



A Weekly Update from The United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

NOVEMBER 10, 2021

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Ordination: Occasion and Opportunity

By Rev Henley Bernard, Director of Ministerial Formation

The rite of ordination is one of the most anticipated and celebrated events in the life of the church. The practice has been part of the Christian community from earliest times. It has its origins in Jesus' call of his disciples during the early days of his ministry, his commission of them on the eve of his ascension (Matt. 16-20), and the act of consecration witnessed in the doing of the leaders of the early church as they set apart, first the deacons, and then Paul and Barnabas to the specific ministry to which they were either appointed or sensed they were being called (Acts 6:6; 13:1-3).

While ordination is considered a sacrament in some sections of the church, in the reformed community to which the United Church belongs, it is considered an ordinance and is the ritual through which those sensing a call to serve in the office of pastor have that authority conferred upon them by the faith community. The person being ordained is authorized to preach the Word, administer the Sacraments and ordinances and provide leadership, among other things, in the pursuit of the mission entrusted by Jesus Christ.

Ordination is not to be regarded so much as the gaining of status as it is the celebration of the preparation undergone by the candidate (usually

academic and formational), the recognition of the candidate's suitability for participation in the community's life in the way described above, and the embrace of the candidate, through the 'laying on of hands' and the extension of 'appropriate signs of fellowship, as colleague and partner in the faith community's commitment to serve the cause of Christ.

In the New Testament there are several words that embody the notion of ordination. Among them is that which means "to put or place." (Acts 13:2,3). Secondly, there is that which means "to make someone something" and carries the idea of conferring upon someone the office of an elder or pastor. (Titus 1:5-7). A third word is that which means "to select by the stretching forth of the hand" (Acts 6:6; 14:23).

Cont'd on page 02

IN THIS UPDATE:

Meet the Ordinands.....	02
Cayman Islands Regional Mission Council.....	05
Haiti relief.....	07
Covid-19 Protocols.....	08
Prayer Corner.....	09
Notices.....	10

For those being ordained, there is the challenge of dedication of self at three levels. These include dedication of self as living sacrifices for the service of God (Rom 12:1), dedication to the church which speaks of accountability. Note that Paul reported to the church after each missionary journey (Acts 14:23-28; Acts 21:17-26). There is also dedication to humankind, a reminder that ministry is not self-seeking but invites us to seek the good/salvation of all of humanity. (John 3:17).

Finally, ordination must be celebrated as being both occasion and opportunity. It is the occasion when an individual or small group of individuals give public witness to their dedication to the service of Jesus Christ. This is accompanied by the opportunity for everyone else witnessing this moment of consecration to engage in personal acts of commitment or recommitment to that same service. Let us pray that the occasion of Ordination 2021 will lead us to embrace this opportunity

Meet the 2021 Ordinands

Pastor Anna-Kay

Henry-McGregor



Age: 30

Place of Birth : Port Maria

Place of Residence: Cromwell Land, Highgate St Mary

Home Church: Carron Hall United, NERMC

Currently serving at Bethel Charge: Esher, Marlborough, Airymount and Bethel

Favorite Scripture: Philippians 1:6

Hobbies: Riding motor bikes, baking

Fun Fact: I have a deep love for my dogs.

Mantra: The best is yet to come

Pastor Wendell McKoy

Justice of the Peace



Age: 49

Place of Birth : Mount Regale, St. Mary

Place of Residence: Islington, St. Mary

Home Church: Mount Regale United NERMC

Currently serving at Salem Charge of United Churches: Heywood Hall United, Salem United, and Zion Hill United

Favorite Scripture: Job 23:12

Hobbies: Serving others, reading, and watching sports

Fun Fact: I am the family comedian

Mantra: God must Get All the Glory

Pastor Sandra Collins

Intern Minister



Age: 47

Place of Birth : Mt. Pleasant Dist.
St. Elizabeth

Place of Residence: Paygon Drive, Santa Cruz

Home Church: Webster Memorial United,
NERMC

Currently serving at Santa Cruz United

Favorite Scripture: 1 John 4:4

Hobbies: Sleeping, watching television, cooking

Fun Fact: Can you believe that I love buying shoes, only to figure out that I really cannot wear them all at once, especially in our vocation. Reality check! All I need to have in my person is one pair of black shoes that goes with every outfit. Go figure. That is no fun at all. Ladies 'mus hav nuff shoes'.

Mantra: God is good and no matter what is going on around you it will/ does not stop Him from being good.



2021 *Service of Ordination*

Thursday, November 11, 2021
11 a.m.

Invitation Only

Webster Memorial United Church



Pastor Sandra Collins



Pastor Anna-Kay
Henry-McGregor



Pastor Wendell McKoy

Prepare your
communion elements
and join us on YouTube



**You are invited to our
2021 Service of Ordination
to word and sacrament.**

In keeping with the COVID-19 protocols,
only 50 persons will be invited to the
sanctuary.

We are looking forward to your viewing,
prayers and well wishes in the comments of
the live stream on the UCJCI YouTube
Channel.

UCJCI's Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/UCJCI>

Please, prepare your elements to participate
in Holy Communion.



ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE

INDUCTION *Service* OF

REVEREND PAUL DACOSTA-PINTO

Join Us Live

For This Special Service at 11:00AM



St. John's United Church Jamaica

**SUNDAY
NOV 21**



UCJCI Facts

ORDINATION EDITION

SSDRNUEA Last name of the 1st Female ordained by UCJCI.

WHTIE Last name of the first Female Moderator of UCJCI.

NOODRG Last name of the 1st Moderator to serve 2 consecutive terms.

VADDOSIN Last Name of the 1st Moderator of UCJCI.

HTRIE How many persons will be ordained on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2021

HHIECSTPRRO Last Moderator to serve 2 consecutive terms.

Reformation

Here are the answers to last week's UCJCI Facts Crossword puzzle!

The crossword puzzle grid contains the following words:

- 1. OCTOBER (Vertical)
- 2. THESIS (Vertical)
- 3. SCRIPTURA (Horizontal)
- 4. ZWIL (Vertical)
- 5. (Empty)
- 6. RENAISSANCE (Horizontal)
- 7. GLORIA (Horizontal)
- 8. IBERG (Vertical)

CAYMAN ISLAND REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

***This week's focus:
Every Life Matters to God***

God in His love sent Jesus Christ to die and take our judgement.

Jesus as our Great High Priest is still in heaven pleading our case. The search for every lost sheep must continue.

Every Life Matters to God
by Ms. Camile Watt, Youth Minister of
Savannah Charge

Please read St. Luke 15:1-7

How does God show compassion for everyone?

John 3:16 says "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." The New Living Translation says everyone who believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. As the representative of the Godhead, Jesus displayed God's love and affection to children when He said, "suffer the little children to come unto me for of such is the Kingdom of heaven."

(Matthew 19:14) He displayed this same love and compassion towards the sick, the needy, the hungry, those that thirst, and those suffering from sin. He showed compassion to those tormented by evil spirits and those plagued with leprosy and scorned by others. He ministered to thieves such as Zacchaeus and to prostitutes like Mary Magdalene.

He showed compassion to the abused and the abuser, when he declared, "He who is without sin, cast the first stone." (John 8:7) He was accused of having fellowship with drunkards in

Matthew 11:19, "The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners'. God showed compassion then and he still shows compassion now. God may not matter to everyone, but everyone matters to God.

Why do we matter so much to God? Why does God even care?

In Psalm 139:14 the author declares that "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." God made each of us in our own unique and special way, formed and fashioned in the likeness of God.

He makes each of us with that special ingredient that makes us so different from another, this is what makes us so precious in God's eyes.

We matter to God because we are created with a purpose.

Which inventor creates a device that serves no purpose? Even an artist creates a masterpiece with a hidden meaning of a deeper expression that can be appreciated by its viewers. God created you with a divine purpose, that can only be revealed when you have a relationship with Him.

We matter to God because we are created in love, for love, and by love because God is love.

John 15:13 tells us, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” God is love. God’s intentions and burning desires are all an epiphany of love.

We matter to God because God desires relationships.

He created an entire world for Adam and gave him dominion over everything, God even made man higher than the angels. God gave us free will and the ability to choose God as a friend. God’s desire is to prosper us and give hope, a bright future, and an expected end. How much more can we ask or demand of a caring and compassionate God, who sent His only Son to give us that second chance that Adam gave up, to have a relationship with our creator?

If you were God, would every life matter to you?

We all know the story of Noah. In Genesis 5 the Bible tells us that “The Lord regretted that he had

made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. 7 So the Lord said, “I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them.” 8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.” One life mattered. God spared the entire earth for just one man, Noah. God gave humankind many chances to get it right, but nothing could stop us from walking in sin. Romans 23: 3 tells us that “All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God” because of one man sin entered the world but because of Christ Jesus we now have new hope, a new beginning, a restored relationship with God our creator.

2 Chronicles 7:14 says, “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

God still hears your cry; he knows your concerns but because of free will, we still have our part to play. Isaiah 1:18 tells us that God calls us to “Come let us reason together”. Open your heart to God today. You are created with a purpose, with love and to be joined in a deeper relationship with your creator. Be reconciled with God by accepting the work of Jesus Christ who died for your sins. Accept Jesus now, because you matter.

HAITI RELIEF

Since the earthquake, which had its epicenter near Haiti, on Saturday August 14, 2021, has devastated the nation, the country has been experiencing strong tremors. Many persons are still homeless and living under rubbles. Some are hesitant to erect concrete structures as they fear another earthquake at any given time.

At the last count, the death toll was 2,207, with 344 people still missing. The severe physical, economic and social impact on Haiti have been made more challenging as shortly thereafter they experienced the passage of Tropical Storm Grace. All of this follows the recent assassination of their President.



As part of our initial response as a church, we wish to offer financial support to the relief efforts in Haiti, through our established contacts there.

We are aware of the restrictions on attendance in worship in Jamaica and would suggest that, where possible, congregations make a contribution from their own funds.

