



# The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

## Weekly Update

January 19, 2022 || Volume 9 Issue 3

### International University of the Caribbean *Life and Culture*



open campuses and other local tertiary institutions such as Mico University, Edna Manley College of Visual and Performing Arts, University of Technology, University of the West Indies, G.C. Foster College, Shortwood Teachers' College and others in parishes such as Kingston, Manchester, St. Catherine, Portland and St. James.

With flexible timetables and supportive lecturers, the International University of the Caribbean, IUC, has won the hearts of its students. Echoing the gratitude of the student population, Ricardo Todd expressed that the institution has not only afforded him the opportunity to pursue his academic ambitions, but that this experience has propelled his personal growth and development. Todd, who is currently the President of IUC's Circle-K district, is on the verge of completing his Bachelor of Science Undergraduate degree in Business Administration this year, all while working full-time without conflict.

welcome the challenge that unequivocally puts them at an advantage in the working world.

"When I reach IUC, I could feel the university and the student life," the Jamaica College old boy said, after admitting that he had no expectations upon entry. The newfound excitement to be a part of IUC was ushered by the student leader representatives who consistently curated enjoyable experiences. Notably, integration into IUC's life and culture was not difficult because of continuous encouragement from stakeholders to join different groups and organizations.

Though he walked through the gates of IUC already employed, he lauded the structure and approach of the acclaimed university for the emphasis they place on professional development. Todd highlighted Organization Structure and Behavior, Conflict Management, Guidance Counselling, Community Development and Volunteerism as courses he did not know he needed.

These clubs, such as the Tourism Club, PNP Youth Organization (PNPYO), and Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UUCF), have served as vehicles to create and sustain lasting relationships between the main campus,

"To me, it is better than even UWI and Utech. IUC has some of the better lecturers that focus on you... They push you," he said noting the approach in testing understanding as opposed to memory. Though this may be more difficult, students



Todd shared that his friends vying for positions at their schools have pushed him to do the same. Only executive members get access to certain events and benefits that they all want to share as friends though they are from different schools.

In returning to the nexus of the university to "Seek Peace and Pursue Excellence", as the motto states, IUC launched its Peace Institute last September. This move, piloted by the President, Professor Roderick Hewitt, gives students the opportunity, to engage in Peace Studies at the certificate, diploma and degree levels, and internationally, post graduate studies at the master's and doctoral levels with Kings College at the University of London. In addition to this, the institution has a wide selection of courses available.



*Please, see the flyer at the end of this publication.*



**The United Church Young Adults' Action Movement, UCYAAM, Synodical Executive** extends our appreciation to everyone who participated in our recently concluded virtual crusade. Special thanks to our speakers, congregations, Ministers and young adult leaders who facilitated this worship experience. We also wish to extend our thanks to the Minister and members of Savanna-la-mar United Church for hosting our Annual Church Service on Sunday January 16, 2022. Special thanks is also being extended to all our viewers, we pray that you were blessed and challenged to a life committed to Christ.



The Launch of the Earl Thames Scholarship .



UCYAAM members from Askenish United giving sanitization packages to the Community Clinic workers on January 15, UCYAAM cares day.

## **PRAYER CORNER**

### **Prayer Requests**

- Family of the late Rev. Dr. Edmond Folkes who passed on Monday from a brief illness.
- Rev. Rohan Kong and his wife whose newborn son, Joel Kong, remains in hospital since birth.
- Mrs. Karen Francis, whose husband Rev. Dr. Norman Francis has passed on.
- The climbing number of COVID-19 infections in the Cayman Islands.
- Patients, families and workers in the health sector in the Cayman Islands and Jamaica.

- Members of staff with relatives affected by COVID-19.
- The church and the various plans for the New year.

### **Prayer**

We pray for teachers, for students, and for all those in authority and leadership, both locally and throughout the world. Give them your mind, and surround them with godly counselors who will exercise integrity and work for justice, morality, and freedom. Help them to esteem you, not dismiss you. Send revival, Lord.

# Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council

## Congratulations Graduates!



On Saturday, January 8, 2022, graduating participants from the CIRMC gathered at the Council Office to celebrate the successful completion of Module 1 of the UCJCI Training for Lay Leaders Certificate Course. The fifteen (15) persons receiving certification for Module 1 represented our West Bay, George Town, Savannah, and East End-Gun Bay Charges. We (CIRMC) are proud of them and thank them for completing their training. It is our hope and prayer that they have been blessed by it and found it useful as they continue to serve and engage in ministry in their congregation or wherever God may lead them.

In all, one hundred and fifteen (115) participants completed Module 1 successfully in the four (4) Regional Mission Councils of the UCJCI. A church-wide **Graduation Celebration** will be held on **Sunday, February 6, 2022, at 2:00 pm at the Hope United Church (Kingston, Jamaica)**. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, this special occasion will be attended only by a limited number of persons and special guests but, it will also be streamed live via the UCJCI YouTube channel for the public (*see flyer at the end of this publication*).

## COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AFFECTING CONGREGATIONAL LIFE IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

### Cayman Islands

The number of COVID-19 cases in the Cayman Islands since the start of the pandemic is 11,666. In addition, 15 COVID-19 patents have died as at midnight at Monday January 17 and 15 hospitalized. The Cayman Government has responded with regulations aimed at controlling the spread of the virus, including but not limited, to protocols for travel and gatherings. Consequently, indoor gatherings, including church services, are now restricted to 100 persons while outdoor gatherings are restricted to 250 persons.

