIES FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

SEPTEMBER 20 Yahweh Machsi / The Lord My Refuge

SEPTEMBER 27 Yahweh Shalom / The Lord is Peace

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

LEADERSHIP CORNER

Leading Successfully at One Level Is a Qualifier for Leading at the Next Level

Growing organizations are always looking for good people to step up to the next level and lead. *How do they find out if a person is qualified to make that jump?* By looking at that person's track record in his or her current position. The key to moving up as an emerging leader is to focus on leading well where you are, not moving up the ladder. If you are a good leader where you are, I believe you will be given an opportunity to lead at a higher level.

As you strive to become the best leader you can be, keep the following things in mind:

LEADERSHIP IS A JOURNEY THAT STARTS WHERE YOU ARE, NOT WHERE YOU WANT TO BE. You can't get anywhere until you first know where you are. Leadership is similar. To know how to get to where you want to go, you need to know where you are. To get where you want to go, you need to focus on what you're doing now. Ken Rosenthals said, *"Each time you decide to grow again, you realize you are starting at the bottom of the ladder."* You need to have your eyes fixed on your current responsibilities, not the ones you wish to have someday. I've never known a person focused on yesterday to have a better tomorrow.

GREAT RESPONSIBILITIES COME ONLY AFTER HANDLING SMALL ONES WELL. When I teach at a conference or go to a book signing, people sometimes confide in me that they desire to write books too. *"How do I get start-*

ed?" they ask. *"How much writing do you do now?"* I ask in return. Some tell me about articles and other pieces they are writing, and I simply encourage them; but most of the time they sheepishly respond, *"Well, I haven't really written anything yet."* *"Then you need to start writing,"* I explain. *"You've got to start small and work up to it."*

Leadership is the same. You've got to start small and work up to it. A person who has never led before needs to try to influence one other person. Someone who has some influence should try to build a team. Just start with what's necessary.

St. Francis of Assisi said, *"Start doing what is necessary; then do what is possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."* All good leadership begins where you are. It was Napoleon who said, *"The only conquests which are permanent and leave no regrets are our conquests over ourselves."* The small responsibilities you have before you now comprise the first great leadership conquest you must make. Don't try to conquer the world until you've taken care of things in your own backyard.

LEADING AT YOUR CURRENT LEVEL CREATES YOUR RESUME FOR GOING TO THE NEXT LEVEL. When you go to see a doctor for the first time, you are usually asked a lot of questions about your family history. In fact, there are usually more questions about that than there are about your lifestyle. *Why?* Because family history, more than anything

else, seems to be what determines your health.

When it comes to leadership success, history is also similarly disproportionate. Your track record where you work now is what leaders will look at when trying to decide if you can do a job. If you want to get the chance to lead on another level, then your best chance for success is to lead well where you are now. Every day that you lead and succeed, you are building a resume for your next job.

WHEN YOU LEAD VOLUNTEERS WELL, YOU CAN LEAD ALMOST ANYONE. If you want to test your own leadership, then try leading volunteers. *Why is that so difficult?* Because with volunteers, you have no leverage. It takes every bit of leadership skill you have to get people who don't have to do anything to do what you ask. If you're not challenging enough, they lose interest. If you push too hard, they drop out. If your people skills are weak, they won't spend any time with you. If you can't communicate the vision, they won't know where to go or why.

Taking action—and helping others to do the same in a coordinated effort—is the essence of leadership. Do those things where you are, and you won't remain long there.

Source: "The 360-Degree Leader" by John C. Maxwell



COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS FEATURE

UCJCI'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Individual Prayer:
Every Wednesday
from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

(2 Timothy 1:7)

UCJCI'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

POINTS FOR PRAYER

- * A stop to the spread of the disease.
- * Healing for those who are infected with the disease.
- * Strength, comfort and peace for the loved ones of persons who have died from the disease.
- * Encouragement for the children who are confused and fearful during this time.
- * That persons will draw closer to God, and families draw closer to each other, during this time.
- * That all persons will take this matter seriously, and responsibly take the necessary precautions.
- * Support for our healthcare systems and workers who are on the frontlines.
- * Safety of all elderly persons, those with co-morbidities and our tourism workers.
- * Provision for the needy, those in quarantine and those who have lost, or will lose, their jobs.
- * Our local and world economies.



UCJCI FAMILY AD CORNER

WORD FOR TODAY



Southern Regional Mission Council
invites you to join our Online Evangelistic Services

"Get Connected
with Jesus"

Sunday, September 13-
Sunday, September 20, 2020
6:00-7:30 p.m. nightly



<https://www.facebook.com/ridgemountunitedchurch/>



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMwFvwm0QfwZ7bSSU6uBxEg>
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmoXgjfqRK8WGoKfoTthw>

SOMETIMES

WHEN YOU'RE IN A DARK PLACE
YOU THINK YOU'VE BEEN BURIED,
BUT ACTUALLY YOU'VE BEEN PLANTED.

Christine Caine

KEEPINSPIRING.ME