How to Donate

Cayman Islands:

Send your contributions to your local congregations, which will then remit the same to the Cayman Regional Office

Jamaica:

Bank: National Commercial Bank Jamaica Ltd

Address: 90-94 Slike Rd.

Kingston 5

Account Name: United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

Account #: 234297392

Type of account : Savings

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

AFFECTING CONGREGATIONAL LIFE IN JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

-From the Office of the General Secretary

Given evidence of a community spread of COVID-19 in the Cayman Islands, the Government has reintroduced regulations to control the spread of the virus, including but not limited, to protocols for travel and gatherings. **Consequently, indoor gatherings are now restricted to 100 persons.** The restrictions are in place until **November 22, 2021.**

The Government of Jamaica, on October 26, 2021, announced amendments to an order under the Disaster Risk Management Act (DRMA) to facilitate in-person worship at churches on Sundays. These provisions are for the period **October 29 to December 10, 2021.**

Please note and be guided by the following:

1. **Church Services – Sundays are no longer designated ‘no movement days,’ with the curfew set at 8 p.m.** Services are allowed under the following condition:
 - **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 50 persons.**

The other relevant provisions remain the same as under:

2. **Weddings – the maximum number of persons allowed is 50.**
3. **No physical crusades, conferences or conventions** will be permitted.
4. **Funeral services are allowed with a maximum of 20 persons within the place of worship or facility.**
5. **Burials** are allowed for **30 minutes** Mondays to Fridays between **9 am and 4 pm** with a **maximum of 15 persons** at the graveside.
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.

We invite you to comply with these provisions.

Prayer Corner

- Rev Rohan Kong and his wife whose newborn son, Joel Kong, remains in hospital since birth.
- Pastor Ormond Williams who lost his mother.
- Rev. Mason who is unwell.
- Mrs. Karen Francis, whose husband Rev. Dr. Norman Francis has passed on.
- The Climbing number of COVID-19 infections in the Cayman Islands.
- The number of COVID-19 infections in Jamaica.
- Patients, families and workers in the health sector in Jamaica.
- Members of staff with relatives affected by COVID 19.
- Crime and Violence in Jamaica
- The people of Haiti and Afghanistan.
- Victims, Family Members and the body of Christ affected by the operations and principles of Pathway International Kingdom Restoration Ministries in St. James.

A Prayer

Almighty God,

Give us strength to live another day; Let us not turn coward before difficulties or prove recreant to our duties. Let us not lose faith in other people and preserve us from minding little stings or giving them.

Amen.

Liturgy for at Home Worship

November 14, 2021

Jesus The Once and For

All Sacrifice

Daniel 12:1-3

Psalms 16

Hebrews 10:11-14;

15-18; 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

God in His love sent Jesus Christ to die and take our judgement. Jesus as our Great High Priest is still in heaven pleading our case. The search for every lost sheep must continue.

NOVEMBER

- ⇒ Church School Month
- ⇒ Men's Health Month
- ⇒ National Parent Month in Jamaica:

2021 Theme-

'Positive Parenting,
impacting Generations'

NOTICES



UNITED CHURCH IN JAMAICA AND THE GAYMAN ISLANDS

UCJCI CHURCH SCHOOL TRAINING

SATURDAY,
November 20, 2021

@10 am – 2pm



VIA ZOOM
Meeting ID:
891 2335 1434
Passcode: 806898

“TRANSFORMING
TEACHING AND
LEARNING TO MAKE
A DIFFERENCE FOR
CHRIST”

All Church School
Superintendents, Teachers
and other Children
Ministry leaders are invited



UNITED CHURCH
MEN'S
FELLOWSHIP

2021 WALK ATHAN

COME WALK WITH US!
WE START AT 6 A.M.
Emancipation Park
Cornwall College
Manchester High School

\$500.00 PER LAP

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER
20, 2021

EVERY STEP YOU
TAKE MEANS A LOT!

FOR MORE INFO & REGISTRATION:

SEE YOUR LOCAL
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Made with PosterMyWall.com



UCJCI Children's Ministry
Commission



NEEDS
Church School Curriculum
Writers & Editors
URGENTLY!



Please Contact Us:
876-238-3588

ucjchildrenscommission@gmail.com



International
University
of the
Caribbean

ANNUAL GRADUATION



Venue: Hope United Church
Date: November 25, 2021
Time: 1:00 p.m



Join the livestream at the link below
<http://bit.ly/iucyoutube>



***Tune in to Our United in Faith Programme
Aired Every Sunday on RJR 94 FM at 6:30 am***

The United in Faith Programme can now be found online on our Anchor FM platform.

Type <https://rb.gy/bmxwpw>

in your search bar to access the episodes.

The link to each episode will also be circulated via WhatsApp every Monday.

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-**

Rev. Norbert Stephens (Interim)

◇ **Western Regional Mission Council-**

Mrs. Maureen Henry

Contact Us

Address:

12 Carlton Crescent,
Kingston 10

Telephone No:

876 926-8734

E-mail Address:

synod@ucjci.com

Website:

www.ucjci.com

YouTube:

UCJCI's Channel

Instagram:

@UCJCI