### Jamaica

There are 116, 084 confirmed cases of which 14,962 are active with 2,555 deaths. The Government of Jamaica, on November 16, 2021, announced amendments to orders under the Disaster Risk Management Act (DRMA).

Please note and be guided by the following:

1. Church Services – The number of persons allowed in

the sanctuary for worship should be determined by the physical distancing requirement of a minimum of six feet between persons, but should not exceed 100 persons.

2. Weddings – the maximum number of persons allowed is 100.

3. Funeral services are allowed with a maximum of 20 persons within the place of worship or facility.

4. Burials are allowed for 30 minutes Mondays to Fridays between 9 am and 4 pm with a maximum of 20 persons at the graveside.

The other relevant provisions remain the same as under:

5. No physical crusades, conferences or conventions will be permitted.

6. Physical gatherings are limited to 10 persons.

7. Stay at home – persons 60 years and over. Fully vaccinated persons are exempt.

Please note that the wearing of masks, hand sanitizing and social distancing are still required for public spaces and gatherings.

## LITURGY FOR WORSHIP AT HOME

**January 23**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after**

**Epiphany - Women's Fellowship Sunday**

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

### **Rooted and Anointed**

The Spirit of the Lord rests upon those who are called and consecrated for God's will and purpose.

The gospel reading suggests that the purpose for our anointing is often made manifest in our service to others and we need to remain faithful in all we do.

Jesus was anointed to *"bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

- How did Christ live out this anointing on His life? · What does it mean to be anointed?
- What are the markers of an anointed life?
- Are we living out the anointing that is on our lives?
- What are the purposes for which we have been anointed? Are they not the same as Christ's?

The Women's Fellowship Theme- **'Called to Faithfulness by a Faithful God'** can also arise from these texts.



**Rev. Nigel Pusey**

**January 20**

**Miss Amanda Mills**

**January 20**



**Mr. Michael Gordon**

**January 22**

**Rev. Bevin Miller**

**January 25**



# NOTICES

**UCJCI Lay Training Institute**



**TRAINING FOR LAY LEADERS 2022**

Offered in collaboration with The International University of the Caribbean

*Get Ready to Serve!*



**MODULE 1 BEGINS FEBRUARY 12, 2022**

**TRAINING FEATURES**

- Weekend and Weekday classes  
Saturdays 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Thursdays 6 - 8 p.m.  
(2nd and 4th Saturdays and Thursday in the immediate week following)
- Combination of Learning in Virtual Classrooms via Zoom and in Learners' own time

**ORIENTATION JANUARY 29, 2022**

**REGISTER NOW** through your Regional Mission Council office

For more information :  
nermc@ucjci.com; dirmc.info@gmail.com; wrmc01@yahoo.com; srmc@ucjci.com

THE UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE GAYMAN ISLANDS LAY TRAINING INSTITUTE  
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF THE CARIBBEAN




*Lay Training Graduation Celebration*

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2022 - 2:00 P.M.

GUEST SPEAKER: DR. YVONNE LEYS DAWKINS  
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT  
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS  
UNIVERSITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN

The Celebration will be streamed live from Hope United Church via the UCJCI YouTube channel.  
ALL ARE WELCOME TO TUNE IN  
Due to COVID 19 restrictions there will be limited in-person gathering of specially invited guests



**International University Caribbean**  
*Seek Peace Pursue Excellence*

**Undergraduate Degrees**

- BSc: Business Administration
- BSc: Business Administration (PPM)
- BSc: Tourism & Hospitality Management
- BA: Guidance & Counselling
- BE: Primary Education\*
- BA: Psychology
- BA: General Studies
- BA: Community Development
- BA: Media & Communication Arts

**Mode of Study: Online & Face to Face**

**Entry Requirement:**

- 5 passes in CSEC subjects including Mathematics & English Language (\*only option for BE degree)
- ... or a combination of CSEC and City & Guilds (Level 3)
- ... or any 3 passes in CSEC subjects + 2 equivalent IUC subjects

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES APPLY NOW!**



eMail: [apply@iuc.edu.jm](mailto:apply@iuc.edu.jm)  
Tel. 876.754.1921

**UNITED CHURCH MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**



**2022 Convention**  
**Blended Approach**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**26.02.2022**



**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**  
**SUNDAY**  
**JANUARY 23, 2022**

Theme:  
**'Called to Faithfulness by a Faithful God'**



Share your *Thursdays in Black* photos on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and tag us @ucjci #WCC, #UCJCI, #evgw, #ThursdaysinBlack, #endviolenceagainstwomen



*Tune in to Our United in Faith Programme  
Every Sunday on RJR 94 FM at 6:30 a.m.*  
This Sunday Miss Pauline Bryan, President General of the Women's Fellowship, joins us to discuss, in keeping with theme, *"Womanhood and Femininity:- The Importance of the Softer Touch."*

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

**Moderator**

Rt. Rev. Gary Harriott

**General Secretary**

Rev. Norbert Stephens

**Regional Deputy General Secretaries**

◇ **Cayman Regional Mission Council-**

Rev. Dr. Yvette Noble-Bloomfield

◇ **North-Eastern Regional Mission Council -**

Mrs. Rose Wedderburn

◇ **Southern Regional Mission Council-**

Mrs. Janet McConnell

◇ **Western Regional Mission Council-**

Mrs. Maureen Henry

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